

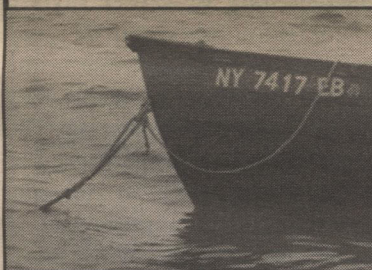
## INSIDE



What can you do in a dining room? A lot...  
Page 2



Covenant- An agreement or promise.  
Group- a gathering of people.  
page 2



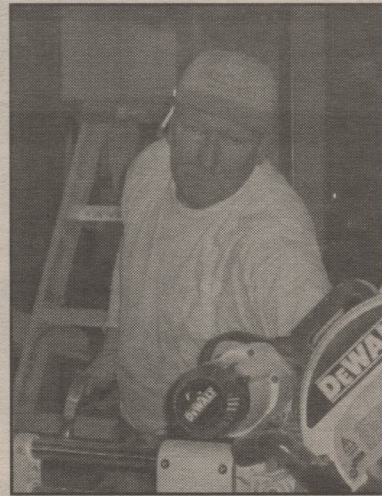
life in the great south bay  
page 6



It will be nice outside eventually-- so support our softball team!  
page 8



Beka Schreur



Beka Schreur



Beka Schreur

## Construction Continues

The former art building will be converted into offices, with one-half going to the Business Office and the other half going to the Advancement Office. Once the Advancement Office is moved, the art department will get that space. Construction hopes to be complete in mid-May or early June.

## We have Jubilee!

Next year marks Dordt's 50th birthday

**Andrea Vander Wilt**  
Staff Writer

The 2004-2005 academic year will bring the year of jubilee for Dordt College, as it celebrates its 50th year as a reformed institution of higher learning. The theme for the year will be remembering, celebrating, and sharing the vision.

The year of jubilee will be a time of reflecting on the many achievements and blessings that the college has received. Certain events and people will be remembered and recognized.

Special events are being planned for the '04-'05 academic year, including a multimedia production featuring a video of 8 Dordt alumni that are working in many different areas all throughout North America. The movie is being produced and directed by Dordt Professor Dr. James Schaap. The video will show people how Dordt College has affected and shaped the lives of many people to the present day.

Along with the video there will be theatre and music to create the multimedia event. The theatre pieces that will be done along with the video will feature major historical points that characterized the institution. Eight students will be acting the pieces from a student's

perspective, giving a flavor of what life at Dordt has been like over the past 50 years.

The music that will be included throughout the production will be written by professional sound designer Barry Funderburg. The production will be lighthearted and entertaining, with the theatre portion being direct by Jeri Schelhaus and technical support by Jim Van Ry.

A theatre full length play competition will also take place. Scripts can be written and submitted by anyone in close connections with Dordt, including alumni, students, parents and other constituents. The scripts will have the theme of jubilee based on Leviticus 25.

Scripts will be reviewed by a committee with the winner receiving \$1500 as well as having their play done as the spring main stage production at Dordt. There will be a second place prize of \$750 and third place prize of \$250. The winning play will be directed by April Hubbard, with the script writer present on campus for the debut of the play.

In order to continue its tradition of strong reformed leadership, the college must continue with its vision of excellence they have kept for the past 50 years.

## Social Work club encourages awareness and fun

**Bethany Fopma**  
Staff Writer

The junior social work students have been doing some extra planning to promote March as social work month. The students, who are all enrolled in Social Work 311: Practice Methods are being evaluated on their ability to work together as they cultivate awareness about the social work profession in Dordt and the community.

The class is planning on using a variety of methods to raise awareness about the major to freshmen, students who are undecided on a major, and people in the community. A panel of senior social work majors and social work professors will be talking about their experiences in the field, and Beth Harms, a representative of National Association of Social Workers (NASW), is scheduled to come to Dordt on March 23, at 1:35 in CL 169 to talk about her experiences. Students are encouraged to attend both events. Social work facts will also be posted in the Today throughout the month of March. Students from the practice methods course will also be visiting area high schools and speaking to classes about the social work profession.

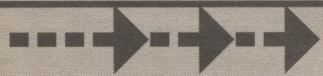
"I'm looking forward to raising awareness about social work

throughout the month of March," says Dawn Kooiman, a junior social work major. "I'm excited about this opportunity to get involved in both on campus and the broader community."

While the students realize the importance of raising awareness of the social work profession, they also want to demonstrate through certain activities the caring spirit and concern for others that is the foundation of social work. Students will be going to the Franken Manor in Sioux Center to spend time with residents, visiting and playing games with them. The class has also arranged for the Justice For All truck to be in the parking lot of the DeWit gym through March 12. Students, faculty and members of the community are encouraged to drop off any unwanted or unused articles of clothing. A Dad's Belgium Waffle breakfast will also be held sometime during March, with the proceeds being donated to a charitable cause.

Social work majors also want to show their sense of fun, so a social work month movie is being planned for the last weekend in March. While the movie has yet to be selected, students can count on cotton candy and popcorn to be provided, along with some quality social work fellowship.

## Fast Forward



**Jill Hiemstra**  
Staff Writer

### Choral Concert Scheduled for Tuesday

The Dordt College Chorale, Kantorei and Women's Chorus will sing in a choral concert on Tuesday, March 9 at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan. Directed by Dr. Ben Kornelis, the choir will present a tour through music history, beginning with the Medieval

era "Sumer Is Icumen In", Handel's "Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound", as well as pieces from Mozart and Weber. There is no cost to attend, but a free-will donation will be received to benefit music scholarships.

### St. Olaf's Orchestra sounds off Saturday

The Northwest Iowa

Symphony Orchestra will present the St. Olaf Orchestra in concert on Saturday, March 6 at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan.

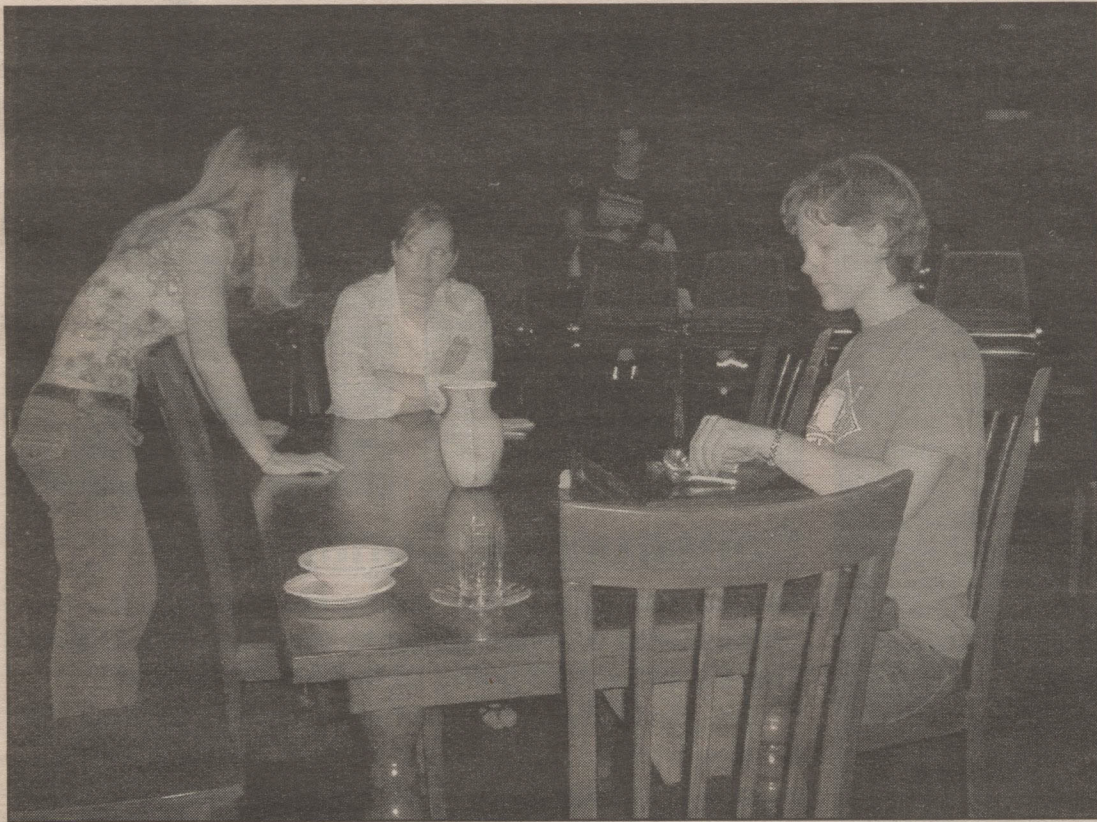
The 92-member orchestra is internationally renown, touring in Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, and has been under the direction of Steven Amundson since 1981.

Tickets may be obtained online at <http://niso.dordt.edu>, or at

### the door. Gallery open to public

An array of artwork done by Dordt College juniors is on display in the art gallery March 3-27. Some artwork includes that of Andrea Van Wyk, Erika Hydeen, Joe Hoksbergen, Eric Hubers, and Sara Prins.

The gallery is open every day from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Beka Schreur

We need a good cutline here about Anna Kooi, Katrina Kobes and Kansas Calkhoven (from right to left) rehearsing a scene for "The Dining Room."

## A dining room is not just for eating

**Ann Andree**  
News Editor

Rachel Persenaire is student-directing "The Dining Room," by A.R. Gurney. The play's varying episodes are set in upper middle-class to upper class homes in the Northeast, although the play is relevant, to homes everywhere.

In relation to the episodic nature of the play, Persenaire said, it appeals to every audience member because it's always changing characters and tones.

"It shows the demise of American society—particularly that of the WASP culture in New England," says Katrina Kobes, one of the six actors in the play.

Each performer—Jon

Horlings, Katrina Kobes, Marcus Roskamp, Matt Bakker, Kansas Calkhoven and Anna Kooi—plays nine to 11 roles. No scene is longer than ten minutes, and each scene has different characters portrayed.

Marcus Roskamp said, "It is such a different play from any other play that I've performed in because we have to play so many different characters. It has been interesting trying to play out the characters in so many different ways."

Marcus' nine roles range from Billy, a four-year-old kid to Arthur a 40-year-old man.

This week, before the performances, those involved with The Dining Room will spend at least 18 hours rehearsing, estimates Jon Horlings. However,

The Dining Room has not been strictly work for Persenaire, the performers, Amy Block (stage manager) and Ethan Koerner (scenic designer). Rumor says that some practices were spent running around trying to find their inner child and becoming little kids again. (But you will have to see the play to see these scenes!)

Katrina Kobes says, "I love the camaraderie we developed with such a small cast."

"The Dining Room" is being performed Thursday, Friday and Saturday (March 4, 5 and 6) at 8:30 pm in the New World Theatre.

Tickets are only \$2 and can be reserved at the Box Office.

## Covenanting together

**Lynette Andree**  
Staff Writer

Most everyone has heard of Covenant groups. What are they again? Groups that meet a couple times, like a Bible study? Wrong. The purpose of a Covenant group is for a group of people to come together and covenant. The Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines a covenant as "A written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action."

You and your group may choose to perform a Bible/book study, or, in some cases, a mini "SERVE"-type project. At the end of the semester they end the covenant. The purpose is to covenant for a semester but if the group wants to renew the covenant, they can—or start a new one next semester.

In the past people would sign up and get placed in a group and from there decided what the focus would be—a 'potluck' method. Another way that Covenant groups were arranged was to have the students rate their top three choices, and then get placed accordingly with a leader who had similar top choices. This year there were some changes made to the Covenant groups. They started later on in the semester so that the freshmen could figure out their workload before they made commitment to a group. They also allowed people to sign up for the Covenant group and then let the Covenant group work out its own meeting times and places. This was done so that students could sign up for a group that was most relevant or interesting to

them.

Covenant groups can focus on almost anything. The topics that are being discussed this semester are very diverse. One group is emphasizing female sexuality, purity and becoming a woman of promise and influence. They are reading and discussing the book "Kissed the Girls and Made Them Cry" by Lisa Bevere. Another group is study-



Sara Prins

Sam Gutierrez's (far left) Covenant Group comes together for quiet meditation.

ing the book of Ecclesiastes, another is discussing "Not Even a Hint" by Joshua Harris, and yet another is focusing on prayer and discerning God's will.

Although this is a very diverse selection of topics, they do not all apply nor appeal to everyone. If this is the case, and someone has a good idea, they can start their own Covenant group. The leaders of the groups are volunteers, and the position is open to anyone. Covenant groups are a great way to become closer with the Lord and members are often given challenges designed to help them grow in their faith. It also gives people a chance to get to know the people at Dordt and grow closer to them.

# The Pizza Ranch®

A MESSAGE FROM THE SIOUX CENTER PIZZA RANCH

If you have the following symptoms, contact your local Pizza Ranch immediately; you may need immediate attention.

Extreme Hungriness

Low amount of cash

Sick and tired of the same old meals

Craving Pizza

**Recommended Remedy—An all you can eat buffet for ONLY \$5**

Simply bring in your College ID, and get all you can eat for JUST \$5.00

## Out 'n' About

### WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

**Kim Lucier**  
Staff Writer

#### Education Requires Proof of Birth

In Mexico, principals and teachers regularly deny enrollment to students who do not have a birth certificate. The official education ministry policy allows children with no certificate to finish six years of primary school, yet students receive neither credit nor certificates of completion. Birth certificates are also required to

obtain a voter-registration card or passport or to open a bank account.

#### President Killed in Crash

Boris Trajkovski, President of Macedonia, died last Thursday in a plane crash. The plane was on its way to an international conference in Bosnia before crashing near the village of Huskovieci. Police in a helicopter spotted the wreckage in the mountainous region, over 24 hours after the incident. Macedonian and ethnic Albanians mourned for three

days, vowing to maintain the president's efforts to suppress tensions in the volatile Balkan country.

#### King Visits Quake Zone

Mohammed VI, King of Morocco, visited Al Hoceima on Saturday to examine the devastation of an earthquake that killed 572 people. Thousands lined the highway seeking the king's help, while authorities stepped up aid distribution after protests over the slow arrival of food, tents and blankets from abroad. Due to logistical problems, the king's trip had been postponed numerous times since last Tuesday's magnitude 6.5 quake.

March 5, 2004

# A Reformed Critique of The Passion of the Christ

**Jason Mulder**  
Entertainment Editor

Millions of people have been flocking to witness the last 12 hours of Christ's crucifixion and suffering, which have never been portrayed this graphically onscreen before. Director Mel Gibson does a pretty good job of holding to the biblical account—with some of his Catholic beliefs thrown in of course—and he should be commended for that.

Artistically speaking, the movie was excellent. The special effects and dramatization didn't leave anything to the imagination. I think my own hands even felt a twinge of pain when the nails were driven through!

But the special effects and talented actors are not the reason that audiences leave the theatre in a hushed silence, many even weeping. Neither are they the reason why churches bought up tickets by the thousands, wholeheartedly encouraging their members to

attend, some even canceling Sunday services to do so.

Rev. Billy Graham commented, "I doubt if there has ever been a more graphic and moving presentation of Jesus' death and resurrection" and Dr. James Dobson "recommends it highly."

"This movie will forever change your view of God Himself," proclaimed Dr. Bill Bright, President of Campus Crusade for Christ, "and what He did for us all on that dark day in history as He endured an ignominious trial and hung on the cross."

But the endorsements of these and other evangelicals contrasts greatly with what the liberal news media is saying. Newsweek writer Jon Meacham blasts the movie as "controversial," "powerful," and "troubling." He critiques Gibson for promoting anti-Semitism and criticizes him for "a literal-minded rendering" of these passages in the four gospels, describing the Bible as "a problematic source." Meacham says that the errors in the

movie result from errors in the Bible—the Gospels were written by men who manipulated the facts to further their own agenda of anti-Judaism.

I find it interesting that the reason Christians hail the movie is the very same reason others criticize it. Both sides acknowledge that the movie holds to the Biblical account; the argument becomes whether or not the Bible is infallible.

If we hold to the Bible's infallibility, which I hope we all do, we also hold to its sufficiency. It is not only inerrant in detail; it is also complete. This is so ironic! When I listen to those who want to use this movie as an evangelistic tool, I cringe. For truly reformed people to endorse this movie as a means of outreach is to demonstrate their ignorance of an understanding of their own reformed heritage and to deny the Bible's sufficiency!

Romans 10:17 (where Paul puts out a call for preachers) says that "faith comes from hearing the

message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." Faith comes through the preaching of the Word! Jesus says in Luke 10:16 (where he sends out the seventy-two), "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The question then arises: Can't we use the movie to visually portray the Biblical account and help people better understand what Christ went through? This is not a new question. Our protestant forefathers came out of the Roman Catholic Church and took opposition to passion plays and other visual means used as teaching tools. If you need a reminder, just read Q&A 98 of the Heidelberg Catechism. It asks, "But may not images be permitted in the churches as teaching aids for the unlearned? Answer: "No, we shouldn't try to be wiser than God. He wants his people instructed by the living preaching of his Word—not by idols that cannot even talk."

We don't need to go to the theatre to know what it was like to have been there. I Peter 1:8-9—"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls." If we listen to the Word preached we will hear and see Christ crucified before our very eyes. Galatians 3:1 (Paul is speaking to those who were not at Jesus' actual crucifixion here)—"You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified." That's what preaching does! Society had lavish plays and theatrical performances already at that time, but God did not choose to use those means. He chose the foolishness of the Word preached! This is only accepted by faith. "We live by faith, not by sight."—II Corinthians 5:7.

(Continued on page 7)

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

—Opinions expressed are not necessarily the view of The Diamond or of Dordt College, but represent the views of individual writers.

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# LIBERTY & Justice

*Charities' property rights must be defended*

**Peter Anderson**  
Staff Writer

The federal government's invasion of property rights undeniably creates a slippery slope. Some of the most pernicious violations of property rights have followed from the government's ability to tax, conscript and expropriate property. One more dubious example recently occurred in California, when the California Supreme Court ruled that Catholic run charitable organizations must provide birth control in their health plans. This ruling occurred in spite of long standing Catholic teachings against the usage of birth control. Two arguments illustrate the total bankruptcy of this decision.

First, such a ruling forces traditionally grounded Roman Catholics to go against longstanding church beliefs and morals. Many Catholics strongly believe that use of birth control constitutes a sin. If this decision holds up, the court will effectually force Roman

Catholic charitable organizations to go against their conscience. A similar offense of moral conscience would be akin to the state forcing devout Muslims to drink alcohol or conscientious objectors to participate in firing squads.

Second, this ruling not only violates moral consciences, but also violates the private property of Roman Catholic organizations. The proprietors of these organizations used their property to provide health care to their workers. The proprietors of the Catholic organizations did not see fit to include birth control in these benefits for obvious reasons. The exchange of these benefits constituted a voluntary exchange of property between employers and employees. The California Supreme Court usurped these voluntary agreements with a ruling that fundamentally claims force represents the rule of law.

When force becomes the rule of law, or coercing others to do something with their property that they would not otherwise choose,

than government edicts constitute arbitrary edicts. No standard of keeping governments in check remains when the government suspends the fundamental sanctity of bodily and real property, hence the occurrence of a slippery slope in public policy. For example, the city of San Francisco has already used public funds to provide sex changes for its transsexual public employees.

In the end, the slippery slope that arises from property violations does not constitute the greatest problem, but rather the hypocrisy of some government agencies. The government rightfully prosecuted the deviant Catholic priests who had violated the bodily property of some young boys. However, the public now witnesses a branch of the California state government violating the property rights of the Roman Catholic Church. Who will prosecute the California Supreme Court for these property violations?

## INQUIRE within

by J.J. Reed



Dear J.J.,  
Why have there been no major, notable pranks lately?

At the risk of implicating myself and/or others who have been involved in drawn-out prank wars, I will make some sweeping generalizations. First, you may have noticed that there are several inches of snow on the non-shovelled ground. Snow and cold weather hampers would-be pranksters. According to my sources, summer is the best time for mischief. You also may have noticed that a large amount of student free time has been devoted to the building of the elegant snow forts adorning campus. Now, remember, just because you haven't heard about fantastically brilliant pranks, that doesn't mean there hasn't been a cover-up or a conspiracy of any sort. Besides, the next great prank may be just around the corner. Keep your snow shovels handy!

March 5, 2003

# Bush 3-year amnesty plan

Steve Kloosterman  
Editor

You might have seen them before, in Hy-Vee or Wal-Mart. Rarely do you see individuals; they're usually with their friends or their families. They work at Siouxpreme Egg, Sioux Preme Packing, and Casey's Bakery. They're honest and cheerful and social: the kind of people you like. They're Latino, and most of them are immigrants.

Unless our area is different from the rest of the nation, you can only assume that a few of them aren't legal immigrants. Not that you care whether they have green cards or not: they work hard, harder than you ever could, at jobs you'd never take in the first place, probably for lower wages than you would be willing to work.

The condition of immigrants, both legal and illegal, in Sioux Center and all over the lower 48, has come under the lens once again with President Bush's proposed three-year offer of amnesty for illegal immigrants.

The plan that the president laid out on Wednesday, January 7, was a compromise between extremes, a belated delivery on an old 2000 campaign promise, a move pundits are labeling a strategic bid for the Hispanic swing vote.

Although relaxing the nation's immigration laws ceased to become an option shortly after the terror of 9/11/2001, immigration reform was a major plug of Bush's stump speech in the 2000 campaign. Still believing in the issue's importance, the president introduced his new proposal last month saying, "Our laws should allow willing workers to enter the country and fill jobs that Americans are not filling. We must make our immigration laws more rational and more humane." If Bush's desire to help the hardworking illegal immigrants was sincere, however, his plan still drew fire from all sides.

Bush's plan would allow illegal immigrants with jobs to apply for 3-year work visas, during which time they would be free to apply for government green cards. Once the 3-year visa runs out, however, immigrants without legal residence would be forced to leave the country.

The plan is lukewarm. Latino advocates say the plan is too little, too late; national security gurus and economic conservatives say it is too generous.



ABOVE and BELOW LEFT Workers leave an industrial plant in local Sioux Center where many Latino immigrants are employed. Legal immigrants as well as illegal ones are often tend to become scarce when cameras are present; we've chosen to identify neither the workers nor the plant. The moral and psychological stress of "living a lie" as an illegal immigrant is a vital concern.

Economists are split on the issue. While it is certain that the U.S. would be brought to its knees if all the illegal immigrants were shipped home tomorrow, some speculate that the cheap labor provided by illegal immigrants has stopped the minimum wage from rising.

"You can't open the floodgates; we would have millions and millions of people coming in very quickly," says Dordt professor of economics John Visser. "To keep our country secure we need to better account for those who are in our country. . . The President's plan, although sketchy with respect to details, is a step in the right direction. Properly documented workers can more easily be protected by labor laws, with the right to change jobs, earn fair wages, and enjoy the same working conditions that the law requires for American workers. We should get behind the President's plan and encourage our legislators to work out the details as soon as possible."

On one hand, making legal residence the reward of illegal immigration encour-

ages law-breaking and would in effect punish those immigrants who have been, and still are, spending extra time and effort trying to immigrate legally.

Security concerns are also significant. Some officials, already afraid of border-jumping-terrorists, fear the results of providing across-the-board amnesty, since a terrorist with legal residence is more of a threat than an illegal one. A legal resident doesn't have to sneak around for fear of being stopped. A legal resident is able to travel, study, take flight lessons. . . you finish the sentence.

But Latino advocacy groups say the plan does not do enough for illegal immigrants. Most illegal immigrants want to stay in the U.S. as long as possible, and some have children that have been born and raised in America. A three-year amnesty deal has little appeal to them, since once the three years are up they have no way of knowing whether or not they will be able to get citizenship and whether or not they will be forced to return to Mexico.

"I wanted the best life for the kids, for my children," says Roberto Garcia (not his real name), an illegal immigrant working in Sioux Center who has already been in the country for five years. "My son was born in Mexico; my daughter was born in the United States. I moved because the life in our country was difficult, bad. The life was expensive; there was no place for a job." Garcia said the few jobs that were available paid about \$25 American a week, barely enough to cover rent.

According to Garcia, education does not necessarily equal success, in Mexico. He tells the story of a friend, a fully qualified doctor, roaming the country, looking for work. Grossly overqualified people with training as engineers, doctors and veterinarians teach at vocational schools because there is simply nothing else to do.

The offer is only for three years, but Bush does not think of the people who have many years here, who have families here,

**What people  
are saying  
about the 3-year  
Amnesty plan**



"This proposal does not consider this point, it only gains cheap labor. I think the proposal is political. It is not aimed at helping the families."  
-- "Roberto Garcia" an illegal immigrant working in Sioux Center, who has already been in the country for 5 years.



<http://denis.dordt.edu>

"This [program of Bush's] would give them the advantage to be just like us. I think it would do some good for the people in this area."  
--Dordt professor of Economics John Visser, after commenting on the stress of living like a fugitive.



Steve Kloosterman

March 5, 2003

# Immigration may affect local workers

whose children were born here." says Garcia, who plans on retiring in Mexico some day, but who won't be ready to go back anytime soon. "This proposal does not consider this point. It only gains cheap labor. I think the proposal is political. It is not aimed at helping the families."

Garcia says he does, however, support the immigration bill offered by Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD) and Senator Chuck Hagel, (R-Neb). The bi-partisan bill would give illegal immigrants who meet certain requirements permanent legal status. In order to qualify, candidates would have to have lived in the United States for at least five years and worked for at least one year. The individual would have to log four years of work total before gaining permanent legal status, know English and U.S. history, and pay a \$1,000 fine. The bill also would also increase spending on border security and work to bring together families separated by the southern border.

Dordt College Professor Emeritus Dallas Apol, who teaches several community education English classes, also seems to support the Daschle-Hagel bill to some extent. "There are those who suggest that we should give amnesty to the people here, are working, and have their families here, but then seal off the border so tightly that no one else can enter without papers. In many ways that looks like the best approach," Apol says, noting that out of Mexico's 110 million residents, probably 100 million would like to immigrate to the U.S. if they could.

Apol also doubts Latino responsiveness to the three-year amnesty plan. "The earlier intention of everybody here was to come here, and then go back home and live in Mexico. That has logically changed; it has to change. I know families where the kids have lived here for eight years. Sioux Center is the only home they know. They do not have a desire to go back to Mexico," he says. "For them to go at this time would probably be foolish. A young 20-year-old fellow would probably be better off with the Bush plan. He could declare himself so that he could work at better jobs for a short time. Employers who hire people without papers usually do not pay as well as those who hire people who do have their green

cards."

Apol, who is a member of Amistad Cristiana and the Center for Assistance, Service, and Advocacy (CASA), says that illegal immigrants live in a constant state of fear. He gives an example of a man who would like to bring his family to Okoboji, but halfway down the road, turns the car around because there are too many cops. Illegal immigrants may want to stay here for the rest of their lives, but can they bear up under the stress of being illegal for years on end? They all know that a man might have a family, a house, and two cars in America one day, but if he gets caught with bad papers, he'll be on a bus headed south the next day.

The unwritten police rule, according to Apol, is that they don't prosecute people who have been in the country for more than ten years. There are a few individual cops, however, who arrest as many as they can.

"As Christians, we always realize that deception and lying are not only bad for a country, they're bad for an individual," says Visser, considering the stress and fearfulness borne by illegal immigrants. "It is difficult to imagine the cumulative impact on people's health, family stability, children's education, finances and worldviews from the all-but-impossible task of piecing and holding together a false identity. No one... should have to live this kind of a lie for the sake of improving their lives and the lives of their loved ones."

The social question surrounding the issue of immigration reform is one of trust. Americans trusting people who entered their country illegally enough to offer them amnesty in a way that can be merciful and just. Latinos trusting Americans enough to accept peace on their terms. Here's hoping we'll meet somewhere in the middle.



Steve Kloosterman

## Immigration in numbers

24,000

estimated number of illegal resident in Iowa in the year 2000

9 million

estimated number of Mexicans in America

4 million

estimated number of Mexicans in America illegally

15%

illegal immigrants' percentage of the American population

2 million

number of forged identity papers seized by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1998

12 billion

how much money Mexicans sent home in 2003

2 million

number of mexicans who immigrated legally from 1991-1998

1.235.685

number of illegals caught trying to cross the border in 2003

371

how many died trying to cross the southern border in the first ten months of 2003

"The earlier intention of everybody here was to come here, and then go back home and live in Mexico. That has logically change; it has to change."

--Dordt Professor Emeritus Dallas Apol, noting that most immigrants without papers plan to stay longer than 3 years.



<http://hagel.senate.gov>

"We can tighten and bring common sense to a patchwork of immigration law that makes no sense."

--Senator **Chuck Hagel**, R-Nebraska, to USA Today, referring to the counter bill offered by Senator Tom Daschle D-South Dakota, and himself.



<http://free-stock-photos.com>

"As a nation that values immigrants and depends on immigrants, we should have immigration laws that work and make us proud. . . We must make our immigration law more rational and more humane, and I believe we can do so without jeopardizing the livelihood of American citizens."

--President **George W. Bush** in his January 7 remarks.

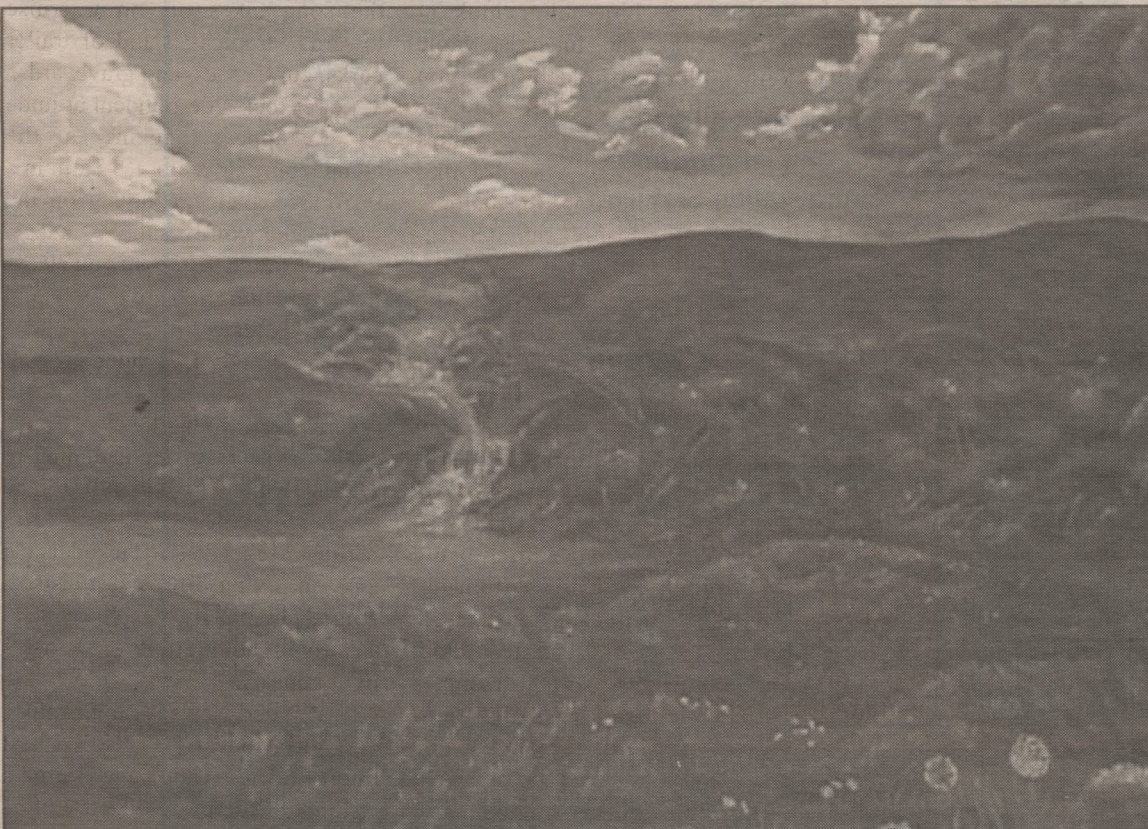
## Right:

Life on the great south bay  
color photograph  
Lois Garrett



## Below:

Stormy Landscape  
Acrylic on canvas  
approx. 3' x 4'  
Sonja Eenigenburg

**Bends and Breaks to Build(Trust)**

the cement of the path, it dries in the sun  
cracks come from use, cracks come from drought

the gift that grows, the gift that bowes  
it needs itself, to give itself

vulnerability the foe, the foe that must show  
take the chances of life, be caught up in strife

let barriers fall down, together build them again  
dual satisfaction, on a journey for completion

we're still squinting at the Son, our perfection's not done  
we know love that needs pain, so give up your shame

to trust is to love, in striving to obtain  
you lost to receive, a sacrifice from me

-Dan De Boer 2/24/04

March 5, 2004

PASSION cont'd. from p. 3.

I am not questioning Mel Gibson's faith. I am not questioning the faithfulness of the events portrayed. I am not questioning the sincerity of those who want to use it for evangelistic endeavors—they want to see the glory of Christ spread! I am not even questioning whether God can and may use this movie to bring people to Christ. God is sovereign and he is able to do that! But the end does not justify the means.

Mel Gibson's movie is much more Catholic than we give it credit for. He is very open about his

desire to see the movie used for worldwide evangelism. The movie's main goal is to visibly teach us about Scripture. We are supposed to participate in the crucifixion of Christ, offering Him up as a sacrifice. This is a Catholic mass. Catholics themselves say so! (Visit <http://www.zenit.org/english/visualizza.phtml?sid=49259> and read the article.)

Protestant reformers replaced the Eucharist with preaching and now many Christians are blindly using this very means to evangelize. To endorse this movie as a means of evangelism comes close to endorsing the Catholic faith.

This is only one of many concerns that the movie should raise for Christians. Anyone seeing the movie must also deal with whether or not it violates the second commandment. Read Lord's Day 35 of the Heidelberg Catechism if you're wondering what I'm talking about. I don't have time to discuss it here so that will have to be on your own heart.

In conclusion, I ask that you pray with me that God will raise up Godly men who will preach the true Christ as revealed in His Word so that the world will no longer feel the need for other means by which to proclaim God's grace.

## Modest Mice's latest album is mighty nice

Merry-go-round

Mike Van Beek  
Staff Writer

Birds are chirping, snow is melting, the world is warming. More importantly, Modest Mouse is releasing a new album. "Good News For People Who Love Bad News" (a line taken from the chaotic, grandiose new track, 'Bury Me With It') will be released April 3 – nearly four years since Moon & Antarctica, their last offering of new material. Modest Mouse have long been considered indie rock's superheroes. They borrowed the inventive soft-loud-soft song structure and erratic lyrics of Black Francis and the Pixies and sprinted to fame with several stellar albums. Frontman Isaac Brock's unique blend of lyrical cynicism and captious observations of lower-class suburbia have raised his band to cult status among indie rock fans. Brock's abrasive, sneering vocals often bring comparisons to legendary Pixies frontman, Black Francis, but Brock's lyrics and delivery bring to mind much more the lower-class spectrum of suburban life, offering an in-your-face blue-collar look at trailer parks and funerals, while Francis focused much more on space invaders and life on the coastline. However, both groups have a similar taste for morbid themes combined with melodic hooks and schizophrenic tendencies.

Good News starts off with some of the more amicable moments the band has ever engaged in. Leading off the album is 'The World At Large' – poignant and thoughtful, its subtle uneasiness is reminiscent of the nervous desolation a small Midwestern town feels shortly before being destroyed by a massive tornado. The next 3 tracks are equally melodic; the first single, 'Float On', immediately brings comparisons to the renowned Pixies track, 'Wave of Mutilation'. Brock's detached confidence combines a reverberated mixture of guitars and consummated lyrical imagery serving as a reminder to the world that everything will be all right. 'The Ocean Breathes Salty' finds Brock nervous of solitude and growing old amidst a sea of deathly undertones and tropical references.

The middle section of the album returns to familiar

form – a vigorous, aggressive middle finger to the world which borders on catharsis. Brock's morbid feelings resurface in 'Bury Me With It' (which the band played on the Late Show with Carson Daly a few weeks ago). A beautifully woven together mixture of schizophrenic guitars and manic vocals ("We were shooting at a mountain of dirt; well nothin' was broken, nothin' was hurt, but I probably should have been it work. But if my free time's gone would you promise me this, would you please bury me with it?") eventually break into a colossal mélange of distorted guitars, massive drums, and slurred, introverted vocals which come to the brink of a nervous breakdown. As if that weren't enough, 'Dance Hall' elevates the tension even higher; Brock's caustic vocals overlay the simplistically melodic guitar/keyboard interplay, forming an adherent blend of joy and aggression. When the breaking point is reached and it seems everything is ready to implode, melancholic euphoria is unleashed and the song takes off on a cruise toward a tropical island of trailer parks, cul de sacs, and graveyards.

Brock's despondent attitude appears again as the album comes to a close. 'Satin in a Coffin' ("You were laying on the carpet like you're satin in a coffin...are you dead or are you sleeping, I sure hope you are dead"), and 'Black Cadillacs' ("...and it's true that the clouds just hung around like black Cadillacs outside a funeral") show Brock's concessive side – he seems to be resigning to settle down and give in to life. The album closer, 'The Good Times Are Killing Me', takes a lackadaisical look at living life and twists it around completely, which results in an ironic admiration of Brock's livid honesty.

Good News is far and away Modest Mouse's best effort to date. They have crafted a brilliant masterpiece which will be nearly impossible to surpass. Surfing from passive aggressive songs of happiness and relaxation to brutal anthems advocating death and destruction, they have somehow managed to one-up the incredible Moon & Antarctica in both lyrical mastery and musical prowess.

### Check this out!

Jason Mulder  
Entertainment Editor

St. Olaf Orchestra Concert Sat, Mar. 6, 7:30 pm  
BJH

Jewel Thu, Mar. 18, 8:00 pm Adler Theatre,  
Davenport, IA

ZOEGirl w/ Superchick, Joy Williams, and Susie  
Shellenberger Sun, Mar. 21, 7:00 pm Elmen  
Events Center, Sioux Falls, SD

Kelly Clarkson & Clay Aiken Wed, Mar. 24, 7:00  
pm Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, NE

Avalon w/ Mark Shultz and Across the Sky Wed,

Mar. 24, 7:00 pm BJH

Barenaked Ladies (the band) Thu, Mar. 25, 7:30  
pm Tyson Event Center, Sioux City, IA

See Spot Rock Tour featuring 12 Stones, Skillet,  
Pillar, GRITS, and Big Dismal Sat, Mar. 27  
Northwestern College, Orange City, IA

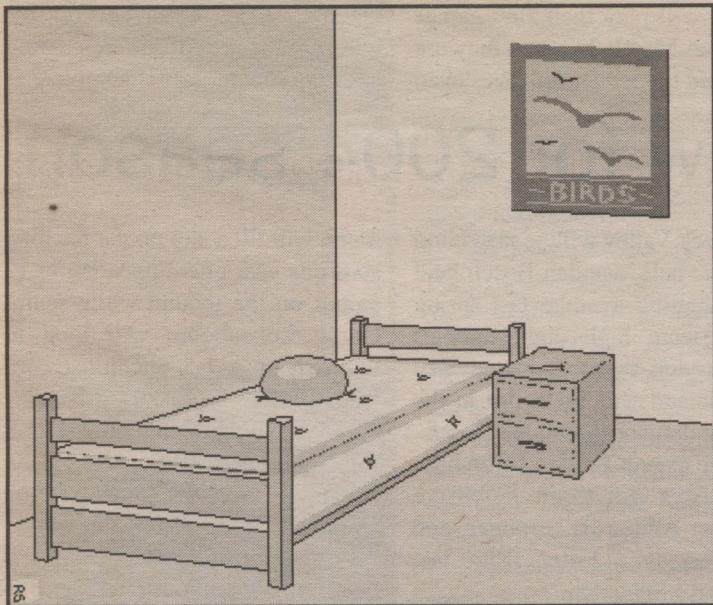
Adoration: The Tour featuring Newsboys,  
Rebecca St. James, and Jeremy Camp Sat, Mar.  
27 Xcel Energy Center, Minneapolis, MN

Ken Davis Sat, Apr. 3, 7:00 pm BJH

Switchfoot Wed, Apr. 7, 7:00 pm Memorial Union  
– University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Have an event you'd like posted? E-mail Jason  
Mulder, [jsnmldr@dordt.edu](mailto:jsnmldr@dordt.edu)

### Jeremy's Corner



By Jeremy Winter, illustrations by Joe Hoksbergen or Ryan Steensma

For a while I injected myself with bird DNA in a hope that I could grow feathers and fly. I didn't grow any feathers and I can't fly, but I do lay some delicious eggs.

### Center Stone Jewelers

invites

All Dordt Students  
to receive a

**20%  
Discount**  
on all Merchandise!

Financing Available.

Center Stone Jewelers  
736 North Main  
Sioux Center

(Just South of Ashley Furniture)

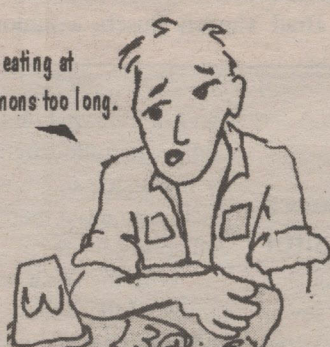
Monday thru Friday, 9-5:30  
Wednesday 9:00 to 9:00  
Saturday 9:00 to 5:00.

\*Evenings By appointment

712-722-1601



I've been eating at  
the Commons too long.



Mason Welsh

## LIFE ON THE OUTSIDE

Leslie Larson  
Staff Writer

### Freshman Eligibility

At the NCAA, the idea of freshman ineligibility reigns. Up until 1968, no student-athlete was eligible to compete at the varsity level as a freshman. Things have drastically changed since then. Currently at the University of Kansas, 100 true freshmen are listed on athletic rosters. Leading the opposition for freshmen eligibility includes the Knight Commission and former North Carolina basketball coach, Dean Smith and Virginia basketball coach, Terry Holland. They claim athletes need to prove themselves academically before representing their college athletically. Low graduation rates are also a factor. The commission intends to determine an optimal solution and report to the NCAA.

### Disciplined Official

Michael Henderson, a second season NBA official, incorrectly whistled a shot clock violation at the Denver-Laker game. There were 3.2 seconds left when Denver's Andre Miller's shot brushed the rim and was rebounded by a teammate. The officials ruled an inadvertent whistle and a jump ball was thrown. The Lakers ended up winning the tip and made a game-winning shot. Henderson was punished by being taken off of three job assignments and summoned to the league office. On Friday, NBA referees protested by wearing inside-out uniforms with number 62 on their backs symbolizing Henderson who was disciplined. The league promises more punishment for the referees supporting Henderson.

### Woods beats Love

On Sunday, in La Costa Resort and Spa, Carlsbad, California, Tiger Woods took home the \$1.2 million dollar purse. Tiger defeated David Love III, 3 and 2, at the 36 hole Match Play Championship. Love (No. 3 seat) led through the first 18 holes, but Tiger (No. 1 seat) was behind by only one. After Tiger won a hole, poor tee shots followed, so he could never take the lead. However, after hole 18, Tiger never looked back. Tiger had routinely beaten Love in the past and in the semifinals, 5 and 4, four years ago. This was the third time in five years that Woods made the finals.

"Take me out to the 'ball game . . .

## Lady Defenders look like contenders

Mike Byker  
Sports Information

When the Dordt College Lady Defender softball team takes the field this spring the Lady Defenders will be trying to build on a 2003 season where they were 11-10 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference and were 17-20 overall.

The Lady Defenders and Coach Don Draayer will look to left-handed pitcher Ashley Schuller to provide stability and leadership as Dordt College embarks on the 2004 season. Schuller comes back after recording a 6-10 record with 91 innings pitched. Schuller had a 3.00 ERA and struck out 38 last season. The senior also registered a rare perfect game for the Lady Defenders last season.

"We look to Ashley along with Kandi Van Kooten for our leadership on the team," says Draayer. Both are seniors.

Offensively the Lady Defenders return their top hitter Katie Bleeker. The slick fielding shortstop held a .356 batting average with 13 doubles and 16 runs batted in. Tami Kaptein spent most of her sophomore season stationed in centerfield and was good for a

.239 batting average with 17 hits.

"Katie is back after a very solid year last year and Tami will provide leadership in the outfield," says Draayer.

Denise Noorman, who split time between first base and pitcher last season, is back after hitting .232 last season and Megan Groeneweg adjusted to the college game, earning the rightfield job and registering 16 hits in 2003. Van Kooten played in 34 games at third base and batted .211.

"Denise will be one of our pitchers this year along with playing first base," says Draayer. "Megan, Jill Gruppen, Cara Mulder and Dreaanne Ypma will all play significant roles for this year's team."

Three freshmen could fill spots for the Lady Defenders. Mandy Visser can pitch and play on the right side of the infield. Elizabeth Sohre can play third base

and the outfield while Kayla Faber will see time behind the plate for Dordt College.

The Lady Defenders will travel to Southern California for eight games beginning March 13. Dordt

in Mitchell, South Dakota in a Great Plains Athletic Conference doubleheader.

The Lady Defenders are picked fifth by the coaches in the pre-season Great Plains Athletic Conference poll. Midland Lutheran is picked first in the poll and Concordia second.

"Midland Lutheran returns all of last year's starters and should be the team to beat. Morningside also will be very strong along with Concordia and Northwestern," says Draayer.

This season will be Draayer's last at the helm of the program. Draayer, who as guided the Lady Defenders to a 204-162-1 record in nine years in the dugout, has accepted a call to serve the Cornerstone Christian Reformed Church in North Dallas, Texas. Draayer and his wife, Joanne, will be relocating after the school year is complete.



Sara Prins

Two unidentified Defender softball players take batting practice in the Dordt Rec Center as they prepare for the start of the 2004 season. Dordt will kick off the season in California over spring break.

College will play their first games locally on March 24 when they are scheduled to face Dakota Wesleyan

## Dordt returns old and new for 2004 season

Mike Byker  
Sports Information

Entering his first year as head coach of the Dordt College baseball team, Jeff Schouten has the task of helping the Defenders rebound from a 9-27 season and a 4-22 mark in the Great Plains Athletic Conference. Schouten played for the Defenders in the mid-1990s and served as Dr. Tom Visker's assistant for several seasons. Schouten will build this year's team around a nucleus of returning players.

Ryan Lane enters his senior season and will provide stability in the middle of the Defender infield. Lane, who spent last season splitting time between pitching duties

and shortstop has been penciled in as the everyday shortstop for the Defenders after batting .270 last season with 27 hits and 14 RBI's.

"Ryan has good knowledge, good speed and is a good leader," says Schouten.

Sophomore Brandon Haan made an immediate impact last year as a freshman, leading the team in innings pitched with 59 and posted a 3.62 ERA despite a 2-6 win-loss record. Haan was also effective at the plate, boasting a .367 batting average with 19 runs batted in.

"Brandon will be a leader on our pitching staff," says Schouten. "We'll expect innings and RBI's from him."

Brad Vanden Bosch, a junior

from Rock Valley will be providing offensive help. Vanden Bosch held a .289 batting average last spring with a team high eight doubles while Andon De Boer batted .220 last year and will fill a slot in the outfield along with Vanden Bosch.

"We expect Brad to be on base a lot. He's got good defensive instincts. Andon is stronger and improved as a hitter from last year," says Schouten.

Nate Van Wyk is healthy and will handle the bulk of the catching duties for the Defenders after breaking his hand in the third game of the 2003 season. Another question is how well Michael De Jong will bounce back from an off season knee injury.

Brent Van Maanen, a sopho-

more, will fill a slot on the pitching staff one year after appearing in 12 games on the mound while senior Corey Rozenboom will look to improve on a 1-5 pitching record from 2003.

Newcomers who could push for playing time are Dane Anderson, Jon Ledebor, Derek Greydanus and Nate Daane.

"Dane is lefthanded and will be near the top of our pitching rotation. Jon was a great surprise for us this fall and will see time at first base and designated hitter. Derek is having a good spring and will be spot starter and middle reliever," says Schouten. "We'll use Nate as a starting pitcher and backup shortstop. He had an injury last summer so we'll see how he bounces back."

## Quick Hits

Rachel Volkers  
Assistant Sports Editor

With the sun shining, birds chirping and the melting snow trickling into the sewer drains, I'm starting to get antsy. I don't know about you, but I'm getting sick and tired of being cooped up in my apartment where energy

can't be released and where air is stale—especially when the smell of spring is in the air (or as my sister and I would say, "It smells like track season out there"). I've got what doctors\* call spring fever.

With the fresh breeze starting to blow, I'm reminded that spring sports will soon be in full swing. I have visions of javelin throwers dancing in my head; I hear the crack of the Defender bat hitting the ball over the fence; most of all I

anticipate sliding into third base under the tag. The baseball, softball and outdoor track teams are gearing up to get their seasons started—and what better way to release excess energy than by cheering the teams on. So go ahead and take a walk over to Open Space Park and see how your fellow students are enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of spring.

\*No doctors were consulted in the writing process.