

THE DIAMOND



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Friends gather to pay respects to B.J. Haan

by Shelley Westerhof

In mid January, students, faculty, friends, and relatives gathered to remember Rev. B.J. Haan, the founder and first president of Dordt, who died last December after a drawn out illness.

Several faculty members recalled their first dealings with Haan. Professor Emeritus Louis Van Dyke said that Haan immediately put him at ease. He remembers Haan for his unwavering dedication to Christian higher education and his tolerance to those who disagreed with him.

Professor Emeritus Russell Maatman called Haan "the Lord's man in the right place at the right time."

Haan's vision for a Reformed college in Northwest Iowa came to fulfillment in ways only he could see in 1953.

"The first Dordt defender," as Prof. Mike VandenBosch called Haan, had very little support for his vision when he started out. Zeal was his biggest asset, and his great faith fed his dream. Who would have thought that a mink farm and crop land would become a Christian liberal arts college with a student body from most states, provinces and several foreign countries? Haan did, and his life is a testimony to what faith can do if one leaves himself open.

Deborah Haan, Haan's widow, said that his

fervent wish upon death was to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Pastor Draayer said that the dead in the Lord are blessed because they receive rest from their toils and their deeds will be remembered. Haan's legacy, the campus on which we live and the principles on which this institution was founded, will stand long past his lifetime and ours



B.J. Haan in 1982, after 25 years of service as Dordt's president.

Staley Lecture--developing a more civil Calvinism

by Sonya Jongsma

Can Calvinists be civil? This was one of the questions addressed by Staley lecturer Richard Mouw during his visit to Dordt campus earlier this week. Mouw,

president of Fuller Theological Seminary, spoke to students in classes on Monday and Tuesday as well as lecturing in C160 on Monday afternoon and evening and speaking in chapel Tuesday.

Civility was a recurring theme in Mouw's presentations. He discussed the history of Calvinists' incivility, both to ourselves and to others. "It is hard to find both civility and strong convictions in the same person," he said. He defined civility as public politeness and courteous discourse in the public square.

Mouw said he'd rather try to "loosen up a bunch of conservatives than tighten up a bunch of liberals" because he said it is easier to get people with strong convictions to be civil than it is to give convictions to those with an "anything goes" attitude.

He had a number of suggestions to help Calvinists develop a more civil

Calvinism. Taking public life seriously and participating in politics is the first step to becoming more civil. Mouw said Calvinists have to work harder at being humble in the presence of people we disagree with, rather than getting carried away by our convictions and reacting in a way that stir up counterproductive behavior.

Mouw spoke out against a crusade mentality that leads Christians to rushes into action without looking at all sides of issues. He said Calvinists need more compassion, especially when dealing with the issues of abortion and homosexuality. He also emphasized the need to be more empathetic and identify with others because all humans, no matter how rebellious, are created in the image of God.

Nurturing Calvinist patience was another of Mouw's suggestions. He said we should take time to work

at problems even if they don't seem to have immediate solutions. "No one should ever give up and say, 'If God hasn't solved poverty yet, it must not be a big issue to him,'" Mouw said. "We need to continue to plug away where God puts us."

Finally he said we will be more civil if we can focus on where our true security rests: in Christ. "We should be able to gently and reverently give reason for our hope rather than spouting angry rhetoric," he said.

In his afternoon lecture Mouw talked about a scriptural worldview and our calling to be agents in public life who work for social justice.

"We learn to be complete disciples by exploring the complex Lordship of Jesus Christ," he said. "We need to know the range of Jesus' authority, power and office."

Mouw said that after

learning how to serve in the public arena, Christians need to carefully investigate public life. He called institutions like Dordt College "the last best hope of the academy," because he said spiritual undergirding is essential to the academic enterprise.

Mouw emphasized the need for empathy in dealing with public life issues. "We need to get inside others' ways of viewing things," he said. This will help us to connect with others and communicate more effectively with people who have different worldviews than we do.

"We need to see things in a Christ-like way," Mouw said.

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Concert choir gives winter tour

by Heather Gregg

While most Dordt students were still at home enjoying Christmas break, the 45 members of concert choir, along with their director and accompanist, spent a week performing their winter tour. But don't think that they weren't enjoying their break, too — most of them are quick to agree with sophomore Gina Elgersma's summary of the tour: "It was a lot of fun."

The choir members met here on Tuesday, Jan. 10 for an evening rehearsal. The following morning they boarded a bus and left for Lansing, Ill., the first stop on a tour which would also include performances in Michigan and Ontario.

The choir gave evening concerts in six Christian Reformed Churches and sang in two Sunday worship ser-

vices. They also did an assembly for mentally handicapped children at Elim Christian School in Illinois. A favorite there was a performance of music from "The Little Mermaid."

The students were hosted by families from the churches in which they sang, and usually were served supper at the churches before the concerts.

Before the final concert, they had a spaghetti supper with several choices of sauce. Some of that sauce is suspected to be the cause of food poisoning which caused several choir members to become ill throughout that night and the next morning.

The food poisoning did put a damper on the bus ride home—a planned Rook tournament was canceled and buckets had to be placed in the aisles—but it didn't have

much effect on overall impressions of the tour.

According to sophomore Mark Klompien, the tour "did a lot for the unity of the choir." Director Mr. Kornelis thought "it went very, very well—not only the way they sang, but the way they interacted." And junior Adele Koekkoek said, "It was great to see so many people come out to all the concerts, and we had fun getting to know some of them."

The tour wasn't all work and no play. The students spent a day seeing the sites in Toronto, and many Rook games did take place before the food poisoning hit.

The choir culminated the tour with an afternoon concert held on Sunday, January 22 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.



by Neil Graves

The Concert Choir, directed by Ben Kornelis, went on its winter tour during early January. They visited churches and schools throughout Ontario, Michigan, and Illinois. The repertoire included everything from folk songs about farmers to sacred music in Latin. They had a post tour concert at the BJ Haan auditorium on Sunday, January 22, 1995.

Dordt goes global

Many visitors and students on Dordt's campus often comment on the size of both Dordt itself and Sioux Center, and while some people praise the small town sense of community offered by Dordt's cozy campus, others mourn the loss of the big city urban experience in Sioux Center. Students who feel confined by Dordt should look a little closer because the campus is a lot bigger than it appears to be at first glance.

There are many educational programs that offer culturally claustrophobic students an opportunity to study off-campus. Dordt sponsors programs such as the Chicago Metropolitan Center, Netherlandic S.P.I.C.E. and a variety of others that allow study across the United States and overseas. Placement in these programs is co-ordinated by Abe Bos, the Associate Academic Dean, who once again this semester has arranged for several members of our student body to study abroad.

The Netherlandic Studies Program In Contemporary Europe (S.P.I.C.E.) is the program that contains most of our off-campus students this semester. Syla and Tanya Bacaam, Frank Bulk, Heather Dreisen, Jennifer Meinders, Rachel Meyer, Eric Vanderveen and Nicole VanNortwick are all studying in the Netherlands this semester. Foreign Language professors, Kornelis Boot and

John Struyk, make arrangements for the students' room and board and organize a group of professors to accompany them to the Netherlands. Once there, the students learn first hand about the Dutch culture and, in addition to Dutch language courses, can choose from a variety of classes in areas such as Art, Theology and Business.

The Chicago Metropolitan Center program is another opportunity available to Dordt students. The main goals of this program is to acquaint students with living and working in a large, metropolitan city and to help them deal with the problems that can arise out of such a situation. The program gives students practical work experience and offers educational seminars on topics like the fine arts and vocational values. Chris Clark, Michelle DeGroot, Jack DuMez and Jennifer Dyke are all representing Dordt in Chicago this semester.

Kristin Vande Griend is gaining valuable experience in third world service on the Latin American Studies program in San Jose, Costa Rica. Kristin, by learning the language and culture of Central America is better able to witness to the Latin people and equipped to understand the issues facing them. The program opens up many challenging options for service.

Chinese acrobats coming to town

by Marie VanderStelt

The Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats stop in Sioux Center for a show on Friday, Feb. 3. This world renowned Taiwanese troupe tours the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean this season.

The two hour show features a variety of acts and entertainment, for all ages. The performance boasts acrobatics, balance feats, Kung-Fu and dances of the Orient. The 18 acrobats wear traditional Far East costumes and perform to ancient Chinese musical instruments. These acrobats bring to us a style of

dance that has been an integral part of Chinese culture for over 2000 years.

Professional acrobats begin formal training by the age of 4 or 5. The learning is intense and fast-paced. By age fifteen they are skilled performers. Danny Chang directs this company of traveling acrobats. He is hailed as the leader for Taiwan-Chinese acrobatic culture.

The Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats have been awarded the Outstanding Performing Arts Attraction of the Year for the last five years. This award is made by

popular vote through the National Association of Campus Activities. Chang's company has performed all over the world in the past ten years.

Those who have questions are encouraged to contact the Sioux Center Recreation and Arts Council, who sponsored this event. Tickets for the performance are available at the Sioux Center city offices. Adults pay \$6.00 and children pay \$4.00. For more information call 722-0761.

Gender series takes shape

by Kendra Van Duyn

Is it okay for a guy to cry at a sad movie on the first date? Does your opinion of gender differ from your parent's view? What are some adjectives you would use to describe men/women? The preceding are just a few of the questions Dan de Boom and Rebecca Gerritsma have been inquiring of students across campus over the past weeks.

Gerritsma, is one of three student members on a gender issues committee who has been meeting since last semester. After doing the project, she commented that she was not too surprised at the responses, saying they were

pretty common.

These taped responses will be a part of a series of four discussion meetings to be held throughout the semester. Since gender is an issue that impacts all of our lives and something many have not considered before, the eight member committee decided there was a need for such a series here at Dordt.

The first of these meetings is scheduled for February 6 at 7:30 in C160 and will be an overview of the different aspects of the gender issue. The session will be structured as a formal discussion and all students are encouraged to attend.

Future sessions will be

on February 20, March 6, April 10 and 24. The videos and discussion series will include such topics as role expectations; family, marriage, and careers; dating and friendship; and gender in the classroom.

The main goal for this series, according to James de Jong, one of the five staff members on the committee is to "Open people's minds to consider their own ideas concerning the gender issue and to listen to other's ideas." They hope to open up discussion and get students to talk about what they think concerning their various roles and relationships.

Talent Extravaganza in planning

by Stephanie Brown

Coming February 17th is the fifteenth annual student Talent Extravaganza. The event will be held in the B.J. at 7:30 pm where approximately 15 selected acts will face off in unrivaled competition. Luke Schelhaas and Rebecca Sanford will jointly host the evening portraying the theme, "Follow the spotlight."

Those who have never attended a talent extravaganza can expect solos, original compositions, comedy, dance, skits, and other thought provoking and chuckle generating entertainment of both spiritual and secular themes. The Diamond has received word of auditions that range from a lawn chair drill team to a modern rendition of the classic, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight." This Friday a complete program will be published to announce the final list of performers.

There is one distinctive characteristic of previous years' that will not be continued. This is the long lines and chronic congestion of the B.J. prior to seating. The concept of ticket selling will reform this longstanding tradition. Anyone presenting

DC i.d. will be able to purchase tickets for either the main floor or the balcony beginning February 8 in the SUB. Each ticket will designate a row, leaving specific seating to the discretion of the ticket-holder. (Please retain your ticket stubs). At 6:00 the east and west entrances will be opened. The center entrance will be available for traffic by 6:30. Students are asked to refrain from arriving at 7:29; pre-show entertainment will be provided to keep you congenial until the show begins. Your cooperation is requested to ensure efficient seating.

Cash prizes of \$50, \$35, and \$20, will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Judging will be based on a 30 point scale with 10 points available in each of the following categories: 1) Quality of performance, 2) Stage presentation, 3) Audience response. A special prize (\$20) will be awarded to the evening's most original act. Prizes will be awarded at the show after a brief interlude to allow the judges to convene.

Everyone is invited to join in an ice cream social in the commons after the show.

world news

Vietnam: The U.S. opened a diplomatic office in Hanoi, for the first time since the Vietnam war, Vietnam will also open a diplomatic office in Washington.

Netherlands: More than 100,000 people were asked to leave their homes due to severe flooding.

U.S.: Trade talks with China ended in a standstill. The deadline for the talks is Feb. 4, and both sides are threatening tariffs and trade-sanctions.

U.S.: The space shuttle *Discovery* is scheduled to launch today for the Russian space station *Mir*. The mission will involve deploying a 35 million dollar astronomy satellite.

Sierra Leone: 24,000 people fled from Sierra Leone to Guinea, due to a rebel attack.

Kobe, Japan: The death toll due to the Jan. 17 earthquake passed 5,000, and some 300,000 are still homeless.

Chechnya, former Soviet Union: The war

in Chechnya is approaching the two month mark, and is spreading from the capital to smaller towns and villages. President Yeltsin's approval rating has sunk to 14 %.

Israel: A Palestinian suicide bombing killed 21 Israelis and wounded 64. This is threatening the Israel-P.L.O. peace talks.

South America: Ecuador and Peru have been fighting over country borders. Ecuador announced a cease-fire which Peru refused to confirm.



by Sara VandenBosch

Plifa will hold a soup supper fundraiser Sat. Feb. 4 in the West Commons.

The all-campus ski trip will

be on Sat. Feb. 11. Transportation will be provided and the cost is \$19 for lift ticket and \$14

for ski rental. A forum will be held on gender issues Mon., Feb. 6 at 7:30 in C-160.



WINTER HOURS

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THURSDAY

9 AM TO 9 PM

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

9 AM TO 8 PM

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1 PM TO 5 PM

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The Heart of the Matter

New Year's resolution: R-E-S-P-E-C-T



One ingredient that is often missing in our relationships is respect. We tread all over each other's feelings and convictions because we are certain that what we do and say does not affect other people, and if it does, it's not our problem.

This basic lack of respect is shouted quietly in many ways. When we vandalize our campus, we are saying that the work that went into making this campus livable counts for nothing in our minds. The people who spent months building, using their God-given gifts for our benefit, are overlooked. Where's the respect for them?

When we are quick to wave

other people off, in ordinary sidewalk conversations or in serious debate, we are not giving them the respect they deserve. When we make fun of and put other people down, we chip away at their image of God. We are saying that they aren't really as much of the image as we are. That self-centered attitude is not only dangerous, it is unbiblical.

We, every single one of us, male and female, every race, tribe, color, class, were created in the image of God. That is the best reason to respect other people. We don't have to agree with the other person, but we do have to be willing to listen.

We have to realize that what we do and say affects other people. When people don't respect me, I feel about two feet tall. I feel worthless to them, condescended to. If someone respects me, when they value my opinion, without necessarily agreeing with it, I become valuable, worthwhile, and intelligent.

If respect is inherent, assumed, in our relations with

others, they will respond in kind. If we all did this, the results would knock us over. Proper relationships would be restored, renewed, reformed. If we give respect unto others the way we expect they will give unto us, we can begin to act the way God would have us act.

If militant pro-lifers respected the other side instead of insisting that extremism is the only option without listening to anyone, abortion clinics would not be the targets of ruthless terrorism. They would be assaulted by prayer and legislation instead of automatic weapons. By the same token, if pro-choice advocates really respected human life in every form, they could not unconditionally support abortion on demand.

If students respected their teachers and children respected their parents, we'd have life-ready, polite kids and sane adults. If parents respected their children and treated them as potentially responsible adults, their children

would have a sense of self-worth and self-confidence, even self-esteem.

If people in the church respected each other, the Christian Reformed denomination would not be splintering into little sects so sure of their righteousness that they forget that they are part of a covenant body, with responsibilities to that body.

My hope for this semester is that we can respect one another in such a way that we can dialog meaningfully—in plain English—talk in a way that actually accomplishes something. In the upcoming gender series, I hope that we can shed our prejudices and presuppositions and really listen to what the other people have to offer. We might learn something. We just might need to learn something.

-s.a.w.

—Diamond 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 by 5:00 the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue.

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Editor-in-Chief: Shelley A. Westerhof

Assistant Editor: Sara Vanden Bosch

Features Editor: Katie Dekker

News Editor: Heather Gregg

Photo Editor: Neil Graves and

Janeen Wassink
Sports Editor: Ryan Vander Plaats

Layout Editor: Derrick Vander Waal

Advertising: Joe'l Mayfield
Copy Editor: Kristen Westerhof

Computer Layout: Travis Rayhons

Columnists: Henry Bakker

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Get out of the gutter

by Henry Bakker

I attended the American College Theatre Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska last weekend. It was interesting spending several days interacting with students from several large state universities. It was also somewhat distressing.

Saturday night's entertainment involved watching a theatre sports team demonstrate some improvisational games, much like the ones played in Dordt's own comedy league. The difference lay in the mentality behind a Dordt theatre team and that of the team in Lincoln.

When Dordt's Comedy League was being formed Sharon Daggett, an experienced improv player, ran a workshop on improvisational games. She stressed the importance of avoiding scatological and sexual humour as being cliché and unimaginative. It is tempting to use because often it is an easy way to get a laugh, even if the laugh is

only used by someone to hide the fact that they feel violated.

Avoiding the cheap laugh challenges the player to extend their imagination and create situations that are truly funny without offending anyone. The theatre sports team we saw in Lincoln used every cheap trick in the book to get a laugh, from having a man strip to his yellow and pink tie-dyed underwear, to miming sexual intercourse and various types of sadomasochism.

The crowd loved it. Many of them were practically falling out of their chairs they were laughing so hard. All except the table the Dordt students were seated at. Our faces displayed various degrees of disgust, anger (at having our intelligence so insulted), or indifference (some of us had stopped paying attention long ago and were involved in a conversation or lost in thought).

Dordt's Comedy League gets a good turnout.

People enjoy themselves and they laugh just as hard as people were laughing that night in Lincoln. Sexual humour is not a necessary part of entertaining a crowd.

I was seriously disappointed that night. The audience was a roomful of university students, all of them involved in theatre in one way or another. I was amazed at how ignorant educated people could be and it made me afraid for the future of the arts.

Someone might argue that sexuality has been repressed for centuries and that it's healthy to be able to refer to it openly and disrespectfully and to laugh at it.

That's a lie. Sexual humour appeals to our basest instincts. It feeds on our animal desire to copulate and it reduces us from intelligent creatures with souls, will power and values to the level of cats screaming in an alley.

Overheard

"So God said to Abraham, 'Yes, finally I know you are a dufus.'"

--Jodie Zwart confused about the pronunciation of Oregon.
--Kris Huenink retelling what she got out of Prof. Williams' Theo101 lecture.

in British Columbia and name it after Organ."

--Heather VanDorp describing Eddie Vedder's new hair cut.

"It's just like Seth's hair, but a bit longer and styled all different."

"They come from the pubitory gland, I mean the pituitary gland. I must have been thinking of puberty. I mean puberty."

"I want my mother."

--Carol Vaandrager overwhelmed by a new semester.

"I wish everyone would just leave me alone...but make sure you come check on me."

--Patti Landstra also overwhelmed by the new semester.
--Rebecca Van Esen after one of "those" days.

--Mahaffy discussing sex hormones and further confusing his Bio101 class.
"Under God we were born free. Misguided men robbed us of our freedom."

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The Chargers were robbed. The officiating was terrible in the Superbowl."

--Brian Wilgenburg

"We'll start a commune on an island"



HAIRSTYLING

PERMANENTS

TANNING

Stylists-

Renae Visscher
Greta Van Zee
Julie Ten Napel
Janelle Goslinga

Paula Van Dyke
Janet Brunsting
Missy Driesen
(712) 722-0008

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A hearty thank you to all students who have submitted quotes to the Overheard column. Keep those quotes coming in!
Send quotes to:
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DC 595

The Diamond reserves the right to choose which quotes are suitable for publication.

Sports Extra

Vander Berg announces retirement

Basketball coach Rick Vander Berg has announced he will retire after the 1994-95 season. Vander Berg will continue his teach duties at Dordt, as well as assuming an expanded role as athletic director.

"Because of the demands on the position, the athletic director position needed to be expanded," Vander Berg said. "This is a good step for all our sports programs, both men's and women's. I will have more time to work on all our programs, which will benefit both coaches and athletes. It's a very positive move."

In his 17th season as the Defenders' head coach, Vander Berg has amassed a record of 290-221.

Vander Berg's career was highlighted by a 25-5 squad in 1987-88. Dordt made its way to the NAIA national quarterfinals in what is visibly the Defender's best season ever.

The on-court leader of Dordt's 1987-88 team will now lead the Defenders from the sidelines. Assistant coach Greg Van Solen has been named as Vander Berg's successor.

Van Solen averaged nearly 30 points per game in his four years as a varsity starter. The Dordt record book still looks like his personal resume, as he holds ten records.

The future head coach also brings professional basketball experience to Sioux Center. Van Solen played in the CBA and European pro leagues.

Elgersma named UMAC coach-of-the-year

Four Defenders named to UMAC Honor Team

Dordt soccer coach Bill Elgersma was named Upper Midwest Athletic conference coach of the year after leading the Defenders to their fifth straight UMAC title.

Elgersma earned the award by maintaining conference dominance after the squad lost nearly two-thirds of its 1994 roster. The second year coach made the most of returning players and a talented freshman class in Dordt's championship run.

The Defenders were nearly unstoppable in the UMAC, posting an 8-0 record. Dordt's defense controlled conference opponents, allowing only one goal in league play. Offensively, they scored 33 goals (4.13 goals per game).

Elgersma's championship team also landed four players on the UMAC Honor Team: senior forward Chris Hull, junior keeper Kevin Caspersen, sophomore fullback Eric Vander Mey, and freshman midfielder Erik Van Riessen.

Volleyball stand-outs commit to Defender squad

The Dordt volleyball team recently received good news from just a few miles north. Hull-Western Christian teammates Kim Van Kley and Mindy Boogerd announce they will join the Defenders for the 1995 season.

Van Kley, a setter, and Boogerd, a hitter, were instrumental in Western's Iowa Class 2A state championship run this past season.

Van Kley was named the Iowa Player-of-the-Year for classes. She was also an elite team member, captain of the all-state tournament team, and two-time Class 2A first team pick.

Boogerd was a Class 2A first-team member for the Indians.

Women Improve on Rough Beginning

By David Huffman

The lady defenders, coming off a loss at Northwestern, turned it around Saturday with a victory at Peru State by a score of 62-60.

The lady Defenders, 6-12 on the season, beat a good Peru State team which boast a record of 15-4, and is ranked number one in the Midwest's Southern District. The win was especially sweet for Dordt after poorly in a loss at Northwestern last Tuesday. "It was a big win for us", said coach Rhoda, whose team started off the season losing their first seven games.

The victory on Saturday might be looked upon as a microcosm of the entire season. The lady Defenders seem to come up big when it matters most. After beginning the season 0-7, the lady Defenders beat a good Wartburg team at home to end the streak. That coupled with a victory at Dakota State before break, and win against Northwestern after break gave a sign of things to come for the lady Defenders.

One of the major reasons for the turn around has been the guard play. "Our guards have really improved in their ability to get the ball up under pressure", said coach Rhoda who is very proud of his teams improvement over the course of the season. The

guards consist of senior Val Gritters, junior Jill Van Essen, and junior Kari Vanden Hoek. In the middle forward position is junior Joy Veenstra, who arrived late due to Volleyball, but has made a big difference at center. Junior Anita Tinklenberg plays forward and is already the teams all-time leading rebounder. Rounding out the starting five is junior Jeanette Nydam who has made solid contributions at the other forward position. Off the bench for the lady Defenders is senior Carla Zevenbergen, sophomore Kris Cnossen, sophomore Evelyn Hofer, freshman Colleen Hofer, and freshman Cherilyn Dykstra. Each has made contributions toward the teams success.

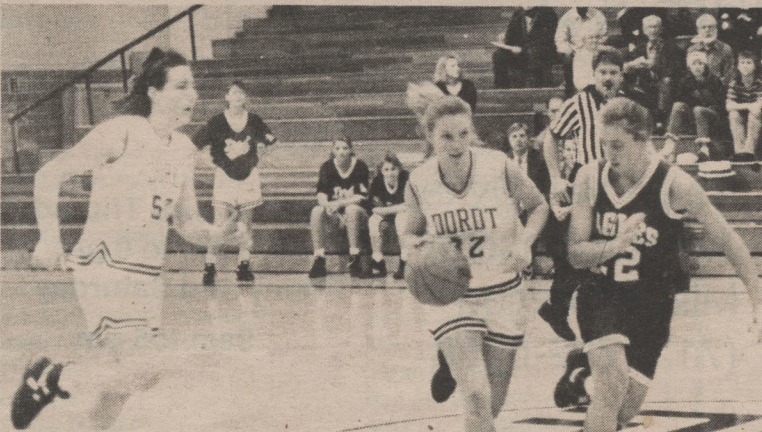


by Janeen Wassink

Freshman Cherilyn Dykstra makes a post move against Tekiyo-Westmar.

The scoring for the lady defenders has been extremely balanced this season, with many different players stepping up in big games. The leading scorer for the lady Defenders is Jill Van Essen averaging 11.6 points per game. Others scorers are Anita Tinklenberg at 11.0 points per game, and Joy Veenstra averaging 10.7 points per game. The leading rebounder is Tinklenberg at 8.3 boards a game.

The lady Defenders are currently ranked 5th in the Southern Section, and are on line to make the playoffs. Home court advantage for the opening round is dependent upon how they play their final seven games of the year. No matter how the lady Defenders do in the playoffs, their ability to step up in adverse situations has made this season a successful one.



by Janeen Wassink

Jill Anema drives up floor as Anita Tinklenberg looks on.

Dordt prepares for final home stretch

by Derrick Vander Waal

After playing nine out of ten games on the road, the men's basketball team hopes that its return back to the friendly confines of the Dordt gymnasium will spur a strong finish to the regular season. Dordt opened a stretch of five home games on Tuesday night with a slim 81-79 victory over a struggling Teikyo-Westmar team. This win and Saturday's 81-73 win at Peru State upped Dordt's overall record to 9-11. With four games left against tough competition, Dordt hopes that its home court advantage will be a factor in these games.

Dordt opened its road trip with an impressive 97-80

as they were unable to cut the deficit any closer than six points. Kyle Van Zee, Tracy Winkle, and Dave Van Essen were named to the all-tournament team.

Dordt ended its Christmas break with a 97-75 loss to Briar Cliff. A game against York College was cancelled due to a scheduling error by York. A later game at home against York was also cancelled.

As the second semester commenced, Dordt recorded a lopsided 90-71 victory at Teikyo-Westmar. The first half was a good battle as neither team was able to gain a significant advantage as Dordt pulled out to 44-38 lead at halftime. During the

ended. A long three-pointer at the buzzer by Northwestern took away the momentum Dordt had going into halftime and gave Northwestern a 42-29 lead.

During the second half, Northwestern's lead ballooned to as much as 18 points with four minutes left in the game. Dordt was unable to put on any serious runs at Northwestern in the second half although they closed with in seven points with a minute left. Van Zee and S. Van Essen topped Dordt with 18 and 16 points respectively. Three-point shooting was the difference in the game. Northwestern sank 11 of 23 while Dordt only hit two of 15.

Dordt followed up the loss against Northwestern with another loss at Mount Marty, 91-73. Dordt shot poorly in the first half but were down only by the 38-31 margin at halftime. During the second half, Mount Marty overwhelmed Dordt exploding for 53 points. Dordt's 33 percent shooting for the game was the difference in the game.

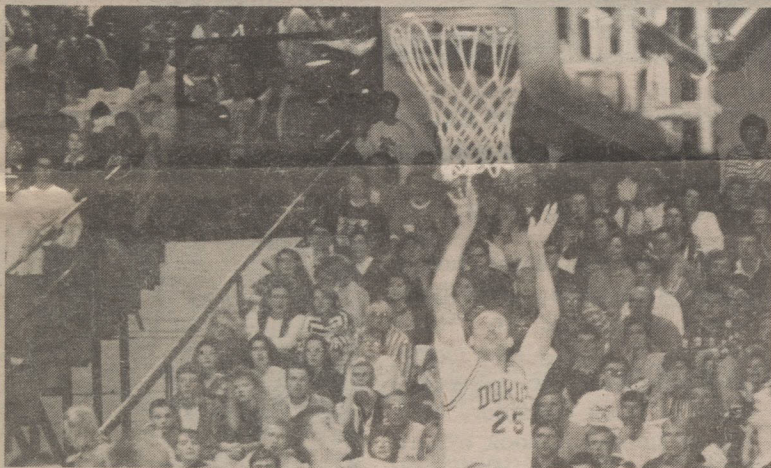
Dordt travelled to Peru State on Saturday and won tightly contested game, 81-73, against solid competition. The entire first half was a back and forth battle as neither team was really able to gain an advantage. Dordt held a slim lead at halftime, 38-35. The half remained close until Dordt took control during the final minutes of the game. Dordt's 67 percent shooting performance during the second half propelled them to their eight point victory. Dordt shot 56 percent for the game and canned 20 of their 26 free-throw attempts.

On Tuesday, Dordt began a five game home stretch with a 81-79 win over Teikyo-Westmar. Dordt fell behind early in this game, 14-11. Dordt came back and lead by one point when Van Zee hit four free-throws off of a technical foul called on Teikyo-Westmar. Dordt continued to build on its lead

and took a 47-34 lead into the locker room. Schelhaas keyed Dordt in this half with three consecutive three-pointers.

Dordt expanded on its lead during the early minutes of the second half to as much

77-73. Teikyo-Westmar responded by draining a three-pointer to pull within one. Jason Nikkel hit two free-throws to put Dordt ahead, 79-76, but again Teikyo Westmar did not fold as they hit a three-pointer to



by Niel Graves

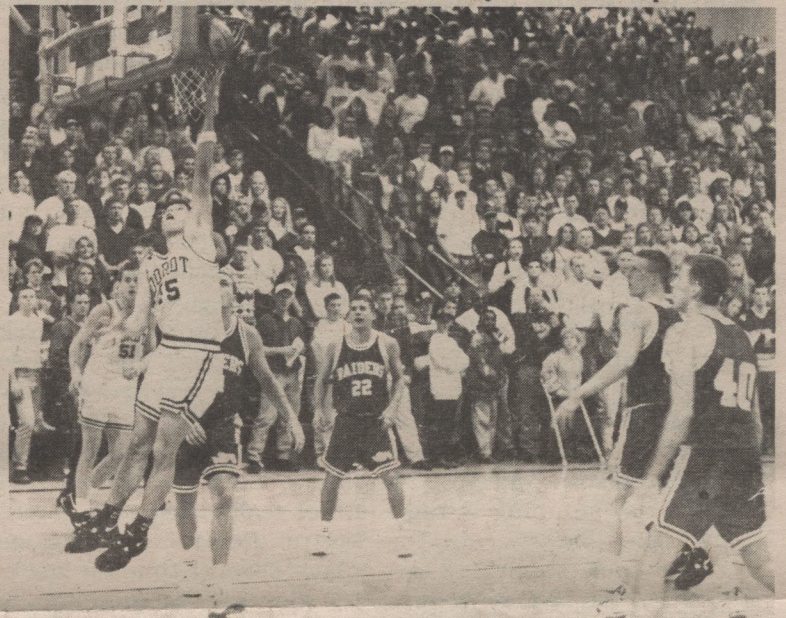
Scott Van Essen shoots the short jumper as the large Dordt - Northwestern crowd looks on.

victory over Northwestern to even their record at 5-5. Dordt ran off the first 17 points of the game and led by as much as 33 points during the second half before finally cruising to the final 17 point margin. Dordt then dropped two heart breakers on the road against Dana (100-97) and Dakota State (80-78).

During Christmas break, Dordt travelled to Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL to participate in a four team tournament. Dordt took second place after defeating Pillsbury in the opening round 89-81. In the championship game against Trinity, Dordt lost 95-82 after falling behind early 27-12. Dordt was unable to recover

second half, Dordt took control and lead by as much as 28 points before finally finishing the game with the 19 point margin. Dordt was sizzling from three-point ranging draining ten of their 20 attempts.

Dordt returned for its first home game in over a month, but they were handled in a hot shooting performance by Northwestern, 96-86. This game was a total reversal of the first game against Northwestern, as Dordt was really never able to get anything going in this game. Northwestern jumped out to quick 10-2, 19-6, and 26-10 leads before Dordt finally closed within ten 10 points right before the half



by Niel Graves

Barry De Haan lays up two points against Northwestern.

as 17 points at 55-38. Teikyo-Westmar then went on a 20-6 run to pull with three points at 61-58. Dordt took control again and scored 12 of the next 18 points to jump ahead 73-64. Teikyo-Westmar again battled back scoring nine consecutive points to tie the game at 73. Scott Van Essen then hit two key free-throws and a long jumper to put Dordt ahead

tie the game. Nathan Schelhaas hit the game winner with four seconds left as he drove to the baseline and sank an eight foot jump shot.

On Saturday, Dordt host the always tough Briar Cliff team. Over the years Dordt has had some excellent battles against Briar Cliff at home, so look forward to a good game.

Blades battle winter doldrums

With the loss of goaltender Erik Janssens to a finger injury, The Blades' winter tour of south western Ontario was destined to be a struggle at best. The tour in early January included stops in Woodstock, Aylmer, Wellandport, and Burlington, and games with teams from Redeemer and Calvin colleges. Unfortunately, the Blades failed to pull a win from any of the contests though they did manage to tie once. The final game of the tour resulted in a 10-1 loss to Calvin college.

Disheartened but ever

hopeful, the Blades faced Northern State, the best team in the league, the first weekend of the new semester. Friday night's healthy crowd saw their Blades drop the game 12-2. Though close in the first half of the first period, the game slipped away from the team.

As characteristic of the blades, the team refused to give up despite the widening score gap. Northern State went on to win the second of the weekend's games Saturday afternoon.

'Rook is life'

by Katie Dekker

It's not unusual to see students stumbling up to their rooms, sleepy and bleary-eyed, at three, four, or even five in the morning. They fall to sleep the instant they fall into bed. They put off homework, give up a "normal" social life, and ignore their consciences' urges to study, all to participate in this activity of increasing popularity.

These students haven't been out bar-hopping and partying all night. Instead, they've been whiling away the hours feeding their addiction. It's not alcohol, or heroine, or even crack. It's called Rook. And it seems like once a person starts, stopping is nigh unto impossible.

The craze seems to have begun in early December, and now, nearly every night, there is a Rook card game going on somewhere—especially in West Hall. "It's like an epidemic. No one knows where or how it starts," reflected sophomore Andy Schuttinga.

Sophomore John Fikkert and some other West Hall

residents came up with the idea of having a Rook tournament, and Fikkert set it up. Originally for just West Hall, the tournament has grown to include whoever wants to play. Forty people signed up.

"There were about 20 or 30 people playing [every night]," Fikkert said. "It seemed like a very popular thing to do. I've always known how to play Rook, but it really caught on when a lot of people learned how to play over Thanksgiving break."

Sophomore Mark Memmelaar was one of those people who learned to play last November. Memmelaar said his uncle almost forced him to learn how to play. "I never really liked card games before," he said. But now he plays several times a week. Incidentally, Memmelaar is also the one who coined the phrase, "Rook is life."

Rook is a fairly simple game, involving eleven cards in each of the four colors, plus the Rook card, which is worth the most points. The object of the game is to collect the most point cards each hand. The first team to

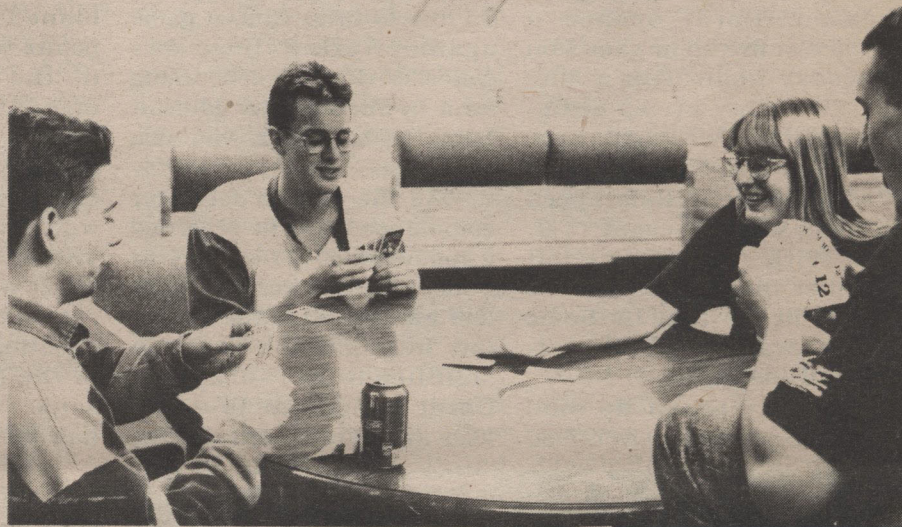
make it to 500 points is the winner. One game usually takes five or six hands.

While the first Rook tournament game was being held in East Hall last Tuesday night, four people were playing a few practice hands in West Hall. In between hands, one of the players, Michelle Dykstra, called East Hall to check the score on the tournament game. Dykstra reported the score and went back to her own game, but continued to get updates from the tournament game every now and then. People want to know exactly what's going on in the tournament. It's almost as intense as getting the scores in the Final Four.

In the meantime, another game started in West

Hall's lounge. People wandered in and out of the lounge, checking the score and offering their own advice

makes no sense. But to a "Rookie," it is completely understandable.



by Janeen Wassink

Andy Schuttinga (left) smiles as his partner Katie Dekker rakes in the cards. Dan Oppeneer and Scott Kooiman contemplate their next move.



by Janeen Wassink

Gerrit Brouwer (far right) laughs in triumph as Henry Vander Stelt (center) ponders his loss. Also pictured, from left: Mark Memmelaar, Scott Kooiman, Michelle Dykstra.

to the players. Even though players range in skill from "Just learning" to "Rook expert," it seems like everyone who has ever played a hand of Rook considers himself or herself a Rook expert. Everyone has a different strategy.

Players might go an entire hand without speaking, or they might participate in "table talk," an illegal activity in which players try to subtly let their partners know what they have in their hands. "If you have a lot of red and green, you can say 'I feel like Christmas!' Or, if you have a lot of black and yellow, you can say, 'I'm a Dordt Defender!'" Ryan Vander Plaats advised.

The game in the lobby dissolved and Dykstra checked on the tournament game again. She came into the lounge to give the news, in Rook jargon, of course: "Looks like [April and Libby are going to win]. They have 455, and they took the bid and called green. April has the one, and Libby has the 14 and the Rook."

To someone who knows no Rook, this announcement

Advice to Rookies

"Never announce that you have the 'bird card' in your hand."

—Bethany Baker

"Always be cocky when you're ahead. When you're ahead you're allowed to talk trash."

—Andy Schuttinga

"If you don't have any green, don't pick green for trump."

—Gerrit Brouwer

"No trump is for wimps."

—John Fikkert

"Rook is all-consuming... Develop good hand signals. It helps to know sign language."

—Henry Vander Stelt

"Go big, or stay home!"

—Katie Dekker

"Never let the bid go under 130."

—Travis Rayhous