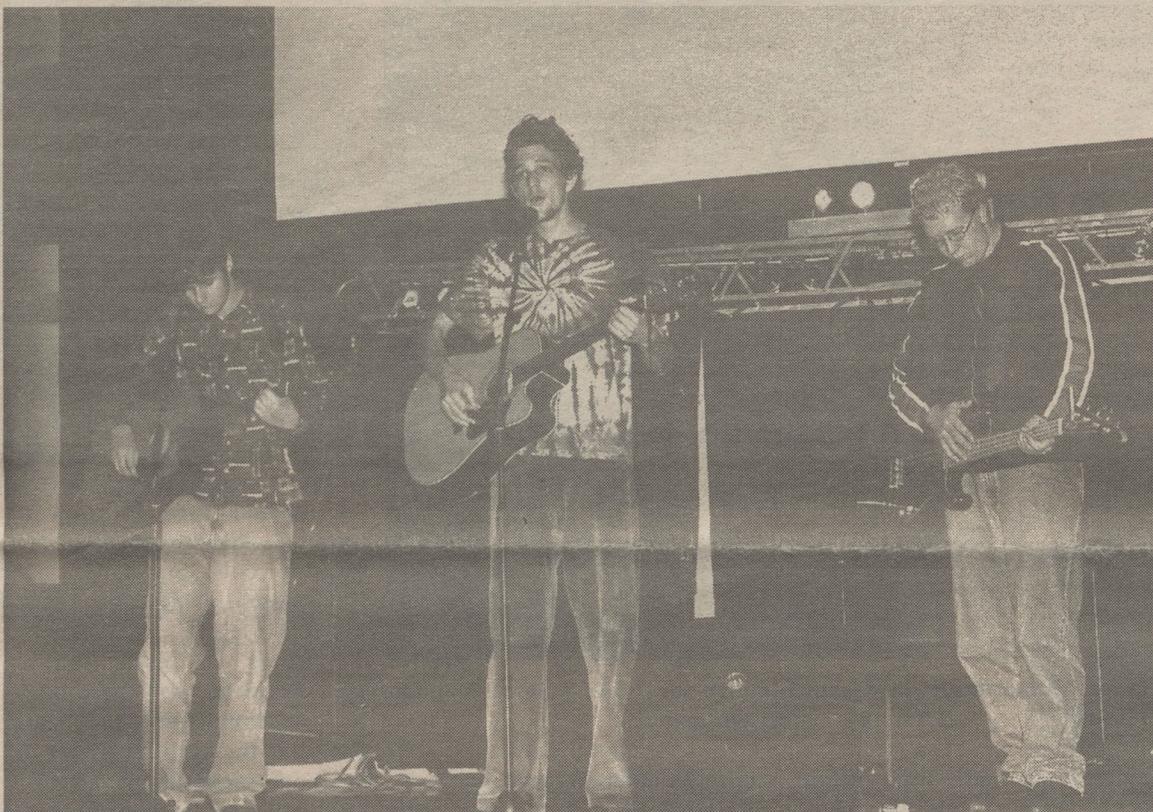


dordt college

Diamond

April 22, 1999

Benefit to be held for James Klaver



James Klaver (left) performing in the Talent Extravaganza with Josh De Groot and Ryan Punt. [Diamond Archive]

by Rob Reitsma and
Ryan Vande Kraats
Staff Reporters

On May 1, five local Dordt bands will be giving a benefit concert in the New World Theatre to help defray the cost of freshman James Klaver's medical expenses. James, recently diagnosed with leukemia, is currently undergoing treatment at Marian Health Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

The second annual Fire & Ice music festival will be considerably shorter than last year's show, running from 7:30 P.M. to 12:00 A.M., and will only involve Dordt bands. Newcomers to the Dordt scene include "Opiate" and "Disgruntled Greg". "Opiate", a progressive industrial band, will start off the festival with a half-hour set. The other four bands have 45-minute sets beginning every hour at quarter after the hour. "Disgruntled Greg", a folk/blues band, will

play second in the line-up. "Band-jo", a bluegrass five-piece with various musical influences, will play third, followed by the unique sounds of the experimental rock group, "Progeny". The electric pop super-group of the 70s, "Books & Comics", will finish off the evening with their eclectic blend of macabre exhibitionism and light-hearted pop.

Tickets to the show are only \$2, and will be available at the door. T-shirts are also available for \$12. For only \$13, you can get a ticket and a T-shirt. To preorder tickets and shirts, or for more information, please call extension 6698, or visit the Fire & Ice web site at: <http://www.dordt.edu/events/fireice>.

All those involved with the show urge you to support James during these difficult times. Even if you cannot attend the show, buy a T-shirt to show your support. Thank you.

Sister college president visits Dordt

by Sean Gregg
Co-Editor in Chief

Dr. Byung Won Kim, president of Kosin University, visited Dordt's campus last week to further the sister relationship of Dordt College and Kosin University. The visit was Kim's first to Dordt College.

Dr. Kim says the sister relationship between the two schools comes out of an "identical doctrinal belief." Both schools are deeply rooted in the reformed faith. Kosin University was founded and is run by the Kosin Presbyterian denomination in Japan. During his visit Kim addressed the board regarding the current state of Christian higher education. He spoke specifically of Kosin University.

The sister relationship between the two schools began in 1997. The relationship is still developing, and one of the things Kim

addressed in his visit was how the relationship might be furthered. He would like to see a faculty and student exchange program. Kim is encouraged by several visits from Dordt faculty and staff. Both President Zylstra and former president Hulst have visited Kosin, as have several professors. Kim says that Kosin University has benefited from these visits.

Kosin University has three campuses. The main campus houses several departments. There are separate campuses for a theological seminary and a 1,377 bed hospital.

Dr. Kim sees both Dordt and Kosin performing an important role in preparing young people for service in the kingdom of God. Both colleges offer a number of degrees that enable students to receive a quality education with a base in the word of God.



Dr. Byung Won Kim
[Photo by Joe Trosen]

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The *Diamond* is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond. Any letters, comments or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be received before 4:00 p.m. the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue. Send contributions to

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Opinions expressed are not necessarily the view of the *Diamond* or of Dordt College, but represent the views of individual writers. The *Diamond* reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

Repertory Theatre takes Romeo and Juliet on tour

by Tricia Van Ee
Staff Reporter

The Repertory Theatre class has come to the end of the semester and its preparation of "Romeo and Juliet." This abbreviated version of Shakespeare's classic will be taken on a two week tour to four high schools in Sheboygan, Wisconsin; Lansing, Michigan; Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Muskegon, Michigan; beginning May 8.

Repertory Theatre is a three credit class which involves working on different aspects of theater and working on a play to take on tour. Students are selected by audition, and the class is taught and directed by Simon Du Toit.

The curriculum of the class varies from year to year, and this year students will not only perform, but give workshops at four different high schools while on tour. The 13 actors and Du Toit will stay at each high school for three days working with students on Elizabethan music and dance, sword fighting, and the world of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." They will



Romeo (Adam Smit) professes his love for Juliet (Kirstin Vander Giessen). [Photo by Travis Bonnema]

then incorporate high school student actors into the show. These students have already been chosen and are learning their parts and will be further coached by the Repertory Theatre students. Freshman Adam Smit, who plays Romeo,

said, "In addition to acting, each of us has to work on being worthy instructors."

A few interesting aspects of the Rep Theatre production of "Romeo and Juliet" are the set and costumes. The set, constructed by Theatre professor

John Hofland, had to be easily taken down and put in a trailer for travel. The players wanted the play to feel both modern and Elizabethan, and they want the set to be colorful and alive. Hofland constructed a set with scaffolding, curtains, and a very colorful platform. According to sophomore Kirstin Vander Giessen, who plays Juliet, the set has, "a traveling theatre-troupe feel, a very Renaissance feel." The costumes, designed by Shirley Matheis, also reflect both modern and Elizabethan styles. The actors wear mostly jeans and t-shirts with a few period pieces, such as hats, scabbards and vests. Vander Giessen said, "It's like basically like we're playing dress-up."

Dordt students had an opportunity to view the production on Thursday April 15 and Saturday the 17th. This was the last opportunity to see a Du Toit production as the theatre professor will be taking a leave of absence for two years.

Smit said of the class, "It's a lot of fun because the thing we're working on every day is the thing we love to do, which is act."

Ag Day returns to Dordt

by Jen Hoogeveen
Staff Reporter

Rev up the old Allis Chalmers and make a trip to the annual Ag Day tomorrow. Tractors are going to be rolling into the parking lot, and animals will be herded in for display. Test out your abilities in rolling, stacking, and throwing bales; milking cows; guzzling milk; or displaying Ol' Bessie. Nominate your "favorite" professor in the kiss-a-pig contest, warm up your arm for a possible dunking tank, or if you're feeling lucky, participate in cow chip bingo. Get a tour of the Dordt dairy or the

greenhouse. For the environmentalists, check out the Shamar booth on soil conservation. If you're sick of commons food, fill up on some burgers served by the Ag Club. A little dancing to go with the food? Have a hoe-down at the country dance, held at the Community Center.

The head herdsman, of all of this is junior Derek Bontrager, President of the Ag Club. Thirty Ag Club members are going to be participating in this day, as well as about 60 high school students

who will be judging livestock.

The club put on this day for several reasons. One of the most important reasons is to raise agricultural awareness. A second reason that many students attending this college will feel at home with the cows and pigs since they grew up on farms. Finally, this day is set up to represent the approximately one hundred Ag majors here at Dordt. "We bring the farm here," stated Bontrager.

Ag Day is also a great opportunity for the FACT (Future Active Christian Teachers) Club to participate in

activities related to their major, education. Susan Vandermeer commented that elementary students from area schools will be joining in on all the fun. It is the job of the FACT Club to take groups of these energetic kids on tours of the greenhouse, and to check out the animals, tractors and all the other activities available. There will also be games for specific age groups once the cows lose their potency.

Don't miss out on all of this fun. There will be a lot to do, so check out signs for times and places. If all else fails, your nose is a pretty good guide.



Dordt excels in Model Arab League

by Jill Vossen
Copy Editor

The Middle East is a place often painted by the Western media as filled with terrorism, ethnic unrest and civil strife. Fighting over issues of water, oil, weapons of mass destruction and the place of women in society, Westerners sometimes ask the quintessential question: Can't we all just get along? The answer, sadly, is no. Given the varied and long history of the region, the unlikely event of Arab cooperation on a large scale becomes highly unlikely as the split between those countries who are Westernized and those who cling to the old ways becomes more apparent with the passage of time.

The Great Plains Model Arab League, sponsored by the National Council on U.S. and Arab Relations, seeks to allow understanding between the United States and Arab countries of the Arab League of States. Similar to the Model UN, the Model Arab League gives college and high school students a chance to slip into a foreign culture quite alien to their own and live into the problems of Middle East diplomacy.

Dordt sent four delegations this year, representing Libya, Algeria, Jordan and

Sudan; additionally, Dordt had two students on the three-member General Secretariat. Each delegation is comprised of five students, with each student a member of a committee (economic, political, social, Palestinian or security affairs). The task given to the League is to learn their country and represent the country in the way they would represent themselves, regardless of how they personally feel. This task is sometimes difficult as the positions of the various countries can run contrary to personal beliefs. The other task is to draft resolutions on the issues of each committee and come prepared to defend them and try to get them past committee to the General Summit.

The first two days are spent in committee, arguing issues and dealing with resolutions, while adjusting to parliamentary procedure. Sometimes tensions can run high and blood pressures rise, as

I can attest to. Representing Libya in economic affairs, my blood pressure rose more than once on different issues. I found myself not in the position of an American playing the part of a Libyan diplomat, but as a Libyan.

Defending against our status as a rogue nation (a label applied by the United States), I was often tempted to resort to name-calling. The term "Western lap dog," given to me by a colleague, came to mind more than once as

those Westernized Arab countries argued for closer ties with the West and more traditional countries stuck by the old ways. Although Libya is hardly a traditional Islamic country, quite the contrary, she does not want to become bedfellows with the West, especially after dealing with UN-imposed sanctions for nine years. A million different things factor in and suddenly what was a seemingly cut-and-dried issue is impossibly complex. After three days in committee and general summit, it is easy for me to understand why diplomacy in the Middle East is such a difficult thing and why relations are constantly breaking down. I tip my hat to those who must constantly tread the line of representing their country and compromise. It is a thin line and often difficult. Sometimes compromise is necessary and other times, there is no road to the middle ground.

The delegations from Dordt did well, as precedent dictated, taking home several awards, including outstanding delegates and delegation. Matt Nelson did an excellent job as the General Secretary and Livija Shannon, as assistant Secretary, will be coming back as the General Secretary next year; Adam Zylstra will be one of the two assistants.

Awards

Best Delegate:

Social Affairs: Dalida Meyer (Algeria) and Eunice Muthengi (Libya)

Security Affairs: Dan Vos (Libya)

Economic Affairs: Joel Vos (Algeria) and Jill Vossen (Libya)

Palestinian Affairs: Cedric Franken (Jordan)

Political Affairs: Adam Zylstra (Jordan) and Danielle Kamps (Libya)

Best Chairperson:

Social Affairs: Heather Moerman (Jordan)

Best Delegation:

Libya: Dan Vos (head delegate), Jill Vossen, Danielle Kamps, Eunice Muthengi and Lisa Ochsner.

Jordan: Heather Moerman (head delegate), Zaur Gassanov, Cedric Franken, Adam Zylstra and Leonard Gooz.

Leadership Conference helps students to serve

by Susan Vandermeer
Staff Reporter

This past weekend marked the passing of the ninth annual Leadership Conference at Northwestern College. Sixty-five plus Dordt students attended the two day event with a theme of "The Road Less Travelled . . . A Leader's Journey."

Friday evening consisted of a reception and banquet followed by a keynote address by Tim Elmore, a gifted communicator, author and visionary leader. Elmore is presently the Vice-President of Leadership Development at the EQUIP Foundation, a foundation committed to developing leaders around the world. He had also previously served in mission and pastoral work. He discussed levels involved in leadership and what it took to be the leaders God wanted for each person present. The evening ended with a Petra

concert, open to conference-goers and the general public.

Saturday's activities consisted of breakfast, devotions, and worship, followed by another address by Elmore, in which he discussed a portrait of a healthy, effective leader. Students and leaders were able to further learn about being a servant leader though the many workshops, lectures and discussions that followed. Dordt participants included Grant Elgersma and Joel Zuidhof in a workshop describing the role of music in this culture, Elgersma, Zuidhof and Sarah Walsh discussing the impact of television, Ron Rynders with two sessions for Peer Counselors, and Mark Christians talking about interactions with and effectively leading the wounded and hurting. Other workshop leaders and colleges represented included Northwestern,

Dakota Wesleyan University, and the University of Sioux Falls.

The Dordt's leaders who made the most of this opportunity to learn the characteristics of a good and effective leader were mostly comprised of present and future Resident Assistants, Community Advisors, Peer Mentors, and Peer Counselors. The Conference also consisted of specifically designed interest groups for these types of leaders.

The Conference succeeded in laying groundwork for a healthy and effective servant attitude and caused attendees to reflect on what it takes to be a Christ-like leader in their scholastic settings and communities. Dordt students walked away content with the presentation, full of information, and filled with ideas to put into practice in their leadership positions for the coming year.

"Wide selection of high quality rings"



Kelly Vander Veen & Eric Van Groningen
Dordt College

When I started looking for an engagement ring for Kelly, I figured the bigger jewelry stores would have the better deals and selection. Yet, when I stopped in at Pat's Jewelry, expecting a short visit, their exceptionally friendly and knowledgeable staff introduced me to a wide selection of high quality rings. The choice was easy from then on. I would most definitely recommend Pat's.

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Please: at least show up...

**By Ryan Vande Kraats
Staff Writer**

This article refers back to a few events that took place last semester, but alludes to an upcoming event. Let me explain.

Some of you may recall the faculty poetry/fiction reading that took place last semester, toward the beginning of the year. It was a good night; those who showed up heard some fine poetry by a number of profs, and a rather lengthy reading by Dr. Schaap . . . which was fine. The crowd, made up of a good number of students, as well as quite a few faculty members, was enthusiastic and responded well to the reading. That is the important part: both

faculty and students showed up.

Later in the semester, Dr. Laura Apol, a Dordt alumnus, and newly-published poet, came to campus to lecture in some classes, as well as to read some of her poetry and promote her book. I remember several of my English profs telling our classes to go and see her read because we had to "support our Christian artists in what they are doing." Well, that was fine. Again, there was a good-sized crowd, and both faculty and students showed up again.

Finally, toward the end of the semester, the poetry writing class in which I participated held a poetry reading so that the aspiring poets of the class could share their

accomplishments with the campus. I know that I was really excited about that evening; I was looking forward to being able to read my poetry to both my fellow students, but to also share it with the faculty and staff, and perhaps get some positive feedback from them. Basically, we wanted to get some reassurance and support for our work. I was happy to see so many students show up (basically the exact same crowd that showed up for the other two events), but there were only two faculty members in the crowd. I won't name any names, but one of them was the professor of the poetry class, and the other was an English prof. That really disappointed me. The

same profs who had encouraged us to go and support Ms. Apol as a Christian artist, hadn't taken the time to support their own students, who need as much, if not more support as anyone, including those writers who have already established themselves as writers.

This goes not only for writing, but also for every form of art that students are involved in on Dordt's campus. For example, the student directed One-Act plays were held last weekend, and there are also plays coming up this weekend. There is also going to be another chance for students to read poetry in a few weeks. I would be very happy if I saw even a few more professors in

the crowd this time around. I would like to extend a personal invitation to every professor on campus to come out and enjoy a fine night of poetry and fiction; or to enjoy a fine production of some student-written, student-directed One-Acts. This is a great chance to support Dordt's young writers, actors, and directors who really need the support of their peers and professors. So, you are all invited. I hope you all get my invitation, but that is assuming that you read the Diamond, which is debatable...

Role-Playing Christ

**By Danielle Kamps
Features Editor**

Several weeks ago, I participated in the Model Arab League. Students from nearby schools joined together to role play delegations from different Arab countries. I had the opportunity to be the Political Affairs representative from Libya. Libya is a fun country for several reasons. First, it is in the unique position of being in the news because of the Lockerbie incident earlier this month. Second, it is stridently anti-West (especially anti-United States) and happily damns the United States whenever possible. I loved the antagonistic, argumentative role I was given.

In the course of those three days, I found myself becoming more and more Libyan. The resolutions I had written became my personal ideals. And I became upset and

annoyed when my policies would be thwarted. Never mind that the push for restricting oil to raise gas prices—a Libyan prerogative—would severely hinder my personal pocketbook.

"If three days immersed in the Libyan mind-set could change my views so drastically, why couldn't the same be true of my Christian life?"

back in my real life as an American car owner. My role as a Libyan quickly became part of me.

When I returned to my life as a Dordt, non-Libyan student,

my perspective began to change back to a more pro-American one. But I began to wonder. If three days immersed in the Libyan mind-set could change my views so drastically, why couldn't the same be true of my Christian life? In Ephesians 5, Paul urges the church to "be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Paul was convinced that when we imitate someone, we begin to act and think as they would. And so he urged the church (and us) to act like Christ. The more we role play Christ, the more we become more like him. The life of love which Christ lived (and died) for will be manifest in us. I cannot think of a better role model.

Opinionated ME

**By Sarah Walsh
Columnist**

I guess I'm supposed to write something controversial for my last opinion piece ever for the *Diamond*. Would you believe that I have nothing controversial to say? Maybe a more appropriate question is whether or not I have the energy to write about a delicate topic. I've been encouraged, more than once, to write an article about women in office, but I'll let someone a little more daring breach that one.

People seem to be expecting me to write one last strongly-opinionated piece, and I'm not that surprised. I suppose I shouldn't be bothered that, as a result of writing opinion articles all year, people have begun to define who I am in terms of the opinions I hold. I mean, I'm pretty much asking for it, aren't I? In all honesty, I'm entirely too sensitive when I notice people reducing me to a bunch of issues I feel passionately about, but I can't really complain when I do the exact same thing to others.

As students, we relate to others largely based on what we think. There's nothing wrong with understanding people that way, but I have a problem when I can't see past people's opinions into who they really are. It's much easier for me to label someone as a Theatre major, a feminist, or a twice-a-

Sunday Christian. Often, unless I'm friends with this person and know him or her more intimately, I figure that I know what he or she is all about.

It's becoming apparent, though, that this initial response is less than mature. Sometimes I even distance myself from people that I don't understand completely. It keeps life much more simple. I convince myself that I'm really too busy anyway. Instead of having a conversation with these people, I skip out through the back door. It's as if I think my ideas are in direct opposition to someone else's, but I really don't know for sure since I've never actually talked to them.

Unity in the body of Christ demands that I get over my lack of desire to enter into relationships with people that I don't always agree with. Being overwhelmed with the love of Christ is meant to drive me to understand other people's perspectives. If I'm not willing to try to understand others, I'm in no position to expect others to understand where I'm coming from. That's one of the biggest things that I've learned while at Dordt College, and I'm sure that I'm not finished learning it.

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Zircon

April 22, 1999



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Vander Stelt's amazing conversion

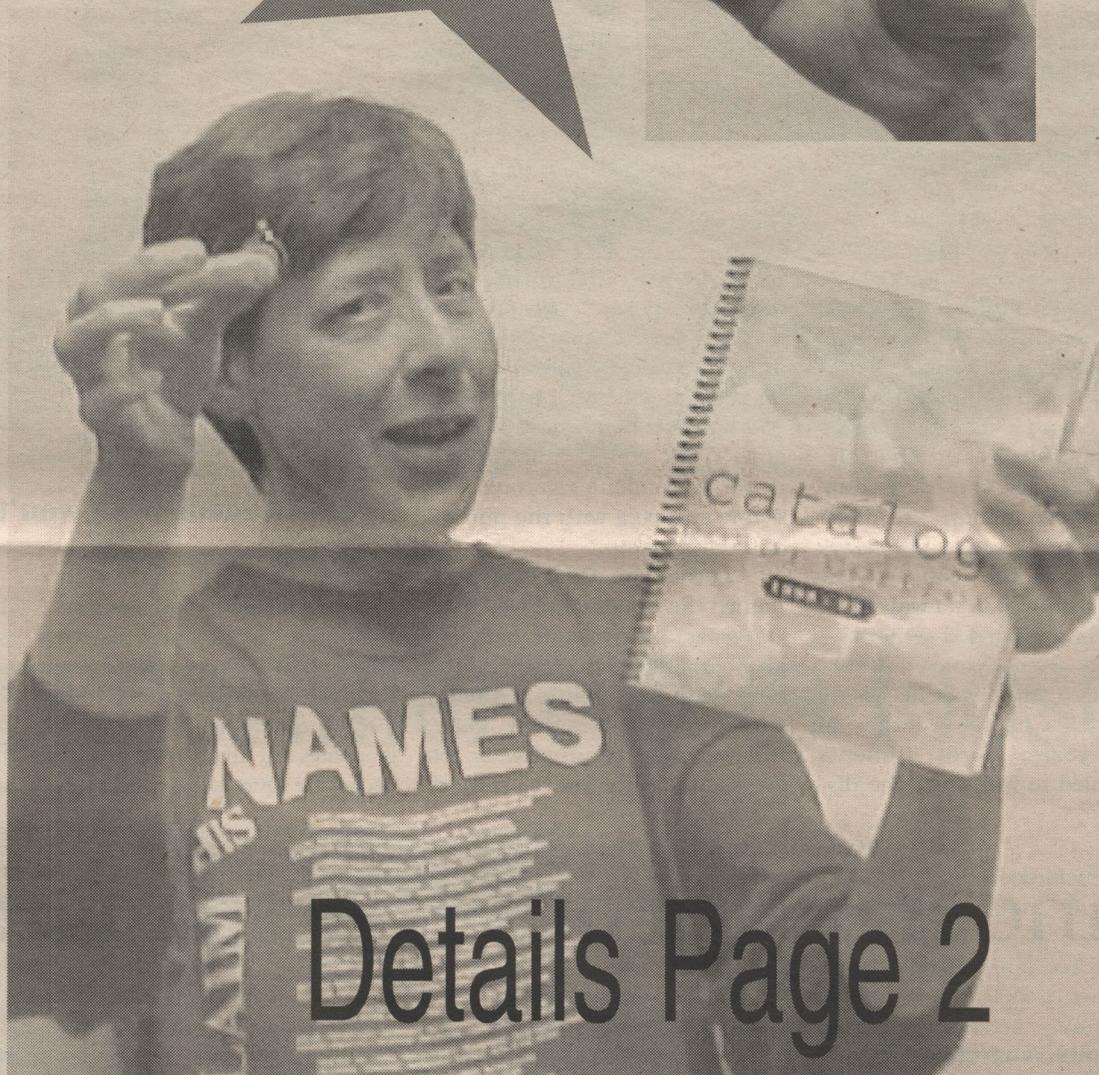


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**Secret
Laboratory
found in
Science
building
page 3**

Half of Dordt's seniors won't graduate

Exclusive



Details Page 2



Giant bees give rash

New class added: half the seniors won't graduate

by Sue DeNim and Anne Nonymous

In a surprise move last week, Rockne McCarthy announced that over half of the senior class could not graduate. "We just realized," the Vice President of Academic Affairs said, "that these seniors did not meet the Gen 400 requirement. Thus, they will have to return and complete this class before they can receive their diplomas."

Gen 400, a new general education requirement at Dordt, requires all students to take "Matrimonial Relationship Seminar," also known as "MRS." This class necessitates that all single seniors learn how to relate to the opposite sex to find their mates. In order to meet graduation requirements, students must find their future spouse by the end of the course. The course requirement is waived for engaged and married seniors.

The Academic Affairs Committee felt it was necessary to add this course because in recent years, Dordt students have failed to live up to the dis-



Lorna Van Gilst named the new Gen 400 prof.

marriage school." "We are discovering that too many students are graduating by without a ring on their finger," McCarthy said. "We find this behavior unacceptable. This course allows students to combine rigorous academic studying with the pursuit of a relationship."

Lorna Van Gilst has been named the professor of Gen 400. Other faculty and staff members are equally excited about the new course. Sandi Altena, Director of Resident Life, believes that "Southview is too crowded. With more seniors

married, we will have more housing available on campus." President Zylstra echoes this view. "This class will return Dordt to its cultural roots. In the 1960's, more than 70% of Dordt graduates left married or engaged. Today, the figure is lower than 40%."



Two students who won't have to take Gen 400. Photos by I. B. Tired

Some students disagree with Dordt's new requirement. As one senior said, "I believe I am called to be single, at least for now. I do not think Dordt should make me take this class!" Another senior said, "I'm outta here! I'm not coming back for another Gen.Ed. class!" Overall, however,

most students are thrilled with the new course. "I always wanted-my MRS degree from Dordt!"

VanderStelt converts to Platonian Christianity

by Jolly VanderBosh and Junior N. Commons

"I finally saw the light," commented Dr. John VanderStelt after a recent retirement party. VanderStelt confessed that he had struggled for years with such scriptures as Christ's claim, "My kingdom is not of this world."

"Then I came to realize that Platonism was a viable solution," said VanderStelt. All it took, he noted, was synthesizing Plato with Hegelian Christianity. "Placing the World of Ideas in the mind of God is really not much different than saying God mandates certain things for His creation," said VanderStelt. "You've got norms



VanderStelt with new theory

and laws, which are really just ideas in the mind of God."

VanderStelt also said, in light of his recent recognition of Platonism as an ally of Reformed

Christianity, that he plans to spend his retirement contemplating Plato's writings, which he said have "a lot to contribute to a dialogue on faith." He also anticipates extensively citing Plato in his forthcoming book on faith.

Faculty responses to VanderStelt's conversion to Platonic Christianity were mixed. Retired professor Arnie Koekkoek smiled and said, "It's about time!"

Dr. Keith Sewell, on the other hand, wondered, "What sort of contrivances are going on at this college?" Dr. Mark Tazelaar was simply elated. "Now I don't feel so bad," he said. "Dr. Kok [Dean

of Humanities] will be forced to soften up on me—after all, I'm no Platonist."

Students seemed confused about Dr. VanderStelt's conversion; many, in fact, had not yet

"Platonism ... ally of Reformed Christianity"

hear the news. One student, who was glad to hear of VanderStelt's conversion, said, "I really thought that everyone was too hard on Calvin in VanderStelt's Institutes class.

Calvin was the greatest theologian who ever lived—much greater than [philosophers] Dooyeweerd or Vollenhoven. Calvin was much more Plotinian than those guys, so I guess VanderStelt's conversion really recognizes Calvin's genius."

Another student commented that she thought VanderStelt's conversion to Platonic Christianity was perfectly consistent with his Reformational stance. "Well, I guess even Plato can be redeemed—I don't see any harm in that," she said.

New look for East Campus

by George Stupidhead
Staff Hunk

Bad news for next year's West Hall residents is good news for those in East Campus. The maintenance department has scrapped plans to renovate West Hall, and will instead be combining East Campus into one building. The project will involve putting a glass bubble over all six East Campus buildings.

The West Hall renovations were scrapped when former residents complained that they paid as much to live in the dorm as next year's students will. There were riots in front of the SUB and several staff members had their cars burned.

East Campus buildings C and D will no longer be receiving their scheduled upgrades. Sandra Faber who will be living in building C next year says "it is wrong for maintenance to decide not to make the changes that were promised." "If they don't do the work they were going to they'll get a nice surprise in the maintenance shop, believe me, I work at the dairy," she adds.

Stan Oordt says the improvements will help save Dordt money by keeping heating costs low. "The glass dome will work like a greenhouse," said Oordt. There are rumors about putting a fountain in the middle of the "canyon", but Oordt says that these rumors have no basis. The "ECoDome" will not only provide more comfortable living for East Campus Residents. It will also provide students a place to do experiments they could not do in the current greenhouse.

Even though the greenhouse atmosphere may be ideal for growing certain smokable plants the rules will not change. "There will be no growing of marijuana on Dordt's campus," said Curtis Taylor, who quickly added a reminder to next year's eats campus residents that "they should not throw stones." Anyone caught throwing stones in or around the new ECoDome (East Campus Dome) will be punished severely. Taylor would not say if students would be allowed to sled on the dome in the winter.



Dordt's proposed glass bubble over East Campus would allow students to visit other buildings without bundling up against the cold.
Hunky-dory

Photo by

Wages raised

By Zed Xena
Staff Beautician

The Dordt College business office has just announced a raise in wages for workstudy students effective next year.

The hourly wage will go up from \$5.15 an hour to \$34 an hour.

"Students perform a lot of valuable work on campus, and they deserve to be paid more," says George Van Boll, director of workstudy details.

The decision was made when the board visited last week. "It is very important that students have money to pay for their college expenses," says Melanie Gelderman, a board representative from Nunavut. "We want to get rid of the 'poor college student' myth."

But there is a downside to this raise. Tuition will be going up. Next year, students will be required to pay \$23,456 to take classes at Dordt.

Secret experiment gets loose



Students run from giant bees!

Photo by Run me Over

by Zen Xena
Staff Beautician

Dordt College students ran for their lives yesterday following an outbreak of giant bees.

The bees got out of their

cages in the science building, and all but one was contained to that building. Mass terror resulted and students ran screaming from campus. In all, two hundred students have been stung.

Van Doe knocked over a shelf and found a doorknob.

"I was curious, so I turned the knob—and found another lab," says Van Doe. "It was just like the movies—I am surprised no one has found

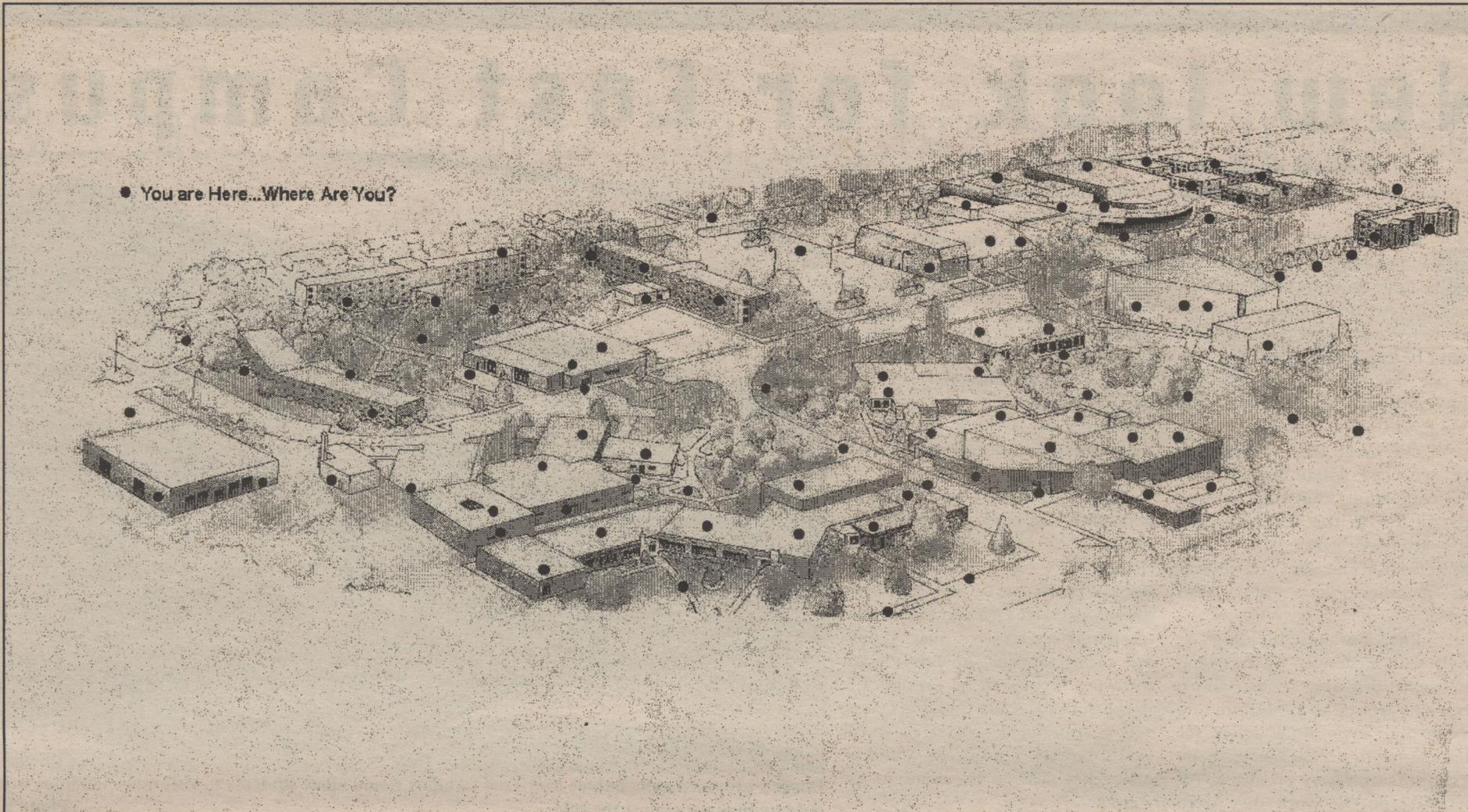
Sioux Center Police responded quickly and evacuated students and faculty from campus. The bees were part of a secret experiment in the Science building, Biology student John Van Doe accidentally discovered the bee hives while cleaning a lab—his workstudy position. While getting a mop from a cleaning closet,

this earlier!"

The lab, complete with lighting to simulate daylight, contained five glass enclosed rooms. Van Doe opened one of the doors, and was stung ten times by the bees. Van Doe is in the hospital now with a strange green rash covering his skin.

"I've never seen anything like this!" says Dr. Fixit from the Sioux Center hospital. "It's just bizarre."

Police say the lab appears to have been in operation since the Science building was erected in 1968. Police are not sure who knew about this lab, but all the science professors have been brought in for questioning. The incident is still being investigated. All classes held in the science building are cancelled for the rest of the semester as a result of this bizarre event.



Overheard

"I know you know reasons why World War I began. You all took Western Civ. Even if you took my Western Civ., you at least got to World War I."
-Dr. H. Krygsman

"I'll take your body now and use your mind later."
-Unnamed Vice President to Registrar

"I'm not usually this vain...oh, well, yes I am."
-Elizabeth Boerema

"I don't know what I'm talking about anyway."
-Prof. Arnold Sikkema

"We should go where our minds go rather than where our pants lead us."
-Dr. Mark Tazelaar

"It's true that some of us as preachers are always right."
-Dr. Wayne Kobes

"Funny. That's probably the first mistake I've made since I started teaching."
-Dr. Wayne Kobes

"If I lived in Mexico, I would live off Mexican food."
-Darrick Van Maanen

Crime wave capsizes college

by M and M
Staff Chocoholic

A wave of criminal activity has been sweeping across the Dordt College campus over the past week, prompting student concern over safety issues. Campus security was alerted late Monday evening when sophomore Jeff Van Roekel discovered his Covenant Hall room covered in various Commons specialties. Said Van Roekel, "I was just getting back from a refreshing eight-hour physics lab when I noticed something peculiar oozing from my room. After easing the door open, I was nearly knocked down by a flood of fried fish wedges, sausage links, and gemelli pasta. I managed to pry a Mr. Rib sandwich off my phone, and immediately called security.

I was amazed at how fast they responded—it only took 107 calls to wake them up."

Van Roekel was not the only one victimized during the week. Several East Hall residents reported finding punctured bovine in their rooms with signs reading, "Hole-y cow, Ag Day is coming!" The Ag Club denies any connection to the event.

On Wednesday, Curtis Taylor was informed by the Sioux Center Police that further criminal activity had taken place outside of Dordt's campus. According to a representative from American State Bank, an armed man wearing a "Southview 403 Rules!" T-shirt approached a teller and demanded \$24,038 in cash. After the teller calmly handed the money over in 25-cent increments, the

vandal pulled back the trigger of his weapon and unleashed a powerful stream of water, screaming, "Gotcha wet! I win! I win!" As of yet, no suspects have been identified.

The sudden outbreak of crime on campus has several Dordt students wondering what they can do to protect themselves. "Lock everything," resident director Linsay Carlson states with a shudder. "Use the buddy system. Don't talk to anyone, especially President Zylstra...I have a feeling he's in on it. Take alternate routes to class and walk backwards to make sure no one is following you. Remember, paranoia is our friend."



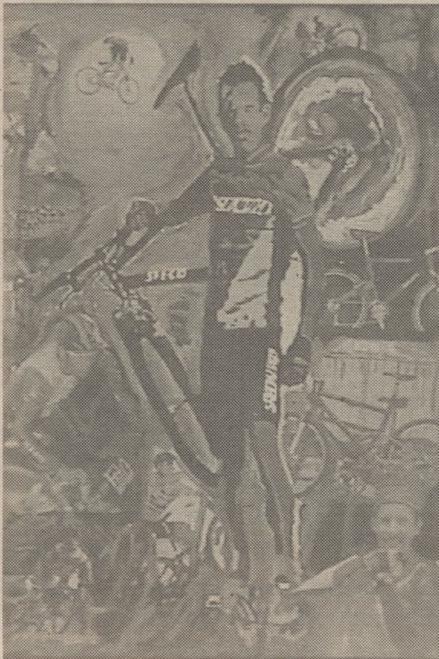
Seniors display results of four years' work

by Allison De Jong
Staff Writer

The senior art majors, who have been honing their art skills for the past four years here at Dordt, had their best works on display in the art gallery in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. From April 12-20 the pieces of Seth Koerner, Andy Stravers, Jamin VerVelde, and Carmen Zonnefeld were on display. As in the junior art show, there was a great variety of media and subjects.

Zonnefeld displayed many color photographs, largely of Scottish architecture and plant life, which were taken during her trip to Europe last summer. She also showed several stoneware pieces, on show, such as "Triangle Teapot" and the tall, slim "Coil Tower."

Stravers' work consisted of black and white photographs, computer-generated designs and acrylic paintings. The photographs display a good use of line and stark contrast between light and dark. His painting "Judas" catches the eye immediately, first of all



"Specialized" is done by Andrew Stravers. [Photo by Joe Trosen]

paintings and used other media as well. His "Self-Promo Proposal" is creatively executed and convincing. In "Untitled," the play of light and unusual perspective make the piece unique.

Koerner's stoneware and Raku pieces stand out as exceptionally well done, as well as his acrylic "Background for a Lizard Display," which gives you the feeling of being in a diorama in a natural history museum. His "Seal Beach" photograph is both playful and amusing, while "This?" makes you question what life is really about.

All in all, the work of these seniors is creative and thought-provoking. Several of their pieces are for sale, as are those of the second senior art show.

This second show consists of the art work of Marja-Lynn Beukema, Elizabeth Boerema, Christina Talstra, Jennifer Tinsley, and Amy Wielinga. Their work is viewable from today, April 22, to April 30. At 7:00 this evening, the artists will be in the art gallery to speak about and explain their pieces.

because of its size, and a closer look reveals intriguing Bible verses and swirls of color. Only when you step back, however, will you notice the cross and the guilty hands holding out the 30 coins, the price of betrayal.

VerVelde concentrated primarily on computer designs but had some acrylic

More Purple Martin Poetry Contest Winners

A Meditation

All lights out; let the house be still.
Let the sleeper lie sleepless in a black night's winter chill.
Let no midday mouth chatter away hours - and make
Each frail glass, clanking plate and clattered bowl stand empty in its place
That it might be filled. Be silent; shut up your clouded windows
Tight, as against a storm. Seal shut your doors, and so free
The coming rush of wind to whisper through.

For the Lord,
The Master of the seeing glass and the open door - He comes:
Mighty winds and tongues of fire mirrored in His eyes.
Snuff out the candle, let no footstep fall, and blind each window
For the Master comes - He comes - even now the wide sound
Of His velvet-heavy tread shivers our thin-made floors
Like distant thunder. His weight should crush roof into foundations.

Be silent - He will speak;
Be still - and His house stands ready.

By Ben Groenewold

"Eleven years old"

On the pulpit, Pastor Schooly's
body shakes with emotion.
I watch his mouth—
two thin lines forming a circle
which breeds jitters
of worshipful words.
The O gets little, then big
and is saliva-laced.

Mama's eyes glisten with tears
as she and my sister and I
delicately drink in each word.

People stray from their pews
and dance up and down the
aisles.
They wildly affirm their right
to enter His gates with thanks-
giving in their hearts.

A jumble of alien mutterings
burst from the man in front of
me.

Students perform student-written One-Acts

by Mitch Beaumont
Staff Reporter

'Tis the season for drama. Dordt's drama department is in the midst of a three week run of performances featuring one-act plays and a production of "Romeo and Juliet." Finishing this three week stint will be the production of four one-act plays directed by senior Josh Buys. The four plays will be shown Friday and Saturday in the New World Theatre.

The four plays were written by Dordt alumni Henry Bakker, junior David Schaap and senior Brian Wisselink.

Allow me to whet your appetite for this "evening of original theater" as Josh Buys calls it. The first play by Schaap is called "A Hole in the Desert." Three people are driving in a winter wonderland and hit a man with their car. "This play is eerie and has a Fargo type feel to it," says Buys.

The second play is called "1329A" and written by Bakker. The title is confusing;

it refers to an apartment number. This play is about two guys living in Sioux City together. One pursues a girl and has to figure out what he wants to do in that relationship.

The third play is called "Kim the Waitress" and was also written by Bakker. A husband and wife who are having financial difficulties decide to roll a neighbor's car for insurance money.

The fourth and final play is called "In a Forest," by Wisselink. A group of people get into a car accident and end up in a forest and don't know where to go. The actors in these plays are also Dordt students. They are freshman Josh De Groot, senior Joanne Kim and sophomore Justin Westerhof.

Overall the plays promise to be very interesting and enticing. Venture into the New World Theater in the classroom building either Friday or Saturday night, and support your fellow students in something that has never been done before, a night of nothing but original theatre.

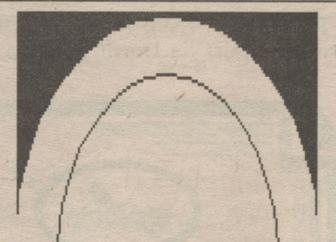
His words are fueled
by the clamoring music;
louder louder, faster faster,
until he who has a gift that I do
not, collapses to his seat
still sputtering unfamiliar
sounds and mopping his wet
brow with a yellowed hankie.

Pastor Schooly is still up front
with tears streaming down his
cheeks.

He cries out "Praise Jesus!"
"Praise Jesus!" "Praise Jesus!"
The pretty piano player
tirelessly plays tune after tune.

I desperately want to feel
what Pastor Schooly is feeling
and have no idea
that he and the piano player,
as one flesh,
passionately praise Jesus at
night together
after everyone has left the church

By Melissa Phaneuf



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Defenders battle opponents, weather

by Craig Broek
Sports Reporter

Sioux Falls 1, Dordt 0

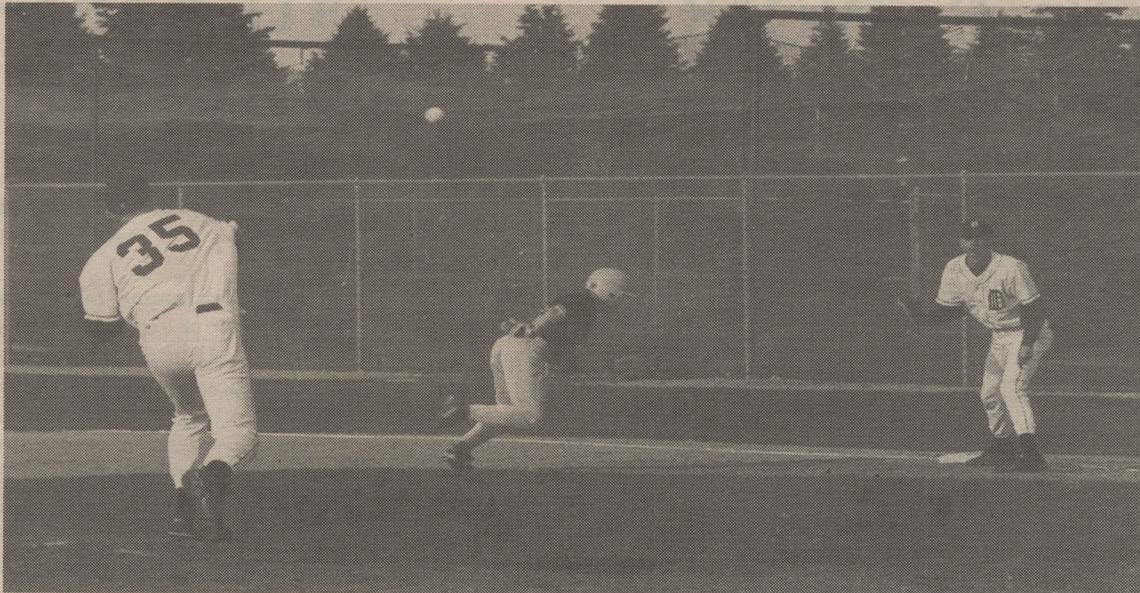
After dropping their first two conference games to SDIC favorite Mt. Marty, Dordt traveled to Sioux Falls to take on the Cougars. On a cold blustery day, pitching dominated as both teams struggled to score in the opener. Dordt pitcher Dan Blom allowed only three hits all day, but gave up a clutch two out RBI single to Sioux Falls in the bottom of the sixth to score the only run of the game. Bloom took the hard-luck loss on the mound as Dordt's conference record fell to 0-3.

Dordt 6, Sioux Falls 0

In the second game, the Defenders jumped out to an early lead in the top of the first. That would be all they needed. Kevin Van Otterloo hit a three run homerun in the top of the first, and Dordt added three more the rest of the way to take their first conference victory with the score of 6-0. Mike Moorlag picked up the win, shutting out the Cougars on three hits in the seventh innings. Tim Roose was also 2-3 at the plate with two RBIs for Dordt.

Dordt 7, Sioux Falls 3

The following Monday, Sioux Falls came to Dordt for a double header. Mike Bruxvoort was sent to the mound in the opener. He received some early run support as Dordt got two in



Scott Den Hartog waits for pick-off throw from Ryan Lefever. [Photo by Travis Bonnema]

the first, and four in the second to take a 6-1 lead en route to a 7-3 victory. Bruxvoort went the distance, allowing three earned runs and striking out seven. Craig Broek was 2-3 with two RBIs to pace the team offensively.

Sioux Falls 6, Dordt 5

The second game looked like more of the same early on as Dordt jumped to a 4-0 lead, but Sioux Falls broke out in the top of the fifth, scoring five times to take a 5-4 lead. Dordt tied the score in the bottom of the sixth, and thought they had the game won in the bottom of the seventh, but a controversial call forced an extra frame. Sioux Falls pushed a run across in the top of the eighth, and Dordt took the loss,

6-5. Van Otterloo took the loss in relief of Broek, who only lasted four innings.

Dordt 8, Briar Cliff 7

The next day, Briar Cliff came to town to complete the season series. The scheduled double header was changed to a single nine-inning game, and it looked as though Dordt came ready to play. After jumping out to a 5-0 lead in the first, the Chargers chipped away, before finally taking the lead in the sixth, 6-5. The Defenders added two in the bottom of the inning before Briar Cliff tied it again in the seventh at seven all. Neither team could score until the bottom of the 11th when Dordt

came through. Dave Dreesen led off the inning with a scorching double to center. Scott Den Hartog was intentionally walked to set up the force, and Ryan Lefever popped up a bunt attempt for the first out of the inning. Beau Bosma then bunted the runners over to second and third, recording the second out of the inning. Broek was then sent in to pinch hit and grounded the second pitch to right field to score Dreesen with the game winner. Lefever picked up the win in relief, throwing nine innings, allowing four runs. The victory was Dordt's first in nearly five years against Briar Cliff.

Dakota Wesleyan 10, Dordt 5

Dordt continued its conference work versus Dakota Wesleyan at Mitchell, South Dakota. The Defenders looked good early, scoring once in each of the first three innings and two in the fourth to take a 5-0 lead. However, Wesleyan Chipped away and the Dordt bats were silent as Wesleyan scored ten unanswered runs to take the 10-5 victory.

Dakota Wesleyan 17, Dordt 7

In the second game of the day, Dordt was unable to hold the Wesleyan bats at bay as they had an answer for every Dordt run. Eventually DWU outran Dordt and took the 17-7 six inning victory. Moorlag took the loss on the mound. The loss put Dordt at 2-6 in conference play, and 4-17 overall.

Season Statistics

Dordt is led so far in batting by Broek who has a .435 average. Roose isn't far behind hitting at a .410 pace. Roose also leads the Defenders with 16 RBI. Van Otterloo has 15 RBI and Broek ten. Bosma has tallied 17 runs scored. Roose also has ten doubles.

On the mound, Bruxvoort leads the team with two pitching wins, followed by Moorlag and Lefever each with one. Lefever has the lowest ERA at 4.20. Bruxvoort leads the team by striking out 23 hitters followed by Moorlag with 12.

Bad weather not spoiling team's play

by Eric Vander Kooy
Sports Reporter

Due to bad weather, one double header was canceled and another postponed. The one postponed will be made up later on Saturday. Coach Draayer believes that these two games, against Sioux Falls, will determine if Dordt will add another SDIC trophy to their collection. The last time these two teams met, they split the two games.

Coach Draayer is liking what he sees from his freshmen. Dordt's team starts five every game. The team is playing well and growing more confidence. The coach is pleased with the improvement in hitting, team hitting just under .300, and the solid defense. The Lady Defender miss the service of Angie Oostenink, who is still in a walking cast but it will be up to the freshman to fill in the gaps.

Tri-Angular

Dordt took part in the Tri-Angular match

up instead of taking part in the Northwest Iowa Classic which was rained out. The team played two non-conference games in which they came up a little short both times. Dordt lost to Briar Cliff 0-4 in the first game and to Northwestern 5-6 in the second.

Conference Play

On April 12, Dakota State came to town and left empty handed. In the first game, Wendy Poppema pitched 6 shutout innings with 5 strike outs to lead Dordt to a 7-0 victory. Dordt was lead by the swinging of Faith Baas (1 for 3 with 3 runs) and Heather Van Kooten (2 for 4 with 2 RBI). In the later game, it was Dordt again that came out ahead. Down 1-3 in the fourth, the Defenders came back with some good hitting behind the efforts of A.J. Poppema (2 for 4, 2 runs) and Darci Bouma (2 for 5, 2 runs, 2 RBI).

Dordt came to play against Dakota State. Draayer was pleased with the team's hitting. In the two games combined, Dordt accounted for 21 hits.



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Tracksters beat weather



Mark Buwalda takes off in a triple jump attempt in Sioux Center on April 12. [Photo by Joe Trosen]

Men's 4X800 qualifies for Nationals in West Palm Beach, Florida

by Jocelyn Van Beek
Sports Reporter

On Monday, April 12, Dordt hosted their Invitational Meet at the Sioux Center Athletic Field. Five schools competed at this meet: Dordt, Buena Vista, Northwestern (IA), University of Sioux Falls, and Wayne State.

Both the men's and women's teams finished very well with the men placing second and the women tying for first with Buena Vista.

The women took first place in three events at this meet. Erica Ton took first place in the triple jump, Jill Starckenburg took the pole vault, and Cathy Palmer won the 400 Meter Run.

The men also finished first in three events: Troy Cok in triple jump, Jeff Summerhays in the 1500 Meter Run, and

Ron Kingma in the 800 Meter Run. In addition to these first place finishes, a number of others contributed to the team scores.

On Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, Dordt participated in the Sioux City Relays. They put in some very good performances against the 16 other colleges and universities that competed.

The men's 4x800 team (Jeff Summerhays, Jon Dekkers, Jim Dekkers, and Ron Kingma) placed third with a time of 7:46. This qualified them for the NIAA National Meet in West Palm Beach, Florida next month.

The women's team ran a record-setting relay at this meet. The 4x200 team consisting of Julie Rouw, Jackie Eekhoff, Erica Ton, and Liz Dykstra broke a 1977 Dordt record with a time of 1:48.80. Dordt excelled at this meet with many other relays and individuals placing.

Tennis suffers tough losses

by Livija Shannon
Sports Reporter

Down, but not out, the Dordt men's tennis team returned from Storm Lake and a meet against Buena Vista on April 7 with a tough loss (0-9). Sophomore Mark Van Klompenburg made a valiant effort, but even "Klomp" was unable to get a win. The story was repeated the next day by the women's team, taking on Northwestern on Big Red turf. Rain kept the meet indoors and apparently dampened the women's spirits. Dordt came away with a 0-9 loss.

The news didn't get any better on the 9th. The men played Martin Luther, but were unable to pull out any winning scores. A close game from senior Greg Van Heyst and tough doubles from "Klomp" and junior Joel Visker just were not enough. Following that lead, the women faced USD on the 12th. Sure enough, in spite of perfect weather the score did not favor Dordt's team. Junior Ann Dykstra scored a win in number one singles, and sophomore Lisa Lubbers

defeated the number five player, but their efforts were swallowed in the 2-7 loss.

The men continued the streak on the 13th against Sioux Falls. Sophomore Pete Gesch teamed with Van Heyst for a winning game of doubles, but the rest of the team could not stay on top. Strong play from most of the men in singles: Van Heyst, and junior Jeremy Van Beek, and in doubles: Van Beek and freshman Wade Halma. With season records of 0-5 for the men and 0-3 for the women, the tennis teams prepared to host SDSU at home this past Monday.

You can't blame SDSU for trying. The SDSU women brought only two players, forcing them to forfeit the meet. But the women from South Dakota outlasted the Dordt players, taking two singles and a doubles in spite of sophomore Heather Johnson's tenacity in singles and a strong come-back from freshman Jodi Blauwkamp and junior Livija Shannon in doubles. The SDSU men also came on strong, handing Dordt a 1-8 loss. Van Beek took home the only win of the day with a tie-breaker.

The season ain't over til it's over, and it ain't over yet. Last night sent the men to play at Northwestern. The weather sent them inside, which limited the playing time. All three doubles teams gave up losses to Northwestern. In singles, men went three for three. "Klomp," Gesch, and Halma all overcame their opponents.

The women host Northwestern's women at 3pm today. Both teams will be headed to the Sioux Falls tournament for the weekend before heading into the final week of the season. The women finish with a meet against Martin Luther on the 27th, and they're looking for a win on the road. The men have one more meet at home, hosting Buena Vista on the 28th at 3pm.

Special recognition to Visker, who finishes the season at number one men's singles. An accomplishment in itself, Visker couples this with his position as coach of the women's team. Check your Signet next fall for the final standings, and be ready next year when the Dordt teams return, ready for some serious tennis.

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When will the bombing stop?

by Suzi Goudzwaard
staff writer

The NATO bombing continues in Kosovo. Last week, a convoy of refugees, mistaken for a Serbian military convoy, was bombed. Several of the refugees were killed, many others were injured, and any possessions they were allowed to bring with them were destroyed.

Kosovo Albanians are losing not only their homes and family members, but also their citizenship and identity. As the Serbs force them out, they burn everything the Albanians find their identity in—passports, other citizenship papers, money, homes and farms as well as taking away the men and filling up mass graves with their bodies.

Ethnic Albanians from other countries, including the U.S., have

begun their own migration to Kosovo. They are flocking to this devastated section of Yugoslavia in order to join the Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA). Why? A 16-year-old ethnic Albanian girl says, "I've seen my sisters getting raped and little children getting killed so I decided to come. Of course I'm ready [to die]." The Albanians who are coming from other countries don't want Americans or NATO to fight because the Kosovo Albanians are their people. "Our fight is right and we're going to win."

Christians are taking both sides. Some say NATO is right. We won't allow for a whole people to be ousted from their homes and slaughtered. It's not right. It wasn't right when Hitler led Germany in the ethnic cleansing of the Jews and it's not right now. We must act so that Milosevic and the

Serbian will be stopped. We can't allow for this mass killing.

Other Christians are questioning NATO's actions. If we have a right to intervene in Yugoslavia, then do we have a right to intervene in Sri Lanka, in order to protect the Hindu Tamils? Should we begin bombing Israel on behalf of the Palestinians? Why haven't we bombed the Congo in support of the Tutsis? Why have we stayed silent as ethnic Georgians are killed in Abkhazia? And why have we withheld intervention as Christians are slaughtered in Pakistan if we insist on defending the Albanians of Kosovo?

Does America have a right to start intervening into any and all other countries? How far can we, or NATO go? And when will the bombings finally stop?



Two people work in a Chinese market in conditions that would be considered unlivable in the US. [Photo submitted]

Our problem with white supremacy

by Emily Hutten
Staff Writer

"Let's face it—they are like that. They will move in with their fourteen cars and twenty kids, and things will change around here. That's the way they are."

This comment speaks volumes. Several nods and affirming glances convinced me that racism is a problem on our campus. The biggest part of the problem is we think we don't have to think about it. Racism is not our problem. We can live our lives blind to our own racism.

I struggle with this same

attitude. When I walked down the streets of south Chicago this summer it was very hard for me not to put blame for the problems I saw on the people living in the midst of them. I knew the history lived by African-American people in Chicago how their lives were greatly affected by this past, but I did not know how to respond to their problems. It seemed to me that if they worked together and fought against these problems life would be so much better for them.

We are privileged. To be white is to be the standard—our

entire society is based on white assumptions of superiority. Power, progress, and success have been defined by white men. To be American is to be white, and throughout the development of this nation we can see that to be white is to be human.

This is harsh. Racism is a harsh reality that we need to begin to understand. To say that racism is a minority problem blames the victim for the offense. Consider the Albanians who are living in terror of ethnic cleansing. How different is the reality of racism in America?

We want others to stand on

their own ground, just as we stand on ours. Yet, have we considered the ground we are standing on? White men believe that they have succeeded on account of their own work, that they stand on their own ground. White men stand on the heads of colored men, women, and children, and on the heads of their own white women. This is white supremacy.

White supremacy shapes our view of the world. It is time for us to start changing the focus of our eyes. We need to talk with each other about what it means to be white, and how our white-

ness brings us to blindness. We cannot blame others for the problems caused by racism. Racism is a white problem—we are the oppressors.

Knowing we are the source of the problem carries with it responsibility. We need to be willing to change. As Derek Perkins challenged us during his visit to our campus this week, we must begin to experience the life we have forced others to experience. It is our responsibility to talk together, to help each other see our privilege. We need to teach each other the truth—that racism is our problem.



Children in an Indian slum are some of the people in the world that suffer greatly. [Photo submitted]

Closing remarks from world commentary staff

by Emily Hutten and
Suzi Goudzwaard
Staff Writers

We began this page with the intent of informing and raising awareness of current world issues on our campus. We wanted to inform you about what was going on in the world, we also wanted to challenge you to see more of our world. We wanted to find out who the Taliban are and why the Afghani women are imprisoned in their homes. What is the situation faced by women laborers? How prevalent is religious persecution today? What about the crisis in Kosovo?

We know that we did not offer any answers to these ques-

tions—we simply touched on events and issues. Yet, we hope that through our questions we helped you to see that these issues are relevant. We cannot ignore them. We cannot overlook the persecuted Christians, the oppressed women, or the tortured Albanians.

We are convicted that we must be engaged in the world. As many have said, we must seek to hold the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other. If we do this we will have questions, huge questions and we will not find answers. We will not find the absolute rights or wrongs—the issues are too great, the problems too complex, and

the pain too deep.

We will find pain, but in asking questions we will also find community. We hope that our articles have helped you to see our connection with the women in Afghanistan and the Albanians in Kosovo. We are together creatures called to bring praise to our Creator. And somehow, though we know very different realities, we are connected in our creatureliness. Together we are reflecting His image.

Keep reading the newspaper. Keep engaging in God's Word. And together challenge each other to hold both in our hands.