

NEWS

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

-Homecoming activities allow for community fellowship.

Page 2

THE DORDT COLLEGE

DIAMOND

SIOUX CENTER, IOWA

JANUARY 30, 1997  
VOLUME XL, NUMBER 7

SPORTS

STRUGGLE ON THE COURT

-Men's, women's basketball teams battle to keep winning records.

Pages 10,11

FEATURE



WINTER WEATHER

-Students from around the country faced severe weather this Christmas.

Pages 6,7



Janeen Wassink

Culminating Concert

The Concert Choir recently performed its tour program for a home audience in the BJ Haan Auditorium. Shown here is senior Alecia Rayhons during the piece Hashkiveinu #1.

See tour story on page 3.

Middle East meets Midwest

by Melissa Phaneuf  
Staff Reporter

Dordt College honored its 1997 Distinguished Alumnus, journalist Randy Palmer, during Homecoming week. Palmer graduated from Dordt in 1978 with degrees in history and social sciences. From there he moved on to Cambridge University where he earned a Master's Degree in Economics, then to the Columbia University School of Journalism where he received a Master's in journalism.

During the early 1980's, Palmer wrote for the *Saudie Gazette* in the Middle East. He worked in Beirut until the danger of being kidnapped became so great that he was forced to move to Bahrain.

While in the Middle East, Palmer covered major political and economic stories, including the 1984 explosion in Marine barracks in Beirut and the OPEC actions.

Palmer is presently Chief Canadian Political Correspondent for Reuter's, a British International News Service.

While he was at Dordt, Palmer spoke during chapel, visited and talked in classes, and attended a special banquet held in his honor at which he reminisced with old friends and profs from Dordt and spoke about his career.

Palmer currently lives in Ottawa with his family, where he covers Canadian national government and politics.



Janeen Wassink

Mostly off the record, sometimes controversial, Distinguished Alumnus Randall Palmer shares his views with the Dordt community.

Kok to replace Dr. K as Dean of Humanities

by Gena Koning  
Staff Reporter

After a process of nominations, meetings and discussions, Dordt's Academic Council appointed Dr. John Kok to an initial three-year term as the Dean of Humanities. Kok takes on his new role June 1, following the retirement of current dean, Dr. James Koldenhoven.

As dean, Kok will play a leading administrative role among the eight departments within the humanities division. He will be instrumental in helping to develop curriculum, supporting faculty members and providing sound leadership. Kok will also stay in touch with students by continuing to teach a course in the philosophy department.

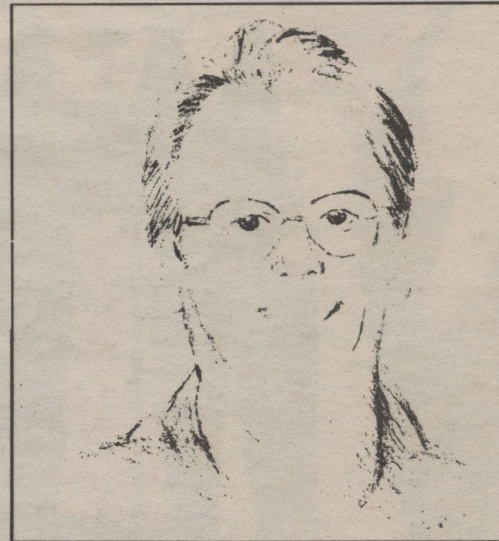
President Zylstra is pleased with the selection. He says that

Kok is "a very perceptive man" and that he will "be able to carry [the job] out well." Zylstra also is pleased with the competent faculty at Dordt who are capable of filling such positions.

Kok obtained a bachelor's degree from Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Ill. He also holds a Ph.D. from the Free University of Amsterdam, where he also served as a research and faculty assistant until coming to Dordt in 1983.

He is the author of several books, including Vollenhoven: His Early Development, a study of the work of Dutch philosopher Dirk H.T. Vollenhoven, and Patterns of the Western Mind, which was recently published in South Africa by Potchefstroom University.

Kok lives in Sioux Center with his wife Suzanna, who is Dordt's academic coordinator for international and minority students. The couple has six children.



Janeen Wassink

A "very perceptive man": Kok to take over Koldenhoven's duties in June.

## Homecoming centers around theme of "under construction"

by Jonathan Frump  
Staff Reporter

The Defender basketball games last Saturday were the main events of homecoming. This year, homecoming week (Jan. 21-26) was also celebrated by several student activities during the week. Some of the events the Student Activities Committee planned for the week included Twister, gutter sundaes, a coffee house and other fun events.

A special scavenger hunt for the Dordt "cannon" also took place, with clues being given in the Today each morning. The prize for finding the cannon, which was located Tuesday, was \$50.

The S.A.C. joined forces with the Alumni Office to produce other special events of the week including those involving the annual Distinguished Alumnus. New this year, a special Alumni variety show was held Saturday night, featuring the talents of many Dordt graduates.

A representative of the S. A. C. said that the student turnout to the events this year was great. Becky Starkenburg, who helped to organize the events, said, "The theme was a play on the construction that is going on around campus. It is important, however, for us to remember that we are a Christian community constantly being rebuilt, remodeled and renovated. Homecoming also provides an opportunity for fellowship and a chance to enjoy each other as a Christian community."



Neil Graves

Students enjoy "guttersundaes" as part of the homecoming festivities.

## Alumni show there is life after Dordt

by Anna Young  
Staff Reporter



Neil Graves

The alumni group Midwest Power and Light act out the song "Never Get Maggie Alone."

The atmosphere was nostalgic on Saturday night at the Alumni Variety Show. Old college roommates found that 15 or 20 years isn't so long ago, yet seems a lifetime away.

Present students looked into the eyes of those who had come before, those who had learned from the same teachers, slept in the same rooms, and fought the same stubborn closets.

The alumni had a chance to remember what it was like before. The students had a chance to glimpse what it might be like ahead.

Comedy League warmed up the audience bringing early laughs. Directly following this, Dordt's 1997 Distinguished Alumnus, Randall Palmer, was honored. He demonstrated flexibility, joking about being "on or off the record."

Next on the evening's agenda was the catchy barbershop quartet, Midwest Power and Light. Following these singers were a few tantalizing selections from this fall's Spectrum dance production.

Mark DuMez added more laughter and a bit of real life to the show with his "The Motley Intermezzo." The evening was capped off by the Alumni Choir, directed by theology professor and Dordt grad Syd Hielema. The choir sang rousing renditions of *Oliver!* and a final chorus of the Dordt College Alma Mater.

Registrar Doug Eckardt led the evening as emcee with his wonderful wit. His wit was enjoyable, but it was reminiscing and looking ahead that were key to the show's success.

## Stealing the Spotlight

by Amy Ruitter  
Staff Reporter

Mark the calendar for Saturday, Feb. 22, the date of Dordt's Talent Extravaganza '97. The theme for the evening is "Stealing the Spotlight," and things are really starting to come together for the most popular talent show of the year.

Auditions for the show will be held Feb. 4 and 5. The emcees chosen for this year's show are sophomores Amanda Haney and Aaron Lynch—not to mention "Buddy" the Dog.

The coordinators of the Talent Extravaganza were reluctant to dish out much information about the show. So at this point, all that is known is that big surprises are in order for the evening of Feb. 22 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.

## Choir cites private performance as tour highlight

by Sean Gregg  
Staff Reporter

The Dordt College Concert Choir toured the Midwest during the recent semester break. The choir left for the eight-day tour on Jan. 6, and enjoyed good weather for the first day before having to contend with the cold and snow of the Midwest winter. They performed concerts and sang in school assemblies and church services in Des Moines, Iowa; Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Lansing, and Holland, Mich.; and Lansing, Ill.

For many, the highlight of the trip came on the first night at a mini-concert given for senior choir member Nate Schreur's dad, who suffers from Lou Gehrig's disease. The choir crowded into his home and sang several of the songs that they had prepared for the tour.

The lousy weather kept some people from attending the concerts, but director Benjamin Kornelis said that this did not seem to bother the choir too much. In fact, he said, their "best performances were to small crowds." Those who did make it out responded very favorably both in person after concerts and through letters and cards.

Kornelis said that he likes to plan "lots of diversity" into the tours. This stems from the large range of audiences. The choir sang songs composed by several writers, including Bach and Beaudrot. Of the songs slated for this tour the Choir's favorites were *Ave Maria* and *Abide With Me*. According to Kornelis, *Abide With Me* took on a "deep significance when sung for Mr. Schreur."

According to Kornelis, one-choir member described the tour by saying, "I feel like I've been with my family all week." The tour ended with a concert here in the B. J. Haan Auditorium, which was marked by mixed emotions among the members. The semester turnover of twelve students, the highest Kornelis has had, meant that this was the final concert for many.



Photo Submitted

Choir tour means long hours on the bus. Playing cards and sleeping, as Mark Rip does here, help to pass the time.

## Students reach out, experience poverty in Nicaragua

by Kendra Van Duyn  
Staff Reporter

The AMOR group, along with Pastor and Mrs. Draayer and group leader Dan Altena, spent Dec. 28 through Jan. 11 on a farm about two and a half miles from Nicinohomo, Nicaragua.

AMOR's main project involved building a dining hall with an attached kitchen on the farm where they stayed. The location is becoming a teaching farm, demonstrating ways to enhance crop production and nutrition.

The students worked with the Spanish-speaking locals. Since only a few Dordt students could speak Spanish, they could only communicate through hand gestures.

Keith Hendricks also commented that the locals' work was very labor-intensive. For example, when they needed more boards, they cut down a tree. They also pounded out all the nails so they could be used again. "It's unfortunate because they just don't have the resources they need," sympathized Hendricks.

Pastor Draayer commented, "Knowing about poverty is one thing. Experiencing it and seeing it with one's own eyes is quite another. In a country with an 80 percent unemployment rate, it is difficult for many people to be long-term thinkers and planners."

This was Draayer's first AMOR trip. The best experience for him was getting to know a few people of the community and gaining an appreciation for the Christian commitment and dedication of Chico, the man managing the farm. Draayer said it was a marvelous opportunity to reflect upon much that we take for granted. Additionally, we have much that we can learn from people from "less developed" countries. "Although I understand virtually no Spanish, it is not difficult to interpret the meaning of a smile," he said.

## Dordt students participate in theatre conference

by Nikki Thomas  
Production Editor

Once a year a group of students and faculty skip out on classes to attend the American College Theatre Festival conference. This year a group of eight people from Dordt headed off to Cedar Falls for the conference.

The conference was held on the campus of UNI this year and each day the group would walk between buildings to get to the various workshops and plays. Several students spent time learning how to sword fight in stage combat while others improved their voices by learning how to scream properly.

"The stage combat workshops were fun but after four of them with the same instructor, who was full of British humor, I was ready to use my combat on the very person who had taught me," said junior Kostya Kekhaev. Students saw plays ranging from the serious *Endgame* by Samuel Beckett to Carol Wright Krause's high-spirited play *the Car* to Stuart Ross's musical *Forever Plaid*.

Not all the highlights of the weekend, however, came at the conference. Some came after the day was done. The group became regulars at the Embers across from the hotel, discussing the plays and workshops over coffee and pie. They also enjoyed eating at The Broom Factory and trying a meat you don't often find in Iowa, alligator. The weekend ended with the world premiere of *Passage Through the Heart*. The playwright Roxanne Dawson, of *Star Trek: Voyager* fame, was even there to see her play performed. On the whole the group enjoyed the conference. "This was the best ACTF that I have been to so far," said senior Dirk Zwart.

## PICTURE POLL

### Choosing a Distinguished Alumni

What criteria do you think Dordt should use to choose the Distinguished Alumni?



**Dan Howerzyl**  
Junior  
Sully, IA

"How he or she has continued to support Dordt."



**Lisa Pool**  
Senior  
Wyoming, ON

"They should look at the success of that person once they have left Dordt. Also, it should be someone who represents and supports Dordt well after graduation."



**Erin Groen**  
Junior  
Sioux Center, IA

"I don't think it necessarily has to be someone that is so prestigious, but it should be someone who lives out their Christian values in their vocation, so we can learn from their example."



**Kurt Vos**  
Senior  
Poulsbo, WA

"Someone who is making advances in their field from a reformed perspective."

# From the Editor: Hide it under a bushel? No!



I wasn't able to attend Chapel last Thursday, but apparently that doesn't matter much, because the whole speech was off the record and I'm not allowed to

write about it anyway.

But I was in the Gen 300 class that met right after that, and we listened to the same guest speaker from that Chapel. That speech was also off the record, so I don't know exactly what I'm allowed to say about it. It is not my goal to get anyone in trouble.

I suppose my reactions are allowed, though. We were encouraged in class that day by our guest speaker to consider becoming journalists. This country is in desperate need of more Christians in the media—I'll agree with that. I'm a comm-journalism major myself. However, by the

example of this speaker, I got the impression that we are not to really let people know, in our future journalistic endeavours, that we are Christians. Don't deny being one, but don't volunteer that you are, either.

I got the impression through this discussion with the speaker, and through others' reactions to him, that we are almost supposed to be Clark Kent Christians: doing

good and helping to better the planet without revealing our secret Christian identity. We could get ourselves in big trouble—maybe even fired—if our bosses found out that we were being deliberately Christian.

I know that those who think they can do more good by almost "secretly" being Christian in a secular workplace are not necessarily ashamed of being called Christian, but are perhaps worried about not being taken seriously if they are known Christians.

Some accused the speaker of seeing issues as only black and white and of being too simplistic in his thinking. I want to avoid doing the same thing. It's not that either we are extremely outspoken Christians or we aren't Christians at all, and I think most people realize this. However, we can't reason away Scripture's call to us to be salt and light

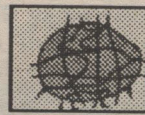
by thinking we can do a better job by being secretive.

It's hard to stand up for one's beliefs, but we are still called to do so. The Beatitudes tell us, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for God's sake." In North America, we won't be tor-

mented or thrown in jail for our beliefs, but Christians can and do get belittled and mistreated for letting their light shine. We just can't be afraid and hide it under a bushel.

The world does need more Christian journalists. But they also need to know who we are and what we stand for. Our mission is not a secret one.

**I got the impression through this discussion with the speaker that we are almost supposed to be Clark Kent Christians: doing good and helping to better the planet without revealing our secret Christian identity.**



## Global Observatory: Jerry was a race car driver

by Dirk Zwart  
Columnist

Christmas Break generally means a lot of driving for students and families alike. Everyone is going somewhere or doing something. In my travels this holiday I could not help but notice the many stupid things that other drivers were doing.

I know I am not the poster child for perfect driving, but seriously take a look sometimes at what others are doing and learn from it. For instance: TURN ON YOUR HEADLIGHTS! Any stories you may have heard about headlights shortening the overall life of your battery, cutting power or only giving optimum performance at night, are bunk.

So many times I could have shot other motorists for not having their headlights on. My little sister just got her G1 probationary license and she probably lost count of how many times I told her, "Driving is a privilege, not a right." Sometimes I wonder if you can get your license out of a Corn Flakes box.

The second driving gripe I have is turning without using signal lights. Be courteous, share the road and let people know where you are moving your vehicle. You would like to think that everyone in Sioux Center knows where you are going and will expect you to turn on Fourth Avenue, but that just ain't the truth.

Take a look at all the crumpled and scraped fenders on campus and you will see how many people either kissed, or were kissed by, a car whose driver did not signal his or her intention, followed too close-

ly, or did not match his or her speed to the road conditions.

Figure out the math; at 60 miles per hour you are traveling 88 feet per second. On a dry road it takes the average car traveling 25 miles per hour 40 feet to stop. Figure in the added momentum for 60 miles an hour and you are looking at a good 200 feet. Do you leave 200 feet between you and the vehicle in front of you?

My last gripe focuses on proper lane choices. When you turn onto a two-lane divided highway you are, by law, required to pull into the closest lane of the direction you are turning. This limits you to crossing the least possible number of lanes.

After you are in your lane and know you are traveling slower than the flow of traffic, signal your lane change and move over. So many people in town will pull out of Ampride, cross three lanes and plop in the fourth, totally putting everyone in jeopardy. Wait until you feel confident to merge into traffic and then do it. It is easier for an approaching driver to move around you than to avoid you as you swerve all over the road.

Also, when driving on a multi-lane highway, do not hog a lane. Let faster cars pass and do not pull out in front of a car moving up behind you.

We all want to get home to our loved ones. Driving five miles per hour slower to be safe is not really that bad. Remember to share the road, make yourself visible and be smart when you drive. If not, you will be like Jerry. He wrapped himself around a telephone pole.

## STAFF

The *Diamond* is published by 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 before 5:00 p.m. the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue.

Send contributions to:

*Diamond*  
Dordt College  
Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

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

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

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# Free Press: What have we become?

by Doug Hausken  
Columnist

discrimination against people of different races, women, homosexuals, and the poor.

The church today, as through the ages, needs to stress compassion rather than violence. But compassion does not often seem to be high on the church's list of priorities. Instead, the church, or at least most of the people in it, is too concerned with being safe, secure, and prosperous.

These Christians, including myself and probably you, choose actions that promote their own welfare and self-interests instead of promoting the Kingdom of God, which is the advancement of the Gospel.

One way the people in the church have not been compassionate is in their short-sightedness and reluctance to deal with issues such as the still-prevalent

It is not in many Christians' self-interest to speak out against discrimination, because they only stand to lose the power they have if they stop oppressing fellow image-bearers that are different from them.

**"Compassion does not often seem to be high on the church's list of priorities. Instead the church, or at least most of the people in it, is too concerned with being safe, secure, and prosperous."**

This example is especially evident in the political arena, where the Christian Coalition has much clout within the Republican party.

As those in the Coalition see it, if they began to empower the poor in the inner cities, these poor people and their secularism would be able to creep into politics and further poison our culture with ungodliness.

This example is especially evident in the political arena, where the Christian Coalition has



Laryn Bakker



Seth Koerner

Still others are afraid to oppose discrimination because of the way they would be thought of and treated by many in the church. They may be looked down upon or shunned because of their willingness to embrace and speak the truth.

Scripture seems to testify clearly that we must respect and love other people because they are all made in the image of God. The parable of the Good Samaritan is an example of how we are to treat others who are different from us. We could simply point to the fact that the Samaritan himself was compassionate enough to stop and help a Jew, who was considered an enemy, because Jesus says that he did the right thing. But Jesus does not stop there. He goes on to tell the Jews that this enemy of theirs, this Samaritan, is their neighbor and that they must love him!

I do not have time to look at a whole list here, but to find more examples, one should examine how the poor are treated in Scripture. Do they not receive preferential treatment from God and his righteous servants? (Look at James 1:27, Deuteronomy 15:4, Job 5:16, Amos 5:11. It is a long list.) Another example is the way Jesus broke social rules by talking with the woman at the well.

It is necessary for the people in the church to get up off of their lazy butts and start to take a leadership role in confronting the reality of discrimination!

I am talking about repentance and reconciliation. We, together as the Body of Christ, need to repent of our active participation in discrimination and our passive allowance of it. And then we need to seek reconciliation with those we have wronged in the past and in the present.

One simple way to be active is to speak up to friends and others who speak discriminatingly. You should not be arrogant or harsh, but should approach them about it in love.

We must also seek relationships with those who are discriminated against, especially those who make us uncomfortable, such as homosexuals. Some of this work is being done by Christian brothers and sisters in Promise Keepers and individual churches, but this is not enough. We must actively do more—even from here in Northwest Iowa.

I am sure that some of you disagree with what I have said, believing that I am a liberal and that I am not in line with Scripture. But I ask you to go to Scripture yourselves; consider the Old Testament prophets and the loving spirit of Jesus himself, and find how they differ from what I have said.

I am not promoting reverse discrimination or justifying homosexuality, but we need to actively promote justice and compassion for all people, since all have been made in the image of God.

# It Came Upon a N

## Fog and floods

by Paula Treick  
Features Editor

Students planning to arrive at Sacramento Airport on December 19 didn't land in Sacramento at all because of a dense layer of fog. Incoming flights were re-routed to San Francisco or San Jose. Once the fog lifted, students were unpleasantly surprised to find not sunny skies but endless rain.

In a state where rainfall is usually measured in terms of an ongoing drought, where the existing water is stored in reservoirs and canals, and where farmland depends on irrigation, an abundance of water is not a blessing.

The combination of a vast amount of rain and warm weather (which melted the snow from the Sierra Nevada mountain range) swelled rivers and burst levees, leaving thousands without enough time to pack their belongings and leave. Local television stations showed heroic helicopter rescues as many families had to be airlifted from the roofs of their homes to safety. Entire cities were evacuated. In many cases, animals were left behind, including dogs, cats, and herds of cattle.

Evacuees of Modesto, California returned to find a stench—the Modesto sewage system was flooded too. Those who returned found not just water, but dirt, tree branches, garbage and other debris littering their homes. The Red Cross and other relief organizations have been busy collecting food and donations of time and money. Presently 48 of California's 56 counties have been declared disaster areas. In much of California, the



Janeen Wassink

At least the bike thieves won't get to this for a while.

## Winter wipes out Washington

by Kevin Maas  
Washington Correspondent

When winter arrived a month early in Iowa this year, I was not happy. It's not as though I hate Iowa all the time. I only hate Iowa when it is really hot or really cold. The reason I like my home state of Washington so much is because the Northwest never gets really hot or really cold. Anyway, when the temperature hovered around -6 degrees during the last two weeks before Christmas, I was really ready to go home. I loudly exclaimed to my equally infuriated roommates, "I can't wait until I go home, where I can put on a sweatshirt, walk out into the rain, get in my car, and drive anywhere I want without having to worry about ice, snow, and wind chills."

Heh, heh, heh. Did the weather dieties ever have a surprise in store for me.

I arrived home late on a Wednesday evening. Within 68 hours, the sadistic Iowan weather god had found out where

I had gone. Several hours later, snow began to fall in the Northwest. Now, snow is not an overly rare happening in Washington. It does snow a couple times each year, but the white stuff usually melts by the next morning. However, this past Christmas things were different. Sunday morning, the residents of my perpetually green home state woke up to six inches of crippling snow. And it didn't go away.

For the second time in my life, my family had the dubious blessing of a white Christmas. By the closing days of 1996, the snow base had risen to 22 inches. It could have been worse. I had access to a backhoe, so when the weather got really bad, I charged exorbitant sums to scrape neighbors' driveways and cruised the unplowed streets to friends' houses while less lucky people stared enviously at my transportation. My one piece of advice for people who get lots of snow (I suppose this applies to most Midwesterners): get a tractor.

Every night during Christmas



Janeen Wassink

Shoot, I was really looking forward to checking the reserve shelf.

# Midnight Fierce...

## Thoughts from a frozen chosen

by Brady Fopma  
Staff Writer

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas..." you know how the song goes. Unfortunately, whoever happened to write this Christmas tune either was a complete moron or never happened to visit Iowa during the winter months (hey, I sure wouldn't if I lived in Florida! Ok, I wouldn't visit Iowa even if I lived in Minnesota!). Unless you've been hibernating in your dorm/apartment over the last three months you *probably* have noticed the white, fluffy stuff blanketing Sioux Center (and most of the Midwest, for that matter).

The first winter snowfall, I must admit, seemed to place me in a peaceful, serene mood. But after two weeks of snowflakes drifting about, I became indifferent about the weather. . . after two months of nothing but snow, snow, snow, it started to get just a tad annoying. "Perhaps I can escape this dreadful weather over Christmas break," I reasoned. That thought lasted a whole .15494 seconds before I remembered that I live in South Dakota (which just *happened* to have about twice the amount of snow as northern Iowa).

After our warm, inviting weather caused my car's battery to die and its speedometer to take a permanent resting place on zero, I figured the weather couldn't possibly get worse. Yes, I was just a little wrong. Upon sliding into Sioux Falls, I found out we would be traveling back to Iowa over Christmas. . . central Iowa. Central Iowa didn't have snow! I could finally escape the madness. . . what a Christmas present!

After loading up the car and throwing our white snow-colored Maltese in the back seat, we headed back to Iowa. Not five miles out of town I noticed something hovering overhead. . . it seemed to be some kind of cloud. . . and it was following us! I told my dad to floor it, but that did no good. We took side roads, shortcuts, long cuts, but the darn cloud was just too smart. As soon as we pulled into our Grandma's snowless driveway, a torment of snow and ice rained down upon us. Clicking my heels didn't help either; I couldn't escape the nightmare.

Now, two weeks later, I sit here with numb fingers, spraying endless bottles of aerosol products heavenward just trying to get a few radiating rays to melt up this snowy prison. Whoever wished for a white Christmas sure got it... (a \$50.00 reward for any information leading me to this individual!) The winter weather of '96/'97 will remain frozen in my mind forever.



Janeen Wassink

The view from your dorm window? You won't find this on Admissions postcards.

break, people across Western Washington were treated to a succession of news stories on the latest 900 people who slid off the roads during the previous day. When I saw recent Californian immigrants skidding helplessly around on the interstate, I actually was happy I went to college in Iowa. One of the few benefits of spending most of the winter here is learning how to drive on snowy roads.

By New Year's Eve, the West Coast was being menaced by a more typical threat: flooding. For several nights, many people went to bed expecting to be wakened before morning to sandbag the dikes. While my corner of the state was spared from inundation, rivers further south flooded and ruined people's year.

There is a final word on this story. When I returned to Iowa, the evil Iowan weather god had long since gotten back to his home and was firmly entrenched. He will probably hold the state in his icy grip until sometime in late April.

## Heat: a James and Jon Vid Review



Frank Conner

by Jon de Haan  
Art Critic

*Heat* has been out for almost two years and we know that movie watchers with any sense have seen it, but that's no reason for us not to give it more praise. We hope that those of you who haven't seen it will rent it.

*Heat* is another good guys vs. bad guys movie. But it's by no means simple or half-hearted in its attempt to show the determination of both sides to win. Al Pacino plays the head of LAPD detectives trying to shut down Robert DeNiro's crew, which includes Val Kilmer.

Every character shows an incredible amount of drive, but their

determination is complicated by the people they care about, and the ones who care about them.

DeNiro plays the most straight-forward, no-nonsense character who maintains that he has "nothing in his life that he wouldn't walk away from in 30 seconds if he sees 'the heat' coming around the corner."

After one successful heist and one near bust, the two sides collide, leaving a path of destruction across Los Angeles.

We loved seeing the movie again.

The story is realistic and gripping, and the characters are also realistic—it's invigorating and frightening to see DeNiro's passion for his work. Even Henry Rollins wasn't disappointing. There's plenty of action to keep you interested. The 15 minute stand-off in downtown L.A. has to be seen to be believed.

The only things we didn't like were the butt-rock soundtrack, the sucky musical score, and the ending. Although the last 15 minutes of the movie are super tense, we didn't like the outcome—we thought they should have shot each other, or at least the cooler guy should have been able to walk away. But you'll have to judge for yourself—rent *Heat* soon.

## Counting Crows--

## Recovering the Satellites

by Sean Voogt  
Art Critic



Midsummer 1992. Picture a summer morning on the West Coast. The sun is coming up in my rearview mirror as I put the long wood-paneled station wagon in reverse to begin the 18-point turn I must execute in order to maneuver out of the gas station parking lot. I had just filled up my tank at this farmtown gas station, hopped in the car and turned the radio on.

This is a very memorable experience simply because as I was about halfway through the 18 turns, I heard a terrible wailing coming from the distant back of the wagon. I thought I had just backed over a cow.

Have you ever backed over a cow? No, you say? Well, take the Counting Crows first album, *August and Everything After*, and get yourself a station wagon and put it in reverse, and you will know what it sounds like to back over a cow.

Boy did that cow wail! As the summer progressed I realized that it wasn't a cow but Adam Duritz, lead singer of the Counting Crows. I felt bad for him. He has a God-given talent, like all of us, but it sure isn't singing. Anywho—enough incessant chatter, let us discuss the album at hand.

*Recovering the Satellites* is a 14 song collage of pretty much all the same music. Some of the tunes are similar to the first album and the rest are similar to themselves.

Vocally, this album has not progressed too much and it would be safe to say that it licks. Duritz' voice is whiny at best—he is a true brooder. He kind of sounds like my sister when she whines, but I think she is better. I will give him the fact that he throws in some nice jumpy piano once in a while, but not

enough to save anything.

The lead-off single, "A Long December," would not be my first choice off the album, but there is not a heck of a lot else to choose from. But that pounding chorus redeems the song, sing with me: "NA NA NA NA NA NA NA." Wowwies, that really hits you in the gut and says, "This guy is really wrestling with life and love, and well, lyrics." Nice try Adam, it's been done. "Hey Jude," anyone?

Attempting a harder edge on a few songs such as "Children In Bloom" and "Angels of the Silences" just does not work. Duritz' voice doesn't gel with the music, it gets covered up. Wait a second, maybe it does work then.

Counting Crows = One Hit Wonder. They need to stick with lyrics such as those of their first album. Take "Omaha," for example. "Omaha, somewhere in a middle America/get to the heart of the matter/it's the heart that matters."

Yeesh. Give me Korn anyday. Or Jars of Clay. Doh Bart.

by Grant Elgersma  
Art Critic

In the past, indie rock heroes Smashing Pumpkins have been placed in the category: "bands that sound better in the studio." Lead singer/songwriter Billy Corgan was definitely more comfortable there. Outside this musical haven, Corgan often experienced suicidal tendencies as a result of a constant battle with critics and fans. Corgan and his band seemed uncomfortable with rock'n'roll stardom and somewhat disenchanted with the fan base they had acquired.

The fourth Pumpkins album, *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*, reveals a band that has learned to cope with these struggles, a band that has accepted the fate of popularity and is willing to persevere despite hardships. Corgan now appears to recognize, understand, and even embrace his role as a rock star.

If Corgan's feelings of faith, hope and love for the fans was apparent on the album, the live performance of the songs give these feelings flesh. The Smashing Pumpkins' show at the Sioux Falls Arena Jan. 13 brought the songs of their latest record to life. The first song off *Mellon Collie* opened the show that night. "Tonight, Tonight" proved that the Smashing Pumpkins can not only match the perfection of the studio with a good live performance, but could also give the songs a heightened sense of energy and meaning as Corgan sang "The impossible is possible tonight/believe in me as I believe in you, tonight."

The connection between Corgan and the crowd was the underlying foundation for one of the album's main themes. The realization that a rock

star is forced to place his fate with the fans came across as Corgan's personal struggle during "Bullet with Butterfly Wings."

Corgan's sense of connection with the audience was voiced strongly as he sang the words "I'm your lover, I'm your zero/I'm the face in your dreams of glass" during "Zero." In the midst of the cheering and chanting, the live performance of "Muzzle" sounded like Corgan's statement to those who hold him in the confines of stardom as the rock star confesses, "I fear that I am ordinary, just like everyone." The song "Porcelina of the Vast Oceans" sounded like the thesis statement for the live show as Corgan reminded the crowd, "As far as you take me, that's where I believe," and "In my mind, I'm every one of you."

Recognizing his fans to be a necessary element to his own success, Corgan thanked the audience for coming to the show at every opportunity. And as a final gesture of appreciation, Corgan remained in the warm lights of the stage (after the rest of the band had gone) to thank his loyal fans. A wave of his arm and a beaming smile served as a hopeful sign that the stubborn battles of the past between rock star and fan are going out of style.

by Robb Vanderstoel  
Copy Editor

The Smashing Pumpkins are one of the most popular bands in existence, perhaps second only to U2. Their double album *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* topped the charts back in 1995 when it was released. *The Aeroplane Flies High*, their boxed set of singles from MCA, is holding strong on Rolling Stone's alternative album charts. They also happen to be a personal favorite of mine.

I managed to get a ticket to the Ames, Iowa, show last semester thanks to the parents of two Unity students who decided it might be best if their children didn't go. The show was great, but the tickets were not. That is

why I was more than a little excited to find out that they would be playing the Sioux Falls Arena on the same day that classes started this semester (Jan. 14).

Shortly after finding out about the concert I was happy to find out that because of yet another, although completely

unrelated, personnel shift, Jason Vandebroke had an extra second row ticket. I think now would be a good time to thank Jason for waiting patiently in line for 15 hours outside the arena to buy several first- and second-row tickets.

The show lived up to my expectations and then some. The set list had changed considerably from the Ames show, including my present favorite Pumpkins song, "By Starlight", as well as Gish-era favorite "Rhinoceros." To compensate for the addition of the two songs the band dropped "Today" and the 30-minute, jam-heavy "Silvercrank III". After the Ames show they also stopped inviting people on stage to dance during "1979". That was probably the saddest part, considering I was fully prepared to disco the whole three or so minutes of the popular radio hit.

Thankfully not all of the jams were taken out. "Porcelina of the Vast Oceans" was still over eight minutes and there were plenty of solos by both lead guitarist Billy Corgan and rhythm guitarist and all-around funny guy James Iha. It's nice to see that not all pop musicians have forgotten how to play the guitar.

I'm running out of room so I will briefly mention a few highlights from the show: I got to touch Jimmy Frog (long-time friend of the Pumpkins and guitarist for the band The Frogs), Iha was his usual witty, charming self, friends of mine got one of Billy's picks and I think some of Billy's spit may have landed on my knee.





## Van Wyk seeks to capture power and presence of nature in "Landscapes" exhibit

by Kristin Sybesma  
Staff Reporter

Professor Jake Van Wyk's art exhibit, "Landscapes," opened in the chapel mezzanine Jan. 17. It provides a beautiful and unique example of the splendor of nature, particularly in Northwest Iowa.

The show features primarily works of lithography, a difficult process which forces the artist to draw in black what he or she can see in color—to virtually work blind. The finished product proves either a pleasant surprise or a disappointment.

Van Wyk bases his work on the technique of gesture: to recreate the experience of being actually in nature in just a few lines. The most popular works are three depictions of a typical Northwest Iowa road. "Before Dawn," "Daylight," and "Dusk" bring out the beauty of a common scene during three points of the day.



Janeen Wassink

"By the Creek", a lithograph from Jake Van Wyk's new exhibit.

Van Wyk enjoyed the research involved in creating this show, and is planning to continue to incorporate nature in his art—particularly cloud structures. He feels a great deal of respect for nature, and

sought to capture its power and presence in his exhibit. "Nature is infinite in variety," Van Wyk said. "If someone thinks that he can recreate nature, he is a fool."

## Faculty present theatre recital

by Susan Vandermeer  
Staff Reporter

Professors Simon du Toit and Jeri and Dave Schelhaas, took to the stage recently to perform two pieces of drama for two evenings of entertainment. The Theatre Faculty Recital, presented by the Dordt College Theatre Arts Department, took place on January 18 and 20. The previous January 16 show was postponed to the 20 due to illness.

The first scene was from 27 *Wagons Full of Cotton* by Tennessee Williams. The audience was captured right in the middle of a conflict between Mississippi neighbors in 1935. Taking on the dominant, gruff character of Mr. Vicarro, duToit played alongside Jeri Schelhaas, who enacted the role of Flora. She was left at home by her husband with a secret she was not to reveal. In the midst of talking and flirting, a shocking end was in store as her secret came out and his domination took over, leading to abuse.

The stage became an empty Russian Theatre of 1887 in Anton Chekhov's *Swan Song*. Finding himself alone, du Toit, as an aging actor, must face the harsh reality that he has no one to go home to, no one who cares for him. He shares his despair and reminisces about his days of popularity with his old theatre friend, played by Dave Schelhaas. Together they recite Shakespeare and capture a life they both loved. And together they part.

The evening closed with a short question and answer period, when audience members reacted to the plays and the characters presented. According to those who attended, it was an overall success where raised. On being questioned about the characters, du Toit expressed his delight in being able to take on the role of a dominant and mean man, as he had in previous acting experiences. In addition, audience members were made aware of the work put into such a presentation. The recital had been planned in response to du Toit's desire to become involved in some off-campus acting. After refusing an opportunity du Toit approached the Schelhaas', who expressed a willingness to take part. Originally there were two or three additional pieces to be performed, but due to busy schedules, they were saved for another occasion.

Work on the presentation started over the summer and continued through the fall semester. The production gave audience members an excellent opportunity to see their colleagues, professors and friends present the culmination of these months of work.

## Campus Calendar

- Friday, January 31** Travelogue featuring the Netherlands will take place at 7:30 in the BJ Haan Auditorium. Tickets available at the door.
- Saturday, February 1** Get your team of nine together for airball in the gym. Sign your team up in the SUB this week or just come to the gym between 5 and 11pm Saturday.
- Sunday, February 2** Happy Groundhog Day!
- Tuesday & Wednesday, February 4&5** Talent extravaganza auditions will be held in the BJ Haan Auditorium from 7pm to midnight.
- Friday, February 7** Comedy league will provide hilarious entertainment in the SUB lounge. The fun starts at 11pm.

## Steinbach performs both classical and contemporary piano

by Matthew McNatt  
Staff Reporter

What do stopping, hitting, and plucking have in common? No, they're not all things you do to a runaway goose (they may be, but that's not important). Really, they're all things Richard Steinbach did to a piano on January 24th in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.

He stopped and plucked the strings and hit the keys to produce with astounding skill both classical and contemporary piano music. In fact, Steinbach is so adept that he recently won the French Piano Institute's International Festival in Paris.

The concert he performed

at Dordt both began and ended with much-loved classical songs, in between which Steinbach delighted Dordt students with contemporary piano.

Slides were shown to accompany a contemporary piano piece by George Crumb based on Giotto's Nativity frescos, and in "Caution to the Winds" Steinbach played a duet with an electric tape of fast-paced music; he even improvised a little.

Steinbach currently teaches at Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, but his skills were much appreciated at Dordt. As the French say, "Ci tu le manqué, déveine" (If you missed it, tough luck).

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JANUARY 30, 1997

## Women need some big wins to stay in playoff race

by Jesse Groen  
Sports Writer

The Lady Defenders, despite dropping nine straight games, are still in contention for post-season play. "We need to finish strong in the SDIC. . . and finish in the top four of the conference to make the play-offs," said coach Len Rhoda "(To do this) we'll need to really play well. . . and protect our homecourt. . . against Dakota Wesleyan and Dakota State." The team travels to the Black Hills this weekend to challenge top conference teams Black Hills State and South Dakota Tech, both of whom defeated the women in Christmas break match-ups.

### Lady Defenders 49, Black Hills State 70

Black Hills State was Dordt's first opponent after a three-and-a-half week hiatus. The Lady Defenders stuck with Black Hills in the first half, trailing by only six at the break. The Hills came out hot in the second half, however, outscoring the women 35-20 to produce a 70-49 win.

Pacing the Lady Defenders in scoring were Carla Geleynse and Cheryl Dykstra with ten a piece. Lynette Roos led the team with eight rebounds. Lisa Roos grabbed six boards and also contributed four blocks.

### Lady Defenders 61, S.D. Tech 91

In another Christmas break game the Lady Defenders met South Dakota Tech. Once again the women stuck with their opponents in the first half but were outscored 46-24 in the second to fall 91-61 to the visitors.

Lisa Roos and Alissa Beckering tossed in 12 points a piece to lead the Lady Defenders. Roos also led the team in rebounds and blocked shots with seven and four respectively. Geleynse found the open teammate four times for as many assists.

### Lady Defenders 65, Sioux Falls 75

The Defender Dome was the home of the final Christmas break game on January 7 when the Cougars of the University of Sioux Falls came to town. Dordt went into halftime with a two-point lead but struggled from the free throw line in the second half, resulting in a 10-point victory for Sioux Falls.



Janeen Wassink

### Carla Geleynse powers up a shot over a Lady Lancer in Dordt's 65-49 victory.

Lynette Roos, behind two three pointers and a couple of free throws, led the women with 16 points. Not far behind was Amber Krosschell with two from behind the arch as well and a total of 15 tallies. Lisa Roos and Erica De Kam had 13 and 11 counters, respectively, with De Kam

hitting 3 of 4 from downtown.

"There has been balance," noted Coach Rhoda, "(with nights like this) with four women in double figures". Balance is something which Rhoda cited in a preseason interview as a strong point of this team.

### Lady Defenders 67, Dakota Wesleyan 75

Despite stellar performances from Lynette Roos and Geleynse and three Lady Defenders in double figures the women came up short 75-67 against Wesleyan.

Roos was 2-2 on three pointers and 5-10 from the field in scoring 21 to lead the team. Geleynse, also 5-10 on field goals, put in eight of nine from the free throw line to contribute 18 points to the cause. Geleynse also had seven rebounds. Lisa Roos led the team in boards with nine, seven of them coming on defense. She also added 10 points for a near double-double.

### Lady Defenders 60, Dakota State 73

It was all Dordt in the first half of this contest. The Lady Defenders went into the break with a nine-point lead, only to be outscored 47-25 in the second half to lose 73-60. DSU shot an excellent 89% from the free throw line, converting 24-27. The free throw situation seemed to make the difference as Dordt shot well from charity stripe but only had ten opportunities.

Lynette Roos once again had a big night for the Lady Defenders, scoring 19 points and snaring four rebounds and two steals. Geleynse and Beckering also had good nights, putting in nine and eight counters, respectively. Beckering also added seven rebounds. Lisa Roos grabbed

seven boards as well.

### Lady Defenders 76, Huron 88

Despite a great night from De Kam, who scored a career high 25 points, the Lady Defenders fell to Huron 76-88. De Kam, who also had five rebounds and three assists, was 6-7 from beyond the 3-point line, as she set a Dordt record for most three pointers made in a game.

Lisa Roos had another good game, scoring 11 points and snagging nine rebounds. Geleynse dropped in nine points, picked up seven boards and handed out five assists. Krosschell contributed eight points to the cause.

### Lady Defenders 81, Westmar 42

Behind a total team effort and a good night from the field the Lady Defenders broke out of their nine-game skid with an impressive win over Westmar. Four women scored in double figures and Lisa Roos had the season's first double-double.

Leading the charge was Roos with 17 points, 10 rebounds, three steals and two blocked shots. Not far behind in the scoring parade were Lynette Roos and De Kam, both putting up 15 counters. Alissa Beckering chipped in 12 to round out the Lady Defenders in double figures. Beckering also added seven caroms. Dordt beat Westmar in every category, from field goal percentage to steals. Guard Allison Vis turned in six assists in the thumping.

### Lady Defenders 65, Mount Marty 49

In the annual homecoming game the Lady Defenders improved to 6-10 on the season with a win over Mount Marty. Power forward Geleynse put out an excellent effort in the matinee, scoring 18 points, grabbing four rebounds and snaring six steals. Lisa Roos also had another good game. Roos dropped in 14 tallies and managed seven rebounds.

Forward Erica De Kam came up big on the defensive end with eight of her 10 rebounds coming under the opposition's hoop. Dordt out-rebounded Mount Marty 40-35. Marlene Van Wingerden helped out with eight points and four caroms.

Dordt's next home game is Thursday, February 6, when the Lady Defenders take on Dakota Wesleyan in a men's/women's doubleheader.

## Indoor track into new season

by Amy Ruter  
Sports Writer

Dordt College indoor track is now underway. Head coach Syne Altena is optimistic about his Defenders, especially the "good core" of returning runners.

Making up a key part of that core are seniors Todd Schemper and Matt Howerzyl. Schemper specializes in the 800 meters while teammate Howerzyl runs the 55 meter hurdles and has represented Dordt twice at Nationals.

Matt's wife, Julie Howerzyl, is also a four-year athlete and the only returning senior for the Lady Defenders. She participates in the long jump and the triple jump.

Coach Altena looks forward to the upcoming season. "We have really promising young men in the mid-distances. This is potentially one of the strongest men's teams I've had," he said.

As for the women's team, Dordt took three events to Nationals in 1996: the 4 x 800 meter relay, the 800 meter run, and the 5500 meter hurdles. "Nationals were definitely the pinnacle of last year's season, and Nationals are certainly a goal for us again this year," Altena quotes. He anticipates a great effort from the 25 men and 16 women currently on the team.

The Defenders look to continue their indoor season February 1 and 15 in Vermillion, S.D.

## Volleyball head coach announces resignation

by Kate Dekker  
Editor-in-Chief

Patty Timmermans has stepped down from her position as head coach of women's volleyball. She cites personal reasons for her decision.

Timmermans, a 1991 Dordt graduate, has coached the Lady Defenders for the past three seasons, earning a win-loss record of 98-37. She also brought the team to two South Dakota-Iowa Conference championships, and led them to the NAIA National Tournament in 1995.

Athletic Director Rick Vander Berg says they will begin the search for a new coach immediately.

JANUARY 30, 1997

## Blades rock on despite adversity, record stands at 15-3-3 overall

by Martin Dam  
Hockey Guy

The first big news of the year is the end of another successful Canadian tour. Although we tasted defeat for the first time, going 2-3 on the week, we fulfilled our primary goal: spreading word about the high quality of hockey that can be played in Northwestern Iowa.

A special thanks needs to go to Case Boot, faculty advisor of the hockey program, for yet again coming on tour with the team. Dr. Boot has been associated with the team since its inception almost 30 years ago. This year's team would like to thank him for his efforts.

In the only college vs. college game, Dordt outworked Columbia Bible College for a 2-1 win. Erick Janssens kept things close while the rest of the team got its act together. Mark Bekkering and Jeff Wubs scored for Dordt. Those two, along with Brent Smeenk, will be in Holland for the spring semester.

The game plan at Drake called for our four defensemen to



Greg van Leeuwen

**Goalie Erick Janssens and D-man Jon Mooy scramble with a Drake player for a loose puck.**

log lots of ice time, while staying out of the penalty box. Offensively, Coach Jeremy Huygen decided to load one line with his three biggest offensive threats. That meant moving hard-hitting freshman Jeremy Hendrickson to the first line with Ben Saarloos and Jason Visser, and hoping the other two lines could play solid defense.

Friday night went pretty

much according to plan. Hendrickson had four goals and an assist, as Dordt went ahead 5-2. Goalie Erick Janssens played strong as they held on for a 5-4 win.

Saturday, Jeff Vandermeer had a hat trick as Dordt won again, this time 5-2. The key to these wins was defense. Everybody backchecked and played defense, and Drake rarely got an odd-man rush.

The following Wednesday, SDSU came to town and the 15-game winning streak ended. The team had valiant efforts from Anderson and a few others, but they weren't up to the challenge

that night, and lost 4-3.

This past weekend took the team to Aberdeen, South Dakota, to play Northern State, the perennial powerhouses of the league. Friday the team held with them for one period, but got blown out in the second and third, losing 10-1. The Blades were playing with only three defensemen, and the team was just outskated. Janssens played another stellar game, or it would have been a lot worse.

Saturday the team came in much more focused on the game plan that was successful at Drake. The whole team played tough, physical hockey.

While it's normal for guys like Hendrickson and J. Huygen to flatten a couple of opponents, I also saw bone-jarring hits from guys like Rich Vyn, deGier and Guy Ratcliff. Ratcliff also sacrificed his own body by blocking a bunch of shots.

Mark Nagtegaal played the most physical game I've ever seen from him, and Jason Visser was all over the ice, breaking up plays and setting up scoring chances. Janssens was a human

wall most of the night, as always. Izzy Huygen scored twice, and Saarloos and Hendrickson once each, as Dordt pulled out with a 4-4 tie.

Last night, South Dakota State University came to town, with Dordt recording a 6-5 overtime win. Travis Anderson scored twice, and Mooy and J. Huygen scored in the first two periods. I. Huygen tied it with under two minutes left in the game, and captain Vandermeer won it with 37 seconds left on the clock. With two wins this weekend, a play-off appearance is guaranteed.

The Blades play in Marshall, Minnesota, this weekend, as Southwest State plays host to the guys. After that, they'll be making trips to Brookings, South Dakota, and Kansas. Call Izzy or Jeff if you want gametimes, et al.

The playoff tournament will be in Worthington this year. Assuming the Blades make it, home-crowd advantage will be key. So plan on being there, because it's gonna be some intense hockey.

## Defenders fall on hard times; 4-7 since 6-1 start

by James De Boer  
Sports Editor

The Defenders had an exciting Christmas trip to say the least, but the three close games and the Washington weather took its toll on the men. After the 1-2 Washington trip, Dordt has gone 3-5 in its first eight conference games, bringing the team's season record to 10-8.

The men played three very good teams in Washington, as evidenced by their first game. Dordt took on Pacific Lutheran to open the three-game trip and dropped the triple overtime contest, 108-103. The Defenders turned around to beat St. Martins in a low-scoring contest the next night, 66-65. Western Washington then played Dordt in a game that had to be moved because of the weather. The men suffered a 78-75 loss.

The Defenders came home to Iowa and opened their South Dakota-Iowa Conference season January 3 by hosting Black Hills State. The Yellow Jackets grabbed an early lead, but Dordt worked to take a 42-36 lead at halftime. After watching their lead trimmed to two points, the Defenders finished the game on a 13-5 run to grab an 86-76 win.

Dordt hosted South Dakota Tech the next night. The Defenders stayed even with the Hardrockers until midway through the second half. With Dordt up 36-32, Tech used 17 unanswered points to blow the game apart. The Defenders scored only nine more points the rest of the game as the visitors shocked Dordt, 84-45.

The men then hosted Sioux Falls and the Cougars' first-year coach, Jay Schelhaas. Schelhaas, a 1990 Dordt grad and a former teammate of Dordt's head coach, Greg Van Soelen, coached his Cougars back to an 86-73 win after they had blown a 17-point lead.

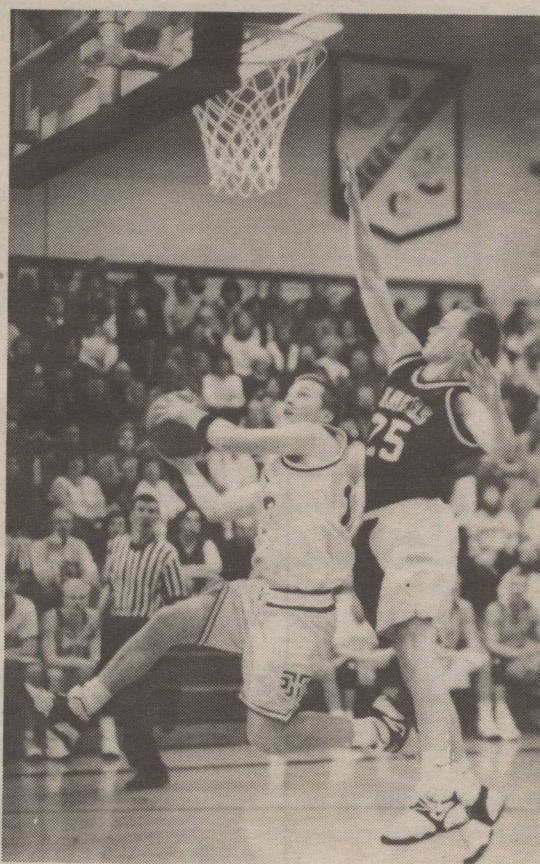
The Defenders' skid continued as they dropped road contests to Dakota Wesleyan and Dakota State. Wesleyan's, Tigers came into the game ranked 14th in the NAIA Div. II, and the Trojans came in without a loop win. But Dordt wound up short in both contests.

The Defenders fell to Wesleyan 95-89, and tumbled to Dakota State 100-87. Chris Huyser hit for 25 points against his former team, and 21 against Dakota Wesleyan.

Coach Van Soelen, disappointed that his team could score 89 and 87 points and still pick up a pair of losses, stressed defense and worked on it in practice before Huron came to Sioux Center. When the Tribe came to town two days later, they met up with a different Defender team than the one which had dropped four straight SDIC contests. Dordt turned up the defense against Huron and scored the first five points of the game, building a lead the men would never relinquish.

The Tribe did pull within one point two minutes before halftime, but Dordt had some unexpected help from Mike Fischer. The sophomore took the floor and calmly fired in the final five points of the half as Dordt held a 30-24 advantage.

In the second half, Huron never got



Janeen Wassink

**Nate Schelhaas attempts a low-flying lay-up in the Mount Marty loss.**

closer than five points as Dordt coasted to its first victory in over two weeks, 69-62.

Dordt hosted Westmar last

Thursday, as the men continued their quest to get back into the conference race. The Eagles flew to an early 7-2 lead, but Dordt exploded and ran to a 25-11 advantage. Westmar pulled within seven points, until the Defenders expanded to a 34-24 lead at halftime. The second half was all coasting for Dordt, as the men inflated their lead to 18 and rolled to a 76-60 victory.

Last Saturday, the Defenders hosted Mount Marty as part of the Homecoming activities. The Lancers, which handed Dordt three losses last year including a year-ending defeat in the playoffs, took a page from last year's book and beat the Defenders 77-60.

Dordt grabbed an early 4-2 lead, but Mount Marty turned around to explode to a 17-6 advantage. The Defenders hit ten straight counters to pull within one until the visitors regrouped and rebuilt their lead to 44-30 by halftime.

The Defenders worked to within nine points in the second half, as a pair of Ross Bouma free throws brought the score to 61-52. But Dordt went cold from there, scoring only eight more points, as Mount Marty held on for a 77-60 win. Tracy Winkle finished with a solid line-score of 16 points, five assists, four steals, two blocks and two boards.

The Defenders open the second half of their SDIC season this weekend with games at Black Hills State and South Dakota Tech. In the two remaining home games of the year, Dordt hosts Dakota Wesleyan on February 6 and Dakota State on the 13th.



Janeen Wassink

"You're just using me for rat candy!"

## Students and profs training for Rat Race

by Sarah Nieuwsma  
News Editor

Dr. Moes' Learning and Behavior Modification class has begun prepping their rats for Dordt's first rat olympics. About 15 rats will be competing in two of the three events: high jump, long jump, and hurdles.

The rats are stimulated in the training process, with the use of rat candy. "Before we began training, we had to get

the rats down to 85% of their original body weight," said trainer John Fikkert. "That

in the training of their rat, Manute, who they describe as being the runt.

"We let everybody else pick their rats first, and now we're going to train a rat to beat them all," said Fikkert.

De Boer stressed the point that steroids would not be used—by them, or the rat. And what do they expect to get out of these games?

"A ribbon," said De Boer. "—And education!"

**"We are going to train a rat to beat them all."**

**-John Fikkert**

way they're not starving, but they're motivated."

Fikkert is working with Pete De Boer

## The ins and outs of Web-Cat

by Heather Gregg  
Assistant Editor

### ACCESS

1) THROUGH NETSCAPE: from Dordt's home page, choose either "Web-based Library Catalog" or Information Services (then Library Information, then Web-cat)

2) FROM A UNIX TERMINAL: at the cc prompt, log in as catalog, then choose #1 Search Library Holdings (New SIRSI Interface). You'll be asked to select terminal type; if you're in Windows, choose VT100; on the library terminals, choose WYSE 30. SIRSI restricted rights will appear; press enter to continue. Hit enter or type B to begin; from there on, TAB will take you through the command choices at the top of your screen.

3) DO NOT attempt to access New SIRSI Interface through your own Unix account—the system is not yet set up to work that way.

### SEARCH

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#### Library Catalog

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**periodical title:** a list of journal titles containing the word(s) you enter will be displayed.

**browsing:** you'll be given an alphabetical list of the word(s) you enter by author, title, subject, series, or periodical title. Entering a call number will give you a shelf list of books.

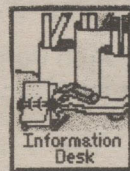
**term search:** to search by subject, use term search. This will provide a list of related, broader and narrower terms and will prevent overlooking useful material.

For each item you find under any of the search options, you will see a display of title, author, call number, book location, type of book, and year of publication. If you choose to view an item that you've found, more detailed information about the book will be displayed—including, if the book is checked out and the date it is due back.



#### Reserve Desk

This feature enables you to find out what materials have been placed on reserve, how long they may be checked out, and whether they are currently available. You can search by course number, course name, or instructor.



#### Information Desk Choices

This feature is currently empty. In the future it will include such information as the library's hours and new book lists.



#### User Services

This feature allows you to look up your own status as a patron—to find whether you have overdue material, unpaid bills, or items on hold. To do this choose 1 User Status Inquiry. You must enter either user ID (the barcode number on your student ID) OR alt ID (your cc login in CAPITAL LETTERS) AND pin (your ID number). Use TAB between steps and ENTER after you've entered your pin.

The Renew Materials feature is not yet operating; in the future, patrons will be able to renew their own library materials this way.

#### Print

The options available here demonstrate a marked improvement over the old catalog system. Choose this feature to print information you've found, e-mail it to your UNIX account, or download it to a floppy disk.

## Library gets new catalog system

by Paula Treick  
Features Editor

Finding a particular book in the vast netherworld of Dordt's library has taken on a whole new dimension. If the old catalog system was too confusing, too complicated or too limited, this new user-friendly system is right for you.

The new system uses the UNICORN Collection Management System from a company called SIRSI. With this set-up, Dordt students will be able to search other libraries' holdings, while at the same time other colleges will be able to search Dordt's holdings.

Library staff will have access to the public catalog, namely, new books and magazines will show up on the public catalog and be available as soon as they are recorded.

Another improvement: if the book you desperately need is checked out, you can find out who has it and then make a few harassing phone calls. Just kidding. But a simple glance at the computer screen will tell you when the book is due back at the library. Also, you can see what books you've checked out (Remember that pesky English project? Did you ever return that book?) and the grand total of your library fines.

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