

# Diamond

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## The Foreigner offers drama, comedy, romance

by Inthila Cam  
Staff Writer

Dordt's spring theatre production premieres this evening at TePaske Theatre. Larry Shue's *The Foreigner*, with its dynamic cast and intriguing plot, promises an evening of drama, romance, and laughter. The play will also be performed on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 11 and 12.

The rustic setting for the play is Betty Meek's Fishing Lodge Resort, located somewhere in Georgia. It is a very modest and simple place, next to a lake where people come to hunt and fish. The lodge is visited by characters who all come for their own reasons. Siblings Catherine and Ellard Simms (Joy Kadyk and Doug Keller), have been persuaded to come to the lodge by Catherine's suitor, the Reverend David Marshall Lee (Bob Wasserman). The main character, Englishman Charlie Baker (Mark Vis), seeks diversion from his life as a proofreader, and from his promiscuous wife (with her 23 lovers). He had been bored and depressed, so "Froggy" Le Sueur (Clarke Huisman), on a military assignment, took his friend Charlie along to the lodge.

As the story unfolds, the characters meet with the masks and fronts they have set up in front of themselves.

Ellard had always been considered slow, Catherine believed she was in love with a man she did not really know, Charlie was afraid of talking, and Betty thinks she would be more content if she had traveled and seen the world. Their real identities and personal beliefs are revealed when Charlie masquerades as a foreigner, pretending he cannot speak English so he doesn't have to talk.

First, members of the Ku Klux Klan try unsuccessfully to run the unwelcomed foreigner out of town. Ellard tries to teach Charlie to speak English, but in the meantime he learns of his own worthiness and his own special talents. Catherine discovers that David is only out for her money, and that he is a racist. Betty realizes from the excitement of the struggle with the Ku Klux Klan that she was happy where she was. Charlie learns to interact with others and lets his guard down to show his real self.

The main theme of *The Foreigner* is that people have to learn to accept themselves in order for others to accept them. No matter what type of person one is, true acceptance has to work in one's self first, and then it can shine in others.

Dr. Koldenhoven, the director of the play, is very satisfied with *The*



Doug Keller, Mark Vis, and Joy Kadyk rehearse a scene from *The Foreigner*

Photo by Paul Vande Kamp

*Foreigner*. He chose this particular play because he wanted to find one that would deal with internationalization, a prominent topic at Dordt. *The Foreigner* fit that requirement.

"It's been a lot of fun directing. I have two excellent helpers, Nancy Schiebout and Vonda Sjaardema," he

said. Schiebout and Sjaardema are the stage manager and assistant stage manager. Koldenhoven also comments that while the rehearsals have sometimes been slow and frustrating, the cast is "absolutely ready" to perform. ♦

## Americans, Vietnamese discuss racism

by Ryan Hoekstra  
News Editor

A few weeks ago, an incident involving American and Vietnamese students created quite a stir on Dordt's campus and raised many questions among Dordt students.

About three weeks ago, as a small group of Vietnamese students walked through West Hall speaking in Vietnamese, an American student made a comment about their speech from his room, followed by a strong derogatory term. One Vietnamese student took the comment as a slam against his family, his language, and his country. He confronted the student whom he believed responsible for the comment, but the American refused to fight, claiming that he had not made the comment. The conflict developed into a fight a day later.

As a result of the fight, Dean Marion Van Soelen met with residents of West Hall to resolve the problem of Vietnamese-American tensions and to voice complaints. No Vietnamese students were present at this meeting.

According to one West Hall resident, "The meeting was positive just to get things straight." Other West residents agree that the meeting "cleaned up things that people weren't sure about."

But others feel that the meeting "promoted the problem by letting Van Soelen represent the Vietnamese" instead of allowing the Vietnamese students to speak for themselves. "Van Soelen had us all out to be racists," said one West resident, a sentiment echoed by other students.

The incident was a visible sign of a problem that has been on Dordt's campus for a long time. According to junior Su Tran, "The problem has developed from a couple of months ago." According to Tran, the main problem is the smell of some Vietnamese food. But other small problems have arisen as well, such as speaking in their native tongue, an occurrence which many American students resent and feel uncomfortable with.

Other problems have been derogatory comments and lewd gestures, according to Tran. One such incident happened to him when he waved to a fellow driver at the four way stop and was "flipped off" in response. "Why do they do it to me?" he asked. "Have they done it to you?"

"Many small things get to us, hurt us, so we pull back," said Tran. This pulling back has been interpreted by American students as unfriendliness.

"We assume they don't need us," said a West Hall student. "We think they're stuck up when they walk past and do not look up or say 'hi'."

The actions of the American students were "getting pretty blatant," one student said. The culmination of these actions was the confrontation between the Vietnamese and the American student. Now the racism and prejudice is more subtle, this student explained.

One result of the incident has been a new policy regarding cooking in the residence halls. Students who cook in the halls must now open the windows and close the doors of their rooms.

Another positive result of the incident has been the open questioning of racial stereotypes and prejudice here on campus by many students. According to John Vander Kruk, a freshman, the purpose of his letter in the last issue of the *Diamond* was to challenge Dordt students to question "why we have discrimination" at Dordt. "The actual fight is not the issue," said Vander Kruk.

Several students have voiced opinions about the Vietnamese culture and its place in American culture and at Dordt. "They've got a right to be here," said a West Hall resident, "but

they are coming into our culture, and we don't have to adapt to their culture." "If they want to become Americans, they're gonna have to change to our [culture]." Others would not take it quite as far. "They can keep their culture, but should understand ours."

Not all students have reacted negatively to the West Hall incident. Many students have risen to Vander Kruk's challenge and have actively questioned their views and others' views regarding the Vietnamese. "It would be a sad commentary on the college if they weren't here," said one student. Some believe that the Vietnamese have had it pretty tough and admire the fact that they stand up for their rights. Although "the Vietnamese are not nearly as dominant" as Americans, said Vander Kruk, "they're tough." "They work hard for their grades," a West Hall resident pointed out.

So what have been the results of all the discussion regarding Vietnamese-American tensions? "We're talking about it," said one student. "We should be doing something and we don't. It's not a Christian approach,

See RACISM, page 7

## editorials

# Holding out for a higher education

The Oregon Extension provides an example of what higher education should be like. In a remote, forested area of southwestern Oregon, this community of five professors, their families, and 30 students inhabit the cabins of an old logging camp, discarded after the stock market crash of 1929.

The brochure calls the setting rustic, and on arrival I felt the place was reminiscent of a summer camp I attended as a youth. The rooms were covered with odious-looking wall paper from the psychedelic era. The couch was so fuzzy that I wondered if it had ever been new. Overall, the cabin felt bare, and I wondered how I could live there for four months.

At least in this instance, looks were deceptive, especially since our cabin was the only one that hadn't recently been redone. I came to appreciate the surroundings, and if staying would have been possible, I would have stayed. This is the worst thing about the program: it's only one semester long. But after that consideration, everything else turned out to be better than I imagined. As always slightly skeptical anyways, I didn't go with outrageous expectations. I had heard the hype, but I still couldn't tell how I would like it.

Read a few books, chop a little wood was their motto. Book reading sounded great, but being of slight build, I wasn't overenthused about proving that I was a real outdoorsman. Heck, I had been on family camping trips, been on backpack trips, and avidly played outdoor sports, but I was more of an indoorsman. High strung as I was when I was there, I never split a piece of wood and went hog wild reading an impressive list of thirty books.

We did get to do some physical labor

every other Friday afternoon, though, and I got a taste of what hoeing potatoes, stacking wood, burning underbrush in controlled fashion, and cleaning fire-charred pots was about.

What was most outstanding about the program is hard to say—not because I can't think of anything but because it was all so good. The program allows the students to develop in the areas where they are weak.

I was weak in being social, so that was where I saw my greatest improvement. By the end of the semester, my roommates and I were in the habit of discussing issues for three hours a day after the initial holding back in the early part of the semester.

I would have a hard time overpraising the program. My fantasies paled in comparison to the realities. One of my friends and I say wistfully that maybe it would have been better not to have gone because then we wouldn't have to always be striving to recapture that incredible sense of community.

But don't get me wrong. Life was still life. I still had to take morning dumps, brush my teeth, and deal with the afternoon doldrums. The OE wasn't a transcendent existence, it was just life lived to its fullest. Even then I didn't always take full advantage of every opportunity, but at least those opportunities were there and I knew what I was choosing when I didn't participate.

The intellectual perspective was as unique as all the other elements of the program. A solid understanding of the Bible combined with critical thinking about the perspectives of Karl Marx, Jacques Ellul, and Karl Barth formed the core of the collective social brain. Other luminaries such as Walker Percy, Soren Kierkegaard, Ernest Becker, and Peter Berger also made

their way into the curriculum.

The academic calendar was likewise unique. The semester, divided into four segments, allowed for concentration on one subject at a time, with side trips to San Francisco, the Oregon Coast, and a backpack trip in the mountains strategically placed between segments. Each segment was about three weeks long, with the first week and a half seeing all students studying core reading and the second half concentrating on work in an area that they wanted credit in. The reading list was blissfully vacant of anthologies or readers. Instead, we read complete works including an unabridged version of Fyodor Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. In our individual study, we were assisted by a professor in following a reading and writing schedule in order to produce a project that would be presented and evaluated in public.

Daily homework assignments consisted of 100 to 150 pages of reading during the core section of the program. We met three hours a day, the first half spent in a group lecture and the second half in small group discussions. We studied about six hours a day, but the profs didn't assign homework over the weekend. We were encouraged to rest up for the next intense week and to do outside reading, writing, or just to visit Ashland, 20 miles away.

Weekends were often a time to develop culinary skills. Our cabin almost always baked fresh oatmeal bread on Saturday mornings. We then would cook up large Saturday suppers, and if we were in the mood, we would listen to parts of *Prairie Home Companion* and laugh at how sentimental it was, enjoying it nonetheless.

Sunday mornings also highlighted

the week. The worship services were led by both locals and the Oregon professors. Young and old, female and male, evangelicals and Calvinists all had their part in leading the service. Members of the small congregation encouraged one another and stayed aware of the larger world by supporting a married couple in Honduras who were engaged primarily in agricultural ministry and talked about their Lord in this context.

Also part of the interaction with the outside community were pickup basketball games in the nearby elementary school gym along with aerobics in the OE cookhouse.

My description of the program might make the work seem endless and the writing relentless. Even the rules were conducive to study: no television, no stereos (Walkmans allowed while doing dishes), and no alcohol (required by the supporting institution, Houghton College).

Indeed the OE can be vigorous. But you don't have to be a genius to go. Any student willing to learn, willing to work hard, and willing to have fun would do well at the program. And for the intelligence of those involved, the general attitude was one of humility, not of elitism.

Students at Dordt can go to the OE without transferring. The credits earned there are recognized here. And financial aid granted from Dordt can be applied to the OE. Don't miss this opportunity; look into the Oregon Extension.

For more information, write to Sam Alvord, The Oregon Extension, 15097 Highway 66, Ashland, Oregon; 97520.

KLH

## letters to the editor

### Reply to "Are the Vietnamese created in God's image?"

To the Editor,

Are the Americans, the Canadians, the Dutch and the Vietnamese created in God's image? I believe this is not a legitimate question to ask.

I remember when I first became aware of Christianity, the concept of God's creation became deeply rooted in my heart, echoed in my mind, "God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." What a beautiful thought that all people from different nationalities are created with a potential to reflect God's image.

Realistically, to live in the U.S., where most people are originally from all over the world, is a real challenge. Fortunately, great people like Abraham Lincoln, Rev. Martin Luther King, and great documents like the U.S. Constitution and the Bible as the greatest of all books have established guidelines for us to live in equity and respect for each other. Yet, it seems that for some people these principles do not mean very much.

My dear friends! Just imagine you are in a foreign country like China or

Japan for example and some people there would look at you patronizingly, laugh at your physical appearance, condemn your food, kick on the door during your nice sleep, cuss you when you speak English and point their middle finger at you when you go downtown. How would you feel? How would you react? Would you simply ignore it? What kind of impression would you have of these people?

Some of you may say, "How could those terribly mean things ever happen?" But let me tell you. They are very, very real experiences for some Non-Dutch, Non-American students at Dordt. Most of your "little friends" have experienced them. It hurts, bothers, and confuses us. Many times, we have asked ourselves, "What are we expected to do? Transfer to another school?" Well, we have thought about it. Perhaps, this would be the easiest way for us. But is it going to solve the problem of hostility in the hearts of some students?

We, the Vietnamese students, are willing to adapt to a new life and fit in

to our new country and we have tried very hard. However, we would prefer to maintain some of our cultural uniqueness.

In fact, we all should be proud of, appreciate, and praise God for the diversity and variety of people in our world. No one should be made to be ashamed of his or her looks, language, culture, food, or ethnic identity.

Finally, each person's problem or situation should be judged individually. When one Vietnamese or American, or even a small group of Vietnamese or Americans have done something wrong, this does not mean all the Vietnamese or Americans are bad because it's hard to know who are the good, and who are the bad. We should leave the judgment in God's hand.

I hope and pray for God's love to heal the separations and for those who have authority and ability to help us build the bridge between cultures. This is what we should do, "since God so loved the world, we ought to love one another." I John 4:11.

\*Su Tran

### Diamond

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## opinion

# Man, what are you doin' here?

by David Van Heemst

In one of his most famous songs, "The Piano Man," Billy Joel, a very talented pianist who happens to be playing in a very low class bar is asked, "Man, what are you doin' here?" In light of the events of last weekend at Dordt, a similar question could be asked of us.

Contrary to popular belief, last weekend was a bad weekend for the Dordt community because it showed what things were really important to us.

On Friday night, the band and orchestra provided the community with an hour-and-a-half long concert. Not only could we listen to our own students perform, but we were also treated by a guest trombonist.

Yet our community did not flock to this concert. People did not wait outside for hours to enter. There is a little "joke" among the performers that often times the performers outnumber the audience. The guest trombonist mentioned to one of the performers after the concert, "I had good concentration the whole time except for when I looked out into the audience and saw two students with earphones in their ears and I thought to myself, What the hell am I doing here?"

Our true colors came out again on Saturday morning. As I entered Walmart on its first open day, I already felt sick seeing all of the cars in the parking lot. People were competing with others for the closest parking space to the door. Once inside, I became even sicker as I began to realize how perverted and distorted our focus in life has become.

I could see it in the eyes of the people. The people were united in one respect, greed.

There was a common bond of people in search of things. Shopping carts were overflowing with things, the checkout line was long, and the love of being in a store so close to home with so many things was a high point for many. One Dordt student passed me and said, "This is weird." Yes, we don't normally think of Sioux Center as a consumeristic community; yet, if Saturday's activities at Walmart are any indication, it is an appropriate adjective. The owner of Walmart must have sat at home very content on Saturday night as his new store in Sioux Center grossed over \$40,000 in its first day of business.

More discouraging news became evident at Saturday afternoon's county Republican caucus. The meeting, designed to approve the county's position on certain planks, was a very important meeting for many of the Christians there as they sought to implement their concept of justice into practical decisions in the political sphere.

The meeting was designed so that it would be finished by 5 p.m. so that those with tickets could get to the Dordt game. People were only allowed to speak once on each issue, and they were allowed a time allotment of only four minutes to discuss each plank position. As if that weren't enough, some Dordt faculty left early so that they would be assured of getting good seats at the basketball game. Clearly, there was no deep desire to grapple with a Christian interpretation of the main

political questions of the day.

Perhaps the greatest distortion of Christian community was evident Saturday night at the Dordt game. Basketball is just a game. The very nature and purpose of sport is a good thing and something that all should be involved in.

However, we in the Dordt community have totally blown this game out of proportion. Basketball is no longer a game; it's become an idol. All of the tickets were sold out in three and a half hours. There were students here from Pella waiting outside the door at 1:15 so that they'd be first in line. People were making calls to the Dean of Students asking him for tickets. Professionals from other towns were discussing the implications of Dordt going to Kansas City and possibly playing on Sunday—even before we won the game.

Not only that, it seems inconsistent to cheer "We don't mess around, hey!" at a game and yet talk about Christian sportsmanship in the classroom. It also appears inconsistent to teach our children the Christian example of humility and love and then to allow them to encourage cut-throat competition at basketball games.

Paying homage to the idolatrous god of Basketballism is a sin that everyone of us is going to pay for dearly. Basketballism has overtaken us, and even worse, we don't appear to want to return to a normative view of sport. I have seriously considered writing a final chapter for *Idols of Our Times*, entitling it "Basketballism in Sioux Center" and sending it to Bob Goudzwaard.

Finally Sunday came. Alas, I thought. I could now enter the Lord's house and be rejuvenated to serve the King and share in worship with other believers. Well, besides being convicted as usual by the sight of Dordt students falling asleep during the sermon, I noted that some of these were the ones who had so zealously been cheering just 14 hours earlier at the Dordt game.

On Sunday afternoon, it got to 60 degrees, and a number of Dordt students were outside getting an early start on their summer tans, rationalizing their bodily glorification by declaring that they need a good tan before going on Spring Break so that they don't get a bad sunburn.

As if that weren't bad enough, Sunday night saw one of the apartments on East campus having a wild dance up until midnight. Was that the kind of dance, which so closely parallels that found in many bars and discos, in conjunction with the nature and purpose of dance that our Lord designed for us to be engaged in?

It seems clear that we as a Christian community are falling far short of our commitment to redeem all of creation. In fact, last weekend shows a definite lack of commitment on our part as a community to genuinely struggle with our Christian commitment and to redeem specific areas of our world. Rather, we seem content to remain in our sinful ways as we continue to worship our idolatrous gods. It is my hope that we can begin to redirect our misguided path as we seek to follow the Lord's command for all areas of our lives. ♦

## letters to the editor

# Student proposes parking solutions

To the editor,

Hey! How 'bout all those exciting basketball games, huh? Aren't they great? Yeah, I love 'em too! Almost as much as those exciting travelogs and concerts.

Seriously, though, I do like basketball and concerts. As for travelogs. . . What I don't love is when I come back to campus and find that there isn't a parking space anywhere to be found within a half mile. So what do I do? I park behind some car on a yellow curb, thinking that I'll move it when the event is over and everything will be normal again. At least until the next big game.

Well such is not the case. The friendly parking ticket person has tagged all the cars that are parked in the "No Parking" zone. This doesn't bother me too much. Okay, I'm lying, but what really bugs me is that the "town car" which was parked in front of me, also ticketed, will get off scotfree while I must pay my fine. Naturally I made my appeal to the Dean of Students and, granted, he lowered my fine and was very cordial, but it still ticks me off that the town car gets off scotfree.

Now, I realize that Dordt can't collect on tickets issued to people who aren't from Dordt, but how 'bout this for an idea? There's a parking garage in the city where I live that takes these pretty, neon orange stickers that are about a foot square and sticks them right where you, the driver, must look in order to drive comfortably. These stickers do come off, but not without some serious effort. Take my word for it, these people will never park where they are not supposed to again.

Now that's a short-term solution. What about a long-term solution, you say? Well, how about this? What if Dordt turned that grassy area west of West Hall into a parking lot, or how about if Dordt paves that dirt parking lot north of East Campus? Maybe even both. You may be asking yourself where we are going to get the money. Once again I have an answer. Maybe we can use some of the money that Dordt makes on housing. In case you're interested, Dordt grosses \$87,078 per month on housing. If you want to know how much you're paying for your room, give me a call. I'd be glad to inform you. Believe me, it's gross.

If the money can't come from here then maybe instead of building some more useful benches in front of the commons they could take the money from that secret fund.

Now I think I've proposed some very feasible solutions to a problem that Dordt has had for quite a while. If I'm wrong I really would like to know. If

I'm not wrong I would certainly like to see something done. Sure, I won't be here to appreciate it, but maybe some of you underclassmen will. If I were you, I'd take this seriously.

Clarke Huisman  
722-3679

## More talent show talk

To the Editor:

I want to formally respond to Angela Struyk's review of the Talent Extravaganza that was held in the Dordt College chapel during Homecoming week. Her review in the February 11th issue of the *Diamond* was very one-sided. As she wrote, some of the acts were thought to have been offensive to blacks and women.

In reality those acts weren't meant to offend anyone in particular but to amuse and to be enjoyed. I myself was part of that enormous crowd and enjoyed every part of the program. I appreciate the amount of effort that

the people participating in the show put forth, and I know from the reactions of the rest of the crowd that they did too.

It is my opinion that if the committee in charge of the program thought that those acts were offensive that they wouldn't have let them be performed. I suggest that you take another look at what happened during the program and at the reaction of the crowd and see how they enjoyed it.

Sincerely,  
Kari A. De Raaf

# L.A.S.P.—My life-changing experience

by David Van Heemst

On August 25, 1986, I left Hawthorne, New Jersey, bound for Central America. I had absolutely no idea of the life-changing experience I was about to undergo.

I spent that semester on the Latin America Studies Program (LASP), sponsored by the Christian College Coalition and designed to give students experience with the people of Central America.

The program's goals are to deepen one's understanding of the Lordship of Christ in an international context, to equip one for possible future service in the Third World, to increase one's sensitivity to Christian brothers and sisters in the Third World, and to expose the student to economic and political realities of the relationship between the U.S. and the developing Latin American nations.

This semester in Central America had a large impact on my development. Before I went there, I was primarily preoccupied with personal questions such as who I was, where I was going in life, and what the Lord's will was for me. My semester in Central America (three months in Costa Rica and a month split between Guatemala and Nicaragua) radically changed me. No longer was I primarily concerned with myself, but I became concerned with how the Lord could use me to help carry out His will in the world.

All ten of the students met in Miami on August 26, and we flew together to San Jose, Costa Rica. We began to

get to know each other as a group, and we began forming friendships that will last a lifetime. We also received our first orientation into the Third World by LASP director Roland Hoksbergen.

The first Sunday we moved in with our families. We were all nervous—what would our families be like? Would we be able to fit in? Will they be able to understand our Spanish?

I was fortunate. I got to live with two young men who were adherents to the basic tenets of Liberation Theology. We lived poorly, often using notebook paper instead of toilet paper, but living with these men and beginning to understand their lives and their struggles changed me.

One day, my brother brought me out to Los Palos where I saw the most wrenching sight of my life—so many people living so close together in tin shacks. Many of their houses had bricks on top of their roofs so that the tin roof would not blow away when the wind was strong. There was one toilet for every ten families. Most families used newspaper for their wallpaper even though they couldn't read a word of it.

In the face of this poverty, my Christianity was challenged as it was never before. Now, for the first time, my faith meant something. No longer something that I just applied to my life, my faith began to be the very substance of who I was. The poverty tore down the old me, and the Lord began to mold me as a Christian, a process which will continue my entire lifetime.

We spent the first six weeks of the program in language school. The classes were not too terribly difficult, and that was nice since it gave me time to get involved in the lives of my two brothers and in the activities of my church.

We crammed two college courses into the next six weeks. One was on the history of Central America; the other focused on economic development in Central America. We made extensive use of outside speakers in these classes.

When Thanksgiving came, we were given a week off. Jimbo (from Gordon College) and I spent a great week at the beautiful Costa Rican beach. We had a good week of sharing our faith, our interest in politics, and our love for baseball.

The group next spent two weeks in Guatemala. The first week we lived in the northern hills with indigenous families. One night after eating cow's stomach, I got very, very sick. But living with my family for a week and listening to them tell about the struggle to get enough to eat, as well as how careful they had to be about criticizing the authorities because the walls had ears made a major impact on me.

A high point in our semester came during our last two weeks, spent in Nicaragua. Being in a country which refers to the U.S. in its national anthem as the enemy of mankind was convicting. Also striking was seeing billboards condemning the U.S. We certainly left there with a new

appreciation for how Nicaraguans view the United States.

Jim and I spent our last week alone in Nicaragua (over Christmas break) as the rest of the group had already returned to the States. We had a meaningful time growing and sharing together. One of my most intimate friendships was solidified during that week.

Since I've been back, I think about returning to Central America all the time. The further removed I am from my semester there, the more I see how the Lord led me to spend a semester in Central America. The changes that began during that semester have had and will continue to have profound implications for my life.

Since that semester, I've been continuously convicted by the tremendous evils that are occurring in the world—the war, hunger, and pestilence. Recently, Christ has been working in my life to realize that although this is the larger framework that I am working within, yet on a smaller scale life is relational, and I must constantly be involved in attempting to restore each relationship that I am involved with—my relationship to myself, to others, to God, and to creation.

My semester in Central America has radically changed who I am. If you feel the Lord challenging you to spend a semester abroad, I can't recommend the LASP enough. ♦

## NITC to offer humanities

by Alicia Nugteren  
Staff Writer

Another liberal arts college in northwest Iowa? Yes, a two-year Arts and Sciences program leading to an Associate of Arts Degree from Northwest Iowa Technical College was recently approved by the Iowa Board of Education. Located in Sheldon, Iowa, the school previously provided only vocational training.

One question that a Dordt supporter might ask in such a situation is, how will this affect Dordt? Both Howard Hall, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, and Quentin Van Essen, Director of Career Planning and Placement, believe that the impact will be minimal. Hall said that if NITC drew any students away from Dordt, it would be those who live within a fifty mile radius of Sheldon. On the whole, however, since at least 60 percent of Dordt students come from beyond northwest Iowa, Hall feels that little change will be seen. Although tuition at NITC is the lowest in Iowa, he pointed out that if a potential student has financial need, Dordt would still be able to compete because of the grants and loans available.

Although Van Essen commented that the addition of liberal arts courses in a technical school indicate a change in emphasis from vocational skills, he sees irony in this move. He believes that the state of Iowa could more efficiently utilize existing college

programs rather than create new ones.

Also, Van Essen stated that the program at NITC probably does not appeal as strongly to the traditional student, a recent high school graduate, because it does not offer the total "college experience" of dorm life and extra-curricular activities. However, the *Sioux City Journal* of Wednesday, February 17, 1988, revealed that the liberal arts courses, which will be offered in the evening as well as during the day, attract part-time, non-traditional students.

Van Essen expressed concern about a popular notion that those who obtain two-year degrees are able to get jobs more quickly than four-year graduates. This is misleading information, he said, because more education is often required. The *Journal* cited NITC officials as saying that neighboring four-year colleges would benefit because some students will pursue their bachelor's degrees after earning an AA at NITC. Hall, on the other hand, doubts the validity of this statement. He said that most people who continue their education after obtaining their AA degree begin their college careers with that intention.

Another concern deals with the academic standards of the NITC liberal arts curriculum. Hall said that if these credits would be accepted by the state universities, Dordt would also honor them. ♦

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# Interning and Studying in District of Columbia

by Julie Peterson

This is not a sales pitch. My point is not to "sell" the American Studies Program, but to inform students about educational opportunities off of Dordt's campus—specifically one based in one of the most powerful cities in the world. We've been blessed with the opportunity to attend a college which belongs to a larger community of colleges, the Christian College Coalition. Membership in this coalition broadens the range of educational options available to students. Each of the 77 colleges offers its own list of off-campus programs, and Dordt students are eligible to participate in all of them!

The American Studies Program fills a special need for all coalition members. Finding its home in Washington, D.C., the ASP challenges students to follow Christ obediently in

every aspect of life. And however cliché this phrase may sound, it has concrete implications for ASP participants. It shaped our attitudes and actions in a world of the famous and powerful, the poor and homeless.

The exciting and sometimes frustrating learning experiences on ASP are infinite. From lectures at the Pentagon and the Nicaraguan Embassy to interviews with senators and AIDS victims, we were presented with all sides of the issues. Professors did not spoonfeed us information to be swallowed and spewed back out, but they challenged us to analyze information directly from the primary sources. The courses concentrated on interpretation and perception skills in light of biblical norms. We started with biblical word studies in order to come to better understanding of peace, love

and justice. Basic, right? Wrong. Evaluating issues such as the Bork nomination, the Central American Peace Plan, and the INF Treaty, among others, is a complex process which is at times discouraging and at other times enlightening. The important thing was the struggle to understand biblical principles.

The course work is one of the two main elements that make up the program. Students also gain exposure to various worldviews and how they shape our society through internships: engineering students working for energy companies and struggling with the concept of stewardship; business majors working at the Agency for International Development battling to implement economic justice; music majors placed in the Library of Congress or the National Art Gallery striving to comprehend a biblical

understanding of aesthetics; political science students working for senators and congressmen, watching the struggles that take place based on civil religion and individualism. The list goes on and on.

There are so many other influences at work on the American Studies Program. I formed lasting relationships, lived in a city with thousands of homeless, heard General Secretary Gorbachev and President Daniel Ortega speak about their countries (no intended parallel drawn here), and was surrounded by structures representing American civil religion.

There is so much in this world I'm struggling to understand, and by spending a semester in the midst of conflict, I hope I've come a step closer. ♦

## In the windy city

by E. Heidi Visscher

Interviewing, apartment hunting, attending classes, working hard on the job, and experiencing city life—this is all part of the Chicago Metropolitan Program. But that is not all.

I had never lived in a big city, so on arrival in Chicago I was overwhelmed by all the dressed-up people rushing around with straight faces—most of them wearing sunglasses and headphones. This was Chicago? By the end of my first week, I got to know the 32 other students on the program, chose a job, found an apartment and two roommates, and was ready to "face the world."

It was great to be working in The Big City! My internship was with Burnham Park Planning Board. Here I did public relations work promoting the South Loop of Chicago. Other students interned at various places such as NBC television, real estate companies, public relations firms, hospitals, high schools, the Oprah Winfrey show, law firms, Columbia Pictures, to name just a few. Interviews were set up for each student, and from here students chose the most appropriate job. Being an intern, I tried to seek out my career options and understand what direction

I wanted to go after college.

Along with my internship, I took three classes. This gave me a full 15-credit semester. The classes were run like seminars and were held every Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The best part about Monday classtime was seeing all the other students.

Exploring within The City was great! I saw events like the Canadian Ballet, Bulls basketball games, Cubs and White Sox baseball games, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. It was also very exciting to attend churches different from the Christian Reformed Church, to wander through museums and art galleries, to experience city night life, and to eat pizza upon pizza.

My Chicago experience was a great asset to my Dordt education. It emphasized my realization of all the blessings I have. Chicago also gave me a better understanding of how and why Christians are needed in big cities. The semester also helped me make some very lasting friendships and contacts. The entire program challenged me in a different way than Dordt could, and through it I have gained maturity, responsibility, and awareness.

Thank you Chicago and Dordt. ♦

## Conversing in English

by Gina Vos

"I was scared to talk to Americans. I didn't know how to talk," said a Vietnamese freshman explaining her feelings when she first came to the United States.

She went on to say that it can be intimidating to speak English when the language is new. After she learned more English, she could read, write, and understand others, but she still felt uncomfortable speaking it herself.

The English conversation class at Dordt is helping foreign students to be more comfortable with spoken English. Although they have had experience with English, the course helps them to become "more fluent and to learn more words," explained

Dr. Boot, professor of the course. He went on to say that it is necessary for the foreign students to practice conversation and become more fluent, otherwise they might become "silent participants" in the classroom.

Six Vietnamese freshman are taking the course which is offered for the first time this semester. Class time is spent in discussion on a selected topic, and a tape recorder is used to improve their spoken grammar. The focus is directed to the meaning of words, their usage, and pronunciation.

The class meets from 3:00 to 5:00 on Monday afternoons, and is worth one credit which can accumulate to three credits after three semesters. ♦

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## Kansas City...for artists too!

by Melanie Ten Pas  
Staff Writer

Fluorescent signs of victory and anticipation decorated the Sioux Center community as throngs of people spilled from the gym that heart-pounding evening of March 5. "Kansas City," the most spoken word since playoffs began, will be the destination of many Sioux County resident, players' parents, and Dordt students a week from today. Spring break trips to the crowded, balmy beaches have been delayed in favor of supporting Dordt in the famous "Michael Jackson" arena.

Although I enthusiastically support the Defenders and hope to be in K.C., my thoughts are elsewhere these days. You have been deceived. This article actually contains information about art. True, I haven't set the scenario of an authentic art gallery in Europe containing priceless portraits and sculptures. The "Kansas City" for four Dordt students is happening presently in the chapel mezzanine. Instead of practicing lay-ups, scrimmaging, and dribbling, these students have been experimenting with dyes, processing film, firing pottery, weaving on looms, waxing cloth, applying glaze, mixing paints, and

twining rope. Hours have been spent in preparation for the exhibition "The Melting Pot."

Love golf? See an excellent print by Janelle Hofland. You musicians will most likely be interested in seeing Angela Struyk's ceramic figurines. If you are homesick, you better not see Anita Brouwer's drawings of Canada's beauty. Never been to the Sears Tower? Contemplate the shot taken from the top story after sunset.

Max Van Vuuren's accumulation of art work will be displayed after Spring Break. "Leaving Prints Dakota Style," the theme of this art major's display, features water colors, drawings, ceramics, and photography, centering around the themes Leaves, Hands, and South Dakota.

Three additional artists, Jeff Poortinga, Ellen Matheis, and Brenda Schaap, will present their works after Van Vuuren's. I have heard rumors that incredible prints and stained glass will be displayed in these shows.

I encourage you to attend the next two months of art exhibits. As Van Vuuren stated, she's been planning for this event since she decided on her major. Like the Kansas City games, a senior art show won't be forgotten—at least for the artist. ♦

## letters to the editor

# Can the problems be resolved?

Dear Editor,

I am one of the Vietnamese students at Dordt. Since the school year began, we (the Vietnamese students) have had some problems with American students at West and East Hall. As you all know, we are the minority on this campus. We came from a different culture. We are the first generation in this country; that's why we have some problems adapting to this culture. We believe that we have some of the same problems as the first Dutch generation in this country.

I don't really understand why our boiling noodles stink to you. Why

don't you think another way? According to *The Defender*, we may boil water in our room (noodles are used by the simple boiling of water) and do some minimal cooking or baking in the hall kitchen. We are not breaking any laws. If some American students in West or East Hall don't like that smell, or if they don't like it when we talk in our language because they don't want to hear it, they can make a suggestion to Mr. Van Soelen or Dr. Hulst to make up some new rules for us. You don't have to say bad words to us, kick our door, or criticize our language and nationality.

I was surprised that you reacted this way to us, because I thought that if we are Christians, God's children, we must have a different reaction than public school students who are not Christians. I feel very bad about this situation because I thought these things can happen to us in the public school but not in a Christian college. If you have discrimination in your mind, I don't know what you think when you go to church or while you pray privately.

As you know, we came from a different culture. In my culture the worst things are despising family,

language, and nationality. That is why we reacted very strongly in this case. Because we are the Asian people (NIP—National Intelligent People), we can sacrifice everything, including our lives, for the honor of our country.

Some of us became Christians only three, four, or five years ago, but we are very strong believers in God and the Bible, and we try to be righteous as much as we can. We always want to live, to work together in friendly, understanding, loving ways. Hopefully the discrimination won't exist forever on this campus.

Name Withheld

## Parents salute talent show participants

Dear Editor,

The "Dordt Planner" sits atop our refrigerator and is opened often to determine what we attend at Dordt College. We were not planning to make the 165-mile trip for the Talent Extravaganza because we thought it was no "big deal." However, we talked to other parents who had been to the show last year. They told us, "You have to go because Heidi is the hostess, and it really is a lot of fun."

We went and thoroughly enjoyed it and were not offended by the "unkind stereotypes of blacks and women." We felt it was no more worldly than an evening at the Madrigal dinner when comments such as "The man-

eating tiger at Dordt College died of starvation" were made.

If it was offensive or if there was dualism, we failed to see it. We also feel that an alternative such as a performance by those in the music and theatre arts would be a mistake and take the "amateur" fun away. As it is now, it shows there is talent in others as well as in the performing arts and gives everyone a chance to display their talents. We were very proud also of the representation of "Dakota" students.

Other parents that were there remarked that the show of 1987 was of a type that they didn't fully approve of, but they still returned this year and

enjoyed both years. They commented that this year they could have easily taken their aged conservative parents because there was nothing offensive or to be ashamed of.

This was also the first year for some parents who have had students at Dordt since 1980, as have we, and their remark was, "It was so great that we are going again next year, if possible."

We realize this is not a show for parents, but we salute you students at Dordt. Our hats are off to all who performed their talent in the show even if our opinions were not the same as the judges'. Thanks to all who gave us an evening to remember with

laughter and admiration. A special thanks to Erin Heidi for making us so proud!

Sincerely,  
Sherm and Lois Visscher

## KDCR celebrates 20th anniversary

by Neva Dehne  
Staff Writer

KDCR is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The main event connected with this celebration will be held on August 19th and 20th. On the 19th, a mass rally is scheduled with Dr. Joel Nederhood as the speaker. A banquet or picnic for KDCR's alumni is planned for the 20th. Participation by KDCR's alumni will be the main focus of the celebration.

There are some other tentative plans scheduled for this anniversary year. A program called "Voices from the Past" will include short messages from alumni about KDCR's past and about their present occupations. KDCR is also planning a revival of old programs and an overview of the history of the station by Rev. Haan.

KDCR first went on the air on August 16, 1968. It was established through community interest in a radio station in which Rev. Haan was involved. Dordt came into the picture because the FCC required that it be owned by an educational institution. The first manager, Mr. Len VanNoord, was followed by Mr. Martin Dekkenga. In 1978 Mr. Dennis DeWaard became program director and today he is the manager. In 1974 KDCR was expanded. Among the additions were a master control room, two studios, offices, a classroom, reception room, and a record and tape library.

KDCR broadcasts cover an 80 mile radius. DeWaard said that the station is an "outreach to the community and a laboratory for communications majors." The last 20 years have been productive years. ♦

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## reviews

# Sinead O'Connor: Ireland's newest export

by Preston Zwart

You've probably never heard of her, but you should.

Her name is Sinead (pronounced Shin-ayd) O'Connor, a twenty year-old Irish woman whose debut album, *The Lion and the Cobra*, is taking college radio by storm. *Rolling Stone* magazine's college album chart was dominated by *The Lion and the Cobra* for over the first two months of this year. Considering the fact that the average album appearing on the college chart has an average life expectancy of less than two weeks, this chart reign is incredible.

The label affixed to the cellophane wrapping of this tape reads, "Sinead O'Connor is a brilliant young Irish artist whose music is at once startling, raw, beautiful, and honest." For once, the sales pitch isn't just hype. It's undeniably true.

O'Connor's voice is at once reminiscent of Grace Slick (Jefferson Airplane/Starship), Chrissy Hynde (the Pretenders), and Debbie Harry (Blondie) and yet totally unique. Her vocal performances range from a near whisper to soaring high notes to strident, snarling growls. At only twenty years old, O'Connor is a veteran musician, actively involved in professional music since the age of fourteen when her first song was recorded by another Irish group. Almost as amazing as her vocal talents

is the fact that O'Connor wrote all the songs on this album and produced the record herself. Sinead O'Connor is a name that you should remember.

*The Lion and the Cobra* is always interesting and always suprisingly good. The first song, "Jackie," is an Irish ghost tale worked into a simple, quiet song that builds into a crashing crescendo. The closing bars of this song are barely over when the opening segments of "Mandinka" begin. "Mandinka" is an all-out dance record that is becoming popular in the larger dance places. "Never Get Old" begins with a Gaelic reading of Psalm 91 (the source of the album title) and features the tortured-lament for a young woman striving to hold on to her youth by listening to rock music, the music "that never gets old." "Troy," the current single in release, is a song about an obsessive love that is backed by a pulsing, swirling orchestra section.

You probably haven't heard of Sinead O'Connor—but I wish you could. Unfortunately, I don't think any Siouxland radio stations know she exists. In fact, Record Rack, the downtown record and tape store, had to try three times before their supplier could acquire *The Lion and the Cobra* for me. It was worth the wait. The music, the words, the varied styles, the singing. . . it's all fabulously good. ♦



### RACISM, from page 1

but it's the easy way out not to do anything."

Other students feel that for the problems to be resolved, both sides must work toward resolution. "We're told they want to change, but we don't see any evidence of it, so the words don't mean much," one West Hall student pointed out.

#### \*\*\*\* Vietnamese speak out \*\*\*\*

"I feel some kind of barrier between us," said Su Tran. This barrier stems from a problem with the language, he explained. The Vietnamese can communicate well in formal situations, such as in the classroom, but lack sufficient language skills for informal conversations, Tran said. For some of the Vietnamese students, communicating in English requires much concentration, translating into Vietnamese, formulating a response in Vietnamese, and translating that response back into understandable

English.

While Americans claim that the Vietnamese have no social life, the Vietnamese disagree. "The social lives are different," said Tran. "If we have time, we cook, play some games, and talk." Another Vietnamese junior, Ngoc Tran, said that "Most of us spend our time in our studying, so we do not have very much social life. We have many things to learn. We really, really want to learn."

Ngoc explained that the Vietnamese students come to study at a Christian institution and to build a foundation for the rest of their lives, goals quite similar to American students' goals.

A great concern among the Vietnamese is how actions reflect one's Christian beliefs. Most of the Vietnamese have been Christians for only five or six years, and American actions toward them have confused them. "We wonder why Christians do these things," said Su.

The Vietnamese want to get together with American students and talk about

the problems here at Dordt. "We are children of God, so both sides should come together to understand each other," said Su. He invites the American students to "come to us with problems and we will share our understandings."

Ngoc Tran was one of the first Vietnamese students to attend Dordt. When she first arrived at Dordt, her language skills were very poor. "I was scared, and didn't dare to talk much. Americans look strange at us and make us embarrassed." The Vietnamese felt more comfortable speaking with each other in their native tongue.

"We tried to spread out and mix with Americans, but we were newcomers," she said. When they came here, the Vietnamese got together, and because they did not see each other during the day, supper became a time when they could share their experiences and feel comfortable around each other. They began sitting in one corner of the Commons. "Some Americans came to eat with us, and that encouraged us," added Su.

other," said Su. He invites the American students to "come to us with problems and we will share our understandings."

### Su Tran discusses the present problem

"People tend to be stereotyping. I wish both sides would understand that one individual's problem is not a problem for the whole. Christian people are not supposed to fight. We are supposed to solve the problem in love." One incident does not mean that the people are bad, Su stresses. He does not like to have an image develop in people's minds based on just one incident. "I hope that if American students don't understand us, they will talk to us."

"Culture is unique that God gives to each people. We want to adapt to culture. Both cultures would be worthwhile to one person if that person would understand and be interested in it." ♦

### HOCKEY, from page 8

watch the Blades in action. Trumpeters Greg Vandenacre and Scott Haan soon had the fans on their feet and clapping with their own version of the Dordt fight song as the crowd began to itch for a Blade victory.

However, SDSU quickly quieted the spirited Dordt crowd as a long slapshot from the blue line evaded James Koetsier for the game's first goal. Ken Groot tied the score a minute later as his backhand shot in front of the goal found the mark. With 5:06 remaining in the period and

Dordt shorthanded, Phil Minderhoud broke in all alone and his accurate wrist shot gave Dordt a 2-1 lead. SDSU tied the game for the second time when the puck took an odd bounce off the boards behind Koetsier and was quickly deposited in the Dordt net by SDSU. The first period ended with the score even at 2-2.

Dordt opened the scoring in the second period as Ken Groot's blast from the blue line found the SDSU net. Groot's second goal of the game also marked his 100th goal in a Dordt Blades uniform, a team record. Play in the second period also began to get physical as Jim Hummel of the Blades can testify to. Hummel was checked cleanly over the boards and into his

own bench, much to the amusement of the Dordt crowd. SDSU responded to the rough and tough play with two quick goals to put them in front 4-3. Dordt tied the game with three minutes left in the second period when Wayne Dykstra tucked in a loose rebound on a two-on-one break. The second period ended with the teams deadlocked 4-4.

The third period was very disappointing for the Blades. Joel Kamp's five minute major and game misconduct deflated the Dordt hockey team and its crowd. The Blades never could get on track after killing off the major penalty and SDSU registered a 6-4 victory. The two teams did battle again the following night and skated

to a 2-2 tie. Ken Groot and Jeff Burgsma scored for the Blades in a much tighter, defensive game.

At first glance the Dordt College Blades final record of nine wins, 15 losses, and one tie would indicate a poor and dismal season. After all, a team that cannot reach .500 is pegged as a losing team, right? Wrong. Despite only nine victories in 25 attempts, the Blades were winners in other categories not measured by a score. The Blades can be proud of a season which saw increasing attendance at each game as students on campus became aware of ice hockey. In fact, rumor has it a few people even know what "icing" the puck means now! ♦

## sports

## Defenders pack bags for Kansas City

by Steve Hoogland

Upon entering the main entrance to the college last Saturday evening, visitors were met by a sign, "Kansas City or Bust." Such was the attitude of Dordt College students as their men's basketball team entered the biggest basketball game in the history of the school. The night did turn out to be memorable for the Defenders as they earned their first trip ever to the NAIA national basketball tournament.

Dordt earned its trip to Kansas City with a district-leading 21-4 regular season record and advanced to the playoffs with the homecourt advantage. The first test in post-season play was the Briar Cliff Chargers. Briar Cliff entered the match 17th in the country with a 26-5 record. The first half was an even fight as the Chargers jumped out to an early 18-12 advantage and maintained a 37-35 halftime lead. Dordt came out of the locker room with a 15-6 run, and by the 14:11 mark the Defenders had control with a 52-43 cushion. With four minutes remaining, Briar Cliff did go on a run to cut the margin to 62-56, but Dordt scored the next eight points to put the game out of reach.

Dordt got an All-American performance once again from Greg Van Soelen, who scored 40 points and pulled down 15 rebounds. Van Soelen's barrage overshadowed a big night from Kevin Veenstra who hit 8 of 10 shots from the field for 16

points. Veenstra also grabbed six rebounds as Dordt outrebounded the Chargers 34-31 and shot 52% from the field compared to 45% for Briar Cliff in the 78-65 victory. With the victory, Dordt advanced to the District 15 final and earned the right to face the St. Ambrose Bees.

Saturday night, fans stood in line for hours to get the best seats possible in a sold-out gym for the first game ever between the schools. St. Ambrose entered the game with a 17-11 mark, but they had posted a 12-2 record over the past month and a half. In the first half Dordt led most of the way but held only a 44-40 halftime edge. Once again, the first few minutes of the second half were decisive, as the Defenders gained a 12 point lead by the 17-minute mark. Dordt continued to build on that lead and at one time had a 20-6 scoring run enroute to the 105-83 victory.

Dordt shot 63% from the field including 11 for 16 from 3-point range. Steve Vermeer was nine for nine from the field with three 3-point goals, and Jerry Boer was seven of nine from 3-point range. It was Greg Van Soelen who once again grabbed game-high honors with 31 points. Boer tallied 24 and Vermeer had 21. Kevin Veenstra also scored 16, and Kevin Gesink dished out 15 assists as the Defenders earned their first trip to Kansas City.

The Defenders now enter a field of 32 teams who will compete in the



After the District 15 victory, Steve Vermeer and teammates cut down the net.

Photo by Paul Wielard

NAIA national tournament at Kansas City starting March 16. First-round games will be played Wednesday and Thursday in Kansas City's Kemper Arena, and Dordt will find out this

Friday who and when they will play. From there Dordt hopes to use their potent offense and stubborn defense to continue turning in victories. ♦

## Lady Defenders end season of ups and downs

By Chuck Adams

The Dordt College Lady Defenders had an unfortunate end to a very good season, losing 77-44 in the first round of the District 15 playoffs to a strong team from Morningside College. However, the one-sided loss was not a good picture of how the team played during the second half of the season. Coach Len Rhoda praised his team for improving during the entire season saying "we really played outstanding basketball all year." Rhoda lamented the fact that his team could shoot only 33 percent from the field during the first half, and an even colder 18 percent during the second half. "Some nights you have it—that night the ball just didn't go into the hoop," Rhoda said. "But we also have to give a lot of credit to the Morningside defense,"

he added.

Although the streaks of wins and losses throughout the season didn't make for a picturebook season, the women still played a consistent game. Says Rhoda, "we competed well against some of the best teams in our conference," including games against Io-Kota conference powers Mount Marty and Morningside during the regular season.

Three seniors made their final trip up and down the court in a Lady Defender uniform this season. Graduating this year are Sue Dokter, Marla Habben, and Ruth Draayer. Their coach praised the leadership abilities shown by the three players, as well as their attitude toward playing the game. Dokter leaves Defender fans with memories of her

intimidating presence in the middle, blocking and altering shots. She also made an impressive transition from playing guard in six-player basket ball in high school to becoming an offensive force in five-player basketball—a feat not easily accomplished.

Draayer was noted for her defensive excellence and three-point shooting off the bench. Marla Habben, who missed the first half of the season with a pinched nerve also contributed to the team. Rhoda remarked that because of her injury, she was just getting back into the game when the season was over, playing and scoring very well.

The loss of the three seniors points to a greatly weakened team next year. Eight players will return and the team will have only one senior repeater next

season—Kristin Hommes. The rest of the players will be sophomores and juniors. There is also potential for another excellent freshman class, according to Rhoda. Four of five starters for Western Christian's substate basketball team plan on attending Dordt, and some are expected to try out for basketball. Others are also expected from teams around the area and the country. Rhoda adds that it's never certain who will be out for basketball until after the new freshman have settled into the system at Dordt and decide whether they want to play. Despite that uncertainty, Rhoda says he's looking forward to an excellent season. ♦

## Blades end season with M.C.H.L. tournament

by Edgar Veldman

Tournaments have not been kind to the Dordt College Blades. After losing three straight games in the Redeemer College hockey tournament over Christmas, the Blades dropped another three in the first ever Midwest Collegiate Hockey League Tournament this past weekend. The M.C.H.L. tournament included teams from Drake, SDSU, Dordt, and Carleton College, all who hope to play in the newly-formed Midwest Collegiate Hockey League next season.

The Blades' first game on Friday was against the now familiar SDSU squad. SDSU played a strong game and found themselves leading 6-4 late in the third period. The Blades pulled their goaltender in favor of an extra attacker and it payed off. Jeff Burgsma's goal inched the Blades within one goal with time running out. The game-tying goal, however, was not to be as SDSU replied with an empty net goal to secure the game for the Jackrabbits. Ken Groot, Wayne Dykstra, Phil Minderhoud, and Pete Veldhuisen each had a goal in a losing

cause for Dordt.

The tournament continued Saturday as Dordt squared off against the powerful Drake Bulldogs. The Blades played hard and never gave up all game, but once again an empty net goal sent Dordt back to the dressing room, this time with a 4-1 loss. Dave Tilstra broke out of a long scoring slump to notch Dordt's lone goal of the game.

The final game of the tournament for Dordt saw them up against Carleton College. Phil Minderhoud sparked the Blades with two goals and Wayne

Dykstra added a single tally, but it was not enough as Carleton trimmed the Blades 6-3 to eliminate the Blades from further play.

On the weekend before the M.C.H.L. tournament, the Blades played two games against the SDSU Jackrabbits at the Minnehaha Ice Center. One of the largest crowds ever to watch a Dordt hockey game turned out on Friday to do a little skating and to

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