The Speculator

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Concordia University Chicago's Student-Run Newspaper

April Fooled You

BEWARE: Zombie Squirrel Outbreak

Written by Karina Kosmala

Squirrels, bushy-tailed critters, are known to be domesticated by Concordia University Chicago students and even given human names. These animals are arguably intelligent for their species with the capabilities to open not only hard-shelled walnuts, but figuring out the combination to a lock, as well as breaking into CUC's buildings. Their adeptness and friendly demeanor allows them to be accepted and welcomed into the CUC's community, until recently.

The zombie deer disease has been spreading across the United States; however, squirrels are also at risk for the 'zombie squirrel disease.' Although the cause is yet unknown as to what is causing this massive outbreak of 'zombie squirrel disease,' there have been 13 documented cases of zombie squirrels, with five of documented cases of reported "zombie squirrels," bitings.

"I was walking from the Cougar Den, like I usually do when I miss my 10am class, and I saw Cardamomo and I thought I'd give her my fries. When I walked outside the KCC, she (the squirrel) was there, but looking straight at me and was slowly walking towards me. She never did that before," said CUC student who wanted to stay anonymous.



Photo Credit of the Saber-Toothed Squirrel from the movie Ice Age goes to 20th Century Fox and Blue Sky Studios.

What To Look Out For

Squirrels infected with the 'zombie squirrel disease,' will make direct eye contact with any human they come in contact with. The squirrels iris will be a a white color in broad daylight, and glow when it is dark outside. Their bushy tails will curl up their back when they are in a sitting position. Their paws can grab small wires and they can bite through the wire, they prefer the wifi cords, so if you happen to anger a squirrel for any reason necessary, be aware that they will bite through your wifi. More importantly, their communicating calls that they have with other squirrels will be higher pitched than usual. If nearby, it may sound like the

squirrels are yelling the name Alan and looking for possibly, an Alan.

What To Do When Coming In Contact With A "Zombie Squirrels"

Concordia University Chicago is home to squirrels as much as it is a home to students. Squirrels infected with the "zombie squirrel disease," and the average campus squirrel can be seen running and jumping through campus during the day, and following students on campus. It is advised by health officials to not feed the squirrels at all. Regardless if it is off-campus food or the standard food provided by Sodexo.

"Do not, by any means nec-

essary, feed the squirrels. Do not approach a zombie squirrel. You are not 'Brother Nature,' advised reliable health official. "If you think you see a 'zombie squirrel,' walk the other way, distance yourself away from the squirrel."

There might be a slight chance that these squirrels can jump onto students walking by due to their distorted vision. If this happens, shake off the squirrel immediately, and seek medical attention.

What To Do When Bit By A "Zombie Squirrel,"

Although "zombie squirrels," are not typically known to bite humans. There are five documented cases of 'zombie squirrel' bitings. However, it is pretty uncommon for a 'zombie squirrel,' to approach a human and bite them for no reason. If a student is in the 38% to be bit by a squirrel, seek medical attention immediately. Do not wait to visit the campus health clinic on the days and times that they are open.

This Zombie Squirrel Outbreak is not something to joke about, after coming in contact with a squirrel: seek medical attention, please dial # (708) 209-3039

Just remember students, if you see a squirrel in your elevator or think that you are leading them inside, just know it's not by luck, they are up to something.

What Is With All The Taxidermy In Eifrig?

Written by Karina Kosmala

Efrig Hall, with its rusty yet 19th century smell preserves not only Concordia University Chicago's most well-known majors, but also its prestigious, glorified taxidermy.

Before the remodeled residential halls and buildings with its new improvements, Efrig Hall's taxidermy animals was the highlight of the tours on campus. Despite so much taxidermy (and no one knowing how CUC has so much taxidermy) Concordia University Chicago does not have a

zoology degree, at least, not yet.

"We can't reveal too much information about the upcoming changes occurring in the next few months here at Concordia. But I can assure you, we've slowly been implementing courses into the curriculum for science majors with regards to wildlife," said a CUC professor.

Some students are anticipating the possibility of a zoology degree, that they are considering changing their major (for the third time, for some).

"I always wanted to create my own taxidermy! But most importantly, I wanted to learn how

I can take care of the wildlife, like the coyotes that appear every now and then on campus," said CUC student.

It's believed that the taxidermy was donated by the residents of River Forest as they saw these animals walk onto their lawn late at night. However, it won't be long until CUC students can really study the wildlife on campus.



Photo credit of the "badly stuffed taxidermy" Stone Fox and future Eifrig Hall of Famer goes to Dailymail.com



Photo credit of Eifrig's exclusive piece goes to museumofdust.blogspot. com

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The Real Effect Of Concussions

Written by Savannah Singletary

ShareCare.com reports, Americans sustain approximately 3.8 million concussions annually from sports and other recreational activities, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). High school athletes, whose brains are more vulnerable to injury are at particular risk. CDC reports over 175,000 cases of concussions have been treated in hospital emergency rooms. I have contributed to 20 of those cases...I think. If you do not know me by name, I'm the girl with the concussions.

A concussion is a mild form of traumatic brain injury (TBI) caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head. Concussions can also occur from a fall or a blow to the body that causes the head to move rapidly back and forth. Doctors may describe these injuries as "mild" because concussions are usually not life-threatening. I call them Tuesdays.

A collection of blood (hematoma) may form on the brain after a bump, or a blow to the head, that may cause the brain to squeeze against the skull. A emergency room visit may be garnered if you experience: slurred speech, decreased coordination, continuous vomiting, loss of consciousness

(brief or a long time frame). No Becky, just because you have a low alcohol tolerance and you go out for Thirsty Thursdays at Doc Ryan's does not mean you have a concussion. Symptoms include the more obvious, headaches, and balance problems, and nausea/ vomiting (not just because you are hungover, I am looking at you Becky), difficulty thinking clearly and concentrating. You can become irritable, sad, or more emotional. Sleeping patterns can change also.

I received my 30th concussion playing volleyball, as I did my 87th, and 42nd. The 30th hit was by far my worst experience, I was concussed for three months, or so I am told. The 42nd was where I was hit square in my face, it was swollen for a good 24 hours. By concussion 87, I removed myself from the active playing roster of the volleyball team and became a team manager.

The next day I was hit.

People with a concussion need to be seen by a doctor. I, personally, just diagnose myself at this point. The doctor may do a scan of your brain, such as a CT scan and

other neurocognitive tests to assess learning/memory skills, ability to concentrate and quick thinking. It is hard when you have no skills in the first place.

In the past year and a half (starting August 2017) I have garnered first five concussions. Progressively over time, the accidents that lead me to receive a head injury got more unbelievable. The third mishap was when my ex boyfriend mistook my head for a golf ball playing mini golf.

During my 99th injury I went driving and slid on ice and banged my head around inside my vehicle. Right when things were looking on the up and up, my symptoms were few and far between, I hit my head on the handicap bars of my shower because my shower caddy fell down.

Concussions are no joke, they never have the right impact

on a person. #DadJoke

I strongly believed football players were they only types of athletes to really suffer from concussion. When in fact any type of athlete whether the sport involves a ball or not are at some type of risk.

I have the attention span of a coconut; for a week length of time due to my numerous incidents. I do believe I am doing fine though, I don't see or feel anything different. My memory is still as sharp as a tack.

Symptoms of being concussed include headaches, and balance problems, and nausea/ vomiting, difficulty thinking clearly and concentrating. You can become irritable, sad, or more emotional. Sleeping patterns can change also.

People with a concussion need to be seen by a doctor. The doctor may do a scan of your brain, such as a CT scan and other tests to assess learning/memory skills, ability to concentrate and quick thinking.

Americans sustain approximately 3.8 million concussions annually from sports and other recreational activities, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Doctors may describe these injuries as "mild" because concussions are usually not life-threatening. High school athletes, whose brains are more vulnerable to injury are at particular risk. CDC reports over 175,000 cases of concussions have been treated in hospital emergency rooms. I have contributed to 60 of those cases...

Or I have a better thought, I am just going to put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day. My memory is sharp as a tack.

CUC Student Inspired A Famous Artist

Written by Jane Doe

Sometimes art has hidden mysteries or information that can't be seen right away, sometimes art can be inspired by everyday folks such as one of the students at Concordia University Chicago.

"I wasn't aware of this painting until I visited the Art Institute of Chicago," said the CUC student.

Pierre-Auguste Renoir, known for painting of stills that showcased childhood expressions. One of the paintings that he painted, Lucie Berard (Child in White) was supposedly of a "three-year-old daughter of Paul-Antoine Berard."



To the left is Lucie Berard, painting by Pierre-Augustine Renoir, that can be found at the Art Institute of Chicago. (Photo credit by author of this story)





To the left is Pierre-Augustine Renoir's original inspiration. (Photo credit by author of this story)

However, the inspiration to actually capture this painting was inspired by the CUC student with the uncanny resemblance in terms of facial expression, hair, and cloth-

ing appearance.

"I almost couldn't believe my eyes, this painting is my daughter," said CUC student's dad.

"It feels good to know that you inspired an artist, but most importantly, that you are hanging in the Art Institute of Chicago," said CUC student.

Unfortunately, the student didn't want to reveal her real identity, we can only assume that she wouldn't be writing an article about herself.





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Pack Your Bags! Concordia University Chicago Is Moving To Alaska!

Written by Ajay Joseph

Concordia University Chicago will be moving their main campus to Alaska. This change was announced recently when school administrators stated that "the change of scenery will provide better opportunities to students, access to internships and job opportunities." The new campus will be around nothing but glaciers, making going to class much more fun since all students will be required to take skating lessons. And what campus isn't fit with a legacy rock?! But the one at CUC-A will be bigger. Better. BOLDER. GOLDER. In fact, it'll be a massive ice rock that will not melt.

Current buildings at CUC will be hooked up to large semis and be driven to Anchorage, Alaska where the new campus will be. The tunnels underneath the buildings will also be attending this jump, but still remain unusable and hidden from civilization. It only makes sense to move locations to Alaska of all places. It's on top of the continental United States, making it so that the entire nation knows that



CUC-A is the pinnacle of modern education

With a new campus location, a new logo will come with it! This logo will be much more animated and fiercer looking making Concordia Alaska more intimidating to other Concordia's for a chance to finally win CIT.

Since the River Forest location has gone through a number of name changes, Concordia University Alaska will be the official name. A contract was drafted with the Alaskan government officials and school officials for this name to stick for the next hundred years or so. When it comes to apparel, CUC-A will be confiscating all CUC apparel in favor of CUC-A clothes. Athletes will be required to wear only Concordia Alaska clothes for practice. All

student workers will wear CUC-A polos on the clock, even if students are on the phone. This is to promote school spirit.

One of the major questions that parents and families have been asking is the cost of tuition. Concordia Alaska is happy to announce that the school is tuition free. This bizarre idea came from the ever reliable LCMS think-tank in which they decided that if school was free of charge for students, it would attract more students who would in turn, donate money to the school after graduation. It appears Alumni Relations will have a field day with that.

Athletics are another main concern. How will student-athletes play games in the frozen tundra of Alaska? The answer is simple: they will drive down to the continental United States to compete. All sports will be transferred over.

One brand new addition to the CUC-A campus will be an indoor sports complex complete with an indoor track, a turf field, batting cages, and a pool. After donations, the total cost came to \$3,000. Money that originally went to a certain rock is now going towards something more useful.

Concordia Alaska will be a shining new university that will do well for its students and families. We are so happy to announce that this transition will take place over the summer of 2019, and current CUC students will be expected to make accommodations for arrival.





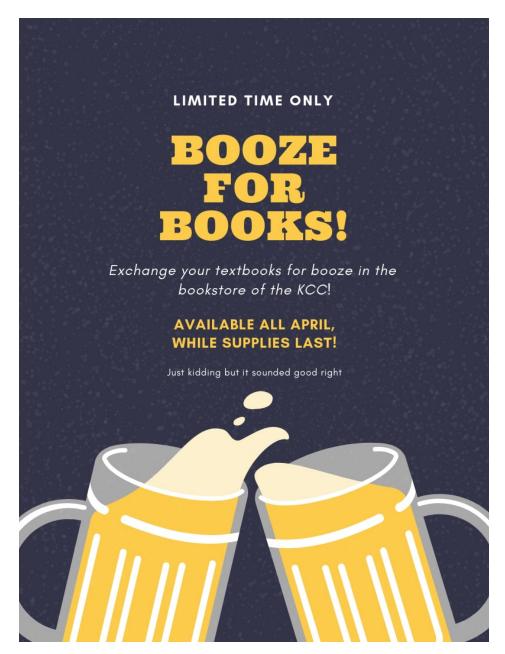
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Yes! You Read That Right!

Written by Maci Killman

During the month of April the bookstore in the lower level of the KCC building will be participating in *BOOZE FOR BOOKS!*

A limited time deal that allows students the opportunity to trade textbooks in of all shapes, sizes, and conditions in for booze. It only occurs once a year and supplies do not last long.

"I really do enjoy the chance to skip the wait and stares at the check out lines at Jewel Osco," said third year student Kirkland Costco.

This one month opportunity comes with many different flavors at the counter. Just show your school ID and you can choose between domestic or imported.

Even though it is a dry campus, take it immediately to the back parking lot of David Jonathan to enjoy. Rules and restrictions are lifted under the decree 114 of Mary Martha.

If you do not want to wait in line or receive more stares than usual for carrying around that brown paper crumpled sack, then have it delivered to your door. Go to amazon.com/boozeforbooks and check out the steps on the website.

"I really like the delivery service. The only flaw is that I have to get out of bed and go down three flights of stairs to turn a key for someone else. I wish we had doorbells to buzz someone in! My life of laziness would be better," said Somer Himpson.

Hurry in fast to the KCC building the first week of April to get rid of those books. Make sure to take photos of the pages you need for class. If you wait until the last minute, the booze may just be gone.

Supplies will not last long! Cut out this ad to the left and present it to the front desk worker for more information. Get rid of those books and get something good!







Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20): You will soon witness a miracle.





Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22): Dang, you're still reading these?

Check Out Your Horoscope For The Month



Aries (Mar 21
- Apr 19): In
the near future
unbelievable
events will be
revealed to you.



Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20): Good fortune will find you.



Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22): You're a wizard, Harry.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22): You will be witness to thaumaturgy.

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People to participate in a study with the trying sodexo food in exchange for cougar cash. Call this number for more details (708) 209-3174



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21): Now that I have your attention.



Capricorn
(Dec 22 - Jan
19): A supernatural occurence
will take over at
12:00 pm.



Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20): Wonder will be visited upon you.

Martin Luther statue for sale, good condition. Has been moved a couple times. Kind of symbolic.

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Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21): Call the radio station when you hear it in the car.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18): Linda listen Linda listen listen listen Linda

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