Students connect with industry at job fair

Meaegen De Graaf - Staff Writer

The lower floor of the Campus Center was filled with a couple hundred students and about 30 company representatives last Wednesday, October 8. At the fair, students were able to talk to companies about internships and jobs, as well as get help with resumes and building professional social media connections through using LinkedIn.

Dordt College encourages students to think about their future before senior year, when graduation is just around the corner. Sarah Moss, the Career Center coordinator, stresses the importance of internships throughout the college experience.

"Internships help students build experience so that they are ready for their career after graduation," said Sarah Moss. These companies want to help students build that important experiential learning that is so necessary for future employers today.

Most of the employers involved were in the business, health or farming fields, but there was some variety—companies included in this event were hospitals, banks, restaurants, and photographers.

Employers gave away promotional items with their company name printed on it, in hopes that students would gain an interest in their business. Many of them did, and the typical workplace buzzwords started flying around the tables set up there.

Dordt hosts QCommons leadership conference

Eric Rose - Staff Writer

From Charleston to Chattanooga, Silicon Valley and Singapore to Sioux Center, Q-Commons provoked ideas and asked questions related to the respective communities of over 60 cities in the US and the world.

The Andrews Center at Dordt College hosted Q-Commons in the BJ Haan on October 9. The event featured three local speakers, who were selected because of their passion for their respective interests, and three national speakers live streamed from New York City.

Immigration lawyer and Sioux Center native, Amanda Bahena, talked about the expanding immigration in Sioux Center and how Christians should respond with love for our neighbors. Bahena described ways to take action to build relationships with immigrants by learning their stories and making connections.

In his talk, "Living business as a Mission," Justin Schuitman described how Jesus used the ordinary rhythms of life in his work on earth, and encouraged us to be "faithful where God has planted us, in our business lives.”

Dordt Art Professor, Matt Drissel presented "Why small towns need art." He emphasized the importance of the identity that locally rooted art builds, as well as the way that art can be a safe vehicle to consider difficult issues and strengthen small town connections.

Dordt students were able to take advantage of a limited number of complimentary tickets provided by the Andrews Center. Though some students were required to attend either for a class or because they were representing their school newspaper, other students accepted the free tickets Dordt offered simply to attend the event.

“I like to take advantage of events that Dordt offers,” sophomore Mark Huizinga said.

Continued on page 4
**Nice to “Meat” you**

Megan Kaiser - Staff Writer

Eight teams. Four judges. 30 minutes. One pan.

At 7 p.m. on Friday, October 11, the Food Network jumped out of our televisions sets and came to life in the Grille area of Dordt's campus center. You Are What You Eat was a success. All eight teams may have received a prize, but it wasn't about the money. It was about the thought put into the preparation, the health of the dish, and the collaborative teamwork.

Eight teams competed in the annual You Are What You Eat contest. The winning team was announced at the end of the week, but we're here to share some of the delicious dishes and stories from the event.

During the 30 minutes, nutritionist Jennifer Hinkle gave a short presentation on the different ways to stay healthy and healthy in college. College life is often associated with junk food and fast food. However, there are ways to make healthy choices.

One of the teams, The University of Iowa, presented a dish that was both healthy and delicious. Their wording was perfect for the situation. They started with a quote from an African proverb: "You are what you eat." This team chose to focus on the importance of eating healthy.

The University of Iowa's dish was a quinoa salad, topped with vegetables and a lemon dressing. The salad was colorful and tasty, and it was a great reminder of the importance of eating healthy.

The winning team, The University of Iowa, presented the best dish of the night. Their dish was a vegetable stir-fry, with various vegetables and a homemade sauce. The dish was colorful and delicious, and it was a great reminder of the importance of eating healthy.

**Focus on Ebola: Dordt students react**

Megan Kaiser - Staff Writer

It seems that one cannot go from one side of the campus to the other without reading or hearing about Ebola. There are plenty of contradicting articles that have bogged down our minds, so there may be a feeling of fear or annoyance. Either way, we may not be fully sure of how to react.

All students that were asked about it had heard about the disease, but many were not completely sure of what it is. “It is not a disease that is rampant in Africa,” sophomore Ross Van Gaalen said, “so it is not a big deal.”

The Ebola virus is a severe and deadly disease, and it is important to be aware of the risks.

The students who were interviewed had different reactions to the news. Some were scared, while others were not worried. One student even said that she was not worried because she was living in a safe environment.

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**Professor Holtrop: Steve Holtrop**

Lydia Marcus - Staff Writer

Half a dozen knock knock jokes line the window in new education professor Steve Holtrop’s office. A glass sailboat, a glass apple and a foam ship are the most significant of the trinkets. In some ways, these three ornaments outline the development of Holtrop’s philosophy of education. One of Holtrop’s first influential teaching experiences occurred on a sailboat. Holtrop worked in the waterfront staff of a Boy Scout camp when he was 16. He was responsible for teaching sailing as a part of the maritime badge. Holtrop had a week of 1 hour sessions to teach his students how to sail. At the end of the week, the boys would be tested on their skills.

Holtrop realized that he enjoyed putting the concepts of sailing into everyday language. “That was probably when I first thought, ‘Hey, I could enjoy being a teacher,’” he said.

Holtrop earned a B.A. in English from Calvin College and an M.A. in English and journalism education. He earned a Ph.D. in English education from the University of Iowa. After completing his doctorate, he joined the faculty at Calvin College.

“Those were really the days,” Holtrop said. “I spent a lot of time thinking about education and the importance of it.”

At the end of his dissertation, Holtrop wrote that the idea of refocusing classrooms and examinations comes at a pivotal moment in the life of higher education. Higher education is experiencing a time of transition, he believes. “We are having to rethink a 300-year-old model,” Holtrop wrote. “Higher education is not like Google, which is designed to look to the future. It is designed to look back.”

According to Holtrop, many of the problems the world of higher education faces are a result of the reliance on “regurgitating facts” and neglect of critical thinking. Holtrop is passionate about developing new programs that allow students to engage with the material they learn. Holtrop thinks he has found a place to develop such programs at Dordt.

“My first months at Dordt have been great. The students are great. They are smart and engaged,” he said. “I am excited to be at Dordt, because there are so many things happening here.” Holtrop believes that Dordt will be able to stand up to the challenges that face the world of higher education.

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**Professor Holtrop joins Dordt’s faculty this fall**

Holtrop, a philosophy professor at Calvin College, was recently hired as the new education professor at Dordt College. Holtrop is enthusiastic about his new position and looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

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Spotlight on clubs: Students Without Borders

Narayan Núñez Blandón - Staff Writer

The Students Without Borders Club (SWB) concluded their second activity of the month on Saturday, Oct. 11th. But instead of organizing an activity that focused on celebrating culture and diversity and on raising awareness on current issues as usual, they celebrated its members’ birthdays for the months of September and October with food, music and games.

In the Kruper Loft, a group of students gathered to celebrate the birthdays of eleven members of the club. The board members of the club decorated the room and baked some cakes to give to the invitees. Before singing the traditional Happy Birthday song and blowing out the candles, they played a round of musical chairs.

The club’s co-head of events, Viviana García, stated that the birthday celebration event was successful in bringing different people together. She believes the activities organized through SWB have the potential to unite the student body at Dordt.

"We try to involve international students and non-international students in activities they can enjoy," García said. "In our activities we acknowledge the members and participants and allow them to have good time with one another."

The club has a busy agenda for the rest of October. The club’s board members have been planning a trip to Pumpkinland, a corn maze located in Orange City, as the first meeting of their Cultural Engagement Series. Abby Van Gelder, a junior majoring in nursing, is an active club member. She considers her experience at SWB very enjoyable. She values how SWB also provides foreign freshman, transferred or exchange students activities to adapt to the culture of the United States and understand the current events in the country.

"I think it is nice to get to know international students because you can get to know their culture," Van Gelder said. "(The international students) came to America, (so) we can show them too, what it is to be here."

Any student interested in knowing more about the club and its activities can reach Schuyler Carter via email, or send an email to spectrumsdordt.edu to the rest of the board members.

Music, where he helps shape future organists online, so if you were not able to attend the symphony pieces. "I don't really listen to organ music, so it was kind of interesting to hear it played like [Todd Wilson] did," said an attendee, who was kind of interesting to hear it played like he does.

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The Dordt College thanks Wilson for sharing his musical talent on the organ, and looks forward to hearing more musical talent throughout the year.

Job fair (cont.)

Continued from page 1

"Resume," "Job experience," and "internship," were just a few of the words that could be heard all over the room as students discussed their futures with possible employers.

The Dordt College employers from the Career Center hoped to encourage students through this job fair. And in many ways, they succeeded. One of the pamphlets handed out at this job fair featured statistics about college graduate employment, specifically from Dordt College. 97.6% of Dordt graduates from last year were either employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation. The Career Center also mentioned the national average: only 63% of students were employed within six months of their college graduation.

Dordt achieves this statistic through encouraging students to think about careers using opportunities like this job fair.

The Career Center handed out a brief synopsis on how to prepare for a career while in college. Throughout the four years spent at college, there are things students can do to grow their employability for the future.

Freshman year is all about exploring interests and possible career paths. The Career Center suggests getting involved on campus and identifying interests. Making a four-year plan can also be helpful when determining what to study.

Sophomore year, students should narrow down their interests. Then it is time to start researching internships, and eventually apply for one. The Career Center offers tools online to help build a resume and cover letter for this purpose.

Junior year becomes a time to focus career direction and gain experience. This is the year where students should interact with different workplace settings to narrow down their future job choice. This is when internships become incredibly useful.

During the last year of college, it's time to use all the knowledge acquired in internships to prepare for graduate school or a career.

The job fair helped students experience some of these important career steps. Students looking to do the same should visit the Career Center in the Campus Center or go online to the Virtual Career Center to start planning out a career map today.

Narayan Núñez Blandón - Staff Writer

Organist Todd Wilson impresses audience

Meagen De Graaf - Staff Writer

Talented musicians are constantly coming to Dordt to give recitals, and organist Todd Wilson is only the latest of these. Last Friday, October 10, Todd Wilson played an incredible organ concert for the students and faculty of Dordt College.

Todd Wilson is the third performer in a five-year program hosted by Dordt College, the Joan Ringerwolde Organ Series, which brings nationally acclaimed organists to campus each year. Wilson is an extremely talented musician, and the organ here at Dordt College was put to the best possible use with his magnificent music.

Dordt’s organ, located in the BJ Haan Auditorium, is a 57-rank, three-manual mechanical action Casavant pipe organ. This kind of organ is very well-crafted, and suited for highly acclaimed performers like Wilson is. Todd Wilson is the third performer in a five-year program hosted by Dordt College, the Joan Ringerwolde Organ Series, which brings nationally acclaimed organists to campus each year. Wilson is an extremely talented musician, and the organ here at Dordt College was put to the best possible use with his magnificent music.

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Canadian Thanksgiving

Lauren Bird - Staff Writer

Due to the large number of Canadians on Dordt’s campus, Canadian Thanksgiving is acknowledged and celebrated by many in the student body. However, many American students have no idea what Canadian Thanksgiving is all about.

When asked, many Canadians will tell you that their Thanksgiving is exactly the same as Thanksgiving in the United States, the only difference being that it’s on a different day. In 1957, the Parliament of Canada proclaimed, “A day of general Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed - to be observed on the second Monday in October.”

Sam De Groot, a Dordt senior who recently married a Canadian, gets to celebrate two Thanksgivings.

“Canadian Thanksgiving falls on a date that makes more sense than Thanksgiving in the U.S. It’s appropriate to the harvest time, which is what Thanksgiving is celebrating,” said De Groot.

Thanksgiving in the United States is based around the story of the pilgrims and Native Americans joining together in peace and thanks to share a meal. It turns out that Canadian Thanksgiving is based around a similar story. The history of Canadian Thanksgiving can be traced back to Martin Frobisher, an Englishman, and Samuel de Champlain, a Frenchmen. Both men sailed to Canada and are said to have feasted with the natives they met.

Miikaela Kiers, a sophomore from British Columbia, says that many Canadians don’t know the history behind their Thanksgiving. “Canada isn’t as old as the United States. We don’t spend as much time learning history in school as Americans do, which is why we don’t know as much as Americans,” said Kiers.

Since the two Thanksgivings are mostly the same, there isn’t much to know. Kiers says that her Thanksgiving traditions are very similar to the traditions of her American friends.

“Families and friends get together, we eat stuffing, turkey and pie,” said Kiers. “Our church has this tree with cut out paper leaves on it, we write what we’re thankful for on them and the pastor reads them out loud.”

Many Americans who don’t know what Canadian Thanksgiving is all about tend to assume it’s something vastly different than American Thanksgiving. But it turns out that Canadians watch football, eat turkey and give thanks for all God has blessed them with, just as Americans do. The only difference is that this holiday is right in the middle of harvest time.

Student Feature: Shaniese Quist

Heiley Mudder - Staff Writer

Shaniese Quist is a sophomore with bouncy, curly brown hair. She’s an Exercise Science major who loves people more than anything.

“I want to help people,” she said. “It’s because I love people, they make me happy.” Her love for people first began with an inspiration that can be attributed to her cousin.

“My cousin has influenced me to help others,” she said, “she has many medical issues, mostly in her brain.”

Quist attended physical therapy with her cousin, and was encouraged by the way the doctors treated her like a normal person, without her medical difficulties.

“I want to be that for people,” she said. “I would not be the same if I didn’t have my cousin in my life. She has inspired me.”

Quist grew up in Spencer, Iowa. Although she moved around a lot as a young kid. She grew up with four siblings - all girls - and her mom.

“She’s my best friend,” she said, “and I wouldn’t trade my sisters for the world, even though they suck sometimes.”

In her free time, Quist likes to run sprints and high jumps for the Dordt track team, eat pancakes, and drink strawberry soda.

She spent the summer working almost every day at KFC, and she chose to make the best of it.

“I would work the drive-thru and do all the jobs that include interacting with people,” she said. “I have to work really hard for things in life, but that’s alright.”

QCommons (cont.)

Continued from page 1

Tae hyung Kim was not required to come by a class, but wanted to see how the Reformed church impacts the community.

Q-Commons is not limited to the Reformed church, however. Q Ideas is a national organization that seeks to create conversations. The Q stands for questions concerning how Christians can engage with culture and be effective culture shapers.

Q Ideas has hosted an annual conference in cities throughout the country, but this is the first time that they are localizing their talks.

The national portion of Q-Commons involved three national talks that were streamed to all of the 60 plus cities.

Tim Keller, pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church talked about why culture matters.

Ann Voskamp, author of One Thousand Gifts, presented a 9 minute talk, “Known by Grace.”

A panel which included Andy Crouch, Jenny Lang, Jeremy Courtney and Q Ideas founder, Gabe Lyons discussed themes surrounding Religion and Public life.

Following the talks, there was a time for small group discussions and conversations for the audience. Questions such as “what point resonated with you?” and “what action are you driven to take in response to the talks” were presented as possible topics.

People who would like to see additional Q-Commons events in the future should talk to Neil De Ron, Aaron Baart or Liz Moss who represent the Andreas Center.

Canadian and American students celebrate together.

Photo by Whitney Wilgenburg

Q-Commons (cont.)

Continued from page 1

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Dear freshman international students, let’s talk about race and ethnicity.

You left your country, thinking that you would be known as Paraguayan, Brazilian, Kenyan, Indonesian, Ethiopian, Nicaraguan, or Malagasy. But now, though you want to be known and recognized by your national identity, you have to realize that in America there are different definitions of race and ethnicity. You are not just an individual, there are stereotypes and associations that come along with the color of your skin and the language that you speak.

If you are non-American Hispanic or South American (Brasilian), you will find that you are “ Outsiders.” As a Hispanic American, you are “the third world.” As a Hispanic American, you are “the Limbo.” You will find yourself in a big identity conflict, and it takes some time to realize that there is also a theme here with you. Even though the term Hispanic is no longer officially recognized as a race (physi-cal appearance) but as an ethnicity (culture), people still treat it as one. As a Hispanic you are neither black nor white. Before coming to the United States you never had to deal with issues of race or ethnicity; you were another part of the vast majority. But now something you always assumed will change. For the first time in your life you will stand out (and people will be sure to point it out) that you are not white.

For the "real" American white, the color of your skin, falls somewhere between the black and the white. I was confronted with this idea several times, but I realized how much the white American had this notion of race during a PILA trip in which one of the members of my group, an American white, insisted that I did not need to use sunscreen while working under the sun. I responded that I did need it. However this person insinuated that it was unnecessary because I was "dark." Such was the certainty of this individ-ual that I ended up questioning my own san-nity for having used sunscreen for the past 20 years. Fortunately I ended up realizing I was not crazy after remembering the several times I disobeyed my mom by not using sunblocker and ended up with a sunburn.

With your white American friends you will talk about “black people,” but American whites will let you know with their tone that you do not share a common identity with them. You are something else, even though the color of your skin is closer to theirs than to that of African Americans. With your Af-rican American friends you will talk about the “white kids.” They don’t consider you black either, but at least they share a common identity with you. You are all members of the unspoken Club of the Non-White, you are the minority, and you will learn (and have) to accept it. You will find out that indeed, there are a lot of things and perspectives that you share with the minority students being them Asians, Hispanics, African Americans and Africans. Sometimes you will need and crave for a time with your fellows of the Society of the Non-White, but watch out. You don’t want to stick together all the time.

Yik Yak has existed for quite a while but, like most new and interesting things, it has taken quite a while to come to Northeast Iowa. Now that it’s here, however, it has taken our community by storm. Unfortunately, the idea of using the app for positive, funny and uplifting purposes went out the window almost immediately. On our campus Yik Yak became a place for immediate, usually negative, reactions to any-thing that was going in the community. Here, it became a place where people complained about professors, classes, or guest speakers, and where personal attacks on fellow students could be conducted without fear of being identified or of repercussions. The vast ma-jority of the comments on Yik Yak turned out to be things that no one would say to another person, or even out loud, in a million years. The classic phrase, “If you don’t have anything nice to say, then don’t say anything at all,” came to mind as I browsed the Yik Yak feed. While a phrase like this may seem child-ish or like something your grandma would say, I think it’s important to keep in mind. Grandma might know more than you give her credit for.

Our neighbor-school Northwestern Col-lege in Iowa is making an attempt to curb malicious online behavior, has banned Yik Yak on campus. They said that the comments on the app did not foster positive community on campus. I think they might have the right idea. If something is harming people on cam-pus, maybe it should be removed.

I’m not saying that there all need to boycott Yik Yak, or Twitter, or any other form of on-line communication and social media be-cause we might offend someone, but we do need to actually think about what we’re say-ing online. The ease of online communication has created an environment that encourages the idea that because I can say something means that I should. Because we never have to see the faces of the people we talk about online, we never have to deal with the consequences of our words.

At least, if you were to say terrible things about someone to their face, maybe they’d punch you in your face and you’d learn your lesson — online, there’s no one to punch you in the face.

I have heard it said that we need apps like Yik Yak so that we can present our opinions and criticisms without fear of judgement or oppression. This idea is OK as long as the app never gets used to judge and oppress oth-ers — which it does. Daily. On top of that, if you really have a problem with a person or an institution, have the spine to actually get up, get off your phone, and go talk to them about it. Think through your argument, present it properly, and take it seriously. If all you’re doing is anonymously “Yik Yak-ing” about it, then you will be anonymously ignored in return.

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Why are you so dressed up?

I hate this question. It would certainly be an understandable inquiry if I was actually dressed up, but more often than not, it is directed toward me on an average weekday, in between classes, and always by some perplexed person wearing a hoodie, jeans and a t-shirt. I always want to reply, “I’m not dressed up... I’m just dressed.” But I usually just smile or laugh or try to come up with some quick answer, feeling odd that I have to defend myself. This honestly happens to me all the time.

Now, I understand I do not attend one of the most fashion-conscious schools in the nation. The Midwest holds fame in many areas, but possessing a high-fashion culture is not one of them. I don’t say this as an insult, nor do I claim that there are no Midwesterner who dress sty-lishly—for sure from it! But I have noticed a distinct difference in people’s attitude towards my per-sonal style, at least compared to back home.

I’ve collected innumerable responses over the past three years at Dordt—negative, positive, and all-around bizarre—beginning when I first stepped outside in a bright floral dress, a green poncho, and heels on the first day of Fresh-man year. Over the course of many outfits I’ve received some very rude comments: “My dad would never let me leave the house like that!” some very wonderful comments: “You remind me of a redhead 70’s soul queen” and I’ve also received some very strange comments: “You look like a flag!” Evidently, my style has not gone unnoticed.

I think so. Oddly, it’s always been like this for me. I’ve held an inexplicable hunger and love for color from an early age, which was quick-ly incorporated with a quick-budding love for clothes. When I was in the sixth grade I was convinced I was going to be a fashion designer, and, to prepare myself, I’d wake up every morning to watch the early fashion runway shows on the Style network, clutching my sketchbook in hand while furiously taking notes from the breathtaking designer collections I’d see.

For some, clothing is purely, or at least main-ly, functional: it covers one’s body, protects one from the weather and stick to plastic seals, and it keeps everything in place while running down the stairs. For others (like me), clothing is also a delightful form of artistic expression. It is a chance to decorate one’s self each day, viewing the body as an eager canvas and each article of clothing as a symbolic stroke of paint.

Sometimes when waking in the morning, I am instantly inspired and know exactly what to wear. On other days, I have to try on several outfits before finding “the one.” It’s not that I’m trying to impress anyone, because if anything, dressing like everyone else would actually make my life a little easier out here. But I like the idea of people seeing my aesthetic creations, as well as catching a glimpse of my personality just by looking at what I’m wearing.

And that, my friends, is why I’m “so dressed up.”
Clean Sheet?? Adjust record

Christian Zytra - Staff Writer

Last season did not go as planned for the Dordt Defenders Men’s Soccer team, but this season is already shaping up to be a good one.

Thirteen games into the season, the Defenders are at 8-5, already better than last season's mark of 5-13-1. Life is going much more smoothly in the GPAC as well with the Defenders at 3-2. Even with the good start to the season, don’t expect Dordt to be content with where it is.

“Our team needs to stay focused and not become complacent with the success we’ve had so far,” said senior Brady Van Holland. “We need to stay hungry day in and day out.”

That hunger for success and improvement has carried the Defenders to where they are now.

“We’re right where we ought to be,” said Dordt coach Dave Schenk. “We've always been a very hard-working team, but that's not always enough. But, we've really developed over the past few weeks. We've begun to focus on things in our control. Things are definitely moving in the right direction.”

During the first few games of the season, most of Dordt’s goals came either from penalty kicks or with the ball out wide. That recent technical development has helped Dordt score goals in a number of ways.

“We were too predictable before, but now we have different guys scoring in different ways,” Schenk said. “Tuesday (Oct. 7) was probably our best game possession wise and moving the ball around. We're creating a lot of opportunities, and variety has been key.”

Despite the hot start for the Defenders, it was not always a smooth ride. After starting off the year 4-0, Dordt lost four straight matches, including an overtime and double-overtime loss. But through preparation and hard work, the Defenders are back on track.

“We have a great coaching staff,” said senior Ryan Postma. “They prepare us well for all of our games and do a great job scouting our opponent.”

This Defender coaching staff has done a great job this season, which is why the team has a number of lofty yet reachable goals.

“Our goal is to finish in the top-half of the GPAC and host a quarterfinal,” Schenk said. “Obviously, we'd love to reach the semi-finals and with our potential, we could even reach the finals.”

If the Defenders want to finish well in the GPAC and make a deep run in the conference tournament, the goalkeeping will be key. “Clean sheets are going to be very important in the playoffs,” Schenk said. “We're 0-0 games in and we still don’t have a clean sheet.”

Even without a clean sheet on the season, the Defenders have plenty of good results. If the team can keep up their mantra of “Do Work” throughout the season, it has a great chance of doing something very special in the GPAC tournament in November.

Second year of men’s volleyball to begin

Aaron Ladzinski - Staff Writer

The second year of Dordt’s men’s volleyball is upon us! After beginning the club team in the fall of 2013 and beginning play in the winter of 2014, the Defenders look to begin play with a home game against South Dakota State during Defender Days on October 17. The team has a good amount of experience returning from last year’s team, no key players were lost from last year’s roster. With that being said, the team welcomes fresh faces to the court.

One of these freshmen is Thomas Soodsma from Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, Canada, younger brother of junior football and hockey player Chris Soodsma. “I'm very optimistic about the upcoming season,” said Soodsma. “It's going to be a lot of fun, I'm looking forward to the year. I know I have a lot to learn about the game.”

Keeping on the path he started last year, junior Eric Geels will be captain of the team and is looking to improve on last season.

“We don't always play the same teams, but we can hang with anyone in our conference,” said Geels. “If we can achieve some goals and win a few conference games we're set up to do well come tournament play.”

“I never played in high school, so last year there was a learning curve. Leading the team and setting up tournaments has given me more confidence going into this year.”

Last year the Defenders went 6-8 on matches but with his head held high, Geels is confident on the team coming together and producing a great year. Practices have been going on since the end of September and games are just around the corner. With only a few tournaments this year, opportunities are short to show just how good the team can be in just their second year.

The first tournament will be played at Iowa State on October 25 followed by their home tournament on November 22. Competition looks to be at a high level again this year after facing club teams from Division 1 schools like Nebraska.
**Movie Review: Gone Girl**

**Jonathan Janssen - Reviewer**

"The date-night movie of the decade for couples who dream of destroying one another!"

Right off the bat, Peter Travers of Rolling Stone boils the new film Gone Girl into a beautifully haunting look at marriage, social status and the depravity of the human condition. How does one address the plot of a film when said plot is as precociously delicate and disturbingly twisted as Gone Girl? The following plot summary will be very basic, to keep the spoilers to a minimum. On his fifth wedding anniversary, Nick Dunne (Ben Affleck) comes home to discover his wife, Amy (Rosamund Pike), has disappeared. As police detective Rhonda Boney (Kim Dickens) begins to piece more and more of the crime together, Nick is thrown into suspicion in the eyes of the police, the media, and the nation. Suddenly, the image of his seemingly happy marriage begins to crumble as those closest to him start questioning Nick's claim of innocence.

With so many twists and turns that Gone Girl at times feels like multiple stories, Fincher and Flynn have created a film that keeps its audience constantly guessing. The reveals have the perfect amount of build-up, so as not to become mundane or abrupt, and they consistently serve the purpose of furthering the plot. No scene is wasted in establishing numerous plot devices, character traits, or thematic elements. By using a slow, boiling setting that sets the stage of a smart thriller, Fincher shocks his crowd all the more when the plot painstakingly devolves into a wacky, graphic, and very darkly comedic ending.

The utter lack of character development that is persistent to the end of the film would seem to hinder, yet it adds to the horror experienced at the ending. Affleck — fulfilling his prophecy to become "that guy you want to punch in the face" — and Pike shine in their roles, with the deep red rock from Missouri:

"A desire to heighten the tangible nature of the plot informed the set design which includes a two story house and a good old fashioned climbing tree. The set is a unit set which means there will be no backdrop changes. Figuring out how to depict a variety of locations in one space did not end up being the most challenging aspect of the scenic design."

"We used real water and real dirt which isn't typical," Wallace said. "Those past few rehearsals, our actors have been walking, sitting and rolling in dirt."

Tickets for Tom Sawyer are $1 for Dordt students with I.D., $5 for non-Dordt students, and $8 for adults.

**Pep Band set to return to basketball games**

**Lauren Bird - Staff Writer**

The students of Dordt's music department have put together a pep band to accompany volleyball and basketball games throughout the year. This group will play at games on November 1 and 15, December 6, and January 17.

Dordt's pep band is a student-run group, and is being led this year by senior Michael Groenenboom and sophomore Kayla Wilson.

In addition to new leadership, which happens every few years when leaders leave, the group hopes to make several changes.

"We're hoping to get more staff involved and well like to see if we can invite alumni to play with us during a game," said Groenenboom. "We're trying to get a more modern feel as well, which is why we're going to be playing some new songs like 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams and 'Gold on the Ceiling' by The Black Keys."

Groenenboom hopes that the more modern music will help the group connect with students. This and its unique atmosphere are what set pep band apart from other groups at Dordt.

"It isn't the same formal atmosphere that you come across in other musical ensembles at Dordt. Since it's a student-led group, you get a different dynamic than a group that's led by a music professor," said Groenenboom.

Both Groenenboom and Wilson are music education majors, and say that they were involved in pep band in high school. "I played clarinet in pep band in high school. It was a really fun experience then, and I wanted to stay involved with this kind of music in college. As a music education major, I also knew this could be a great learning and leadership opportunity," said Wilson.

Students don't have to be involved in the Dordt's music department to participate in pep band. Students are able to rent instruments from the music department or bring their own instrument.

"We only rehearse 45 minutes each week, so the time commitment is not too huge. The atmosphere in rehearsal is fun and relaxed, and at the games it's great to help get the athletes and fans energized and ready for the game," said Wilson.

Pep band is a great way for students to support Dordt's volleyball and basketball teams, or to be involved in a fun group that they enjoyed in high school.

"It's an easy and fun way to be involved in music in college," said Groenenboom. "It's also a visual and oral way to support Dordt athletics."

Dordt students and staff are invited to participate. The group practices every Wednesday from 8-8:45 in the evening.
The Back Page

Jonathan Janssen - Staff Writer

The phrase “R&B legends” brings a diverse range of artists to mind. Names like Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, R. Kelly, Prince, Justin Timberlake and Usher will inevitably find their place in future history books chronicling the rhythm and blues genre. With his new release Kauai, Donald Glover, known professionally as Childish Gambino, has set into motion his appeal for a spot in R&B history.

Where does one begin with a man as multifaceted as Donald Glover? A quick glance at his accomplishments show Glover as a screenwriter for NBC’s 30 Rock, a successful stand-up comedian, a talented actor and voice actor and a powerful rapper. With a résumé as extensive as his, Glover has earned the right to reach for a position among legends.

In order to understand Kauai, one should ideally go back to December 2013, when Gambino’s second album Because the Internet took hip hop culture by storm. Flashing his talent in the face of previous critics who thought that his musical artistry skills were underdeveloped, Gambino created a cohesive story – complete with a screenplay, multiple short films, a visually rich and audience-assisted tour, and rumors of a possible video game – which hooked fans and critics alike.

A year later, Childish Gambino has once again switched roles. Flaunting his acclaimed singing skills, Gambino’s Kauai boasts seven songs, each with its own distinct feel. “Sober,” an obviously Michael Jackson-inspired bubblegum pop song, sees Gambino putting his falsetto skills to good use over an 80’s sounding beat. Multiple “hoots” and “wooeps” in a beat switch near the end of the song complete the MJ allusion. “Pop Thieves (Make It Feel Good)” sounds more modern, with a production-heavy beat and Gambino even making use of the ever-popular autotune on the chorus. Minimalist lyrics and a switch to bongo drums with a surprising appearance of spoken word poetry by Jaden Smith at the end easily make this track the best on the album. Further into the album, Gambino channels Justin Timberlake in “The Palsades (feat. Christian Rich).” Everything from the beat, which could have been stolen off of JT’s 2002 album Justified, to his seductive solos and boisterous chorus proclaiming “Love don’t really happen,” give off the signature Timberlake sound.

The rest of the album sees Gambino making a bold return to his rap on “Poke (feat. Steve G Lover III)” – Steve G Lover III being Gambino’s little brother and a hot addition to the track – and “Late Night In Kauai,” which again features spoken-word poetry from Jaden Smith. The last song “3005 (Beach Picnic Remix)” is an instrumental hearkening back to Because the Internet with a calm remix to his hit single “3005.”

With Kauai, Childish Gambino has thrown his hat into the R&B ring. Having already flexed his vocals to much praise with songs like “Centipede,” “Telegraph Ave.,” and “Urn,” Gambino listened to his fans and critics begging him for an R&B album, and it was exactly what they expected: a cohesive EP with exactly the right amount of individuality that makes it a signature Gambino hit.

Music Review:
Childish Gambino - Kauai

Feature Photos

Science building under the moon

Photo By Megan Kaiser

Dylan Adrians, Matt Boett, Paul Greidanus and Andrew Kootsier in the cook off

Photo By Megan Kaiser

Cover art for Childish Gambino’s new EP, Kauai