Coe Swim and Dive Have Historic Weekend Hosting Liberal Arts Championship

All through last weekend, both the men and women swim and dive teams had historic performances across the board. The women took home their first even Liberal Arts Championship Title, while the men brought home a third place win.

The female Kohawks were crowned as the champions of the Liberal Arts Championships, breaking an impressive 6 school records. In Saturdays closing events, the women set two new program records and won four of their six events.

Freshman standout Darby Manternach had impressive performances the entire week in the pool, earning her the American Rivers Conference Female Athlete of the Week as well as Women's swimming/diving performer of the week.

Manternach broke the 25-year old 100-yard freestyle record which Coe's champion was set by Jennifer Butler in 1994 at 54.35 seconds. Darby beat this record by a landslide, tagging the wall at 52.99 seconds.

Coe's champion 400-yard freestyle relay team consisted of Manternach, Sammi Hall ('22), Katie Freeland

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('20) and Alanna Thompson ('19). Between the four women, they set a new program record at 3:37.69. The previous record of 3:38.05 was set last season.

With multiple first-place finishes and records set at the LACs, Hall earned another victory Saturday night in the 200-yard backstroke at 2:07.35. Freeland was also crowned champion in the 200-yard breaststroke, recording an impressive time of 2:26.47. Caitlin Sievers ('22) finished fifth in the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:34.14. In the 1650-yard freestyle, Coe sophomore Tracy Martinek ('21) finished third with a time of 18:38.35.

This is the first time in school history Coe has won the Liberal Arts Championships. Coe totaled an impressive 606.5 team points. Other American Rivers Conference school Loras finished second with a total of 430 points, and Illinois Institute of Tech finished third with 415.5 team points.

The men’s team also had historic and impressive performances across the board, taking home a third place win and nine new records under their belts at the 2019 LAC’s.

With six new records set in a match earlier in the week, the Kohawks entered the pool determined to break more. The men ended up breaking three more records during their final session on Saturday evening.

Freshman Kaleb Donels broke his own record in his second-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke in 1:54.99. Collin Flynn ('19) had a massive performance in the 100-yard freestyle, finishing second and breaking a 14-year-old record with a time of 47.29. The previous record of 47.72 was set by Blake Borrett in 2005.

Coe’s final record breaking moment of the LACs belongs to the Kohawk’s 400-yard freestyle relay team. Quincy Markham ('20), Donels, Corbin Faidley ('19) and Flynn finished third in 3:11.05. The previous 400-yard freestyle relay record of 3:12.58 was set last during last season’s LACs.

The senior record-holder Faidley was the victor of the 200-yard butterfly, recording a time of 1:54.96. In the 1650-yard freestyle, Blake Sterns ('20) finished fourth in 17:12.49 while Conor Backhaus ('19) came in eighth with a time of 17:33.74. Jackson Palmer ('21) earned an eight-place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke, finishing with a time of 2:22.30.

Coe’s diver Nathan Dvorak ('19) was the runner-up of the 1-meter dive with a total of 366.70 points.

The Kohawks totaled 520 team points to earn the third-place finish. Third is the highest finish at LACs in the men’s program history. Fellow American Rivers Conference school Nebraska Wesleyan won the men’s championships with a total of 655. Illinois Institute of Tech were the runner-ups with 570 team points.

If you see any members of the Coe swim and dive team around campus, give them a huge congratulations!
Kohawks Discuss Love, Betrayal, Gender, and More in “Big Love”

Coe Theatre’s new production, “Big Love,” was presented in Dows Fine Art Center over the past two weeks. The play was really successful and gathered lots of students and community members. “Big Love,” written by Charles Mee, directed by Deanna L. Downes and choreographed by Alvon Reed, is a modern-day adaptation of the play “The Suppliants.” Downes, an artist-scholar working on re-imagining and radicalizing process and performance here at Coe, said that in the show they “use theater, sculpture, dance and music to tell this updated story of refugees, gender norms, brutality and love.”

“Honestly, it was one of the best shows I have ever been privileged to do,” said Lucy Sukalski, who played Thyona. “I love all of the different relationships and attitudes between certain characters, whether they were obvious or extremely subtle, I liked that they were all the present nonetheless.”

The story revolves around about 50 brides and 50 grooms, all represented by only three women and three men. Each of them has a different perspective on love and want radically different partners. At the end of the play, all brides except one kill their grooms on their wedding night. Throughout this play, the audience can think about gender issues, life, and what is the right way to love. In addition to the story, the stage setting and experimental direction captured the audience.

“I loved this play, it was something very new for me, I’m usually just in musicals,” said Belle Canney, who played Olympia. “It was an avant-garde kind of art piece, and we focused a lot of creating statues that we would hold. It was a lot of fun to do something that wasn’t always realistic, yet had moments of total seriousness.”

After the last play, Belle said it is sad that the play is over but she also expressed the excitement for the spring musical that opens in April. Lucy quoted the great Dr. Seuss, saying "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." She said when the show ended, she found herself doing a whole lot of both.

In diverse way, “Big Love” was meaningful and memorable production for not only the actors and crew but also the audience who got to experience the story with them.
Dr. Ziskowski Shares Findings from Ancient Greece

For the first time after three summers worth of excavation, Associate Professor of History, Dr. Angela Ziskowski discussed the discoveries the team of archeologists made in the previously untouched Lechaion Harbor, in Corinth, Greece, during a presentation held on Tuesday evening. The major archeological site has now become the destination, for the past three years, of several Coe Students, who visit it as part of an archeological excavation trip for summer school. Archeologists and even Kohawks have been able to unravel the mysteries of this ancient economic hub and have uncovered a plethora of artifacts as old as 8th century BC.

Corinth became a major trade route in the Mediterranean by the 8th Century BC due to its strategic location and the heavy tax it would impose on traders passing by, as sailing all the way around Greece was too dangerous.

“In addition to a major trade route before 146 BC, the fact that it was later rebuilt as an ancient Roman city on the orders of Julius Caesar in 44 BC makes it even more important,” stated Ziskowski during the lecture at Kesler Auditorium. “We garnered the good faith of the Greek Government and the American Institute of Classical Studies and got an initial permit for three years of excavation and two years of study.”

According to Ziskowski, the archeological team focused on three buildings namely Areas A, B and C due to the difference in their orientation, hoping that they were from different chronological periods. Area A is assumed to be a stoa. Although a concrete conclusion cannot be drawn yet, Area B is speculated to be a shop, workshop or a tavern as 119 coins next to a Roman lock system, a basin full of clam shells, gemstone and a ring were uncovered in this site. Meanwhile, Area C is believed to be a town hall due to the two basilicas found on this archeological site.

“The goals of the project for the first three years were firstly to define the boundaries of the ancient harbor settlement,” said Ziskowski. “Secondly, to map the settlement; thirdly to locate any key structures and excavate them; and, most importantly, to establish the chronological boundaries – when did the harbor begin and when did it end? And of course, to preserve the site. Which I believe we succeeded in reaching them.”

Students who were a part of the Summer Program in Greece seem to absolutely cherish their time there.

“It is a beautiful country, very different from the flat plains of Iowa,” said Lotukalafi Ahomana (‘19) who was a part of the six-week long May Term in summer of 2018. “While it was a lot of work in the dirt, it was worth it especially when you find cool stuff from a long time ago. We found a lot of Roman Coins, figurines, old statues pottery and even glass. This for me, was a life changing experience, which I would suggest everyone to take part in.”

Due to a rise in sea level and encroachment of land by the people, the site is already at threat and thus, recognizing the urgency to do more research in this area, the excavation project is partly funded by National Geographic.
“Writers Do Need Readers Too”: The Ann Struthers Student Reading Series

The Ann Struthers Student Reading Series is an annual public reading event hosted by the English Department to promote student writers to the student body and the public. Five students presented at this year’s event, on February 19, with their works ranging from poetry to a monologue to a short play. Ann Struthers herself presented as well, reading a poem from her most recent collection. The poem, titled “Pissed Off,” captures the character and stature of the wal ura, the wild boar native to Sri Lanka.

The first writer was Taylor Bruno (’20) with a play titled “Desperate Calls for Desperate Measures.” The play is meant to emulate a New Jersey call center on the day of 9/11: the confusion of operators, the pouring in of disjointed and chaotic information, the repeated attempts to restore order, only to have it all fall back into chaos.

Second was poet Nick Hodges (’19) and a collection of five poems. His poems focused on themes of longing, desire, blooming and dying loves and the confusion and connections we all share in the human experience.

Next to take the mic was Aubrey Montreal (’22) with a short story titled “What Will You Choose,” a twist on the prisoner’s dilemma narrative between a pair of characters, one trapped in the rubble of a building and the other free to escape.

Fourth was Enzo Nagao (’20) and a monologue from a larger story titled “Arcturus,” where a sci-fi setting showcases the human condition through war and destruction, and the narrator makes the case for their actions as a villain. Last to the mic was Kris Nixon (’20) with a flash fiction piece titled “9 AM on a Friday,” a piece told from the perspective of a nervous college student with a letter for their crush, which does end up in the hands of the crush, albeit 50 years after the fact.

The Ann Struthers Student Reading Series accepts submissions from all Coe students starting in the spring semester of the school year.
Alpha Phi Omega (APO) is a co-ed service fraternity on campus. APO’s chapter at Coe is run by Sigrid Van Den Abbeele (‘20) as president, along with nine other APO brothers on the executive board. This past week APO did their recruitment week. “Recruitment week was pretty good,” said Van Den Abbeele. “We had about 25 people interested in joining the fraternity. We are finalizing numbers for the first pledge class but it will likely be on the small side.”

Alpha Phi Omega is the largest national service fraternity in the country, focusing primarily on leadership, friendship, and again, service. Coe’s APO is not an official chapter yet through the national APO organization. The original chapter “went dark” in the 1960s, thus meaning that Coe’s APO chapter needed to recharter, which means its members have to “successfully create a chapter of the organization that the national board feels is sustainable and deserving of recharter.”

Lately APO has been making their presence know on campus but Van Den Abbeele said their level of publicity could have been much better. “The proximity of the rechartering ceremony and the adverse weather conditions of the past few weeks hindered our ability to plan and promote recruitment,” explained Van Den Abbeele.

APO hopes to continue to grow their chapter in the following years. Its rechartering ceremony will be happening on February 23, 2019, when the APO’s national president will be coming to campus to officially make APO’s and official chapter at Coe. “Following the rechartering ceremony, we will be working to develop a sustainable service program that can benefit Cedar Rapids and the Coe Community for years to come,” said Van Den Abbeele.
Coe Events

Thursday, February 21 - Saturday, February 23
Jazz Summit Festival
8 am - 9 pm

Saturday, February 23
Tri Delta’s Dessert Gala
7 pm - 9 pm (Gage Memorial Union)

Sunday, February 24
Durward Chamber Ensemble
2:30 pm - 4 pm (Sinclair Auditorium)

Sunday, February 24
International Club’s Annual International Banquet
6 pm - 9 pm (Gage Memorial Union)

Monday, February 25
The 2019 Paul Engle Reading
7 pm - 9 pm (Hickok Hall)

Monday, February 25
Coe College Vocal Jazz Cabaret
7 pm - 8 pm (Marquis Hall)

Tuesday, February 26
Guest Viola Recital
7 pm - 8:30 pm (Marquis Hall)

Saturday, March 2 - Sunday, March 10
Spring Term Recess
Venezuela has shut a key maritime border and grounded flights as the opposition party seeks to import foreign aid to the crisis. A government representative confirmed Venezuela has closed its maritime border with Aruba, Curacao, and Bonaire and, in the Western state of Falcon, prevented flights leaving from or departing to those islands.

On February 15, A group of Iranians attacked a morality police van in Tehran after two young women were detained for "improperly" wearing a compulsory headscarf, according to state-owned Iranian media and activists. Officers fired shots into the air to disperse the crowd of people who tore off one of the doors of the vehicle, according to a report by the state-owned IRNA news agency.

The NBA is launching a professional basketball league in Africa that will feature 12 teams from several countries across the continent. The Basketball Africa League will debut in 2020. The BLA will be made up of teams from several African countries, including Angola, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia.

After last week’s Pakistan-based terrorist attack, which killed at least 40 Indian paramilitary personnel on a convoy in Indian-administered Kashmir, India demanded that Pakistan take "credible and viable action" after Pakistan’s Prime Minister offered to assist with investigations.
In today's superhero-obsessed world, a movie like Glass could have gone unnoticed by the general population as "just another comic film". But thanks to the high billing cast, the reputation of M. Night Shyamalan, and the ad campaign centered around it, I had high hopes for this new installment in Night's own super universe. However, while the story and acting are great, the reliance upon having seen the previous two entries (Unbreakable and Split) in order to truly enjoy this film's setting did lose it some points.

Eighteen years after David Dunn (Bruce Willis) discovered he was unbreakable, and 3 years after Kevin Wendell Crumb and his "Horde" (James McAvoy) went on a murder spree, both of them have been locked up in a psychiatric ward following a confrontation. Among them is Dunn's former "archnemesis", Elijah Price aka "Mr. Glass" (Samuel L. Jackson).

While the three of them are all convinced of their powers, and the belief that there really are superheroes in the world, the lead doctor Ellie Staple (Sarah Paulson) is determined to convince them that they are delusional—hopefully before one of them tries to break out and run amok.

This movie surprised me with just how well woven it is within Night's hero universe. The connections Glass shares between Unbreakable and Split never seemed over the top or cheesy, but were just the right amount of acceptable to not break the illusion.

Unfortunately, this was also Glass's biggest flaw: the reliance of having seen the two other films means that if you're watching this movie first, you're going to miss a lot. McAvoy and Jackson's chemistry was dynamic, and though Willis definitely phoned it in he did a good job.

I'd recommend this film for any Night fans or anyone just wanting a realistic super movie.