Rev. Trulear speaks to the Dordt masses during Convocation on January 13 while President Carl Zylstra, Pastor Cliff Bajema, Board President Cal Hoogendoorn, Junior Sara Gerritsma and Marshall Ed Geels listen attentively.

Dr. Trulear speaks at convocation

Dordt starts off the Spring 2005 semester with a challenge

Jessica Brauschweig
Assistant Editor

Last Thursday proved cold and miserable for all who were facing the frigid temperatures on their way to and from classes and work; yet for those present at the morning's fourth Jubilee convocation, a blazing fire could be found inside the BJ. Haan that warmed bodies and souls alike. The source? Rev. Dr. Harold Trulear and his powerful, passionate message of challenge to the Dordt masses during Convocation on January 13 while President Carl Zylstra, Pastor Cliff Bajema, Board President Cal Hoogendoorn, Junior Sara Gerritsma and Marshall Ed Geels listen attentively.

As J-Lo said to one of her husbands, 'I won't keep you long.'

Yet in a short amount of time, Trulear went beyond the basics to challenge listeners to a national call for humility—"the order of the day." Amid keeping a humorous tone to his words, there was no denying the seriousness and significance of his message and the applicability of it in today's culture. For too often, the church is more concerned with winning than remaining faithful.

Trulear briefly outlined the history of the chosen Israel, emphasizing that when Israel "lost sight of their past as slaves, they lost sight of the truth." Thus, the exile proved crucial to the Israelites; for there, they had to exercise humility while still engaging society. Trulear confronted the audience with the need to adapt the exile as a model for ministry today.

Drawing comparisons from Daniel, he stressed the fact that if you are a true evangelical believer, then you don't belong in this world. And as God has called each person to a unique vocation, one must not forget their place in the world before God and their relationship with Him.

Trulear put forth the challenge that all evangelical institutions must be accountable and self-critical, as focusing on spiritual growth is essential and a large part of the much-needed social transformation.

As these days are continuously filled with unexplainable events and catastrophes, more and more people—new persons and commentators alike—are trying to explain and comprehend the workings of God. Yet it is only because our Sovereign God is watching over us today that hope still exists.

Like the unexplainable hand that wrote on the wall which took place in the book of Daniel so many years ago, we too must fall down and worship that same hand today—"for it always has the last word." Trulear's words hold great worth for Dordt College, which as an institution of leadership must constantly remain humble and faithful to God and His plans for our future.

The next Convocation is planned for March 8.

Mouthwash Overdose

A woman from Adrian, Mich., was arrested for a DUI, not for intoxication of alcohol, but Listerine mouthwash. Her blood-alcohol level was more than three times the legal limit, and the woman first showed signs of intoxication after her car rear-ended another vehicle Sunday. She told police she had not consumed any alcohol, but open containers of mouthwash were found in her vehicle, and she confessed to downing three glasses earlier in the day.

Police in Vestal, N.Y., are investigating an incident in which students placed a piece of sheep brain in a salad dressing container at their high school cafeteria. Students had consumed the dressing before the brain was found by another student, but preservatives used for the brain were not harmful to anyone and so far no one has become ill from them. The brain was apparently used in dissection in the high school's anatomy class. Police are looking into the incident.
A Spectrum of Possibilities

Nate Nykamp
Assistant News Editor

We have a problem. On any given day, we see an overwhelming majority of Dutch CRC kids, primarily president Mauuela Ayee.ing majority of Dutch beautiful thing” says club.

We see an overwhelm- “Diversity is a really

Juggling Club,.

there are so saturated

Juggling Life and Leisure

Nate Nykamp
Assistant News Editor

Let's be honest, some clubs at Dordt are straight-faced and serious. The Juggling Club, however, is definitely not one of them.

Torry Wilson and David Kreykes agree that the Juggling club exists simply for the fun of it. They use the club as a forum to better understand the art of juggling.

Wilson said that the club is interested in anyone with any interest in juggling. The club is very casual; people can come and join anytime, though there is no better time than now.

Fun Fact: Juggling is proven to increase the gray matter in your brain, increasing your hand-eye coordination.

If you are interested in joining the jugglers, contact Torray Wilson at x6616 or trywlsn@dordt.edu.

WANTED:

Writers, copy editors, layout designers, and various other pizza-eating personnel to help with the production of The Diamond. If interested, contact Andrea Dykshoorn or e-mail us at: diamond@dordt.edu

Fast Forward

Jill Hiemstra
Staff Writer

Blades take to the ice

The Dordt Blades will be skating in back-to-back games at Iowa State University on January 21 and 22. On January 28 and 29, the Blades host Calvin College at the All Seasons Center. The puck drops at 9:30. Carrying a winning streak of 11 games, the Blades sit atop their league with a record of 12 wins and 3 losses.

Defenders taking the game home

Upcoming Defender basketball home games for men and women include Doane on January 29 and Northwestern on February 2. In the meantime, the team will travel to Hastings on January 22 and Mount Marty on January 26. The men are currently 12 and 4, while the women are 6 and 11.

TX Tryouts coming up

Got a talent that you think needs showing off? SAC's annual Talent Extravaganza tryouts are coming up on February 1 and 2. The deadline for tryout applications is January 28. See the SAC board by Student Services or http://denis.dordt.edu/sac/ for more information.

Kennedy lecture honors work, life of Albert Einstein

Joe Eggebeen
News Editor

Dordt College is hosting a lecture on the life and work of Dr. Albert Einstein, TIME Magazine's Person of the Century, given by Dr. Robert Kennedy. The talk is scheduled for January 31 at 7 pm in S101.

The speech will discuss the scientific work of Einstein, including thermodynamics and statistical mechanics, but for the non-scientists in attendance, the life and philosophy of Einstein is the main point. In short, the whole Einstein will be discussed, from his resistance to Nazi Germany to his outspoken support of his Jewish heritage in the Zionist Movement to his involvement with the Manhattan Project, which developed the atomic bombs dropped in World War II.

The speaker, Dr. Kennedy, a physics professor at Creighton University in Omaha, has been studying Einstein for much of his career. The lecture is held to commemorate the World Year of Physics 2005, which celebrates the 100th anniversary of three of Einstein's greatest discoveries: the photoelectric effect, the Brownian motion of particles, and the theory of relativity, of which comes the equation E=mc^2.

This lecture is only the beginning of a full year of celebration about physics. Said Physics Professor John Zwart, "This is a celebration to honor Dr. Kennedy's lecture and the other national and international organizations have declared 2005 a year of physics." Other possible events at Dordt include a tour of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Chicago as well as a visit by Dr. Gerald Gabrielse, a leading researcher in the field of anti-matter.

Said Dr. Arnold Sikkema, associate physics professor, "This should help an appreciation for physics to develop, both around the world as well as here at Dordt."

More information about the World Year of Physics celebrations as well as at Dordt is available by going to the Blades' homepage, which can be located through a link on the DENIS homepage.

Omaha Chamber Singers to perform at the BJ Haan

Kimberly Lucier
Staff Writer

The Omaha Chamber Singers (OCS), a chorale-based collection of talented individuals, will perform at the BJ. Hann Auditorium on Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The Dordt College Music Department is sponsoring the concert, which is free and open to the public.

The OCS is well-known for presenting exquisite choral literature from various time periods. In fact, the OCS was originally established for a single concert that took place during the summer of 1999. Nevertheless, the 24 members decided to continue offering future performances. Some even travel an hour each way to attend the rehearsals and performances.

The OCS and OSCO at the Saint Cecilia Cathedral.

20 January 2005

Thus far in the 2004/2005 season, the OCS has been involved in concerts held at the St. Cecilia Cathedral and the Orpheum Theater. At times, the OCS collaborates with other chorale or orchestra ensembles. On Jan. 28, at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, the OCS will hold a show titled "Choral Connections."

The group has very energetic performances. The OCS is small enough that every individual voice contributes to the performances and the group is large enough that the sound is full," Dr. Kornelis said.

The upcoming Sioux Center program involves music by composers William Byrd, Johannes Brahms, Pavel Chesnokov, Earl George, Michael Hennagin, Stephen Leek, Randy Stonehill, Randall Stroope, Jan Sweelinck, Randall Thompson and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The OCS is well-known for their singing of various composers. On Jan. 28, at the BJ Haan concert, the OCS will present music by Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Schubert, and Vivaldi. The concert, which is free and open to the public.

The OCS and OSCO at the Saint Cecilia Cathedral.

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Defrosting the Fishbowl

Josh De Groot
Guest Writer

After a holiday of horrific images from Asia, it seems strangely quiet under the gaze of Dordt snow. As we enter 2005, I hope that some of you will put the Halo II controller and take a deeper look at life. Calling and Culture (GEN: 100, 200 and 300), are not merely titles for classes that allow us to graduate from the fishbowl, but rather are spaces where we can better learn who we are meant to be.

Take time this semester to watch some good foreign films (you may have to read them). Meet some people from different countries (open your eyes; they are around). And try, if possible, to better understand the wonder that it is to be a white American, a gift that comes with a hefty price tag, not just paid on battle fields but in Wal Mart factories and banana plantations around the globe.

Dear God, smite us with an awakening to the world that rivals the meeting of our Sioux brothers and sisters with the first of the pale faces upon the land. Take this semester here make an effort to enrich your lives and build a culture that will help you move out into rest of the world and set the stage for the next jubilee. A Happy New Year and a blessed Martin Luther King Jr. day and Jubilee to all of us.

Dordt Students!
Join us for Electrifying Basketball
AT THE
Sioux County Power Slam
Wednesday, February 2, 2005
6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Dordt College Defenders
host the
Northwestern College Red Raiders

Half-Time Events! Drawings For Prizes! Give-Aways! Awards! Mid Sioux Food Pantry Collection!

Brought to you by:

Missouri River Energy Services
Sioux Center Municipal Utilities

What Did I Get Myself Into?

Andrea Dykshoorn
Editor

"I am not the editor of a newspaper and shall always do right and be good so that God will not make me one." - Mark Twain

Never, EVER, did I imagine I would wind up here. It all started a year and a half ago at the Taste of Sioux Center. Having made the rounds past every table that offered free cookies, candies, and contests, I was ready to take the loot back to my room. As I made my way to the door, I passed by the club display tables, where people were encouraging students to participate in everything from juggling to flying.

Why did I stop at that booth? They didn't even have anything to give away! I don't remember who was sitting behind that table. But I do remember that something about the Diamond display caught my attention. I had never before worked on a student publication, and I was curious. Still, I was somewhat disinterested in joining a club that looked more like homework than fun.

"Why don't you write down your e-mail address, just in case?" asked the voice from behind the table. And for some odd reason, I did. With the lure of free pizza every other week and a credit per semester if I decided to write, I figured that I'd try the whole journalism thing. After all, how hard could it be?

"I figured that I'd try the whole journalism thing. After all, how hard could it be?"

For the next three semesters, I found myself writing for the sports section. A few articles stirred up controversy, but for the most part they were quite unmemorable. So it came as a complete shock when Dr. Van Gilst, our faculty sponsor, approached me this fall and offered a "promotion" to editor of the Diamond.

Once again, I don't know how it happened. But for some reason, I said yes.

"Oops. I have now realized that this "promotion" involves living in the library, constant e-mailing, searching for story ideas, more e-mailing, fighting with Mac computers, even more e-mailing... you get the picture.

This semester will be a learning experience, both for me and for the rest of the staff. But along with all of the work, there is also the satisfying feeling of finishing a new layout design, and holding the completed product in your hands...
On 27 December 2004, 12 Dordt kids flew south of Omaha, past Mexico, over the ocean of shiny blue water, and arrived in the Dominican Republic. We didn't really know what to expect when we stepped off that small plane, only that we were there to work and hopefully learn something about the culture while we were at it.

We worked alongside other Dominican natives to help build a school in a little town outside of Santo Domingo called La Pared. We could not speak much Spanish, and they could not speak much English, but through patience and sign language, we were able to make friends despite the language barrier. -- Levi, the pastor of a nearby church, showed us how to bend rebar and taught us how to say "dog" in Creole: "chien." Andreas, a retired pastor, never even tried to make us understand his Spanish: instead just he just spoke to us (Look!), showing us what to do.

The missionary who headed up our project was Paul Bartels, who was connected with wwcs.org, an organization that concentrates on building schools in developing countries. Paul directed the project and was also in charge of all the groups that would be coming down to help with construction on the school and various other projects. Paul directed our work at the construction site, but he also urged us to get to know the community we were building in as well. So when there wasn't any work for us to do, we talked with the local people. Two of our team members played baseball with Dominican kids for a couple of hours, and one girl even invited us over to her house, and had her brother cut down some coconuts from her tree for us to enjoy.

We enjoyed getting to know the community a bit, but still felt guilty for not working every hour that we were there. But Paul told us that although we were tangibly helping while building the school, the money that each of us had fundraised helped pay the wages of the Dominican workers. Our friend Che-Che, a Spanish-speaking Dominican who lived at the ministry center, worked hard with us every day, most of the time mixing cement with a shovel by hand. He told us "I want to work!" in English. Che-Che has a family that lives about four hours away from the ministry center, and he lives at the center because that is where he can find work. Before Christmas, Che-Che was waiting at the ministry center for the next group of Americans to come work and bring the money that would pay his wages. Che-Che has a wife and four children. He sometimes is able to see them once a month.

In the Republic Dominicana, the people have a saying: "If Dominicans did not have hope and optimism, they would have nothing." And although we saw many smiles among the people, we also saw how terrible the poverty of the country is. Paul drove us through a barrio, a slum in Santo Domingo one day. The whole settlement stank of urine and filth, yet there were Dominicans going about their everyday business. That day we came back to the states we were relieved to be back on familiar grounds again, but a bit sad as well. We did leave behind a blue ocean and warmer temperatures, but we also left our friends as well. None of us really know when we'll see Levi, Che-Che, Andreas and the rest again. But in the meantime, we can rest assured that we'll see them all again on the day our Savior appoints.

When we came back to the states we were relieved to be back on familiar grounds again, but a bit sad as well. We did leave behind a blue ocean and warmer temperatures, but we also left our friends as well. None of us really know when we'll see Levi, Che-Che, Andreas and the rest again. But in the meantime, we can rest assured that we'll see them all again on the day our Savior appoints. In the meantime, the school will be finished and God will use it to educate hundreds of little Dominican children.
There was no escape from my guilt. I swore again, and again, and couple dozen more times before my brother told me to stop.

Finally, I worked up the nerve to get out of the car and survey the damages. The back half crudely resembled a crushed pop can. The guy driving the bulldozer (which came out unscathed, by the way) spotted me standing there. When he saw what I was looking at, he got out right away. "I thought I felt something bump into me," he said, obviously trying to bring some humor into the grim scenario. After giving me his card, he climbed back into that demon-bulldozer and rolled merrily away.

Then came the part I dreaded the most: calling my dad. He'd bought the Mazda for himself, but when I got my license (100's on both tests, might I add), my dad figured he could take the risk and let me drive it. I left a message on his work phone, and awaited that painful, incriminating call. Suddenly the phone rang, breaking the sickly euphoria that only a new driver's license can give. My dad needed to come to Dordt and survey the damages. The new position at KDCR involves seeking financial support. Nederhoff will look for sources of funding and will coordinate the live On-Air Auctions. She looks forward to the challenge of trying something new and building from the ground up.

Cindy is a Dordt graduate, a Sioux Center resident, and is married to staff member Arlan Nederhoff, vice-president of business affairs. She is also the daughter of one of the original faculty members and continues to be an asset to the community.

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**The Diamond** is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond.

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**Any signed letters comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be received at least one week in advance. The Diamond reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

Send contributions to diamond@dordt.edu or Diamond
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LOG ONTO OUR WEB PAGE: http://diamond.dordt.edu
On the evening of January 13, friends, family and students of Professor Jacob Van Wyk gathered in the gallery of the Campus Center to celebrate a successful art show and all of the thought and work put into it.

The seed of the show was three years ago, when Van Wyk started applying for a sabbatical leave. He then underwent the process of applying and working through a proposal as to how he would spend the spring semester of 2004.

He began last year with 42 newly made canvas stretchers, intending to work primarily in painting. This was a skill that Van Wyk had worked on over 15 years ago, and he wanted to reacquaint himself with it. He would put at least six hours per day into actual art making, most often beginning at 5:00 am. On top of actual art making, time was spent in research, sketching, and traveling.

Van Wyk wanted to work with themes that he had worked with before. He began painting the Hibiscus flowers to reacquaint him with the media of oil paints, and then launched into his landscapes and angel eyes series. Angel eyes began 25 years ago as a way to depict spiritual life—they just came into being during Van Wyk's process, and he was intrigued. As he investigated he became aware of the possibilities. Van Wyk says, "They became a way to think about how as humans we can function, and think about life through angelic beings and spiritual power." He does not want to overanalyze them, as some would like him to do.

Van Wyk says that the artist poses unanswered questions. The second half of the artistic process is the viewer, so the viewer should be provoked by the artwork and try to answer some of these questions. Van Wyk receded from painting to take up ceramics, which has always been a strength of his; he says that clay is a physical extension of himself. Sculpture worked well and so he stuck with it, now sculpting more than painting, spending 30-40 hours on each piece. His sculptures have column-like bases, reflecting the emphasis of classical ideals. They are capped with figurative forms, which Van Wyk uses as a metaphor for spiritual and emotional struggle.

In creating art, Van Wyk says, you maintain a dialogue with your work. He often does go into a piece with more than a concept, but discovers what he is doing in the process of making a work of art. The artwork can speak, and so the artist must listen to it, nurture it, and give it life. He is only a catalyst, and because he becomes only a part of the process in the work of art, his pieces have achieved a transcendental quality. Van Wyk claims responsibility for the works, even though he admits that the pieces often took control of him. Some of the challenges he faced in the process were to find the right balance between freedom and control, recognizable and abstract, experience and experimentation.

Concerning his show, Van Wyk said, "Throughout almost a year of working I knew I had some good things; it felt like solid, consistent, relating work. But until it was assembled in gallery context I was never quite sure how strong the work was. It was a bit of a relief." Professor Versluis, who arranged and hung the show, wrote in his curator's statement, "My advice when viewing this unique show is not to read "just the content" but to also see the form, the design of each piece. In doing so perhaps you'll discover that each piece displays Van Wyk's energy and style coupled with a classical, graceful and delightful sense of design."

Professor Van Wyk says that there is something in the show for everyone. He hopes that thought and depth can be obtained, that themes of celebrating life and being created in God's aesthetic dimension can be seen. And, if nothing else, one can admire his sensitivity towards line, shape and color, which have come as a result of many years of...
"Where do you hear about all these bands?" is a question I hear often. Usually, my answer is, "The internet." People today listen to more music than ever thanks to internet message boards, e-zines, and file sharing, etc. Music is everywhere. For various reasons, it is difficult to find a variety of good music on either radio or television. I'm not one of those people who condemns anything on the radio or MTV as being terrible just because it's mainstream. However, I do strongly feel that most of what is fed to us on radio and television falls short of being compelling, original, or even intelligent for that matter. So if you're frustrated with the poor quality of music offered to you, I encourage you to check out some of the artists I've listed here.

By looking into them, you can easily find links to literally hundreds of other good artists of many different styles. Keep in mind that this list is my opinion, and of course I could not listen to every album released in 2004. But of all the albums I know of, heard about, and eventually felt were worthy of purchasing, these are the best.

1. The Arcade Fire
   "Funeral. This album begins an adolescent kids longing to grow up and start their own lives while parents argue or mourn the death of loved ones in the bedroom. We see kids searching through a cold, desolate city for meaning in life after the death of parents whom they can't find the ability to cry for. And then there is adulthood, suppressed tears, a longing to return to the securities of youth. Funeral reveals itself more with repeated listening, becoming more parfait, powerful, and yet uplifting each time. If the album doesn't convince you, their live show will -- motorcycle helmets, accordions, steel drums and all."

2. The Fiery Furnaces
   "Blueberry Boat: There is a sizable part of me that wants to put this at number one. In the end, it loses out due to its ability to divide. Some love it, some hate it and with ten minute song lengths and a running time of seventy-six minutes, it's not exactly accessible. But how can someone resist an album that sounds like it came from the most creative couple of ADD stricken eight year olds on the planet? Most of the songs read (and play) like a child's fairy tale, only with three-part structures and multiple layers of keyboards, electronic beats, guitars, and drums. It's rock opera for the fidgety type."

3. Sufjan Stevens
   "Seven Swans: Abandoning the more dense orchestration of Michigan, Stevens created a largely banjo-led folk album about his personal Christian Faith. Stevens is not considered a Christian artist in the traditional sense and he doesn't make specifically Christian albums, but this time he chose to do so and manages to avoid the preachiness that sometimes plagues Christian artists."

4. Joanna Newsom
   "The Milk-Eyed Mender: Another album highly capable of dividing. Here the obstacle is Newsom's shrill, child-like voice. I admit, I cringed at first, but by the third song I was charmed rather than startled by her voice, and then ensnared by the complexities of her prose and smooth harp playing. Most songs are just vocals and a harp, with a handful led by keyboard or guitar."

5. The Futureheads
   "The Futureheads: Blistering through fifteen tracks in just thirty-five minutes. The Futureheads, punk jangly, 70's style punk guitar riffs over acapella vocal harmonies and melodies, creating one of the most fun and lively albums of the year. The rhythms are fast and the British vocals are sharp and catchy, sticking in your head long after you've stopped listening.

6. Modest Mouse - Good News For People Who Love Bad News
   "In a year where nearly every song on every album sounds the same, Modest Mouse broke into the mainstream this year, with what is quite possibly their weakest album, after working hard in the underground for more than ten years. Regardless, it's still one of the year's best, providing a bit more varied, if lighter, sound than their previous records. Front man Isaac Brock is a bit more straightforward in his writing, but still deals with topics such as life and death, God, and struggling ("Float On")."

7. A.C. Newman - The Slow Wonder:
   "On his first solo album, A.C. Newman stays in the same area he was in with his regular band, he's just on a different road. Still making guitar/keyboard driven power pop, Newman provides with melody after melody of catchy, smart music that is both fun and moving. With topics ranging from guilt, innocence, rich kids, secret agents, and defeat, this album is a work of art from a great song writer and musician."

8. Interpol - Antics:
   "One of the most anticipated albums of the year, Antics is just about everything one could hope for in the wake of Interpol's highly acclaimed debut, "Turn on the Bright Lights." More of a singles album than their debut, Antics is instantly more accessible and straightforward, if a bit less rewarding in the long run. This band is glaringly original in not only their music, but also their presence."

9. Air - Talkie Walkie:
   "Air makes a mild evolution of their sound. There's nothing drastically new or surprising, just infectious, electronic pop music about girls and love being melodically whispered into your ear. The French duo teamed up with legendary Radiohead producer, Nigel Godrich, and gathered a slew of instruments, resulting in a lush, yet subtle record that keeps you happily humming all day."

10. Iron and Wine - Our Endless Numbered Days:
    "Similar to Talkie Walkie in its subtlety, Iron and Wine leader Sam Beam achieves his sound in a completely different way. The primary instruments are banjo and guitar, occasionally backed by other band members, and Iron and Wine's songs cover topics such as love, God, and the south. With a gentle folk sound, one can easily picture someone singing these songs from a porch in Georgia as they quietly weave into one's consciousness."
Schouten believes intramurals are a good way to stay active.

Leslie Larson
Staff Writer

A week before each intramural season, Jeff Schouten—along with ten work-study students—makes certain that rosters are correct and creates a master schedule for each sport. From there, he emails the captains of each team, finds officials (who are usually Dordt athletes of the respective sport), and secures the facilities.

When the season begins, Schouten begins to tally each team’s win-loss record. One problem that arises as the season continues is conflicting player schedules. Schouten works around night classes and facility accessibility, which he says is a “give and take” process. The best time for intramurals has been from 9-12pm Monday through Thursday. There are four sports in each season, thereby allowing a different activity for each evening.

Schouten’s favorite part about being intramural director is his ability to accommodate each player’s needs. This gives him a feeling of service and satisfaction by helping the Dordt college community excel and become more active. Last year alone, intramural activities had a total of 900 participants.

Intramurals are a good way to socialize and meet new people while playing a competitive sport.