

# THE SHADOW



8th Edition - Spring 2003

CONCORDIA'S FINEST NEWS SOURCE

## Operation Iraqi Freedom: Enlightened Opinions

A SHADOW SPECIAL EDITORIAL REPORT

The Shadow, not for lack of trying, was unable to get any embedded reporters anywhere near Iraq. Nevertheless, we feel that the war is an important enough subject to warrant as much coverage as possible. In an effort to gain perspective beyond the conventional media coverage, we scoured Concordia's campus in search of individuals who knew more about the situation than ourselves. The result is the following editorials, written by enlightened members of Concordia.



A group of people (above) hold signs regarding a country (left) of which they know little or nothing.

### Whatever Steven Spielberg Says About This War, I Agree

By Dan Paluso, Freshman

When it comes to the war, I've noticed that many people here at Concordia are concocting various opinions of their own based upon what they see on TV or read in the paper. I am



departing from such methods and taking a different approach to my view on what is occurring in Iraq. Whatever the great Steven Spielberg says about the war, I agree. The man who gave us the Jurassic Park series, Schindler's List and Indiana Jones 1 through 3 is obviously more than qualified to do my thinking for me in this time of war. Steven Spielberg is not only a great filmmaker; he's a great mind. Steven, if you're reading this, I just want you to know that whatever you say about the war, I'm on your side.

### There's Nothing Funny About This War (I'll Watch "Home Improvement" Instead)

By Shelly Gibbons, Sophomore Nursing Major

War. What is it good for? Not for filling my dai-

ly need for comedy and joviality, that's for sure. After a few days of watching this war, it has become increasingly clear that CNN's Wolf Blitzer, CBS's Dan Rather, ABC's Peter Jennings and NBC's Tom Brokaw combined are no match for the hilarious antics of Tim "The Tool Man" Taylor and his loveable sidekick, Al. While the war and its television coverage have done nothing to enrich my life thus far, Tim's eccentric neighbor, Wilson, gives me daily morsels of wisdom that I carry with me throughout the day. Every day, when I hear about another bad thing caused by the war, I just stop and envision Tim Taylor grunting his trademark, "Oooh! Oooh! Oooh!". That makes me feel much better.

### This War Is Not About Me!



By A Drum of Oil, Found In Storage At Concordia  
Ok. That's it! Why do you keep insisting that

this war is about me? You war protestors keep chanting "No blood for oil! No blood for oil!" Well, nobody even asked me if I wanted blood, and I don't! Why would I? I'm a drum of oil. And that more refined, smaller relative of mine, the container of Pennzoil who sits on top of my head? Well, if he could speak, I'm sure he would agree. This war is not about him either. Just leave us alone. Our lives are miserable enough already.

### Freddie The Falcon Weighs In On The War



Sqwaawky! Aaaaawky. Craaaaaawk! Aaawk! Caaaaw! Caw! Caw? Caw! Squawk. Squawk-aawk. Aaaaawk! Caaw. Awwwwwk. Eeee-aawk. Caw-aaawk!

# Osborne, Reagan Used As Examples In Super-Advanced Speech Class

**Concordia.** Heavy metal singer Ozzy Osborne and America's 40<sup>th</sup> President Ronald Reagan were compared and contrasted last week in "COMM. 803: Super-Advanced Public Speaking".

"I wanted to demonstrate to the class how both effective public speaking and incoherent mumbling and cursing can effectively draw large national television audiences," explained Communications Professor Rudy Tomka. "Reagan was a great speaker. One of the best ever. Osborne is atrocious—I don't think you can even classify what comes out of his mouth as speech,

and yet both men enjoy tremendous popularity even if they are too senile to realize it."

Tomka says he wanted to make America's future speakers realize that with a little makeup and mumbling, even horrible speakers can succeed at changing minds and making an impact in society. "You don't have to be the next Reagan," Tomka told his class of future speakers, "Maybe, even after all these classes, you still can't speak well at all. Don't worry about it; in today's rapidly changing public-speaking job market, the mumblers, as well as the masters, are listened to. You could be the next Osborne."



Reagan and Osborne: The Great Communicator and the Great Mumbler.

## Shift To "Dummies Series" Textbooks Reflect Changing Times Professors Say



**Concordia.** After attending a national Educator's Federation (EF) seminar over the spring break, many of Concordia's professors say they are starting to think that the days of using traditional textbooks in the classroom are rapidly coming to an end.

"We learned a lot in Madison last week," said Concordia math professor Rita Wehausen referring to the week she spent at the EF seminar. "After comparing notes with math professors from around the nation, I believe it is time many teachers considered switching over to the 'Dummies Curriculum'."

Wehausen was referring to the ever-popular "For Dummies" series of books, which have already taken over bookstore self-help section shelves and now may find their way into the classrooms of Concordia.

"We can pretend our student's aren't dummies all we want," explained history professor Lance Marcott, "but I think it's high time we faced the truth that many of the students in our classrooms can safely be categorized as

'dummies', or worse. Our job as educators is to take these dummies and transform them into something better. In the meantime I will be using appropriate 'For Dummies' textbooks for my courses. They are all around easier to understand books and they have more pictures."

Many professors agree with Marcott and Wehausen, but others are skeptical of the proposed change. "You can't dumb-down every subject," said Professor Gerald Galloway. "Certain subjects, even if you break them down into their most easily digestible form, are still hard. Anatomy and physiology, philosophy. I could go on all day."

Proponents of the "For Dummies" series blew-off the criticisms. "There are 'For Dummies' books for every imaginable subject," responded professor Marcott. "New York Times called the 'For Dummies' series a 'sign of the times', and I agree. We can't continue to pretend we are living in a culture of enlightened people who can understand complicated stuff. This is the age of dummies and morons. As educators we must adapt to their educational needs accordingly. Oversimplifying complex issues and reducing enormous volumes of knowledge into brief, fun little definitions that rhyme is the best strategy for educating today's college students."

# Ask Freddie The Falcon

*Freddie's contract with The Shadow only requires him to write one column per issue. Since Freddie wrote another column in this issue, his friend, Dan the Duck will fill in for him to answer your important questions.*



Guest Columnist Dan the Duck.

**Q:** I am hosting a dinner party and was wondering if assigned seating would be appropriate? I'm afraid some guests might feel uncomfortable sitting next to someone they don't know.

- Irresolute in Regents

**Dan:** *Quack. Quack. Quack-qua-quack. Quack, quack? Quaaaaaack.*

**Q:** Hey Freddie. Boxers or briefs? ;)

- Happy in Heidelberg

**Dan:** *Qua qua quack? Quacksers!*

**Q:** So Freddie, I don't suppose that you have your eye on any of the Falcon ladies?

- Just Wondering in Katherine

**Dan:** *Quaaaaaack. Qua quack. Quack-quack-ak-ak-ak. Quo-quack!*

## Teacher Of The Year Contest Ends In A Close Tie Between All Of Concordia's Teachers

The Shadow's Teacher of the Year Contest has ended in a close tie between every teacher at Concordia. Our judges reviewed all 0 of the entry forms and after much nail-biting and head scratching came to the decisive conclusion that all of Concordia's teachers deserve the honorary, and much coveted title of Teacher of the Year. Congratulations to all of Concordia's teachers. To print out your Teacher of the Year Certificate please visit our website.