The Soviet Union's collapse in 1991 seemed to mark the beginning of a new era for Russia and the United States. Many thought that with the fall of communism, the old adversaries might become allies. But dreams of an American-Russian partnership are being shaken by recent developments.

Since his election in 1999, Russian President Vladimir Putin has been moving his country further and further from democracy and closer to dictatorship. Under the leadership of this former KGB agent, Russia has become less free, less cooperative with America and more threatening towards its neighbors.

The most recent example: in early October, the tiny nation of Georgia, formerly a part of the Soviet Union, arranged to apply for NATO membership. Russia responded by withdrawing its ambassador, imposing an economic blockade and beginning naval war games off the Georgian coast. Some analysts believe Russia is planning an invasion.

On the home front, Putin has been gathering more and more power at the expense of his country's democracy. Putin's reelection in 2004 was criticized by European election observers, who claimed that the vote count was flawed and that media coverage was slanted in Putin's favor. Six months later, Putin used the terrorist attack on a school in Beslan, Russia as an excuse to introduce more stringent security measures and to limit media coverage.

Putin's government has acquired control over much of the news media in Russia. And journalists that aren't being managed by the state are being intimidated. A few weeks ago, a prominent anti-Putin journalist, Anna Politkovskaya, was murdered in her apartment building - on Putin's birthday. Her newspaper's deputy editor was murdered a few years earlier. Neither murder has been solved to date.

On the world scene, Russia under Putin has taken a consistently anti-American stance. In 2005, Russia sold $700 million worth of surface-to-air missiles to Iran, America's biggest enemy in the Middle East. The same year, Russia successfully pressured Uzbekistan to close an American air base used for operations in Afghanistan. Now it is pressuring Kyrgyzstan to do the same.

Also last year, Russia and China conducted their first joint military exercise to demonstrate their ability to counter U.S. power.

Russia's constitution won't allow Putin to serve a third term, but Putin has made it clear that he'd like to keep his job, and some of his supporters have made petitions to amend the constitution to allow him to run again. In any case, Putin has promised that he will continue to "exert influence" in Russia after his term ends.

Skillen challenged the audience to rethink the many ways in which we find ourselves divided and how "our quest to develop the world is (actually) ecological carelessness— we fail to pay attention to the way God's creation is faltering under our waste and abuse in the environment."

Thus, we're faced with both an economic and environmental problem. Skillen referenced Douglas Comm in questioning the cost of global chaos: "What's coming together at this point is scarcity of resources and acceleration of climate change."

Skillen tied the intensification of globalization directly to "the tasks that are at hand, in bringing the whole of God's creation into service, [which] requires every one— all of the generations around the world."

Yet, there is tension within that task, especially due to the "one world visions that aren't harmoniously in . . ."

See SKILLEN, pg.3
Baked potato wedges

Submitted by Josh Dykstra

8 medium unpeeled potatoes
1 t. salt
½ t. garlic powder
¼ c. parmesan cheese
1/4 t. pepper
½ t. paprika
¼ c. flour
½ c. butter

1. Cut potatoes in quarters, lengthwise.
2. Mix butter, salt, garlic, cheese, pepper, paprika, and flour in large bowl.
3. Roll potatoes in mix.
4. Arrange potatoes peeled side down in baking dish.
5. Bake 375 degrees for 45 min. Turn halfway through.

CORRECTION: In the October 20 issue of the Dordt Diamond, the front page story about “Korean” nuclear testing should have specified that the action had been taken by North Korean. The Diamond wishes to apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Time card guidelines

A few guidelines to follow when filling out your time cards, from Dordt’s Payroll Coordinator Lois Van De Griend:

• Round your hours worked. Your times are checked and double-checked, and figuring out the hours from 7:38 a.m. to 1:43 p.m. greatly complicates the process. Rounding to the nearest fifteen minutes avoids all kinds of issues. If you come in at 3:41, write 3:45.
• Write the date of the first day of the week that you work. This lessens time required for entering hours into the database.
• Write as neatly and clearly as possible.
• Don’t forget to get your adviser’s signature. Your time card can’t be processed without it.
• Consider using direct deposit for your checks. You won’t lose your check, and you don’t have to worry about casing it in time either. Not only is this a great benefit for students, but it also saves Comptroller Michael Van Surksum from signing at least a few of those 600 student payroll checks.
• Turn in your time card by the second business day of each month.

Questions or Comments?
Send your responses and opinion to diamond@dordt.edu

Bridget Smith
Staff Writer

She fidgets with the hem of her blue jeans, slightly uncomfortable with all the attention, yet humbly sharing her stories from the heart, from her culture where self-focus is not the norm. She is Suur Debrah Yakubu, an international student from Benue State, Nigeria.

Twenty-one years old and in her second year at Dordt College, Suur is a dedicated pre-med student with a heart for God and a desire to serve others. Suur graduated from high school at 16 years old, going on to attend a university in Nigeria for four years.

Suur’s dreams of attending med school in the U.S. led her to study pre-med here as well, thus increasing her chances of acceptance into a U.S. graduate school. With academic goals ahead and family and friends behind, Suur left home to live with her host parents in Chicago, now a beloved city and “second home.” But Suur is not without relatives here—the name Yakubu is all over the U.S.”

And the name Yakubu is not unknown to Dordt either—years ago, Suur’s father taught pottery here as a visiting teacher, inevitably leading his daughter to enjoy a more permanent “visit” of her own. In fact, Suur hasn’t returned to Nigeria since she moved away, and she especially misses her best friend, her mother. Suur also left behind six siblings—two brothers and four sisters, the youngest being her ador-
Are we saturated with "CRC"?

Andrea Dykshoom
Editor

In the fall of 2003, I stepped onto the grounds of Dordt College—the "larger world," according to the recruitment propaganda at the time. Since then, I have been battered by "CRC." In keeping with the holistic Reformed worldview, creation, fall, redemption and consumption have worked their way into every class, chapel, and lecture held on campus.

This is how it should be, you might say. I don't claim to disagree with the Reformed worldview. But is there a point where we find that we've had just too much CRC?

On Tuesday, October 31, Jim Skillen gave the Reformation Day lecture in the BJ Haan auditorium. In his talk, he continued to refer to Reformed theology and Kuyperian spheres sovereignty. I respect Skillen very much; I've read several articles by the President of Center for Public Justice, and I know he has valuable insights about Christians and our responsibility in our world today.

But several people I spoke to were disappointed with the lecture. Could it be that we are saturated with the CRC, to a point where we simply cannot absorb or grow from any more "creation-fall-redemption-consumption" jargon? I grew up in the CRC, and I value the theological foundations that the Reformed faith has given me. My worldview is based on the writings of Calvin, Kuyper, Dooyeweerd and the like. But here at Dordt, it seems like sometimes Calvinist jargon becomes a sort of default language—language that we can pull out when we find ourselves confronting a difficult question or issue, something that we use to gloss over reality.

"CRC saturation" concerns me again, not because I disagree with the Reformed faith, but because sometimes the only way to truly discover what we believe is by seeing ourselves as others see us. And by others, I don't mean fellow Reformed believers.

When I think about the experiences that have had the greatest impact on my faith, there is an interesting common denominator. In each case, the person who most challenged me to think about what I believe did not do so by quoting Calvin, Kuyper or Dooyeweerd.

During my freshman year at Dordt, I had the opportunity to attend the National Association of Evangelicals Student Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. We listened to countless Christian speakers working in prominent positions in the American government and media. But the only speaker that I really remember—the only one who truly challenged me to think about what I believe—was not Reformed, or even Christian; he was Jewish.

His powerful lecture gave us a small picture of how Christians appear to the rest of the world, and he challenged us to carefully consider ourselves as others see us. And by others, I don't mean fellow Reformed believers.

When I spent a semester in the Middle East, my conversations with Muslims, Jews, and Orthodox Christians taught me more about 'my square inch' in the world than any of Kuyper’s writings or any lectures I have attended.

Reformation conference refreshes attendants

Jacob Kroeze
Staff Writer

The refreshments offered to pastors, students and others were not limited to the coffee and donuts on the second day of the Reformation conference held in the science building lecture hall this past Saturday, Oct. 28.

Dr. Derek Thomas, a native of Wales, spoke on the theme "The Reformation: Was it a Mistake." Thomas—professor of systematic and practical theology at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson Mississippi—spoke about John Calvin, his life, and his work on the subjects of systematic and practical theology at the Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Professor Thomas also pointed out that this book was different than any other book on the Reformation that I have ever read. It was not written from the perspective of一个人 who is like us, but someone who knows what we are like, and who knows that we are saturated with the CRC, to a point where we simply cannot absorb or grow from any more "creation-fall-redemption-consumption" jargon.

When I spent a semester in the Middle East, my conversations with Muslims, Jews, and Orthodox Christians taught me more about "my square inch" in the world than any of Kuyper's writings or any lectures I have attended.

Skilleden continued from page 1

tune with one another" even shown by the fact that "people who are religious are praying for different things.

James Skillen continued his thought-provoking presentation, raising the point that "none of us is better off if half of the world's people don't even get to develop their talents. Skillen said "we are one people in one world called to serve God in one way." Yet he went on to present a seeming paradox—showing that that sense of oneness "doesn't mean we can look for one solution to the world's problems." Christians have the calling not to develop destructively but to "live normatively—in obedience to God." Thus, all of the different directions and solutions of human development that can/must be used by God's glory.

Closing with the evening's reformation theme, Skillen ended the night with a bit of a trick up his sleeve, in "changing up" the traditional Reformational challenge. Rather than solely calling Christians to be reformers, he called us back to the humbling fact that "reforming can only take place by the Great Reformer" Himself. And this can only be done if "we recognize that out of our efforts [through which we bring] forth our faith, we're often carrying forward the very same false ideas about life [that we're fighting against]." Until the fullness of Christ's restoration of the creation is carried out in its own way, our efforts may truly have to be a "reforming of constant weeping.

For more information on Jim Skillen or on The Center for Public Justice, go to www.cijustice.org

Dordt College claims to help students step into a larger world. But if this is true, shouldn't we promote a broader worldview by bringing to campus people with different backgrounds or even religious views than our own? Granted, Anago has sought to do some of this—but perhaps Dordt should pursue a more active role in promoting understanding between Reformed Christians and the rest of the world.

Dordt has an opportunity to promote understanding right here on campus with the search for a commencement speaker. The college is looking for nominees who came from a Reformed background. But maybe we should look not for someone who is like us, but someone who knows what we are like, and who knows that we are saturated with the CRC, to a point where we simply cannot absorb or grow from any more "creation-fall-redemption-consumption" jargon. Instead of another creation-fall-redemption-consumption lecture, perhaps we really need is a reality check.

Bible when he purchased a child's version from a country store in Wales as an 18 year old. He immediately realized that this book was different than any other, and now sees this as the Holy Spirit's work.

As he was not raised in a Christian home, when he walked into a meeting of university students singing and praising Christ, he felt as though he had come home.

Those who came to the conference were treated to door prizes as well as the promise of a compact disc of this year's lectures by Dr. Derek Thomas, in addition to a refreshing look at the reformation.
Are you ready for NC/DC?

Grace Venhuizen
Guest Writer

"Welcome! I'm Ryan Seacrest and we're here tonight to find the next big singing sensation on...NC/DC Extreme!"

So it may not have the same ring to it as "American Idol," but it is the next best thing in the cornfields of Iowa. NC/DC Extreme is a two-week singing rivalry between Dordt and Northwestern students to find, by popular viewer vote, the most talented voice. That voice may not receive a recording contract, but it will win a prize of $500.

The Student Activities Committee (SAC) has organized the event this year to be held between the two campuses. NC/DC is organized to be a series of three competitions. According to Craig Van Drunen, SAC co-leader, over 20 Dordt students tried out for a spot in the first competition to be held on Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. in the Defender Grill area. Ten of the 20 were chosen to compete in the all-Dordt preliminaries.

These 10 singers are freshmen Troy Eliens and Jon Ayee; sophomores Bethany Kooiman and Jill Vande Vegte; juniors Chris Nettelbog, Jonathon Shaffstall, Heather Boer and Rebekah Oudman; and seniors Brad Redeker and Joelle Riezebos.

Van Drunen wants to remind everyone that there will be free popcorn and cotton candy, so "come early for a good seat." Viewer participation is critical at the preliminaries because Dordt students will be deciding which four singers will be sent to represent Dordt in the semi-finals against Northwestern.

The second competition is the semi-finals held on Nov. 11 at 10 p.m. in the BJ Haan Auditorium. Dordt's four semifinalists chosen by its students and Northwestern's semifinalists chosen by its students will each be given a chance to sing one song. They will be critiqued by two judges, one from each college, and students will again be given the chance to vote for their favorite performers.

Students will vote online for their favorite two performers from each school. The performers will be decided by popular vote but the singers will not know who has won until the day of the final competition.

The third and final competition will be held on Nov. 18 at 10 p.m in Northwestern's Bullett Center. The last two singers from each school will again sing one song and be critiqued by judges. But instead of online voting, students will be voting live and the winner will be announced immediately.

This is the 3rd annual NC/DC competition between Dordt and Northwestern. Dordt remains undefeated in the past two years producing winners Justin Vande Kerk and Cassandra Lokker. Craig Van Drunen emphasizes that "it is crucial" for Dordt students to be present at the last performance as it will be decided by a live vote.

Don't let Northwestern steal Dordt's NC/DC legacy. About 1,000 students are estimated to attend the show. Be one of them - support Dordt's finest voices and vote for your favorite. See you there.

Monday morning coffee club brightens students' mornings

Alli Hagey
Guest Writer

If you are anything like me, the idea of waking up for class on Monday morning leaves a bitter taste in your mouth. Mondays are by far the worst morning of the week - there's just something about facing yet another finals against Northwestern. Dordt remains undefeated in the past two years producing winners Justin Vande Kerk and Cassandra Lokker. Craig Van Drunen emphasizes that "it is crucial" for Dordt students to be present at the last performance as it will be decided by a live vote.

Don't let Northwestern steal Dordt's NC/DC legacy. About 1,000 students are estimated to attend the show. Be one of them - support Dordt's finest voices and vote for your favorite. Seacrest out.

Monday Morning Coffee Club provides coffee for a richer, stronger coffee as opposed to a traditional drip-brew machine. The French press consists of a cylindrical jug with a lid and plunger that acts as a filter. Coffee is brewed by putting the water and coffee together and allowing it to brew for a few minutes before using the plunger to separate the coffee at the bottom. Since the grounds are in contact with the brewing water, it allows the coffee to capture a richer taste rather than the bitter taste that is common with a drip pot. The self-heated style of the French press also eliminates the chance of that bitter taste previously left from the thought of an early morning can be replaced by fresh, gourmet coffee on the way to class.
Nigeria bears third jet crash in a single year

Chris O'Neill
Guest Writer

A Boeing 737 crashed just one minute after takeoff over Nigeria's capital city of Abuja last Sunday during a violent storm. This was the third Nigerian Airliner to crash in less than a year.

Despite initial conflicting reports, ABC News correspondents have confirmed that among the 104 people on board, only six survived—and these were taken to the hospital in critical condition. Rescue workers sorted through piles of debris in searches of survivors while federal officials assessed the scene after Nigeria's president, Olusegun Obasanjo, ordered an immediate investigation regarding the cause of the crash. So far there have been no reports indicating any relation to terrorism, as many have concluded that the cause of the crash was due to bad weather conditions.

The aftermath revealed that the 737 had crashed only two miles from the runway, with wreckage scattered over an area the size of a football field. Identified among the deceased victims was Muhammad Maccido, the spiritual leader of Nigeria's Sunni Muslims as well as the Sultan of Sokoto—the airliner's destination point—a city about 500 miles northwest of Abuja. Maccido's death was announced publicly over the radio, and his body was transported to an airport in Sokoto, where thousands of people gathered to pay their respects. Maccido was immediately buried, in accordance with Islamic custom, and the Sokoto state government issued six days of mourning.

As part of his office, Maccido directed Nigeria's National Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, which dealt with issues including policies of Muslim fasts. The PCV project here at Dordt, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., once again wants to encourage those students for seminary and graduate school visits and interested in attending graduate school by subsidizing travel and registration grants to attend the Faith and International Development Conference at Calvin College in February.

This past year Dordt's Programs in Christian Vocation project provided full or partial support to twenty students for seminary and graduate school visits and to many more students to pursue career exploration opportunities. For example: Seven students were awarded travel grants to visit seminaries; thirteen students received travel grants to visit graduate schools; fifteen students were awarded partial funding to attend the L'Abri Fellowship Conference in Rochester, Minnesota, and nine students were awarded travel and registration grants to attend the Faith and International Development Conference at Calvin College in February.

Is your dating relationship a healthy one?
Dordt and Northwestern Colleges are joining together to hold a discussion...

November 14 @ 9:00pm at Northwestern College
November 16 @ 7:30pm at Dordt College

The Dordt and Northwestern College senior class social work students are teaming together for their Social Work with Communities and Organizations class: Social Work 386. The students were to develop a senior class project in which the students are in full control. The Senior Class Project is to be developed throughout the fall semester. This year, students are working with Rachel Valentine, the Safe Campus Project Coordinator in an effort to raise awareness to students and communities of healthy dating relationships in both the Dordt and Northwestern College communities. Two panel discussions are to be held later in the semester discussing issues of healthy dating relationships and the choice of singleness.

Check out the flyers posted for more information.

The PCV project here at Dordt, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., once again wants to encourage those interested in attending graduate school by subsidizing up to two exploratory visits in their senior year to universities of their choosing. These travel grants are for up to $250 each. To apply you need to have the endorsement of one of your professors and to let them know by email of your intentions prior to your visit. Similar travel grants are available for pre-seminary students. Students may also solicit these grant funds for other projects that relate primarily to the exploration and cultivation of vocational reflection. Contact Dr. Kok for details.

Nigeriabearsthirdjet crashin'asingleyear
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TRAVEL GRANTS FOR SENIORS
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Alvin Shim  
Staff Writer

During the last weeks of October, students could be heard discussing Dordt College's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace." It's about, I'm not sure... some old ladies who, like, kill a bunch of guys and... whatever, but it looks pretty funny.

My roommates and I, in need of retreat from Halo and Western Civilization, attended the dress rehearsal for the zero-dollar cost. The set was clear of any characters, but the show had begun. The play started well after the scheduled 7:30, allowing the audience to sit and visually crawl round the window seat, through the cellar door and up the rich staircase, looking as if it smelled of rich mahogany. The chandelier hung down against the staircase and tied the composition of the room together.

It was totally Feng Shui, I'm sure, and it was wonderful to finally see the set. There was a chair in the middle of the room, and a table with a candle on it. The room was designed to look like a parlor in the 1930s, with a fireplace on one side and a view of the city through the window on the other. The walls were painted a soft cream color, and the floor was made of hardwood. The lighting was perfect, with soft, warm light coming from the chandelier and the fireplace. The audience was seated in comfortable chairs, and there was plenty of room for everyone to see the stage. The actors were dressed in period costumes, with hats and gloves and suits. The set was very detailed, with a staircase leading up to a second floor, and a large window that looked out onto the city. The actors were very good, with a lot of energy and enthusiasm. The show had begun. The play started.

The Reverend (Zach Eggebeen) and his daughter, Elaine (Kendra Trienstra) come in and are soon followed by another nephew of the aunts, Mortimer Brewster (Dan Fynaardt). Thus, they have a love story going on, a secondary role to the murder teams of Aunt Abby and Martha vs. Jonathan Brewster and Dr. Einstein.

A key scene is one that's not like the episode of The Simpsons when Lisa is convinced that she's grown up and become stupid like Homer and Bart because of the Simpson gene. Mortimer finds out that his aunts are extremely pro-euthanasia... somewhat... and that his brother Jonathan is back in town with Dr. Einstein (creepily and well played by Marcel Wassink and Andrew Voss, again props to costume and makeup). Mortimer also factors realizes that his other brother Teddy thinks himself to be President Roosevelt. Mortimer concludes that he, himself, will probably go insane soon. The insane play is written by Joseph Kesselring. Corpses (Ryan VanderWel and Matt Turner) are mixed up, demands are shouted and plans are ruined. This year's Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonic Virtuosi and many other prominent orchestras throughout the U.S.

Asking him what one of the most embarrassing moments in his career was, he chuckled and said without hesitation, "...but here's the twist... the aunts, like, kill people! It's a play of irregularities and parallels. Mortimer and Dr. Einstein both play the role of reason and conscience to the aunts and Jonathan.

The play implies that the audience sees their own imperfections in these characters in a "Catcher in the Rye-esque" way, that we convince ourselves we are somebody beyond our titles and assumptions. From the play and the reactions of the audience around me, I chuckled.

David Burgess appears for NISO at Dordt College

Jamin Hubner  
Staff Writer

This year's Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra, directed by Henry Duitman, is featuring one of today's most accomplished and experienced guitarists, David Burgess. Burgess will be making music in the B.J. Haan Auditorium this Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

David won top honors in many international music competitions like the Ponce International Competition in Mexico City, the Guitar '81 Competition in Toronto and the 31st International Music Competition in Munich. He began studying at the Estudio de Arte Guitarrístico in Mexico City with the pre-eminent Argentinian guitarist, Manuel Lopez Ramos. David later earned a Diploma di Merito while receiving a full scholarship at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy. After earning his B.A. in music at the University of Washington and becoming a guitar instructor at both the University of Washington and the Cornish Institute of the Arts in Seattle, he was selected as the first recipient of the Andres Segovia Fellowship. As an orchestral soloist, he performed with the American Chamber Orchestra at Kennedy Center, the St. Luke's Chamber Orchestra, the Philharmonia Virtuosi and many other prominent orchestras throughout the U.S. Currently residing in New York City, David has also performed in Town Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall and at Lincoln Center.

I had a chance to interview David to get some details on his career. He's played in the region before, like Dordt College and Sioux City, though much of his work takes place around the world and particularly much of Brazil. When I asked him about how he likes traveling, he said he likes it but it's a "mixed blessing" that wears on a person after a while. He has gigs in Spain and China in the near future. In fact, he's pretty much bagged his knee down and so I just stood there for a while until I was able to walk.

David Burgess will be making music in the B.J. Haan Auditorium this Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

David Burgess appears for NISO at Dordt College

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with a history in the choir loft, though she is the reverend's daughter... Teddy thinks he's Roosevelt... his insanity works to the benefit of the play. Officer O'Hara (Dan Den Boer) is ready to be free from his 12 years on the police force to become a playwright. (O'Hara is, by the way, totally a reminder of Kenny from the movie Garden State). Jonathan and Dr. Einstein are renegade criminals from around the world. And Mortimer has his salvation when he realizes that he is not a blood Brewster, his salvation and catharsis expressed in the simple shout of joy: "I'm a bastard!"

The play, well received by the community and the visitors from Parent's Week, drew large gasps and laughs from Teddy, Dr. Einstein and each consecutive performance brought a smoother product. Though the first dress rehearsal was solid, the last Saturday night was noticeably more polished and skilled.

I've thought about why this play was as funny as it was. I can imagine Joseph Kesselring sitting at the fireplace with a pipe in his fingers and saying, "...but here's the twist... the aunts, like, kill people!" It's a play of irregularities and parallels. Mortimer and Dr. Einstein both play the role of reason and conscience to the aunts and Jonathan.

The play implies that the audience sees their own imperfections in these characters in a "Catcher in the Ryesque" way, that we convince ourselves we are somebody beyond our titles and assumptions. From the play and the reactions of the audience around me, I chuckled.
Music review

Band: Mae
Album: Everglow
Reviewer: Lynette Andree

"Who is Mae?" is not as relevant of a question as "What is Mae?" Mae is not an angry female band, as the name might suggest; it is actually an all-male alternative band. The name actually stands for Multisensory Aesthetic Experience. I guess that is supposed to mean that the music is more 'real'? Either way, their new CD Everglow is something that you will want to listen to.

The CD starts out in a slightly different way than usual—it sounds like a mock book-on-tape with the whole "when you hear this sound, turn the page" (to the CD booklet). The CD booklet is something that can be appreciated along with the music—if you are going to listen to Mae's CD (which I recommend as well). Mae has a good variety of songs that are faster and more upbeat, but also the music of songs that are slower. The lead vocalist in Snow Patrol—Mae, just buy the CD. It will be a well spent $20.

The music is a nice, healthy mix of Yelawood and Snow Patrol (which I recommend as well). Mae is not a band that sings only of the horrible things that happen in life, but rather about life—the fragility and the hope that comes with living and loving.

If you are looking for something new to listen to, I would highly recommend Mae. If you're not hooked yet, at least check out the website www.whatismae.com or www.everglow.com to get a better idea of the band and their music.

The Cable Guy Puzzler

Last Saturday, cable repairman Jim Carey made five visits to different area homes, one to the Nixon family, to either repair system problems or install new Noncomcast cable service. The appointments were at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 and 2:00 p.m., with each family living on a different Summerset street. Given the schedule below, you should be able to determine Jim's Saturday: the family he visited, where they live, and the service he performed during each appointment.

1. Neither the family who had no TV connection nor the family whose internet connection was down is the Pearsons.
2. Jim's appointment with the Morris family was two hours before his trip to the home on School Ave.
3. One hour after restoring telephone service in one home, Jim was at the Pearson residence.
4. Neither the family who was having TV problems nor the family who had Noncomcast installed is the family who lives on Elm St.
5. The Jensons aren't the family on School Ave.
6. The 9:00 appointment wasn't the one on Valley Rd.
7. Jim's next appointment after the Hansons was to the family on Airport Way, who weren't the ones whose internet service was out.
8. The problem at the home on Church Blvd. wasn't with the internet.
9. The family who had cable installed Saturday isn't the Jensons.
10. Two hours after restoring TV service at one address, Jim was at the home on Church Blvd.
11. The faulty modem Jim replaced wasn't at the Morris residence.

http://www.alistarpuzzles.com/logic00238.html
Dordt soccer kicks it into overdrive

Josh Dykstra
Staff Writer

The Dordt College men’s and women’s soccer teams kicked into overdrive as they headed down the playoff road. The men’s team received an automatic berth by finishing third in the conference standings with a conference record of 6-4. They received the #6 seed and played #3 Dakota Wesleyan on Oct. 31. Scoring was based upon long shots and took into account conference as well as non-conference games.

The Dordt men were hoping for a match-up against #2 seed Northwestern in the semi-finals. However, a 1-0 loss on Oct. 31 at the hands of Dakota Wesleyan crushed Dordt’s playoff run. According to senior Brett Van Andel, “There was intensity, high pressure and lots of shot opportunities throughout the game, but we failed to come through.”

The Defenders would have to play #2 Northwestern in Hastings, Neb. if they had won on Tuesday. Other schools that made it to the regional tournament include Hastings, #4 Morningside and #5 Dana. The winner of the tourney will travel to nationals in Daytona Beach, Fl.

Despite the loss, Van Andel is positive about the team’s efforts. “It was a great season, with a great group of guys who enjoyed time spent together.”

The Defender women also received an automatic berth by finishing fourth in the standings with a 7-5 conference record. They are seeded #4 and played #5 Hastings at home on Wednesday, Nov. 1. The Lady Defenders were victorious, winning with a score of 3-0 on goals by Suzanne Clark, Abbie Goodbusma, and Lindsay Baker. Dordt will now play #1 seed Morningside, the host of the Regional final four. The other side of the bracket features #2 Midland Lutheran, #3 Northwestern and #6 Briar Cliff. The women’s magic number is now two to make to Nationals in Olathe, Kan.

Sowers conclude fall schedule in dominating fashion

Kyle Ván Wyk
Staff Writer

The Dordt Sowers have a full head of steam heading into the spring season of club lacrosse. Winning their last two contests in a convincing manner, the future looks bright for the Dordt College club team.

The Sowers put on quite a show for the parents that traveled to Sioux Center for Parent’s Weekend. What the home crowd saw was a 11-0 drubbing of the University of South Dakota. Dordt’s leading scorer came in the form of Jake Van Dam who put four scores in the back of the net. Kris Walhof carried the load as well, tallying three goals. Add two goals from Dan Siagars, a score from Nathan De Graaf and Grant Dykstra, and a smothering defense that allowed only four shots on goal, and what you get is an exceptional performance.

The Northwestern Red Raiders were next on the list, but this was only documented as a scrimmage. There were no official stats for this game except that the Sowers won with a score of 7-5.

The spring season will kick-off on March 3 in Faribault, Minn. as the Sowers will take on South Central Community College.

The end is in sight for Dordt cross country

Amanda Henke
Staff Writer

Competing in the 2006 GPAC Championship, the Dordt men’s and women’s cross-country teams were in Blair, Neb. last Saturday Oct. 28. The women completed a 5k course, while the men ran a total of 8k.

Nebraska Wesleyan swept the event, claiming the conference title in both races. The Wesleyan women took the first three spots, while the men had four runners in the top ten. All of the Prairie Wolf runners, men and women, finished in the top 20.

In the team standings, the Dordt Wolf women finished sixth with a total of 162 points, placing them seven points away from the fifth spot. This year’s performance was a two-spot improvement from last year’s eighth-place finish. The men came in ninth overall out of the 12-team race, 13 points short of eighth place, finishing the same as last year.

Earning All-Conference honors were Jen Kempers, Tami Wieringa, and Joel De Haan. Kempers (19.21.39) and Wieringa (19.49.54) came through the chute 4th and 12th respectively. De Haan finished the 8k course as the seventh runner in the conference in a time of 26.54.72.

Both teams will travel to Sioux Falls, SD on Saturday, Nov. 4 to compete in the NAIA Region III championships.

Get to know ‘em

Elliot DeWit
Staff Writer

Name: Lindsey Van Wyk
Age: 21
Grade: Senior
Sport: Volleyball
Number: 14
Position: Outside Hitter
Nickname: Linds, Z

Do you have a pre-game meal that you eat before every game? No, it’s usually different every time, but if I had the choice it would definitely be cereal.

Do you have any superstitions? Our team plays a competitive game of ah-so-coh before every warm up, but that’s just more of a tradition.

Who would you say has had the biggest influence on you with your volleyball career and why? I would have to say Coach Van Den Bosch. In my four years playing for him, I have learned so much about the game of volleyball, everything from skills to strategy to the psychological part of the game. He dedicates so much time to our team and can always manages to keep us on our toes.

What’s your greatest sports memory? In the regional volleyball tournament last year we upset National American in five games by coming back to win the last three games.

Are you excited for playoff volleyball action? I’m probably more excited this year than ever before because our team is still getting better. We have the chance to upset some really good teams, and every game will be tough, so it will be a lot of fun.

Do you have any crazy volleyball stories that you can share, or is that a question that can’t be answered? Well, I would try to describe to you the hidden singing talent of our team, but that’s an experience that cannot even be described.

What do you think of Coach Van Den Bosch’s haircut? It’s classic and famous.

The Dordt women’s cross-country team poses in front of Lake Michigan after a recent meet.