

DIAMOND

Volume XXXIV, Number 9

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa

Thursday, February 28, 1991

Lecture series hosts noted speakers

Next week will be full of chances for students to see and hear knowledgeable people speak about relevant issues.

Dordt College will be hosting husband and wife team Dr. Paul A. Marshall and Mrs. Diane Marshall as spring lecturers. Mrs. Marshall will be speaking in conjunction with Dordt College's sociology/social work department.

She will be presenting a lecture, as well as participating on a panel discussion. Her lecture titled "Doing Justice and Showing Mercy to God's 'Little Ones,'" will be on Monday, March 4, at 3:30 p.m.

A panel discussion on child abuse, follow up to Mrs. Marshall's lecture, will be held Monday evening at 7:30 p.m.

The panel will include Mrs. Marshall; Sioux County Attorney Mark Schouten; Dennis Sassman, Director of the Department of Human Services of Sioux and Lyon counties; and Joan Heifner, instructor of social work at Dordt College.

Both events will be held in classroom C-160.

Mrs. Marshall is Associate Clinical Director for the Institute of Family Living in Toronto. She has extensive experience in social work and marriage and family therapy.

Staley offers opportunity

The annual Staley lecture series will continue this year with Staley Foundation Distinguished Scholar Dr. Paul A. Marshall.

Dr. Marshall, senior member in political theory at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto, will give three presentations on Tuesday, March 5, on the subject of politics and human rights.

At 10:20 a.m. Dr. Marshall will give a chapel service address called, "Love and Politics." At 3:30 that afternoon in C-160 his topic will be "In Praise of Human Rights," and at 7:30 p.m., also in C-160, he will follow-up with "In Critique of Human Rights."

Dr. Marshall has contributed to a number of books as co-author or editor and has written many articles on Christianity and politics, modern political theory, and the social sciences.

Focus on the Staley Series

by Daniel Mennega

Staley Foundation Lecture Series. Many believe this annual event is aimed at only the elite intellectuals of the faculty and community.

On the contrary, the Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Program is designed for and aimed at students, Dordt students.

Established in 1967 with the encouragement of Christian leaders Billy Graham and Norman Vincent Peale, the program seeks specifically to involve students.

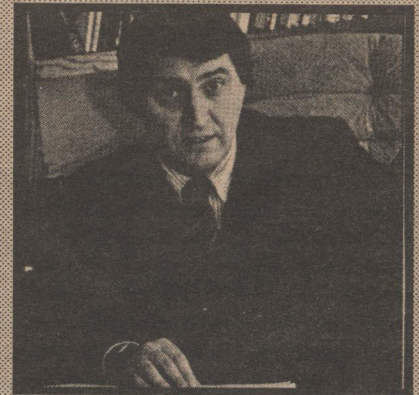
For Dordt, this means getting students to attend the lectures, which are given on topics of direct importance to the Dordt student body.

Mr. Mert Gulker, chairman of the Dordt Staley committee, says that "the Staley Foundation is set up to serve the students and speak to their needs: What are students grappling with? What are their concerns?"

The Staley lectures are also designed to help students become more informed about current issues confronting society.

This year's Staley Foundation Distinguished Scholar is Dr. Paul Marshall, an expert on politics and human rights.

Dordt students may have



Dr. Paul A. Marshall

already encountered him through his textbook, *Thine is the Kingdom: A Biblical Perspective on Government and Politics Today*, used in political science classes with Professor King.

"We talk about a holistic education at Dordt College. Everything should be aimed at training students in a holistic way," Gulker says.

The Staley lecture series is one way this is carried out, he says.

The lectures will be held on Tuesday at 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. in C-160.

Students will introduce Marshall, as well as moderate the question periods following his lectures. "We want the students deeply involved. This is for them," Gulker says.

Lectures

Diane Marshall

Monday, March 4

■ C-160, 3:30p.m.

■ Panel Discussion,
7:30 p.m.

Staley Lectures

Dr. Paul A. Marshall

Tuesday, March 5

■ Chapel, 10:20 a.m.

■ C-160, 3:30 p.m.

■ C-160, 7:30 p.m.

Dordt named in Templeton honor roll

Dordt College is one of three Iowa colleges selected to appear on The 1991 John Templeton Foundation Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges. This is the third year that the Honor Roll has been published, and Dordt College has been chosen for the distinction each year.

Dordt was chosen from among 814 nominations voted upon by 721 presidents and development directors of educational institutions. All four-year, accredited colleges and universities in the United

States are eligible. The 108 schools on this year's Honor Roll represent thirty states.

The John Templeton Foundation created the Honor Roll to encourage the development of moral values in education. The Foundation believes that our country's institutions of higher learning should not only turn out individuals of strong intellect but of strong moral character as well, and they wish to recognize the institutions that do.

In being selected for the Honor Roll, Dordt College in Sioux Center,

Northwestern College in Orange City, and Central College in Pella are noted as schools that make the development of strong moral character among students a priority.

This year 73% of the Honor Roll colleges are church affiliated, as is Dordt College. The average enrollment is 2,703 with Brigham Young University in Utah the largest school (27,000 students) and Gustavus Adolphus in Minnesota the smallest (477 students). Dordt College enrolls approximately 1,000 students.

Dordt students and responsibility

We all want privileges. Is non-campus housing a privilege or a right? Is unrestricted freshmen curfew a privilege or a right?

While examining these questions, some key words apply.

Reliability. Dependability. Trustworthiness. Each is a word for which there are few everyday examples. Yet, they are imperative to good relationships with one another, and influence our responsibility assessment of each other.

Friends have to trust other friends to keep their word about plans for Friday night, or for that matter, any time.

Professors have to rely on students' responsibility and honor for turning in homework and taking tests.

In the working world, the principal of your school will hand you the pink slip if you decide that your second-

grade class can take care of itself for a day. The executive might keep you in the mailroom if you don't finish your envelope-licking.

When do we learn how to be responsible? How do we learn to see something through to

its completion?

Famous literature shows us by way of opposite example.

The friar said to

Romeo, "Yes, Romeo, don't worry about a thing. I'll make sure that this letter reaches Juliet on time." It didn't, so Romeo and Juliet end up dead. How sad.

Or from Dordt College,

A typical Dordt student pledges to himself after receiving first-semester

grades, "I'm going to do better this semester: read ahead, write my research paper in February, study one night of the weekend." But by April the books are dusty and the paper is just an idea.

There are many examples,

and I'm as in need of improvement in these areas as any other. What should we as

"What should we as students do to improve our trustworthiness and dependability?"

students do to improve our sense of trustworthiness and dependability?

If we want non-campus housing and unrestricted freshmen curfews to turn into rights instead of privileges, we have to demonstrate responsibility.

Do you think that

completing assignments on time and keeping your word to your friends doesn't reflect true dependability?

In the parable of the minas (where the master goes on vacation and leaves different amounts of money to each servant), the opposite is illustrated. "Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, I will put you in charge of much," says Jesus.

This time of the semester is tough for everyone—the stretch between Christmas and Spring Break is enormous. It's harder than ever to stay motivated.

But you'll find yourself having more rights, as well as a more relaxed semester, if you stick to your word, set goals and reach them, and get things done on time.

—DM

Students say...

Evaluate how well Dordt meets students' spiritual needs.

"I feel Dordt is doing enough to meet the spiritual needs of its students"

—Sonya Larson, sophomore, Iowa

"From what I see, there is a lot of spiritual growth, yet I probably don't see a lot of things that are going on."

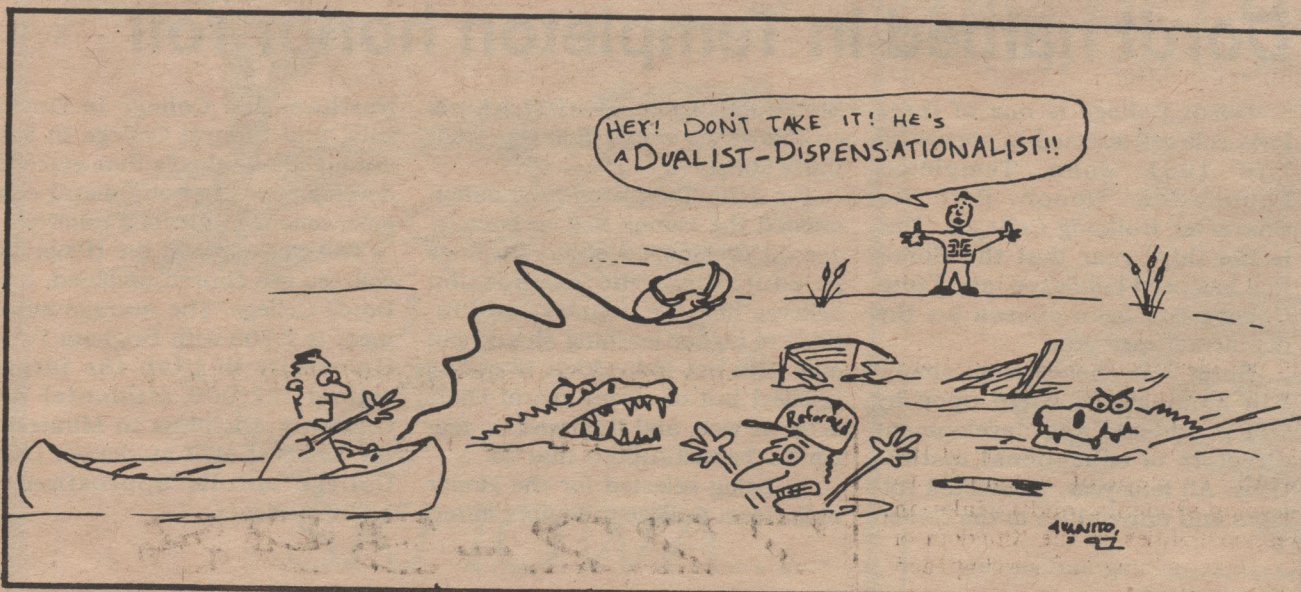
—Lori Mulder, junior, Iowa

"I feel it is fair. I think it could be improved. Students should take spiritual growth into their own hands. Although Dordt isn't totally responsible for its students, the environment sometimes prohibits growth."

—Leigh Roelofs, junior, Minnesota

"I see growth happening in some areas and not in others. It's the student's responsibility to make the effort for spiritual growth; it's not given to us on a silver platter."

—Bob Pollema, junior, Iowa



Diamond

The Diamond is published by the students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond it. Any letters, comments or opinions are welcome. Contributions to the Diamond must be signed and received by the Monday before publication.

Address contributions to:

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Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

The Diamond reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

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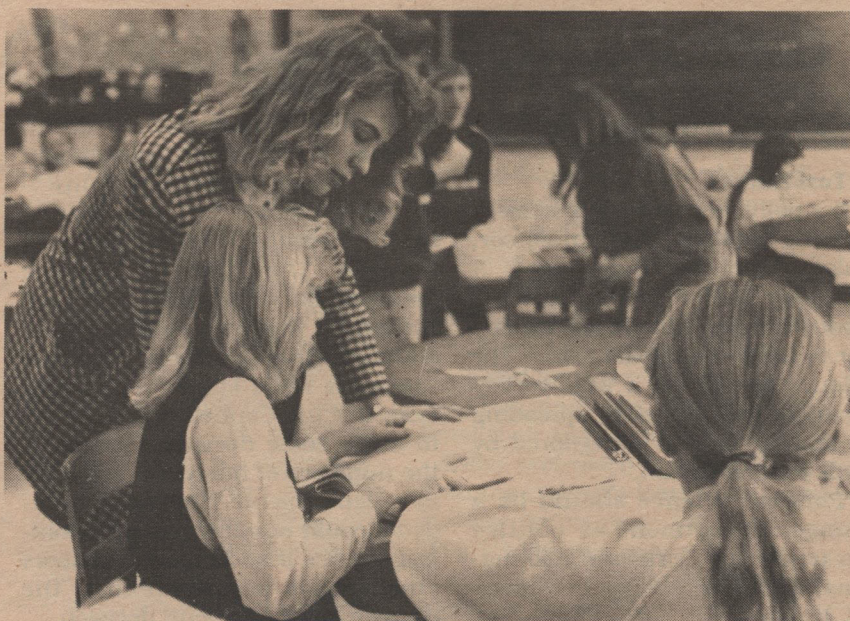


photo Brenda Tuininga

Janine Buffinga demonstrates science problems.

Student teaching

by Brenda Tuininga

For senior education students this is the semester when all that college theory is put into practice. Students are currently preparing for future careers as they become temporary teachers either in local area schools or in schools near home territory.

Next week student teachers wrap up their first seven week term. From there they interact in seminars for two weeks, and then it's back to practice teaching for the last five weeks following break. The majority will try out a different age level or a different subject matter for the last five week term.

For Loren Greenfield, presently teaching a P.E./health combination at Unity Christian High School, this will mean a more formal classroom setting as history classes become his focus after break.

Many student teachers find the experience rewarding. Lisa Hilverda, currently working in fifth grade at Central Lyon Public School in Rock Rapids, says the practice teaching reinforced her thoughts about her grade level preference. "I know that intermediate grade school is where I want to teach," says Hilverda. "I enjoy developing a trusting relationship with the kids so they're more willing to learn with me and feel more confident to give more of themselves in their answers, and also beyond the classroom. It's rewarding to see the kids come to me now when there are playground problems," she says.

Student teaching can also have its trying moments. Hilverda finds it difficult sometimes to work under the model of learning that is set in the time schedule, already established before entering the classroom. "It tends to limit what you can do in your planning," she

says. Greenfield also finds the lesson plans limiting. "You end up spending more time on plans than on anything because in a sense that's what you're graded on," says Greenfield. "You're so limited in being yourself—sometimes you just want to be totally off the wall but you can't because with the plans everything you do is restricted."

Both Hilverda and Greenfield feel that Dordt more than prepared them for student teaching. "Dordt emphasizes instruction and lesson plans a great deal, but you also have to be flexible," says Hilverda. "It's great to have all kinds of ideas, but sometimes you have to be willing to scrap half the lesson plan to provide the best learning situation, to make sure the information gets across," she says. Greenfield agrees. "Dordt takes it a bit too far in classes; there is too much emphasis on procedure and philosophy and not as much on actual handling, like discipline."

Janine Buffinga, fifth grade student teacher at Sioux Center Christian, disagrees. "I think Dordt gave me the confidence to go into the classroom," says Buffinga. "I appreciate all the ideas gained from lesson plans—it's good practice. If you don't use them now, you can aim your plans so you can use them later."

Katie Haan, fifth grade teacher at Sioux Center Christian and Buffinga's cooperating teacher, has had over 15 student teachers in her classroom. Haan said, "One of the most important things when teaching in a Christian school is to have a good understanding of the whole concept of covenant, to develop students, and to take on responsibilities in the Kingdom of God like helping and serving each other in class."

Trees for sale

Windbreaks and shelter belts made of trees and shrubs help protect farmland and livestock from the Iowa elements. The Dordt College Agriculture Club is selling small trees to encourage area residents to take part in this conservation measure. The sale will also help raise funds for club activities.

Deciduous trees, deciduous shrubs, potted evergreens and other seedlings are available for 45-90 cents each and must be purchased in bundles of 25. All trees offered are bare-rooted; they

range in size from eight inches to three feet.

Tree varieties include green ash, amur maple, silver maple, golden willow, chokecherry, Siberian crabapple, eastern red cedar, Ponderosa pine, Scotch pine, poplar, spruce, and others. Shrubs include lilac, American plum, and others.

The deadline for orders is March 5, so call 722-6215 or talk to a club member. A postcard will be sent to purchasers notifying them when the trees arrive.

Vander Lugt receives award

Dordt sophomore Jody Vander Lugt is one of three winners of the Cherokee Symphony Young Artists Competition held on February 8 in the Cherokee community center.

"The contest was actually an audition," says Vander Lugt. The musicians have won the distinction of performing as soloists with the Cherokee Symphony Orchestra on April 14. Vander Lugt will play the piano.

Nine instrumentalists competed in the contest. Each was to select

music with written orchestral accompaniment. Vander Lugt chose Mozart's "Concerto in A Major, No. 23, K. 488."

Playing the piano since childhood, Vander Lugt is now a music major in both piano performance and choral music education, studying performance under the instruction of Dr. Joan Ringerwole. She is also a member of the Dordt College Concert Choir, conducted by Professor Dale Grotenhuis.

Students' art displayed

James Ochsner and John Van Dyk have had their artworks chosen for display at the thirteenth annual Iowa College Salon at the Brunnier Gallery and Museum from March 3 through April 14 in Ames, Iowa.

Ochsner's work was a linoprint of Ansel Adams and Van Dyk submitted photographs of his cello.

The two Dordt students are among 94 students whose artwork

was selected from 500 entries by art students from 17 colleges and universities across the state.

Andrea Norris, director, Spencer Museum, University of Kansas, juried the exhibition. She chose 99 art objects after viewing more than 850 slides showing different views of the art works. Ms. Norris was especially impressed by the quality of artworks submitted.

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Is Dordt's political science department adequate?

What students think

by Julie DeBoer

When dealing with the adequacy or inadequacy of the political science department, who could know better than those directly affected? Here's what some of the political science majors and minors had to say.

Sophomore **Brian Kamps** chose to major in political science out of a belief that Christians need to be involved in government. He thinks that the department is great, covering a broad

range of topics, and always using a Christian viewpoint.

Junior **Tami Howard** is a political science minor who is also interested in government

and is considering a career in law. She thinks the political science department could be expanded quite a bit. She says, "[We] need different people [teaching] for a different point of view. The courses seem the same because they all come from the same point of view."

Sophomore **Theresa Freese** feels a minor in political science is a good compliment to her environ-

mental studies major. She finds the program to be "pretty good," but in need of another professor.

Sophomore **Kelley Kaptein** is concentrating on law. On the issue of the department she says, "[We] really need more professors because although King is good, he isn't really qualified to teach all the courses in the catalog. [That] makes it hard to get a major if you don't start right away or have a double major."

Senior **Marty Kooistra** uses political science as a background

to a major in social work and believes it to be a good field for future leadership positions. He concludes that the department is "run well within the constraints given, but the administration needs to give serious consideration [to expanding the department] and to bolstering support for our sole professor."

No matter what conflict may come between the political science department and the administration, these students seem dissatisfied, yet willing to compromise and accept the present situation.

The administration

by Teri Nikkel

The political science department at Dordt consists of one professor, as does the physics department. A sociology major is available to Dordt students, but there's no faculty to head the department. The difficulty of offering a wide variety of majors and therefore spreading the faculty thin is not ignored by Dordt administration.

"Political science should be a stronger department as politics also needs our Christian, reformational thinking," says President J.B. Hulst.

The major obstacle facing those who wish to increase the number of professors in such realms as political science is budget limitations. Dordt College students may boast of paying the third lowest college tuition rate in Iowa. As 80 percent of Dordt's budget comes from tuition and the college is at a fairly steady enrollment, staff additions are rarely feasible. Only one full-time position was added in the present academic year, and none have been budgeted for '91-'92.

Dordt administration are concerned and hope to improve the situation for one-professor departments. The college is currently advertising for part-time help for political science and more. Although no inquiries have been submitted for part-time positions, plans are underway to seek out qualified applicants. Full-time positions will again be discussed for the '92-'93 school year on the basis of resources.

"It is definitely a continuing issue," says Rockne McCarthy, Academic Dean and former political science professor.

Dordt's Academic Council received a department recommendation for an additional political science professor, but proceeded to turn the request down for financial reasons. They chose to increase financial aid for students and keep tuition as low as possible before adding faculty positions. Political science is not a lower-priority division, but the Council is also forced to make some decisions based on the numbers of interested students in a department. Since more students could possibly major in political science if additional professors and classes were available, the Council faces a difficult decision.

"We offer more programs than typical colleges of our size, so a few small departments are expected," says McCarthy. "But we have made the decision to offer a broad range of majors despite department size rather than drop some completely," he says.

Brian Van Engen, one of four political science majors this semester, does get discouraged by the limited number of classes offered for his major. However, he enjoys his classes with professor of political science Don King and doesn't consider changing majors or transferring colleges.

"King does a good job of bringing in guest lecturers," says Van Engen. "I don't have much choice in classes, but it's probably good for me to sample a forced variety."

Dr. Hulst ensures students with limited departments, such as political science, that the Council members hope to add to the faculty as soon as it is financially possible. "And the political science department is high on our list. We are committed to such programs," he says.

"The courses seem the same because they all come from the same point of view."



Welcomes you to Sioux Center!

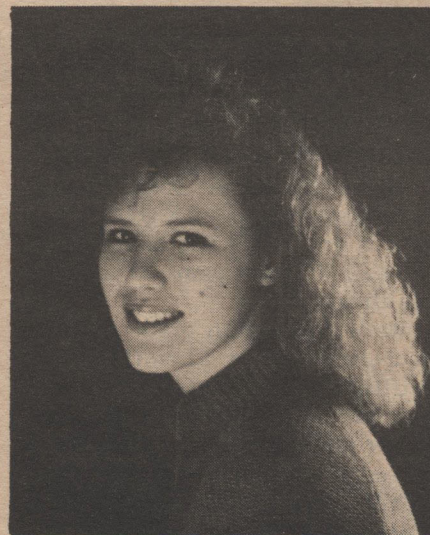
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King's domain: PoliSci

by Julie DeBoer

A political science student studies the politics that make government work. Unfortunately, both the political science department at Dordt and, consequently, political science majors also experience the politics of Dordt administration.

The political science program is not large enough to offer students a complete political science major without having to supplement with the American Studies program or additional history and economics courses.

First of all, the political science department is run by only one professor, Don King. Although a replacement was requested, and there were applicants for the position left vacant by Dr. McCarthy, nothing has been done so far. McCarthy taught political science part-time until joining the administration staff. He has not been replaced due to a lack of funds.

Right now there are 84 students in King's 201 course, the highest enrollment ever, and at least 16 students are enrolled in other political science courses which are not generally required course options. This is a significant show of interest since there are only six declared political science majors and six minors.

Political science is important in our lives because we hold responsibility as citizens. We need to

develop Christian stewardship of these responsibilities. Stewardship can be facilitated through exposure to political science.

Political science as a career boasts a wealth of job opportunities. Many jobs are available in state and local government. At least two graduates each year continue their studies in law school.

Every profession can benefit from the concepts learned in political science courses. King says, "Politics involves so much of our lives that we ought to pay more attention [so we know how]. . .to interface with politics."

Though King would like to do more with the program, such as adding a public administration course (which is of great interest to business majors), all his improvements require more staff.

As it is, 10 courses are needed to obtain a major, but only seven or eight can be offered by one professor, and of those, some can only be given every other year.

There seems to be no solution to the problem. Yet, according to King, an interest in politics creates an opportunity to make a difference, which is surely appealing to Christians in today's world. Although Christians have traditionally been uninvolved in politics, one can always look to the future.



photo by Andy Fossum

Vivienne Tuma's hometown is much like Sioux Center.

Ugandan adjusts to U.S.

by Christine van Belle

Vivienne Tuma's home is a place where it's hot year-round, where half the population is under 15 and where their government is run by the military. Coming to us from Uganda, Vivienne has made our small world, a bit smaller.

The fact that Uganda was once an English colony accounts for much of its westernization. "We don't live in huts and we are fully clothed, everyday," Vivienne says with a smirk. Jinja [her hometown] is almost like Sioux Center, except there the people are black. English is the official language of Uganda.

Despite misconceptions of her as an Ugandan, Vivienne's perceptions of Americans were only confirmed when she arrived in Sioux Center. "I knew Americans loved eating, dancing, and jeans. Everyone here wears jeans. Most people are quite informal."

However, she was shocked at the extent of the carefree attitude held by Americans. "In Jinja, you don't see people flying around kissing and stuff. And women are quite liberal in their dress." The casual speaking style of Americans also differs from the formal Ugandan way of addressing people. Instead of "Hi, how ya' doin'?", it is "Hello, how are you, madam?"

Dancing also takes on another form across the ocean. Vivienne compares the Ugandan style of dancing to what we would see on "Soul Train." However, in Uganda the Christian community does not approve of dancing, thus it was a

change to see Dordt students getting together for a dance. For Vivienne, it was a change for the better.

Mr. Tuma, Vivienne's father, visited Dordt in 1987 to deliver a lecture. He is a minister in the Anglican Church. In Uganda, there are only three Universities — an Islamic school, a medical school, and a school dealing with all areas of general study. It was important to Mr. Tuma for Vivienne to obtain a Christian education which accounts for her arrival at Dordt. Studying in a foreign country has not presented any major problems. However, Vivienne claims the testing is more difficult because she has not had multiple choice exams since primary school.

Uganda is split up geographically. Historically, certain tribes moved north, while others went south, east and west. This creates some internal strife within the country yet today. The stability has been greatly restored since the 1975 uprising, but there is continually a threat of rebels in the north. Vivienne explains that in central Uganda, the tribal cultures are integrated. Jinja, lies towards the east along the shores of Lake Victoria, the world's third largest lake.

Vivienne is majoring in sociology. She hopes to return to Uganda in three and a half years and work in rural development.

"If anyone has questions about Africa, they can ask me," says Vivienne Tuma.

WANNA BE RICH AND FAMOUS? HOW ABOUT JUST FAMOUS?

On May 20, The Banner will be publishing an issue written by young adults for young adults. It'll give you a chance to talk about being young and single in the Christian Reformed Church and in the world.

A writing contest will decide what's going in this issue. There is a list of suggested topics on the

English Dept. bulletin board. To enter, send your piece to

The Banner
Kalamazoo Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49560

Entries must arrive by
March 29.

For more info. see Prof.
Van Gilst

Letter challenges assumptions

Dear Editor,

I wish to take this opportunity to comment on the article "Students asleep?" which appeared in the last issue.

The war has affected me...beyond those little yellow bows. My parents live in San Jose, Costa Rica and so far an American school has received a bomb-threat by terrorists and the U.S Embassy is tightly guarded.

I also found out this weekend that I have another friend over in the Gulf region. Each night I wonder if they are safe and if I will ever see them again, alive. I am sure there are many people on campus who are equally concerned for their friends and, maybe, relatives in the Middle East.

People at Dordt may be called "complacent," but it is because the war has not reached them...they are totally unaffected by it. If they are interested, however, in obtaining answers to their questions concerning the war, it is hard to know who to ask.. Guest speakers may be invited here to inform them about the Middle East crisis, but it is not the students' fault if they cannot attend the lectures because of several upcoming tests and/or assignments.

The students have an obligation to their professors to be prepared for class. If the lectures were at a more convenient time, perhaps on a Saturday, maybe more students would show up for them.

As for InterVarsity, I also attended the first meeting at John Wagenveld's basement apartment. It was cool to see people so on fire for God. Since I am only a freshman, I have not been around Dordt long enough to tell whether people talk about their faith openly or not, but I know I sure do. I do not care what people think because God has a very important part in my life, and I want to share with people what He is doing.

For me, InterVarsity is a place where people's faith is challenged to grow and to serve. Evangelism is a part of this, but I do not think we have a right to condemn the whole campus. I think it is important for us to realize that we are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God. It is only by God's grace that we can be made holy. We can then reach out, with God's love, to those here who may be leading an unholy lifestyle and not judge them in the process.

Julie Bergsma

Overheard...

"When you put your instrument up to your face, don't forget your mind."

— Henry Duitman, band rehearsal

"You know, it takes me a long time to skin a chicken."

— Christine van Belle, on her culinary skill

"If people get a wine stain on their face, they generally wipe it off."

— Prof. Schaap, on the importance of completing the comparison of a wine stain to a birthmark.

"I want to see *Sleeping With My Daughter.*"

— Jeff Kopaska, unsure of what movie to see, *Sleeping With the Enemy* or *Not Without My Daughter*

"Whenever I see Teri Nikkel I wish that I could be really little and romp through her hair."

— Kent Rynders

"You make me act like a blonde!"

— Karin Henken, after acting like a blonde

The Free Press



In Defense of Complacency

On February 14 approximately 4:05 p.m. my roommate burst into our small dorm room in West Hall and stated rather loudly, "Who does Dan Mennega think he is? What right does he have to tell me what issues I should, and should not be concerned with? Why should I care?" Although this argument was not exactly doctoral thesis material, he did force me to think about the issue. After considerable debate, with my roommate and other people, I came to realize that Dordt students suffer from complacency and/or lack of motivation perpetuated by Dordt, as a whole, and by the "politically dormant" town it is located in.

Let me illustrate this point by showing you some of Dordt's theatrical endeavors. In the spring of 1989 Dordt produced and performed *Of Mice and Men* and received a considerable amount of negative feedback. The fall of '89 brought the production of *The Music Man*. Who can vehemently disagree with that production? It was a safe play to perform, unchallenging to anyone's thoughts, ideas, or world view. Again, the same is true for Dordt's '91 spring production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. I realize that the reasons for producing these plays go beyond the fact that they are unchallenging to Dordt's world view—reasons like every five or six years we must do a musical or Shakespeare. And then too, popular plays will draw people and hopefully pay for themselves.

What about Jozef Van Hoeck's *Suspended Sentence*, produced in the fall of '90? Wasn't that a challenging piece? Yes, it was a good, challenging piece. Yet the question remains, was *Suspended Sentence* and for that matter the whole "Suffering and Survival Conference," a timely ordeal? No, it wasn't. Had the ordeal been held in 1959, it would have been timely. As it stands the whole thing was after the fact and very safe. [I must add that these events were done well, and the reason I pick on the theatre productions is because of my own interest in that field.]

The question now seems to be, what do Dordt's theatre productions have to do with complacency? If you may (or may not) recall from The History of Western Civilization or Gen. 200 classes, "art is a mirror of society." If that is true, what do we see in Dordt's mirror? Do we see a reformed, Christian college challenging itself and its world view and leading the community around it to do the same, thereby growing and becoming a stronger body of reformers and Christians? Or are we purposely sheltered from these issues?

Let me take this point further with the Bassam Madany events (i.e. lectures and *Diamond* articles). Rev. Madany is a very intelligent man, as well as a good speaker, and his speeches were timely. These points are undebatable. But, is it coincidental that this man was summoned to lecture at the point when Dordt students' anti-war sentiments were brewing and are coming out through the *Diamond*? This is a tough question.

Let me proceed one step further, by comparing Dordt, who attracted Madany to speak, to Buena Vista, who attracted Betty Williams, the Irish Nobel Peace Prize winner. Madany stressed the interrelatedness of the world and America's problem relating to the Middle East. Williams denounced the war in the gulf and the U.S. involvement. This is not to besmirch Madany but to ask, why doesn't Dordt take a chance and get a peacenik like Williams to speak? How about someone who is pro-war? Why not both and hold a debate?

THE BOTTOM LINE

If Dordt students, faculty, administration are not going to present challenging issues to themselves and the community around them, then I as a student don't need to get "off my butt," because the issues we deal with now, I can take sitting down. Furthermore, why should I challenge myself, if the challenging issues have been weeded out before they get to me? Why should I challenge myself if I can be protected and isolated for these four college years and deal with it at the graduate or job level?

—Brad Weidenaar

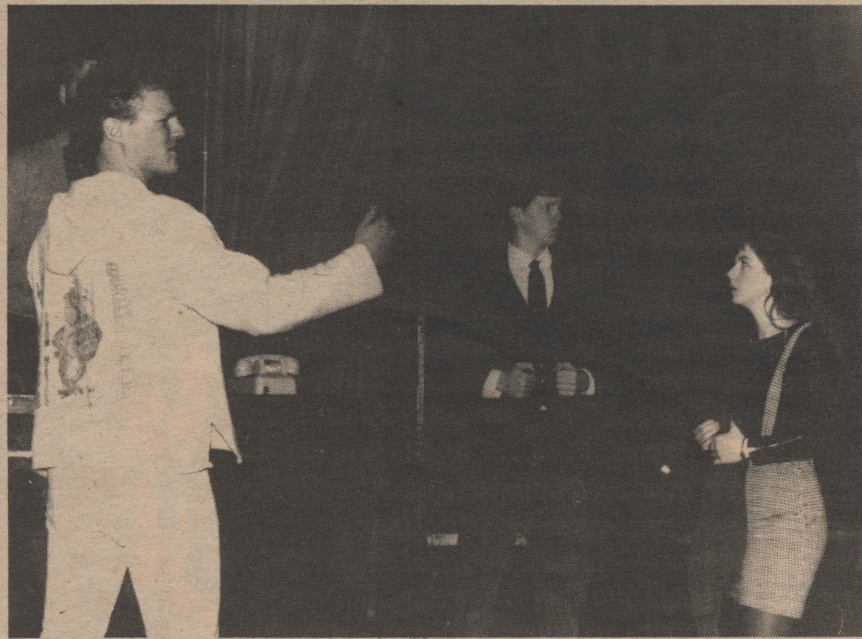


photo by Andy Fossum

Tim Antonides plays Theseus in the spring production

Of Lovers, Fairies & Fools

by Diana Klungel

In my English class last semester we studied Wild Bill Shakespeare—his life, his mind-set, and his notorious plays. Next month at Dordt College, Wild Bill comes to life through the production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This is not just your normal production. The classic Shakespearean language is spoken on a modern set, in modern dress.

The story remains the same; a world of fairies and lovers, interferences and interceptions. The play focuses on the characters of Hermia and Lysander, Helena and Demetrius—four young people striving to be with their true loves. The plot is complicated with the characters of Oberon and Titania—gods of the land—who despite their own love quarrel, attempt to reconcile the true loves. But there is more. No Shakespeare play would be complete without worker-types to laugh at and with. Lovers, fairies and fools—Shakespeare's dream world is complete.

Despite the modern set, the language is a challenge to master. Tim Antonides plays the role of Lysander. He said that even though the play takes a lot of time, the rehearsals are "a blast." He enjoys the uniqueness of the modern set. "It lets us relate better to the audience, and gives us more freedom with our characters," says Antonides. Melynda Slings, who plays Helena, agrees with Antonides and added, "I want the audience to think this could happen today, not just way back when." Art Tiesma plays Demetrius and is fascinated with John Hofland's set. "Simple, yet effective. One scene black, the next white. It's incredible," said Tiesma.

It's a dream world created by Shakespeare, imagined and directed by Dr. Koldenhoven, designed by Professor John Hofland. It is not often Shakespeare comes to life in Sioux Center, Iowa. Don't miss it.

Album review -- Indigo Girls

by Randy "Mookie" Ward

At times forceful enough to get you rocking and at others subtle enough to make you sit and think, this album is what all Indigo Girls fans look for. If you were enthralled by songs like "Closer to Fine" from their last record, get set for a musical experience that will give you goose bumps.

Instrumentally, this is modern folk music with the benefits of stirring rhythm and blues. The accompaniment alone would be worth listening to, made up largely of the powerful strumming of acoustics with minimal electric guitar. And if you like music that's pure and unique, you'll love this. No copies, look-alikes, or dubbing here.

If the music is perfect, the lyrics are in a class by themselves. Emily Saliers and Amy Ray are the philosophers of today's music world, the undoubted equals of Simon and Garfunkel, Bob Dylan, and the freedom rockers. The words are poetic, deep, emotional, and perfectly blended with the music.

"World Falls" chronicles the theme of the tape. The line "I wish I was a nomad, and an Indian or a saint" includes life, experience, spirituality, wisdom, and piety—all the things of philosophy that are considered good. In a searingly beautiful song with powerful harmony and a heavily strummed acoustic, the Girls proclaim the goodness of life and appeal to it for

"walking shoes, feathered arms and a key to heaven's gate."

The first song on the album might hit us students a little close to the heart. "Hammer and a Nail" exhorts the listener to "get out of bed and get a hammer and a nail, learn how to use my hands, not just my head." There's a place for books and studying, but experience is the best teacher.

The B-side begins with a heavy dose of the wisdom of adulthood. "Watershed" deals with the difficulty of making a decision, the watershed being the fork in the road where the traveller must decide between right and left. Saliers admits that "every five years or so" she looks back on her life and has "a good laugh" at "how recklessly [her] time has been spent." The light air of the instrumentation suggests that the listener shouldn't agonize over difficult decisions because "every choice is worth your while" with something valuable to offer.

The Indigo Girls are philosophers, not theologians. There is little in their music to suggest that they are Christians, but I would be willing to argue with you that they still have something very valuable to offer. This album is more than phenomenal both musically and lyrically, and I would recommend it to my best friend. If you like to listen to tunes that incite you to think—about life and all that goes along with it—then you absolutely cannot pass this one up.



Ninety will put love into action

For the first time PLIA is sending a group to Washington, D.C. during spring break in addition to locations in Kentucky, Mississippi, and Chicago. Nearly 90 students will spend their spring break putting love into action.

One of PLIA's fundraisers was the recent soup supper, which brought in over \$1100. Another fundraiser is an agreement with

Pastor Draayer that he will get the Dordt logo shaved into the back of his head if PLIA can collect \$1000—that's \$1 from each student at Dordt.

PLIA participants had their retreat at Faith CRC on February 23. Rev. Tony Van Zanten from Roseland Christian Ministry Center in Chicago was the speaker.

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Women end great season

by Pam De Boer

Homecoming weekend was encouraging for Coach Len Rhoda and the women's basketball team. In front of a large, supportive crowd Dordt trounced Briar Cliff, 82-54 to clinch a first place finish in the Io-Kota Conference. Then last week Rhonda Gritters was named first team all-conference and also to the all-District 15 team. Jill Bousema, and Lisa Wubben were also named to second team, all Io-Kota conference. Furthermore, Mr. Rhoda was voted NAIA District 15 Coach of the Year. Things looked pretty good going into district play.

After a week of practice Dordt opened playoffs last Saturday, hosting 11-18 Graceland College. The Lady D's sailed to a 75-62 win, led by Steph Bleyenburg's 24 points and Lisa Wubben's 15 points and 14 rebounds. The stage was set for a third showdown with Briar Cliff.

The Lady Chargers returned to the site of their 28 point humilia-

tion, but found a different team waiting for them. This time around Dordt was outrebounded 51-29, and lost a 6-point half time advantage. Despite Jill Bousema's 23 points, Briar Cliff ended up on top, 76-72. They advance to the district final against Mt. Mercy in Cedar Falls. Dordt ends their season with a 19-6 record.

You win some, you lose some, says this sports editor (big title, small job). This year's Lady Defenders took a conference title and won a playoff game for the first time in the Dordt women's history. Coach Rhoda, in his thirteenth year of service, was recognized for his dedication. Rhonda Gritters, a four-year starter and the quarterback of this year's team, entertained us from three-point land and was voted to two honor teams. The junior trio of Jill Bousema, Lisa Wubben, and Lou Ann Bolkema provided shooting, and rebounding, and defensive clinics. Freshmen such as Beth Hollander and Steph Bleyenburg

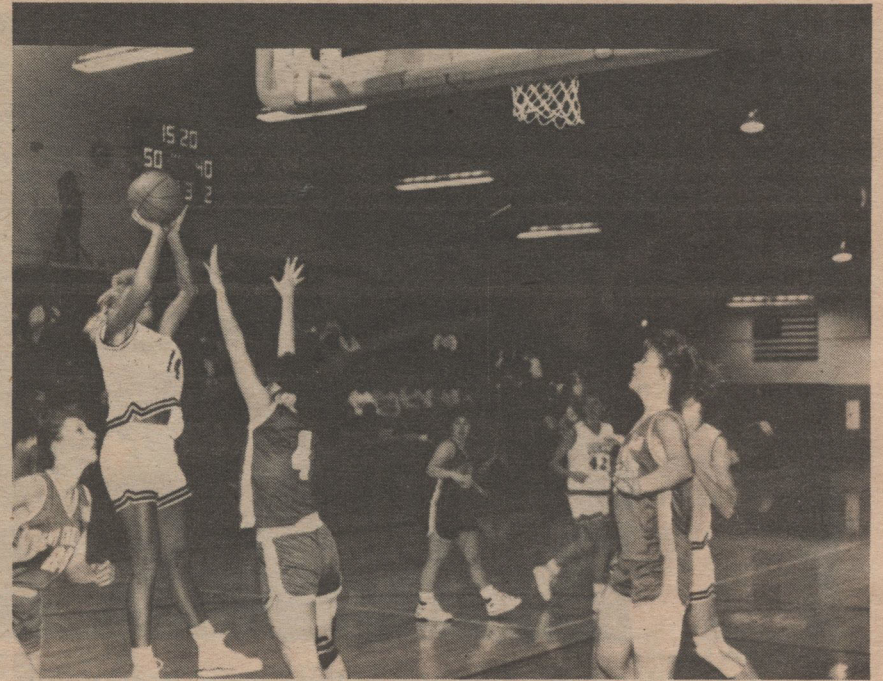


photo by Andy Fossum

Lisa Wubben airs against tough Briar Cliff.

went on some awesome scoring sprees and make the future look bright. The season didn't end the way we would have liked (Nationals in Tennessee would have been so much fun!).

However, the women's basketball team had an impressive season. Only two players will graduate. This year was good and next year looks like it can only get better.

Men finish strong

by Brian Van Donselaar

The men's basketball team ended its season at Northwestern last Saturday with a 84-75 loss, though they played well. Freshman Mark Van Gorp led the Defenders with 14 points. Sophomore Jeff Zylstra added 13 and Galen Van Roekel 11. Coach Vander Berg was pleased with Dordt's control of the pace of the game as well as their inside defensive play. However, Vander Berg commented that Northwestern's 10 for 13 shooting from the three-point line contributed heavily toward their win.

The Dordt men finish the season

with a 7-19 record. The team has been plagued with injuries and eligibility problems. During the entire second semester Dordt started three sophomores and two freshmen. However, this young team should provide a strong returning lineup for the next few years. Coach Vander Berg is very pleased with the improvements made as individuals and as a team at both the junior varsity and the varsity level. Next year, with the addition of two top recruits, Micky Visser from Unity and Dave Van Essen from Western, Dordt should be a much stronger team.

Baseball season starting soon

by Pam De Boer

Though snow remains on the ground, the Dordt baseball team will begin practice on March 4. The team is headed by P.E. professor Tom Visker, assisted by Dan Westra and Greg Haagsma. Eight members return from last year, led by seniors Marlin Ten Napel, Scott Roose, James Koolker, and Randy Faber. Coach Visker cites quickness and speed in defense, as well as some real hitting potential as strengths. He also commented

that the 8-member pitching staff must come on strong for any early success.

Their first games will be played over spring break in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis. On March 25 Dordt will meet St. John's College for a doubleheader. The following day their opponents will be Augsburg College, also for a doubleheader. Tickets to these games are available for just \$3. See Coach Visker or any player for information.

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