

Concordia Courier Writer's Log On Story Analysis For Articles Written In Fall Semester 2024 Issues

By Kent Bewley

- **Story #1: CU Active Mammoth Lakes Basecamp Prep**
- Interview subjects: Kryssa Mattson(Associate Director of CU Active and Outdoor Recreation), Daelynn Lopez(President of CU Nomads and Senior student at CUI).
- Interview methods: Face-to-face with Kryssa in her office at CSLD, email exchange with Daelynn, who wrote a doc with her answers.
- Community values reported in story: High desire for outdoor activities(hiking, camping, sightseeing, etc.), interactions with nature, fellowship in Christ.
- Communication responses from subjects(verbal & nonverbal): Kryssa definitely lightened up her voice when talking about Mammoth Lakes and her many visits there. But her vocal tone was more serious and neutral when asked questions about the departure time of the bus from campus on Thurs. Oct. 10 and her duties as a supervisor on the trip. Daelynn's interview method was via Google Doc, but she still provided good verbal cues in her answers. Daelynn involved exclamation points in some of her answers(those of which I did not include in the story) and she was very reflective on her previous basecamp trip experiences. Even though it was a nonverbal interview method(email), Daelynn still provided a verbal presence to her answers towards the questions that I ended up asking her.
- **Story #2: CONCORDIA serves Day Experience At Hub Resource Center**

- Interview subjects: Kaitlin Williams(Coordinator of Records for Commencement and Degree Conferral), Olivia Costello(Freshman student who was part of group that went to HRC)
- Interview methods: Face-to-face with Kaitlin in the cafeteria for lunch after returning from Orange, via email with Olivia.
- Community values reported in story: Desire to help out those who are less fortunate, assisting homeless people with accessing essential supplies such as food, clothing, hygienic supplies, etc., engagement with local community members, volunteerism
- Communication responses from subjects(verbal & nonverbal): Kaitlin kept her gestures in check for most of the interview, having a straight face for most of her responses. She was moving her hands while speaking in order to convey her feelings on the subject matter of helping out homeless people. Olivia was thankful for me reaching out to her and she provided good and concise answers via email that felt very verbal in spite of the electronic form of communication performed during the interview. Olivia was very reflective when it came to recalling her past contributions in helping out impoverished students at her high school in New Jersey, showing her experience in community volunteer work. Facets of small group communication were present in the interview responses, as Kaitlin was very vocal with the Hub Resource Center's patrons and she interacted with a variety of people at the shelter. She in fact learned from one of the patrons how to say her name in Spanish and how to refer to someone with the same name as her in Spanish, as an example of intercultural communication. Kaitlin also felt that her faith in God's will was strengthened with this gracious experience of interacting with homeless people in the local area.

- **Story #3: Midnight Madness Experience**

- Interview subjects: Kayla Cabaccang(junior women's basketball player, Comm. Studies major), Connor Gleason(graduate men's basketball player, guard), Honorable Mention: Madison Durkin(junior student, Residential Assistant, President of ASL club)
- Interview methods: Via email with Kayla, face-to-face live at the event with Connor, text messaging with Maddie.
- Community values reported in story: Excitement and participation in one of the biggest on-campus events of the school year, reflection on time as student-athletes, support for two of the more popular sports teams on campus, importance of CU Arena as a gathering place on campus
- Communication responses from subjects(verbal & nonverbal): Kayla expressed emotional appreciation in her responses in spite of them being through a non-verbal channel. She was appreciative of the crowd that came out to Midnight Madness and she was looking forward to the new teams in the PacWest Conference that the Golden Eagles basketball teams will get to face in the new season. Interviewing Connor during the event was easy in spite of the loud noise environment with the music and whatnot. In order that his responses could be properly recorded, he held the recording device I had(my phone) up to his mouth and spoke into it after I had asked him a question. Connor kept his facial expressions in-check and he was cool throughout the entire interview, which took only a couple of minutes. Knowing me as a familiar face, he shook hands with me and we had a very solid interview process. Connor had to raise his voice to a higher level in order to be heard on the recording due to external noise factors such as music playing loudly nearby and students mingling together. We wisely moved to the back of the arena lawn and

conversed there. Maddie was at the event, but I decided to send her a few questions via text message since we have each other's numbers. Oddly enough, the responses that I got from Maddie were published in another story published in the student newspaper on Midnight Madness. Whether or not the other student who reported on the event got the same responses from Maddie doesn't matter much to me; she was more than happy to text some quotes to me and she gave her opinions on the event and importance of the CU Arena while expressing her feelings verbally through a mostly non-verbal channel.

- **Story #4: Fall Family Festival Experience**

- Interview subject: Amy Held(junior student in music program)
- Interview method: Via email message exchange
- Community values reported in story: Reuniting with families during the school year, having fun at a seasonal-based event, participation in entertaining and engaging activities, appreciation for campus community rooted in Christian belief system
- Communication responses(verbal & non-verbal): Amy was definitely happy regarding her participation in the musical performance at the FFF and she expressed her email responses with exclamation points, making her presence feel more verbalized in a non-verbal way. Amy was an emergency interview option for me as I didn't feel comfortable interviewing anybody I didn't know, which forced me to change my angle for this story. I was able to get her responses in my story just in time and was able to fill the story with my observations of the event and the activities occurring during it. I had some "cold feet" at the time and felt a little fatigued reporting on this story, which I felt like doing because of my lack of availability for any other stories for the fifth edition of

the student newspaper this semester. I was able to write enough words in the story for it to get published as my final story in the student newspaper.