

THE DORDT COLLEGE

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VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 6

DORDT COLLEGE, SIOUX CENTER, IOWA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1991

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One act plays this weekend

One Act Plays This Weekend by Sharon VanderKruk

The little black room in the classroom building is once again filled with scurrying bodies busily preparing for this weekend's shows. Madra Funderburg, a senior, is directing *The Attack of the Moral Fuzzies* and Michael Partridge, a sophomore, is directing *Electric Roses*. Both one-act plays run approximately twenty minutes. They will be performed this Friday, Dec. 6 and Saturday Dec. 7 in the New World Theatre at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are being sold at the box office for \$1.00 each.

Attack of the Moral Fuzzies is a lively piece about a game show called Morality Made Easy. The

play addresses the issue of making quick decisions and feeling good about yourself. (Be prepared for audience participation.)

Electric Roses is a plain simple story about rural Nevada folk. The play shows the consequences of love and relationships. Each actor/actress reveals different aspects of what they think love is. The play addresses the problem of abuse, something we don't usually talk about.

The light and energetic game show setting of *The Attack of the Moral Fuzzies* compliments *Electric Roses*, a more serious and tightly formed story. Both plays promise to be a fun hour in the theater.



photo by Jeff De Boer

Actors and actresses for the one-acts practice for their upcoming performances.

Coming next issue . . .

- ❖ Find out the details on the Studies Institute. What is it for? Who works there?
- ❖ Catch up on the basketball teams' Christmas tours.
- ❖ Find out the enrollment changes with the beginning of the new semester.
- ❖ Students speak out regarding what on campus needs improvement.
- ❖ Check out the interim editor's debut.

Look for these articles and much more in the Jan. 30 *Diamond*!



Nature comes alive

By Julie DeBoer

Calvin Jones, a talented young pianist, will visit Dordt's chapel Sunday, Dec. 8 at 9 p.m. to share some of his beautiful pieces with the campus.

At an early age, Jones discovered a love for improvisation of classical piano pieces. Shortly after graduating from college, Jones finished and released his first album, "Through High Places." Jones has also pro-

duced a second album, "Coming Home" more recently, with a Christmas theme.

Jones' inspiration comes mostly from personal experience. His music reflects the beauty of the mountains and the overwhelming love with which the wonders of nature were created. Holiday memories of the Jones' home resulted in pieces inspired by such classical musicians as Vivaldi and Handel.

Dorhout to perform organ recital tonight

by Erica Winters

What will you be doing tonight at 8:00 p.m.? Well the place to be is in the chapel to hear an inspiring evening of music performed by Bret Dorhout. Dorhout is a fifth year student at Dordt. He has a B.A. in Music Composition and this recital will complete the requirements for his organ performance major.

Dorhout has been accepted at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and plans to attend there next fall. Eastman is ranked one of the best music schools in the world



photo by Jeff De Boer

Bret Dorhout practices for his final organ concert at Dordt.

so it is an honor to be accepted into their organ program.

The program tonight has a wide variety of music from different time periods and styles. Dorhout will be performing two contrasting Christmas pieces. One was written in the 20th Century by Hakin, and the other is an 18th century piece by D'aquin. He will also be playing important music from Bach, Buxtehude,

Rheinberger, and Saint-Saens. Take an hour out tonight and treat your ears to a feast of music.

Schizophrenia not the issue

Dear Editor,

I appreciate Beryl Hugen's letter in the Nov. 14 issue of the *Diamond*. His thoughtful evaluation of *The Boys Next Door* helps the college community carry on meaningful dialogue about theater.

However, I disagree with Mr. Hugen's analysis of the play. "The most distressing aspect to me," he says, "was the association the play made between the disease of schizophrenia and poor parenting." The portrayal of Barry, asserts Hugen, communicates the idea that schizophrenia is caused by poor parenting. "If the viewer doubted the connection, the scene wherein his drunken father physically and verbally abused him [Barry] left no doubt as to what caused his difficulties."

Mr. Hugen's evaluative approach is appropriate for a case study or a piece of naturalistic literature—however, *The Boys Next Door* is neither. It's a story about a social worker and his four clients—all of whom are searching for acceptance in the eyes of others. Griffin makes this most clear in the form of the play. He chooses against all the typical cause-and-effect, natu-

ralistic playwriting techniques: realistic use of time and place, emphasis on heredity and environment for character development; and strict, chronological plot development.

Instead, Griffin chooses expressionism (ballet, senate speech, and train route to Russia); epic theatre (Jack's speeches to the audience); and realism (like Mr. Klemper's abuse of Barry). Griffin skillfully uses all three in order to help us feel what the play is about: the need all we humans share—finding acceptance in the eyes of others. When we don't find it, because of a broken romance, death, physical disability, emotional disability or whatever—we hurt.

Griffin's portrayal of Mr. Klemper helps us feel some of that hurt. When Klemper enters, what we see is not a 19th century, melodramatic monster—and certainly not the sociological "cause" of his son's illness. Rather we see a victim—ill-mannered and unstable, yes—but a victim, a troubled man. He lacks one arm and reports that people take advantage of him because of it.

Later Klemper talks about his

earlier life with a wife who wouldn't talk to him, and a son who couldn't talk to him. Influenced by alcohol and self-pity, Klemper tries to make things right in his lonely, one-armed world by forcing Barry to talk. His technique fails badly. Klemper slaps Barry twice and throws him once. But as soon as he hears Barry cry, Klemper breaks away, apologizes three times, and excuses himself—all the while complaining that his wife loved Barry more than life itself—a love, Klemper feels she should have shared with him.

The scene is not about the sociological "cause" of schizophrenia, but about people who hurt themselves and hurt each other when they're unable to meet each other's needs. As a playwriting technique, Griffin uses the violence to bring the father/son conflict to a conclusion. The violence is not portrayed as the "cause" of the illness, but rather, as an event which is able to "trigger" Barry's withdrawal because he is ill. And such a portrayal so sociologically credible—at least according to a number of authors in Dordt's library (in publications as recent as 1990) . . . and accord-

ing to Jack, Griffin's social worker.

If Griffin suggests "causes" of disabilities anywhere in the play he does so only indirectly through Jack. In one of his "epic" speeches to the audience, Jack relates a conversation in which his ex-wife asks about his job security.

Jack: "What will you do when they [the 'boys'] don't need you anymore?" she asked. "They'll never not need me anymore," I replied. "Who made that rule?" she asked. "God," I said.

In the speech Jack suggests two things regarding causes.

- 1). disabilities are simply part of life—caused by chance or nature or God or whatever; the exact cause is not Jack's concern—the point is that there always will be people with disabilities; and
- 2). these people always will need the help of professional caretakers.

However, my lengthy letter still does not address Mr. Hugen's last concern:

"It further pains me to think that when your viewers encounter families where a person suffers from schizophrenia, that this the image of parental abuse is what they will remember."

While I appreciate Mr. Hugen's concern, I don't share his fear. From my perspective, the audience understood the story; and the story will not "cause" them to misunderstand the parents of schizophrenic children. But my view may be incorrect—possibly other readers of the *Diamond* may choose to join this dialogue and provide greater clarity. What is clear, however, is that Mr. Hugen's letter is a good one: it promotes thoughtful dialogue about the nature and function of dramatic art within the Christian community.

— Verne Meyer

Common ground binds differences

Dear Editor,

I wish to respond to Thomas Wova Rogers' article *Nigger: at Dordt?* printed in your last issue. As I read the article, I felt a sense of shame and of guilt come over me. I felt a sense of guilt because I failed to see the needs of a friend.

Yet, my sense of guilt moved me to think further about how many times I failed to see the needs of the people around me, but, especially the needs of the international students here at Dordt.

In everyday encounters, I believe Dordt students do a good job of accepting the people from other countries. When it comes to **interacting** on a personal level, however, we tend to fail. We tend to feel like we've have an obligation to be nice, but we really do not share their joys, their frustrations, or their needs. In short, we fail to **know** who they really are.

Some students feel they cannot relate to international students because they are somehow too different. They feel they don't share a common culture. They feel they

don't share the same perspective on issues. Some students don't know how to help them because they cannot relate to where the international students are coming from.

Common ground between people does **not** begin by looking for differences. Differences between people can always be found due to the wonderful and unique way God created every one of us. He did give us differences, but we have to remember we are all made one through Him. Common ground begins in Jesus Christ himself and the faith we all share in Him.

Sure, we cannot relate to what it feels like to be thousands of miles away from home or to not be able to go home for a weekend or for a Christmas break. We can, however, invite international students into our own homes and share what we do have. We can be friends. We can open our hearts and our lives.

Who knows, maybe we can find common ground if we all try to understand each other better.

—Julie Bergsma

To reform or not to reform: that is the question

Dear Editor:

Jim De Young's letter to the editor (Nov. 14) was timely and struck just the right note. Jim made the appropriate distinction between the word "reformed" as referring on the one hand to a denominational affiliation, and on the other to a particular confessional and worldview perspective. That is an important distinction. Dordt College is not an ecclesiastical institution. This being "reformed" at Dordt College is not so much a matter of being a member of a Reformed denomination, as it is of living out a Reformed worldview.

Jim's distinction notwithstanding, there are still voices of dissent. How can he say that the Reformed perspective is the best Christian perspective? Isn't he being dogmatic, ungracious, and just plain unloving toward other ways of being Christian?

It is certainly true that the reformational perspective makes choices and judgments about the nature of truth, and about the nature of obedient life in God's world. That is not to be dogmatic and prejudiced. Making

obedient choices is what growing in the knowledge of Jesus Christ is all about. And I would suggest, it is what Christian higher education is all about. To claim that those choices and judgments peg others as somehow less than fully Christian is to miss the point.

If we are to retire the word "Reformed" what should we put in its place? Those who think that we can carry out Christian higher education from the standpoint of a thoroughly non-dogmatic ecumenicity are not living in the real world. Like everything else, education is always done from a perspective. If it were not Reformed it would be Anabaptist, or Pentecostal, or fundamentalist, or Thomist, or pietistic, or scholastic. the ecumenicity designed into such movements as IVF and YFC is fine for its purpose, **evangelism**, but it does not provide a paradigm for Christian academia. To suggest that it is capable of such is to sell Christian higher education down the relativistic river. Someone recently said that "Christianity's greatest enemy in the affluent West

is...secularism." Well said. The evil of secularism can also be spelled "relativism."

The commitment of Dordt College is that the Reformed or reformational perspective is *biblical* than the Anabaptist, Pentecostal, fundamentalist, Thomist, or scholastic or pietist. And we have reasons for holding to that commitment. The question, then, is not *Why* keep the word "Reformed," but rather *What* does it mean to be Reformed? I know a whole bunch of people who would just love to tell you: the faculty and staff of Dordt College.

I teach theology 101. It is a course in biblical theology, not reformed theology. Yet it is true that I stand there as a committed reformed Christian. And yes, I am committed to the reformational perspective. I am convinced that it is not only biblical, but more biblical (and has the promise of becoming yet more biblical) than any other perspective. I can do no other. And I sincerely pray that those who have hired me would not have it any other way.

—Michael Williams



Season's Greetings on behalf of the *Diamond* editorial staff. We've had a great time producing the student newspaper this semester. Now, we'll take a break to enjoy Christmas joy, catch up on sleep, drink egg nog, and eat plenty (and, on a more personal level, down a few shots of cherry brandy.)

Thank you for your support and interest in the paper. I honestly believe something really good is happening on this campus. People are talking more and the *Diamond* has become an ideal forum for this discussion. This is not a great feat on our part. Rather, this is the way it should be. The Lord willing, things will continue in the same fashion next semester.

Have yourselves a great break. Do something really crazy and read a book while you're gone. Drop all your worries and put the women-in-office bit on hold until the spring. Kiss your lover and smile.

Peace and liberation,

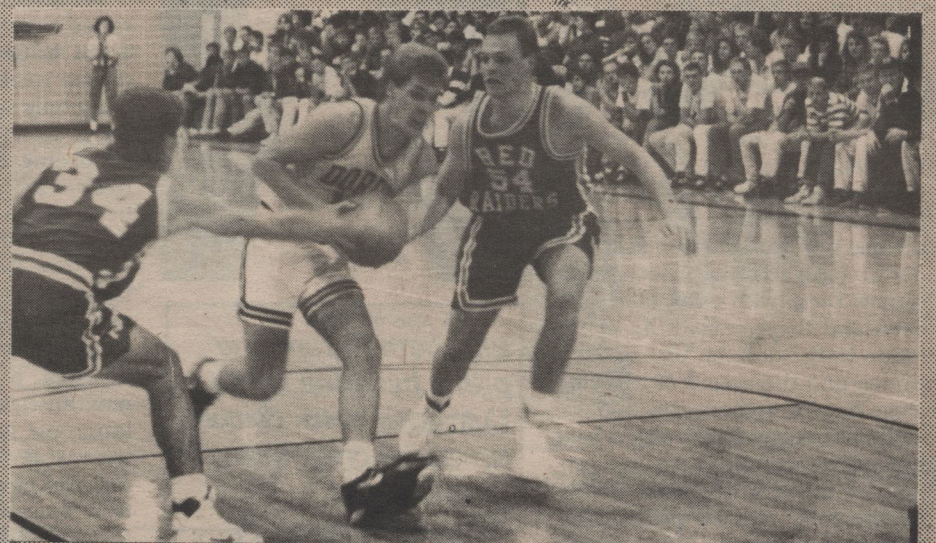


Dirk Schouten

December 4, 1991



A happy, healthy Art Tel works on completing 20 hours of community service after being fined for alcohol possession in November.



Jay Regnerus drives between two Northwestern Red Raiders during the season opener on Nov. 16.

Black or White

Michael Jackson's video a social outcry

By Julie DeBoer

Over the Thanksgiving holidays I had the chance to view the latest of Michael Jackson's visionary triumphs. . .his video "Black or White" (the edited version).

My impression—faaaantastic! Jackson has produced another piece of creative genius with what I feel to be a rather strong social statement. Throughout the entire film consisting of six distinct parts, Jackson expresses one basic sentiment: cultural prejudices, whether they be human rights violations or racial biases, are wrong. He also poses the possible means for a solution, in the form of the next generation.

This is probably most evident in the opening scene. The beginning of the video takes us to a suburban home's second story bedroom, in which a youngster

is head-banging away to some loud guitar music. It is so loud, in fact, that he has managed to draw his father's attention from a baseball game. This results in a confrontation ending with a firm "GO TO BED", and a slammed door resulting in the destruction of a framed Michael Jackson poster. Dad then re-absorbs himself in the baseball game. Yet, before the next pitch, Jr. has set up an electric guitar complete with ceiling-high speakers and cranked the volume. Finally, the scene ends with a disrespectful "EAT THIS," followed by a single note blasting Dad screaming in his easy chair out of the house into the night.

As a means for social change, it is a rather less than palatable solution to represent the coming generation as irreverent, disrespectful and even violent. But, as the video portrays the young-

ster, he must do something drastic to "jolt" the authority out of its complacency. This theme follows throughout the remainder of the video, but adds some terrific visuals.

The body of the video begins with Dad landing in the African desert next to a lion-hunting tribe, which proceeds to dance around Michael Jackson who appears, mirage-like, from nowhere. Jackson then dances across the cultures. First, he is surrounded by the glitz of the Orient; then jams with a select group of colorfully clad American Indians on a platform above fighting cowboys and Indians. He moves on to groove with a Hindu woman between lanes of traffic, and ends up surrounded by kicking Russian cossacks in the midst of a snowstorm before turning into a toy for the amusement of two babies (one black,

one white) who have the world as their playpen.

The transition shows Jackson breaking the Tianenman Square behind him as he sings phrases such as: "I ain't better than you," and "I ain't scared of nobody; nobody's better than me."

A rap section follows with children of every shade striking poses on typical downtown doorsteps. Strong statements are made here, too. The conflict is described as "a turf war on a global scale. . .It's not about races, just places, faces, where your blood comes from; it's where your space is." The solution for the kids—"I'm not gonna spend my life being a color" with hand stroking their faces and offering the residue (of which there is none) to the audience.

The next scene is Jackson on the flame of the Statue of

Liberty, making one last outburst: a suggestion for dealing with a resolution which also hints at the equality of all mankind. He says, "Don't tell me you agree with me when I saw you kicking dirt in my eye."

Finally the video ends with a fun, yet poignant section depicting changing faces of every conceivable color/culture combination. The people evolve imperceptibly from one into another while singing the chorus. Absolutely amazing.

Check out this video even if you doubt the moral and ethical implications involved with MTV and Michael Jackson. A legitimate social outcry is expressed, and it may get the juices flowing for a feasible weakening of the worldly prejudices so prevalent today.

Nutcracker traditionally performed

Dordt students intrigued by ballet art form

by Alisa Siebenga

It all begins with a Christmas party and an eccentric old man. Herr Drosselmeyer brings dolls to life so that they might dance for the children. As a special treat, Drosselmeyer brings the nutcracker to life for Maria. Out of spite Fritz forces the nutcracker to dance too fast, and consequently he breaks. After Drosselmeyer restores the nutcracker to life, the party ends and all go home to rest, except Maria. She sneaks back into the ball room only to watch Drosselmeyer transform the ballroom and make her larger than life. Out of nowhere rats come to attack her nutcracker and are about to overthrow when Maria strikes them with Drosselmeyer's cane and they retreat. As Maria tends to the doll, he turns into a prince and the sound of rejoicing rings out throughout the land.

In the second act, Maria and her prince continue up the garland of the tree, followed closely by the rats. Maria's prince conquers over the rats and celebration follows as the couple is greeted by other dolls high up in the inside of the tree.



photo by Alisa Siebenga
Elizabeth Harano the prima ballerina in the Nutcracker suite demonstrates the gracefulness of the art of ballet.

Maria is transformed back to her original size, beside her she finds her nutcracker and Drosselmeyer. The question

becomes "Was it a dream or perhaps. . ." — well you decide.

In a nutshell that is the story behind the ballet which recently came to Sioux Center. According to Elizabeth Harano, the leading ballerina, "The Nutcracker" that the Des Moines Ballet Association performed was one of the most traditional versions.

For a usual production, preparation time is usually five weeks, eight hours a day, five or six days a week. However, this company only had two weeks to prepare for their performance. According to Harano "the short preparation time was okay because all of the dancers were familiar with the production."

Tim Bootsma, a freshman, thought the ballet was interesting. He liked it except the intermission was too long. Jean Pausma, a junior, thought "the most intriguing part was the body language and how the dancers were able to communicate feeling and emotion with their bodies." Teresa Haro, a sophomore, thought "the diversity was great. We don't often get to see this form of art. It was really fantastic!"

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DC BLUES

Guns, ammunition locked up

by Shelbi Anderson

It was a cold and foggy Sunday night on the Dordt campus. All (well, most) on campus was quiet, yet the campus security force was on patrol. Who are these "campus cops" anyway, and what do they do? Such were the questions on my mind as I followed one of Dordt's own campus cops on patrol. Dordt employs seven full-time and three part-time campus cops, whose duties include locking the art/administration building, the classroom building, and the science building at night (as well as all rooms inside the respective buildings), letting confused—and often desperate students—into building after hours, and, the most time-consuming task of all, letting upperclassmen into the dorms after hours. Campus security is active from about 10:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. with shifts changing at 2:00 a.m.

Campus cops apply to the supervisor of the program, Dr. Kroeze, who chooses the force



photo by Jeff De Boer
Steve Veenstra attempts to unlock the gate.

from the applicants. Although there are no general qualifications, the campus cops are primarily upperclassmen, and the force does include women. Training is provided by former campus cops, who familiarize new cops with the buildings,

which rooms to lock when, and other basics of campus security. The campus cops are not armed, but do carry police scanners to keep in touch with the city police and Dr. Kroeze in case of emergency. For example, when an armed man was allegedly running loose in the area a few weeks ago, the campus cops were informed on the scanner of the situation and were constantly in touch with the Sioux Center police department.

Although Dordt's campus security seems a bit understated compared to colleges in more metropolitan areas—especially concerning the issue of training given to campus cops, Dordt's security seems to suffice. According to the crime records distributed to students at the beginning of the year which boasted Dordt's crime-free status, the campus security plan is apparently sufficient for the college's status as a small Christian college in the middle of rural northwest Iowa.

by Kristen Westerhof

In an unusual move, the administration has decided to change the policy concerning guns on campus. This change is unusual in that policies are normally changed during the summer, not mid-term. But, according to Dean Kroeze, the change was needed, "not necessarily for the owners of firearms, but for those who would come into the owner's room and see them and start 'playing' with them or for people who may want to get at the firearm for some reason."

According to the old policy, rifles and shotguns as well as ammunition could be stored either in trunks of vehicles or in locked closets in the apartments of North Hall or East Campus Resident Directors. Under this policy, no pistols or handguns were allowed on campus—this clause still holds true. If a weapon or ammunition was found, as has occurred three times this semester, it was either locked up immediately or confiscated.

Now, however, all firearms must be registered and be kept in a locked safe in the waiting room of Pastor Draayer's office in the SUB. Ammunition will be stored in a locked cabinet next to the safe. The room will be kept locked when Pastor Draayer is out of his office. Each owner's ammunition will be stored in a padlocked "ammo box." In order to access his/her firearm, the owner must be on an approved list and show proper identification at the switchboard to get the keys to the proper containers. In addition, each firearm must have a trigger lock.

"It's amazing how many people have a relaxed attitude about having firearms so near to them," said Kroeze. The policy began to form after a Hunting Club meeting in which safety procedures were discussed. Kroeze attended this meeting and feels the policy has student support and input. "We're not just slapping it on them," he said. "We feel good about it."

Christmas Spirit

by Juli Kelderman

Dordt's Concert Choir, Chorale and Chamber Orchestra will combine this Sunday, December 8, for their annual Christmas concert. Under the direction of Dale Grotenhuis, the Chorale and Concert Choir will each be performing two numbers and will then join for three additional pieces. Peter Van Ooyen will conduct the Orchestra, and various soloists and

instrumentalists will perform as well.

The program includes selections such as "My Heart Rejoices"—a cantata by Dietrich Buxtehude—sung by the Chorale, "Mary's Little Boy Chile" sung by the Concert Choir, and a new cantata written by Grotenhuis called "A Christmas Celebration," which the combined choirs will sing. Joy Grotenhuis, one of Dordt's private voice instructors, will

be featured as soloist with the Concert Choir, and Joan Ringerwole will be performing an organ solo as well. Piano, organ, violins, flutes, trombones, trumpets, and audience will all take part in accompanying the choirs during the concert. "Concerto VIII, Op. 6" will also be presented by the Orchestra.

The concert begins at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the chapel. A freewill offering will be taken.

Art Exhibit a Collection of Humorous and Serious

by Shelley Westerhof

Jacob Van Wyk, art professor, has an art exhibit in the chapel mezzanine well worth seeing. The show lasts through December 20.

Van Wyk's work is a collection of humorous and serious watercolors, black and white photographs, acrylics, lithographs, and oil pastels.

One powerful abstract entitled "Blind Performer" shows a great use of color. Van Wyk also has a "River View" series of oils showing a placid yet dramatic scene in different lights. "Back Yard," an oil pastel and pencil piece done in 1979, depicts a baby holding onto laundry that is drying on a line outdoors, presumably in the back yard. The piece holds a charming simplicity. "It

oil crayon and pencil drawing of cats and dogs literally raining.

These and many other paintings and Van Wyk's ceramic work are on dis-



photo by Jeff De Boer
Jacob Van Wyk stands with some of his works on exhibit in the chapel.

Hasn't Rained This Way play. Even non-art majors can appreciate his talent. Since '53" is a humorous

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Practically Reformed

by Chuck DeGroat

PRACTICALLY REFORMED: A CHURCH DIVIDED

Sometimes it only takes a phone call home, one in which Mom reports that the church is voting on whether to break away from the denomination. Sometimes it's a Banner article, one that reflects the tremendous sense of conflict people are experiencing within the CRC right now. Whatever your means of recalling to mind the problems of the church, it still is painful to hear. Students from St. Catherines are aware of the realities of division right now, as they are seeing their churches split from the CRC. As well, many parents in Ontario are choosing to send their children to public rather than Christian school, fearing that their sons and daughters would be corrupted more by false doctrine than the pagan spirits at large. All over the United States and Canada, CRC members are debating—dividing the body of Christ.

Many of my friends here have opinions about the issues but we don't lose sleep over it. I don't think John Calvin would lose sleep over it either. Although he had some very definite opinions on the issues causing debate, he also had an opinion about the unity of the church. He says in Book 4, Chapter 1 of the Institutes that "some fault may creep into the administration of either doctrine or sacraments, but this ought not to estrange us from the communion of the church." In other words, we have to bear with doctrinal error, realizing that the church isn't perfect and our opinions are very fallible. These days, I take comfort in J.C.'s words. The guy didn't reduce everything to a mere difference of doctrinal interpretation. Instead, he countered the blatant heresies and those who put forth doctrines counter to the basic creedal beliefs of the reformers. Calvin would roll over in his grave if he saw the church split over issues like women in office and creation/evolution. Doctrines such as these do not border on heresy, but are simply interpretational differences that can be worked out by people who share the same creedal beliefs.

Instead, people today are focusing their every thought and emotion on Synod's upcoming decision on women in office. No doubt people are losing sleep. Dare I say many are probably on the border of nervous breakdowns. These narrow-minded people fail to see the unity we have as reformed Christians, the liberating spirit of the reformation, and the pressing need for renewal outside the church. By focusing on minor doctrinal issues to the point of splitting from the denomination, many CRC members have lost sight of the task of the church—to go out to all nations with the gospel. We spend more time arguing in our living rooms than preaching on our streets.

We are living in a post-Christian era. Instead of majoring in criticism within the denomination, it's time to start pointing it outward to the conflicting belief systems. If you have a doctrinal problem, worship in a CRC that believes as you believe—that has a minister with the sex you prefer. Don't break away, as if the whole nature of truth rests on one issue. Instead, join hands with the unity of the basic beliefs we profess, get out of your easy chairs, and be used by God to redeem his world.

Finally, these things are probably more easily accepted by us as students. I think we have a pretty good grasp on the utter insanity of this church-splitting business. Plus, we're too busy to get emotionally involved. So tell your parents what you think. Write the Banner with your opinions. Demonstrate to others the unity of Christ's body, something we have here at Dordt. Sure, we may write these editorials and debate about certain issues. But, on Sunday morning we attend church together, on Saturdays we dance together, on Fridays we watch movies together, and everyday we study and socialize together. Some of our theoretical divisions don't prevent us from being bonded together as a body in unity—Dutch or Spanish, Black or White, Fat or Skinny, Tall or Short, American or Canadian. Christ ties us all together.

Overheard . . .

compiled by Alida van Dijk

"I love to dress up, and I'd do it a lot more if I could fit into my dress pants."

—An anonymous roommate after eating a chocolate bar.

"I was walking along with a bookful of arms."

—Jamie Bandstra, explaining how he slipped on the ice on his way home from the library.

"College isn't stressful."

—Justin Westerhof, brother of Kristen and Shelley.

"I wonder why God didn't make zits one of the ten plagues!"

—Amy Verhoef.

"It's a small village with a strange Indian name and a lot of Dutch people."

—Dr. Cole Bremer of Bethel CRC in Lansing, IL, describing Sioux Center.

"Get this down. Don't be a clod!"

—Prof. Hodgson, gently encouraging his students to take notes in Physical Science class.

"Men are so unlady-like!"

—Amy Verhoef.

"If you're going to commit suicide, do it to yourself!"

—Madra Funderburg, while describing how to do an improvisation game during play practice.

"That man needs a V-8."

—Kari De Raaf, commenting on Mr. Van Wyk's portrait of himself leaning submitted.

"I'd sleep on the road before I'd sleep with the bride and groom!"

—Sheryl Van Donselaar, about giving the bridesmaids a place to stay on the night of the wedding.

"Well then, let's just chain him to the bed."

—Cathy Branderhorst, suggesting how to force-feed cookie dough to Lyle Van Ravenswaay.

"Even if the buns flop, you can always use them for something else in Canada—hockey pucks!"

—Tricia Kooiker, after watching Canadian roommate making buns from scratch.

"Not only did we have a male in our apartment, he left his underwear on our hide-a-bed."

—Theresa Freese, after a one-year old neighbor boy had left, leaving his diaper on the couch.

"It's as clear as the face on your nose!"

—Sheryl Van Donselaar, in a slightly off-balance state on orchestra tour.

"It's a real problem when you have bigger feet than your boyfriend."

—Sarah Hooyer.

"Shoot! That happened the first time I saw it too."

—Sarah Hooyer, referring to a scene in the movie *Robin Hood* the second time she saw it.



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Blades search for winning combination

by Matthew Beimers

After being swept in the opening games of the young hockey season by the Drake Bulldogs, the Dordt Blades hoped to capitalize when playing a younger, more inexperienced team—the SDSU Jacks. Unfortunately, the Blades were set back twice in last weekend's double-header by a combined score of 21-10. Although the team still has not registered a victory this season, the team's strong practices and intense dry-land training are starting to pay dividends.

"The key to the second game was that we were ready to play a full 56 minutes of hockey," noted Ed Minderhoud, referring to the Blades tough 7-6 loss in the Saturday night rematch.

The Brookings, S.D. team caught the Blades off guard in the opener and romped to a 14-4 victory. Senior Greg VanderTop commented that "a couple of fans gave us a hard time Friday night which caught some of us off-guard, but Saturday we came to play." The boisterous fans and long travel time were all factors in the Blades let down. The team was only down by one goal before they suffered a second period setback in which the Jacks scored 11 straight goals and sealed the victory. The team's frustration was shown in the penalty statistics as three players were given 10 minute mis-

conducts for hitting from behind. Fortunately, no one was injured except the team's on-ice performance.

Saturday night's statistics showed some obvious reasons why the Blades came so close to tasting victory. Minderhoud noted that "we had steady goaltending, the defense picked up the men earlier and all three lines were putting the puck in the net." The two teams were evenly matched for the whole game, evident in the 2-2 and 5-5 ties after the first and second periods. Leading scorer Andy Dykstra said, "we played with them all night long, but we just did not get the bounces going our way."

Up next for the Blades is Iowa State. The first-place Cyclones will be a tough match for the team, but VanderTop joked that "if they still have a lot of turkey in their system it will be a close game." Dykstra also pointed to the Blades history of always playing tough against the Cyclones, saying that "we were not supposed to beat them last year but took them by a score of 4-3." The two teams face-off in Ames tomorrow night and Saturday, thus concluding this semester's games before the Blades will get their full team back next semester for seven straight weekends of intense hockey. The first home game will be against the same Cyclones on January 25.

Men's team starts 2-3

By Joel Faber

The Defender men's basketball team improved to a 2-3 mark Tuesday night with a 98-95 win over Dakota State. With this victory, Coach Vander Berg earned his 200th career victory as the Defender head coach. The Defenders exhibited a balanced attack as five players scored in double figures. Mark Van Gorp led the squad with 26 points and Dave Van Essen added with 22. Craig Veurink and Brian Sipma both came off the bench to score 17 and 14, respectively. Brian Driesen added 13. The Defenders played a solid game and led 52-46 at half time. In the second half they fell behind eight points. The Defenders showed their strong character by fighting back and taking the lead with 35 seconds remaining as Galen Van Roekel sunk two free throws. Brian Sipma secured the victory with a pair of free throws with 16 seconds to go in the game.

vs. Northwestern

The Defenders began the season with a 121-102 loss to a tough Northwestern squad. Driesen scored 22 points and added seven assists. Van Gorp, Van Essen, and Veurink helped in the scoring effort with 17, 14 and 14 points, respectively. The Red Raiders jumped ahead right away and kept the lead with consistent outside shooting and strong defense.

vs. Grandview

The Defenders picked up their first victory of the season with a 95-81 victory over Grandview. Veurink came off the bench to lead the Defenders with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Jeff Zylstra scored 18 and freshman Van Essen added 14 points.

vs. Central College

With a 1-1 record the Defenders traveled to Pella to face Central College. The Defenders were led by Van Essen and Van Gorp who both threw in 13 points and grabbed 15 rebounds in the losing effort. The Defenders fell to a 1-2 record with the 74-56 loss.

vs. Wartburg

On Monday night the Defenders lost a heartbreaker to Wartburg College. Driesen led the Defender attack by hitting seven three pointers, finishing with 25 points. The Defenders were behind 41-38 at half time and stayed close throughout the second half. They pulled ahead on Craig Veurink's two freethrows with 15 seconds to go in the game. Wartburg regained the lead with five seconds left and held on to win.

The team is travelling to Colorado for its Christmas tour.

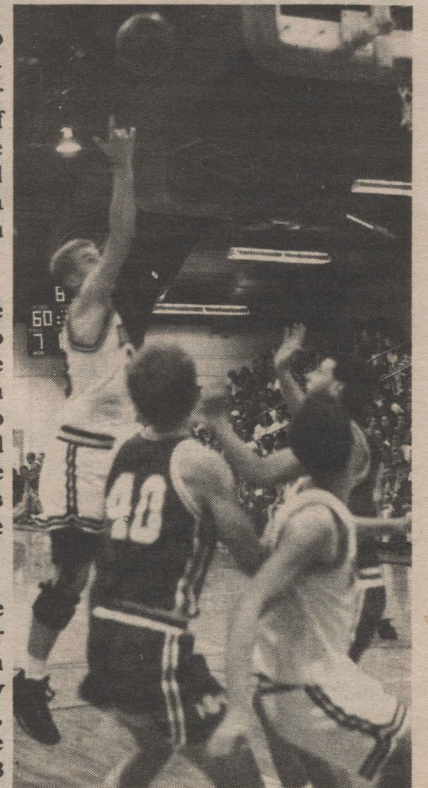


photo by Jeff DeBoer

Brian Driesen goes up for two as Dave VanEssen blocks out one of the tough Northwestern players. The Defenders vs. Red Raiders rivalry continues to draw large crowds from both schools.

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Under a Dordt athlete's Christmas tree

by Air B. Wair

There I was, talking to Santa Rhoda Reindeer as he looked down through his big bushy white beard and said, "Son (He's always been a father-figure to me since Dad shaved his own beard), if I could grant you one wish, what would it be?"

One wish? . . . What could I say? . . . Where would I start? . . . First I'd want to be director of Dordt's athletic program (don't get nervous, Coach Vander Berg!). Then the options would be endless. Could you see Louise yelling at a real zebra on the basketball court? Or Sharon Vanderkruk playing men's soccer (Chris who?)? Or what about Alida van Dijk shot-putting Dan Mennega over the speedbump?—Not an unlikely scenario.

But then I narrowed my aspirations to ten minor events I'd like to see happen this holiday season. . . .

1) Mark Van Gorp and Dave Van Essen combination slam dunking every Northwestern "jock" who decides to take on the Dordt basketball fans. (You have to wonder if he wrote the letter of apology himself or if his mom helped him write it.)

2) Syne Altena chase down Bernie De Witt in the 100m for more funding for the track team. (Well, they get to go away one time a year.)

3) A book by Coach Vander Berg telling us every story he's ever told in PE 10 class. ("One time, Greg Van Soelen jammed from centre. . .")

4) The Dordt Blades hockey club play hockey. . . then to win. . . at least one game. . . this year. (Yeah, all your players are coming next semester, we know.)

5) A survey to determine if the athletic department gets more exercise walking to and from the SUB for coffee or yelling at their teams and students. ("Everyone now, three pushups, two situps and 10 big gulps—black, of course.")

6) If Dean Kroeze will fine the women's volleyball team for winning too many games this season or just make them go to Mark Christians for counseling. ("That's either \$10 for the coffee fund or 10 hours of community service pouring coffee for the coaches.")

7) If Coach Visker actually plays someone in racquetball or if he just walks around looking athletic.—He has me fooled so far.

8) Mr. Koekkoek join the track team. He's been running in the gym as long as he has been teaching (since the 1840's?); and besides, De Witt and Altena need some competition.

9) My mom buy me a basketball for Xmas so that I can try out for the team next year even though the team will probably slam dunk me for thinking something bad that had to do with basketweaving and not basketball.

10) Everyone have a Merry Christmas and remember not to dunk and drive.

Women's basketball team sees action

by Pam De Boer

Basketball action is in full swing for the Lady Defenders. The season began Saturday, November 16, with a trip to Des Moines to meet the Grand View Vikings. Dordt applied a tough full court press and ran their offense well, resulting in the 69-62 win. Lisa Wubben contributed 20 points and Jill Bousema 16.

The following Saturday Dordt racked up a second win in the Corn Palace in Mitchell, South Dakota, against Dakota Wesleyan. The Lady D's overcame a first half deficit that was as large as seven points and held off the pressing Tigers in the second half. Dordt's 58% shooting led to the 91-77 win, with Beth Hollander dumping in 25 points and Tawnia Vander Veen 22, while Wubben pulled in a phenomenal 17 rebounds.

Last Tuesday's home opener against Dakota Wesleyan was

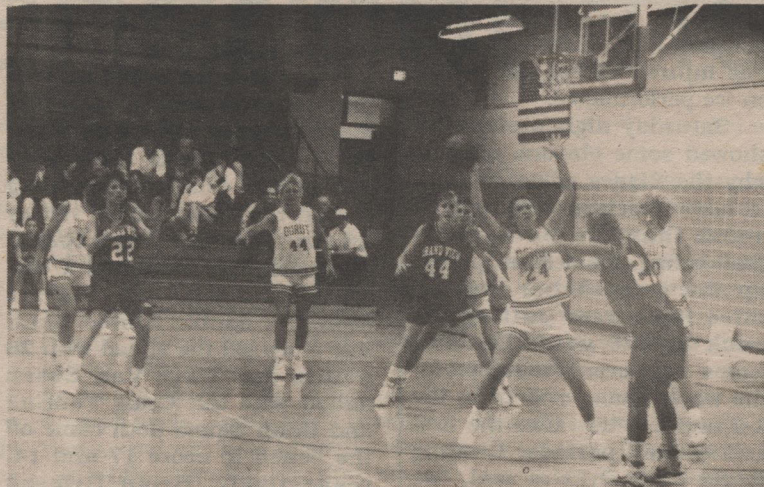


photo by Jeff DeBoer

Lady Defenders exhibit some of the tough defense which will plague opponents all season long

cancelled due to the inclement weather. Thus the home opener took place Friday night in the Dordt gym, also in icy, blowing weather. Grand View's charter

bus survived the trip north, however, so the game was on.

Dordt maybe would have been better off if Grand View hadn't made the trip. After leading 32-

25 at the half, Dordt suffered from a dismal shooting performance and too many turnovers in the second half. With about three minutes left in the game Grand View went ahead to stay, resulting in the 60-65 Dordt defeat. Lou Ann Bolkema had a great game, however, with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Saturday's game versus Wartburg was postponed, again due to the weather, but was rescheduled for Monday night. Dordt traveled to Waverly to meet the tough Wartburg team which has four starters back from last year's 21-4 team. The Lady D's never found their rhythm and ended up losing 50-72. In this game Hollander put in 16 points and Stephanie Bleyenburgh 10.

On Wednesday night the Buena Vista Beavers were scheduled to meet the 2-2 Lady Defenders in Sioux Center.

Sports Comment II

by Matthew Beimers

Time to have a heart to heart talk. (NO APOLOGIES THOUGH!!!) Lets talk about. . .

.basketball and how everybody and their dog totally missed the point of what I wrote. Three thousand people came up to me and said "Those guys deserve that" or "that basketball team wants to kick your butt." Never mind that the article was about women's basketball; that point was totally missed because everyone only remembers those two statements: "Dream on...knock the men's team a little." Because of that, I received lots of phone calls, nice letters, even nicer threats, and was told that coaches not even close to the basketball team wanted to throw me back to Canada (with the rest of the ignorant Canadians.)

Lets get a couple things out in the open. For all those who missed the whole point of the story, it was that the women's team has a good team and we should support them just as

much as we support the men's team. If anybody disagrees with that, then they should read the chapter in the latest issue of *Good Housekeeping* and learn what the word equality means.

Second, the statement about Coach Vanderberg "dreaming on" was disrespectful and for that I do apologize. It sounded nice when we were laughing about it, but obviously was not taken as funny. And, I also apologize to the women's team for writing an article which did nothing more for their attendance because too many people in this world only remember the negative and don't really see what's in front of them: a good team who deserves recognition.

Finally, to the guys basketball team I would just like to say that I do hope you have a successful season, you do win twenty games and that when you play on a basketball team in Northwest Iowa you have to be open to criticism as well as recognition. It's all part of being in the limelight. Have a successful season. DC men and women.

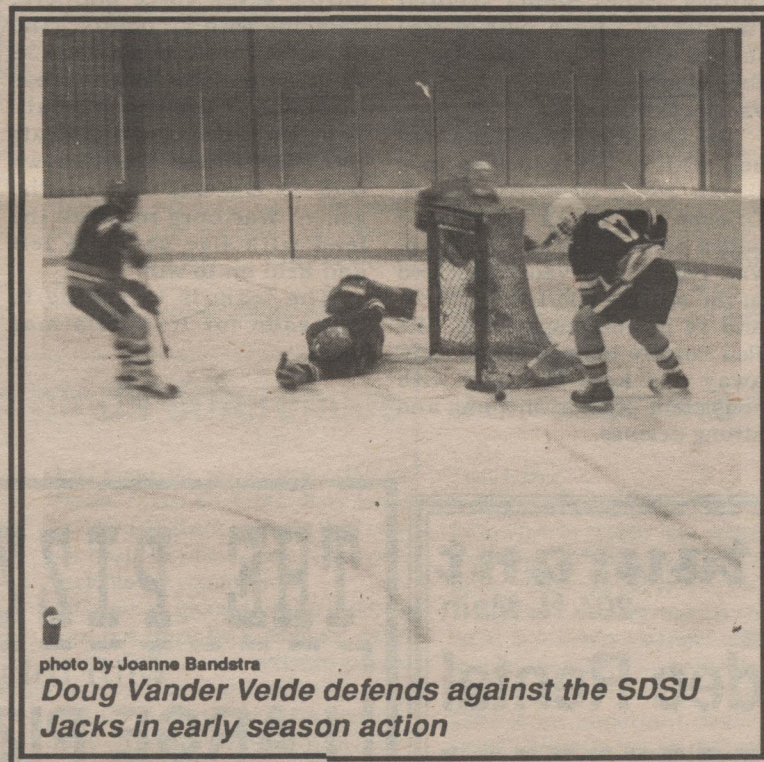


photo by Joanne Bandstra

Doug Vander Velde defends against the SDSU Jacks in early season action

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