

the diamond

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Blades will take Canadian tour

This Christmas vacation the Dordt hockey team will be touring Western and Central Canada. Traveling in the Dordt vans, accompanied by professors K. J. Boot and John Struyk, the 21 hockey players will play teams from four provinces. The tour will begin January 5 in Edmonton, Alberta; the team will then travel to Southern Alberta and east through Saskatchewan and Manitoba to Ontario, concluding the tour in Thunder Bay on January 15.

The tour is sponsored by the college and was originally planned for January 1980. However, for various reasons, the tour was moved up to this January. There is a possibility that the tour may become an annual event, with the team touring Eastern Canada next year. It was decided to tour Western Canada this year because most of the players are from the West.

There have been grumblings about "PR", but tour coordinator

Gorde Vlieg says that the first and foremost reason for the tour is to play hockey. The team gets very little ice time during the year at Dordt as it must travel to Sioux City to play, and as yet no home games have been lined up for next semester. This tour will give the players an opportunity to really work together as a team. They will be together for one and one-half weeks, playing one or two games each day except Sunday, so they will be able to develop a strong team spirit and learn to work and live together as a team.

There is an element of public relations involved in the tour, however, in that the "Blades" will be playing teams from communities that support Dordt. The team thus becomes a tangible link between the college and these communities--Dordt will become more real to these people who very likely will never come to Sioux Center and see the college for themselves.

Spend an evening with C.S. Lewis

On January 24, Tom Key will present "An Evening with C.S. Lewis" at 8:00 p.m. in Te Paske Theatre.

"An Evening with C.S. Lewis" has been presented in a number of large cities and has received rave reviews. Many people said that they felt as though they had seen and heard C.S. Lewis himself. Key, a professional actor, impersonates Lewis--he looks and sounds like Lewis and presents portions of Lewis' books.

Why did Key, a successful actor and director in New York and regional theaters, decide to go out on his own and do a one-man show on C.S. Lewis? At the time of this decision, he was directing a cabaret theater in Atlanta, Georgia. He was frustrated with this work because he felt that as a Christian with a

Masters degree in theater he should be doing more than just "push drinks." He "needed to find a moral incentive at the deepest level for continuing in theater."

Key had been thinking for a long time about doing a one-man show on Lewis, and when the opportunity came he jumped at it. After two months of preparation he presented the show for the first time. It was received well and soon Key quit his job at the cabaret theater and went full-time with "Lewis."

Material for the script was selected from Lewis' numerous books. The chief criteria in this selection was the entertainment value of the material--the Christian message is there, but it is also a good evening of theater. Key feels that "if I do a good job as a theater artist, the message will get through."

Tickets for the 1 1/2 hour performance went on sale Dec. 4:

- \$3.00 - center section
- \$2.50 - right and left orchestra
- \$1.50 - right and left wings and lectures

Key will be in classes at Dordt January 23 and 24, and will give a "fireside talk" in the Sioux Center Public Library January 23 at 7:30 p.m.



You are invited...to a Christmas party

On Thursday, December 14, everyone at Dordt is invited to a Christmas Party. The party will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a special supper in the commons (non-boarders: \$2.50). There will be a concert in the new chapel at 8:00 p.m., followed by a reception in the SUB. Punch and cookies will be served and a Christmas carol sing will be held.

GLAD, a group of contemporary Christian musicians that performed at the freshman-sophomore banquet at Dordt last spring, will present the concert. Each of the five men in the group is an accomplished artist in his own right, but they merge toge-

ther to enhance each other's talents. Their music is "such a hybrid of musical styles it has become a style of its own."

During the past couple of years, GLAD has toured with Scott Wesley Brown, appearing on his last two albums, and has shared the stage with Kenny Rogers, Ray Stevens, Andrae Crouch, Honeytree, and most recently with Mike Warnke in Vancouver, British Columbia. As studio musicians, they've played back-up on a number of custom albums, including the brand new release by LAMB.

Tickets will be available in advance at the Box Office for \$1.75, or at the door for \$2.00.

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Editorial

Mary ponders in her heart

Luke 2:19

Christmas is a time of joy, full of festivity.

Practically everyone loves the "spirit" of Christmas. We delight in the fellowship, gaiety, the mirth, the adornments, the feasting, the music, the annual programs, the exchange of gifts, the happy memories, the air of hope, the hustle and the bustle.

Somehow all this excitement helps us to forget ourselves, to escape from our own inner thoughts, to ride ecstatically upon the wave of mass enthusiasm and optimism. Yes, to forget ourselves, our real, inner selves, this is, sad to say for many, Christmas.

That, however, is not the true Christmas. In fact, it is the way, with all the seeming awareness and keen interest, to miss Christmas.

For Christmas is finally intensely personal, individual. It is something between you and your God. Oh! it does, indeed, have far reaching implications- for all men, the whole world. But it begins with each one of us, with you and your God.

God did something on Christmas. That marvelous thing which has come to pass, you and I, alone, by ourselves, in prayer, in sincere communication with God, must see and ponder. We must come to know more fully its meaning for us personally, to ponder its significance and realize its high purpose.

That is one of the beauties of mother Mary. She has taught the right response to Christmas. It was so deeply precious and personal to her. Luke tells us in meaningful simplicity, "But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."

Forensic club plans Christmas program

The Forensics Club is busy preparing a Christmas program to be presented in the SUB at 9:00 pm on Sunday, Dec. 10.

The theme, centering on Christmas, will be presented with oral interpretation, Bible reading, group singing, acting and a Brass Quintet.

The Forensics Club also participated in another Forensic tourn-

This brief statement is truly packed with significance. It really says it all. Of course, you and I are left to draw out its wealth of implications.

For one thing consider the content of what Mary kept in her heart. . . "all these things." Think of what had transpired during the past days, months and year. It all began with the announcement of the angel. Amazing! Then the visit to cousin Elizabeth and that blessed experience. . . the babe (John) leaped in Elizabeth's womb at the meeting of Mary, carrying the Christ child. Beautiful!

And there was the initial bewilderment and anxiety of Joseph. How could Mary, his beloved betrothed be with child? Another visit from heaven removed all doubt on this delicate issue. . . "Fear not to take unto thee Mary, thy wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit." Fantastic!

So one could go on and on. One electrifying wonder after another. . . the lowly birth, the shepherds, the wise men, Anna and Simeon in the temple, etc. etc. . . "all these things."

Yes, she pondered. She quietly receives, turns over, again and again, in her mind. She continues to enjoy ever new and rich insights from these treasures which she carefully and prayerfully guards in her heart. Yes, in her heart, in her inner being, with her entire selfmind (study, meditation), will (submission, determination), emotions (joy, laughter, weeping, anguish)-Mary ponders.

Mary experienced Christmas. And it never left her. For to Mary life was Christmas.

By Rev. B. J. Haan

ament, November 10, at South Dakota State University.

Those representing Dordt were Kim Buss, Bonnie Miedema and Cheryl Van Kooten in oral interpretation, Kae Evink, Dawn Kalsbeek, and Sue Oppeneer in oratory. Lugene VandenBosch and Martin Dekkenga accompanied the students. No one made the finals in the tournament.

Members of the Diamond staff have decided to honour me in this last issue of the Diamond of this semester by drawing a little sketch of me. I have to admit that I have often resembled the picture, especially after an issue of the Diamond has come out, but, hopefully, I haven't been that bad of an editor. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff of the Diamond for the many hours they have put in to give Dordt their Diamond this semester. Merry Christmas, fellow cohorts. Merry Christmas to all. Also, a special thank-you to Dorenda Roos, typing editor, who will be retiring with this issue.



Audrey Vlieg

letters...



Dear Editor:

The end of the semester is drawing to a close much sooner than most of you realized. Right now you may find yourself running in circles trying to finish that sociology paper or memorizing face diagrams for a language class, and you're asking yourself what you're doing at Dordt.

When the Lord said that he would show me great and mighty things, I never thought it would be a place I was so anxious to leave. At this time two years ago I was running around, packing my bags and saying good-bye to Sioux Center for good. It's not that I didn't like the place (although I almost left one week after my first week as a freshman because the land was too flat!); I was transferring to another Christian college with a law enforcement major that had a communications program and music major also.

Two years, and three colleges later (the christian college and two state colleges I've attended), my eyes have been opened to see that I never took full advantage of what Dordt offered me. I attended another Christian college which lacked perspective in the classroom, fellowship on the campus, and encountered people so wrapped up in themselves that the smiles and hellos, so common at Dordt, were missing. . . empty people. . . searching. . . just like I. The state colleges were no better. . . students buying exams, the bloodshot eyes, and parties, parties, parties. Forget about buying the class textbook. The semester was based on the final exam -- so buy it ahead of time for \$20 and there will be no problems passing. Forty two credit hours later after leaving Dordt I found myself disillusioned with higher education and working four part time jobs to equal a full time paycheck so I can pay off my debts here and save enough to return to Sioux Center next fall -- I'll return to Dordt where I left off. If I'm to get a degree from Dordt it will be with the education that goes along with it.

As one college advisor said to me, "You went to Dordt? Knowing what an excellent education you got there I can't understand why you transferred here, but you got a better perspective there than any class here, so I'll approve of any course schedule you choose."

God had to call me away to see what I had. . . I didn't know just how fortunate I was until it was almost too late. I believe God is calling me back. . . only this time I won't shirk my respons-

ibilities as a Christian to do my best at my studies. . . and my eyes will be open to what I never saw before.

In His Love,
Sheri Cleaves
(ex-1979)

Dear Editor:

The American elections have come and gone again. A new set of leaders sit in their padded seats. So what difference does it make nowadays who gets elected, some of you may ask, while others might blankly wonder what elections I am talking about. This can be deduced from the fact that less than ten Dordt students put in their vote several weeks ago. But we are only a microcosm of the apathy that seems to be hanging over America in general, for according to the newspaper, the recent elections have drawn the worst turnout from America in modern times, with only 1/3 of those eligible turning out to vote.

What does this mean for America? Does it merely show that the voters are satisfied, as some experts say? But this seems to be rather a blind, naive view in face of the many social and economic problems evident today. Or could the low turnout in voters signify a deep disillusionment and powerlessness with the governing body?

It seems sometimes that the Western democratic system as we know it is growing weaker amid a subtle, growing tide of Neomarxism and totalitarianism. In any case, we as responsible Christians must be aware of new political trends and moods, so that we can be ready with effective ways of dealing with them.

On Saturday, December 9, we hope to come together as students and staff in another Bridge Discussion. Dr. Skillen will speak to us on the direction our political system is going, its implications to Christians, and how we as Christians should view our civic responsibilities. The meeting will begin at 12:30 pm in the SUB lounge. All students are urged to attend.

Harriette Stellingwerff

the diamond

The Diamond is published by the students at Dordt College. These students are a part of a wider Christian community which looks to Jesus as the Truth. We are striving to develop journalism which proclaims the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Individual opinions may vary, but we hope that the communication of these ideas will stimulate growth in the Christian community.

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... and letters to the Editor

counts are in effect. The problem is that these times refer only to the continental United States. Canadian rates are different, as shown below:

Sixty percent discounts only apply from 12 midnight to 8 a.m. (local time) every day of the week; thirty-five percent discounts apply from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight every day of the week, and on Sunday it applies from 8 a.m. to 12 midnight. Regular day rates apply Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For the charges applying to the area which you phone, call the operator and give the area code and the first three numerals of the number.

Be wise, phone after midnight-- you'll save yourself money and will be able to talk longer.

Sincerely,
Harry J. Kits

Dear Editor:

From the back window of the Friendship House Christian Reformed Church, I can look past a few empty lots into the backyard of the San Francisco headquarters of People's Temple. When the news first broke of the slaying of Rep. Ryan in British Guyana, we at the Friendship House were quite alarmed. We wondered if the attack was the beginning of an uprising by members of the strange sect calling themselves "People's Temple." Living and working in a predominately black community, we were justifiably concerned. The lower-class blacks were a main target of the Rev. Jim Jones' ministry, and with his headquarters only a few blocks away, we were unsure of the effect the slayings in Guyana would have on our community.

But as new reports of the mass suicide began filtering through to us, our concern for our own safety changed to concern for the safety of temple members still living in the neighborhood. Would they too commit suicide? Would there be reprisals upon temple members by those who had relatives in Guyana? We had no way of knowing.

On Monday afternoon, November 10, Rev. Don Klompeen, pastor of the Friendship House Christian Reformed Church, and I joined the relatives and reporters at the back gate of People's Temple. A six-foot-high wire fence surrounded the back lot, and several guard dogs wandered around inside

the yard. Two young blacks were inside a small building at the gate, clearly watching all the activity, but making no comment. Occasionally they allowed a car through the gate, and the driver would park it beside large wooden crates marked for shipment either to or from The People's Mission, Port Kaituma, British Guyana. On top of the temple itself stands the short-wave antenna capable of receiving the suicide code words, "White Knight."

Pastor Klompeen talked with and listened to the people waiting outside the gate. One black woman screamed that the two dozen or so members inside the headquarters should be shot. She was glad "that Honkie" (Rev. Jim Jones) was dead, because he "stole and killed" so many of her black community. Another black woman quietly begged for information about her son in Guyana. Reporters from The Washington Post, The San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle, Newsweek, CBS, NBC, and ABC exchanged opinions on the bizarre events of the past two days.

Shortly after 3:00 Monday afternoon, Pastor Klompeen and several black ministers from the area were allowed onto the Temple property for a brief interview with a Temple spokesman. They received no new information for the anxious relatives and the eager reporters waiting outside. The attitude of the Temple spokesman reflected disbelief in reports of what had happened, and a suspicion of the press releases. Without his leader, the spokesman appeared uncertain of what would happen next. Before the ministers were escorted from the lot, they received assurance of another interview at noon on Tuesday, November 21st.

Shortly before noon on Tuesday, Rev. Klompeen and I returned to the locked gate, and to the crowd outside. The pastor of Friendship House had prepared a letter to members of People's Temple, expressing sympathy for them in their grief, concern for the waiting relatives, and hope for understanding, on both sides of the fence. The letter immediately became a press release on the part of the local ministers. Noon came and went, and there was no sign of allowing anyone into the temple yard. As I waited, the crowd became smaller; it was clear that no one would enter People's Temple, at least not on Tuesday.

There are still many unanswered questions, for which there

perhaps never will be answers. For us at Friendship House, the question now is, Will the actions of People's Temple have any effect on our ministry here in San Francisco? It's too early for a definite answer yet, but any episode of this nature places the Christian church in a bad light. This reflection on us is best summarized by a remark made to me by one of the people we're trying to help at the Friendship House: "This is supposed to be religion?!"
Sheldon Starkenburg
Dordt Alumni, '77-'78

Dear Editor:
After reading the letters in the November 16 edition of the Diamond, I began to see why some people on campus doubt the credibility of the Diamond. The letters by Rev. Kobes and Dr. Vander Schaaf appear to point out that perhaps members of the Diamond staff have not always done their "homework". The credibility of the paper is further undermined by the editor's response to Dr. Vander Schaaf's letter.

Doesn't the writer of a story have a responsibility to his readers to determine the reliability of his sources? Is it responsible to use sources of unverified reliability? Furthermore, I am confused as to which Calvin students refer to their college as "the sixth most difficult college in the U.S." In my conversations with friends and relatives who are Calvin students and alumni I have never been led to believe that Calvin is "the sixth most difficult college in the U.S." Like the writer of the article about Calvin, I too have had the opportunity to

spend time speaking with a number of Calvin students; however none was aware that Calvin is "sixth most difficult".

I hope that future articles in the Diamond will indicate that the writers have done their homework. Hopefully in this way the credibility of the paper will be improved and result in an increase of respect for the paper on the part of the entire Dordt community.
Sincerely,
R. L. Haan

Dear Editor:
I am writing in response to a "newsbrief" printed in the Nov. 2, 1978 issue of the Diamond--the newsbrief on the forensic tournament.

The way the article presented who went to the tournament and what the results were, disturbed me. If our "Christian duty is to promote unity rather than division" (according to a letter to the editor, same issue), then why was there no mention of the other five members who also participated? These students worked hard on their speeches, and they deserve mention even if they did not qualify for semi-finals. Going to these tournaments takes time--something precious to us all. At these tournaments we must support each other--all the way--and I appreciate the support that Kim Buss, Joyce Leensvaart, Bonnie Miedema, Cheryl Van Kooten and Becky Van Somerman gave me that day.

If only those that win make headlines, then our priorities are on the wrong track; and it is our responsibility to change--now!

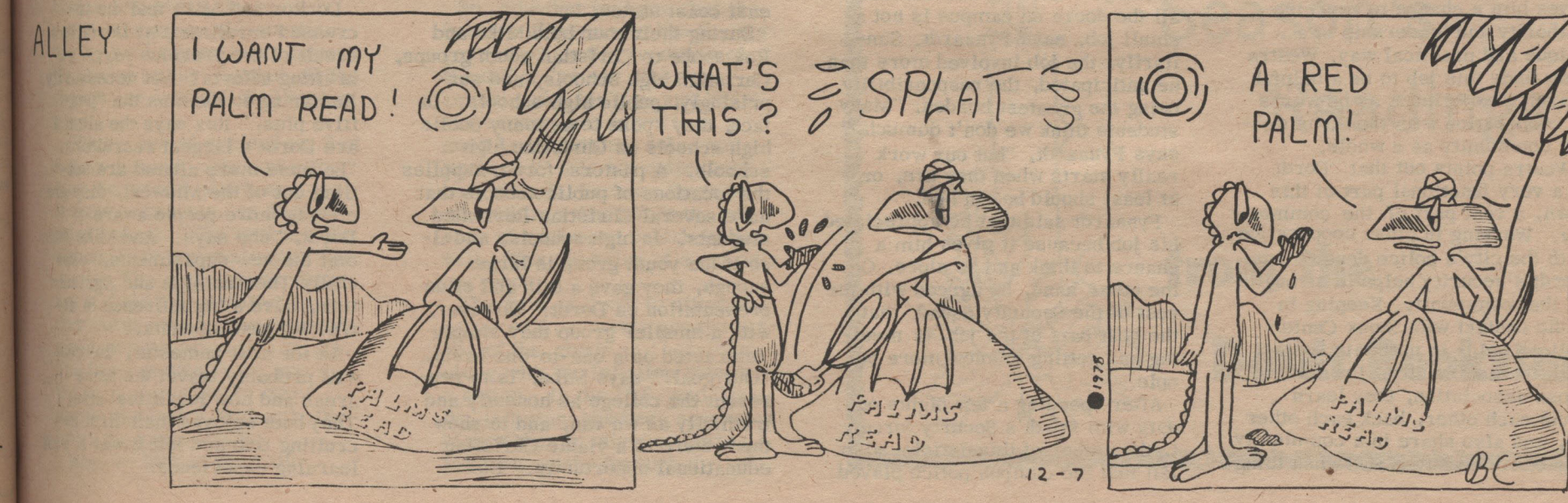
Kae Evink

Dordt band tours Mid-west

The 70-member Concert Band of Dordt will again be going on tour this year during the semester break. Beginning on January 10 in Minneapolis, the one-week tour for the group will include concerts at Minnehaha Academy, Waupun, WI, Prinsburg, MN, Pella, IA, Fulton, IL, Cedar Falls, IA, and, finally, Dordt College, January 17. One concert will be performed each evening except Sunday, January 14.

These last weeks of practice will be intense for the band and its director, Gerald Bouma, associate professor of music.

The repertoire includes many varied styles of music from slow and soft pieces to overtures and familiar marches. Touring as a representative Dordt group, the band tries to perform at its best level for each concert. The glory and praise is always directed toward God, as He blesses the talent and work. The home concert at Dordt on the first day of 2nd semester classes, often the culmination of the work and improvements of tour, will be recorded for the Concert Band's 1979 record album.



A Christian Union in Labour's Wasteland...

By John Hiemstra

At the mention of a "Christian Labour Union" most North American Christians raise a puzzled brow. "Isn't that a conflict of terms? We really don't need labour unions at all, and if we do why a Christian labour union? There's no need for a Christian Union!"

This is precisely the point that the authors of *A Christian Union* are attempting to discredit. The authors claim that the economic world in which the majority of Christians are working is devoid of the leaven of Biblical religion; we live in a post-Christian world. The Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), the sponsor of the book, is attempting to apply the Biblical principles of man as image bearer, equality before God, stewardship of creation, and work as a blessing (etc.) to the everyday work place. As a result, the CLAC has suffered rejection on all sides: "Because it advocates reconciliation between employers and employees, left-wing militants deride the organization as traitorous to the work-

ing class; because it insists on worker's responsibility and co-determination, proponents of free enterprise label it as socialist and leftist; mainline trade unions do everything to destroy it because it threatens their monopolistic position and questions their materialist view of life; and because it boldly confesses its roots in the Scriptures, governments reluctantly recognized the CLAC as a bonafide trade union."

A Christian Union, a collection of key articles and speeches previously printed in *The Guide*, was published in connection with the 25th Anniversary of the CLAC. The seven authors analyze the relationship of Christianity and Labour in our Industrial culture from a Christian world-view one which sees all of life as subject to the Word of God. In "What's in a Name?" Bernard Zylstra looks at each element which makes up the name of the CLAC. Harry Antonides shows that a Christian labour union is not out of date nor out of place in Anglo-Saxon culture, but a mean-

ingful vehicle to contribute to greater justice. Ed Vanderkloet discusses the CLAC's response to unemployment, inflation, consumption, productivity, technology, and the adversary system. The dependence of our socio-economic life upon our faith confession is dealt with by Bob Goudzwaard. In "Ideas Have Legs" Al Wolters explains how ideas develop, spread, and infiltrate our daily lives. Biblical ideas must be developed consciously, for they too have legs, and we better be on the march with them. Evan Runner asks the crucial question, "Can Canada Tolerate the CLAC?" A humanistic society sets limits to religious practice in the so-called neutral areas of life: work and labour, economics and industry. In a prophetically piercing conclusion Calvin Seerveld delineates "the unfulfilled promise of the CLAC" by showing that structural reform of labour and business must continue if we are to realize the good reality of an economic order freed from greed and restored to stewardship."

The list of articles is followed by an extensive "reading list" containing books and articles which would assist the interested reader in expanding his or her understanding of the dynamics of Christian Labour in North America's industrial society.

A Christian Union bears witness to more than "on the spot" labour problems; it testifies that all of socio-economic life is at its heart religious. Not only is there a need for representing Christians within a labour movement, but broad structural reform of the entire economy is necessary. The Western socio-economic way of life must be re-directed and reshaped to conform to the Biblical imperatives of justice, freedom and shalom! *A Christian Union* is a pointed demonstration, on behalf of the CLAC, that the Biblical principles of social justice and love can be translated into a potent Christian witness in our largely secular work world.

Your defenders behind their badges

By Verlan Van Ee

Who is the man under that dark blue coat with the silver badge? The campus cop who's out to get you for breaking curfew? No! Like his silver badge reads, he is "Dordt's Security", your fellow Defender.

What is this job we label "campus cop" really all about? Senior Security Officer Dave Gritter points out that his primary concern is security and not playing the part of a big tough cop, who busts all the freshman for breaking curfew. "Enforcing curfew is strictly secondary," states Gritter.

Like Gritter, Junior Ron De Nooy sees his job primarily as insuring security and safety on campus. Ron points out that someone has to be available to help in the case of accidents or any other emergencies arising on campus.

"Taking down the names of habitual violators is also a part of my duty", states De Nooy, also adding that in most cases students could avoid problems if they would simply cooperate with their Resident Advisors and would not try to "pull one over on the Campus Cop."

Head Security Officer, Junior Dan Westra, says he views his job "as a whole different major in college." Westra, a Secondary Education, PE Major, and a Sociology Minor, says his job gives him a chance to exercise authority and leadership in a unique and practical way. Westra also finds this job to be a helpful learning experience as he works in cooperation with the Sioux Center community as a whole.

Westra points out that "Dordt is a very functional part of this town, a real part of the community. Working in close cooperation with the city's police department, Dordt's security helps to strengthen that community. Keeping in radio contact with Sioux Center Police helps to maintain contact with the community. From their close association, they learn from each other, back each other up, and also share in a community cup of coffee in the SUB when things

quiet down.

Westra further commented on his job in relationship to the students on campus: "Basically cooperation has been good this year," says Westra. He appreciates the general respect they get from the students. However, Westra, a veteran on the job, points out that it seems harder to carry out his job this year, since he lives off-campus.

"If the kids don't know you as a person," states Westra, "they tend to see only the hard-nose, authoritative side of you." That social aspect can cause for misconceptions that make the job more difficult.

Sophomore Vince Bonnema, presently a security officer living in the dorm, points out that the job is not always easy on the inside either. "It was hard at first to get tough with your friends and adjust to the 'kidding' I got," says Bonnema, "but, eventually your friends realize you have a job to do and respect you for it, and then the kidding doesn't bother you."

Russell Fynaardt, a Sophomore, composes the fifth and more recent member of the security squad. Fynaardt was surprised by the amount of work the campus police really do, when he first started working. Locking and checking all the doors on campus is not a small job, says Fynaardt. Similarly, the job involved more than he anticipated, the responsibility being the greatest burden. "Many students think we don't do much," says Fynaardt, "but our work really starts when they are, or at least should be, in bed."

Fynaardt said that he appreciated his job because it gives him a chance to think and be alone. On the other hand, he agreed with the rest of the Security Squad that the best part of the job is meeting and getting to know more people.

After spending a few nights on duty with Dordt's Security force, I, the author of this article, also felt that the campus police played

an important part in the building of Dordt's community.

Westra summed his job concisely Stating, "We cops are really nice guys. We just unlock doors and let people in. We never try to

Recruiters report successful trip

By Sherry Byerly

Dordt has two new Admissions Counselors this year. They are Rox Nobel, a 1978 Dordt graduate with a degree in secondary physical education, and Mike Epema, a 1976 Dordt graduate with a degree in secondary English education.

The Admissions Counselors job covers several areas. When they aren't traveling, Rox and Mike serve as assistants to Howard Hall, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. This consists of helping with registration, answering the questions of high school seniors already enrolled at Dordt, giving tours of the campus, and telephoning prospective students who they are not able to contact on their trips.

Mike and Rox recently returned from extensive recruiting trips. Logging nearly 15,000 miles between them, Mike traveled to the far western states and B.C., and Rox toured the middle west and east coast states.

During their tour both Mike and Rox spoke to Christian youth groups, Christian high schools, and surprisingly, public high schools. In fact, they spoke to as many public high schools as Christian high schools. A pastors' forum supplies the locations of public schools that have several Christian Reformed students. In high schools, and also if the youth group is large enough, they gave a talk and slide presentation on Dordt. However, with a smaller group they simply interacted on a one-to-one basis. "Our goal," says Mike, "is to represent the college as honestly and truthfully as we can, and to show them there is a viable Christian educational opportunity." Rox



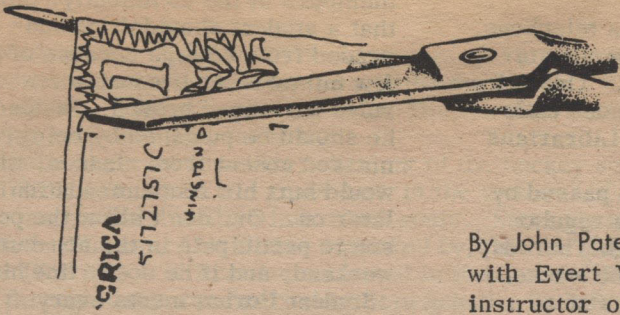
Rox Nobel

says that their purpose is to open a door for the students who have thought about college but haven't committed themselves, and to let students know that a college like Dordt exists.

Do Rox and Mike feel the increased enrollment at Dordt is a result of the previous years' recruiting efforts? Not necessarily. Referring to them as the "positive plus," Rox says the alumni are Dordt's largest recruiters. "Because more alumni are settling out of the Midwest, they are making more people aware of Dordt," she says. And Mike feels that the new departments, especially Theatre Arts and Agriculture, have a big influence in attracting new students.

As for next semester, the two will probably travel the same areas and new localities also. They both enjoyed their first recruiting trip and felt it was a real learning experience.

Today, your dollar is worth...



By John Pater
with Evert Vander Heide,
instructor of economics

"The U.S. dollar drops on the world market!" "The Canadian dollar stands at a low 84¢ versus the U. S. dollar!"

What does "U. S. dollar drops on world market", or "Canadian dollar stands at low" mean? Many of us do not understand the ins and outs of why our (Canadian and American) dollars rise and fall (mostly fall). What causes one nation's currency to be worth more than another's currency? Why are some currencies going up and other currencies going down?

We will begin by asking what the exchange rates are. Why do you have so many U. S. dollars exchanged for so many Canadian dollars, or German marks, or Japanese yen? Basically it is just the supply and demand for the different currencies. Just as there is a certain supply of apples in the world, so there is a certain supply of U. S. dollars, Canadian dollars and other currencies on the world market. And, just as there is a demand for all those apples from many people in the world, so there is demand for U.S. and Canadian dollars and other currencies on the world market. Based on supply and demand then, we get an exchange rate, or, a value of the U.S. dollar compared to the value say, of the Canadian dollar or the German mark.

The next question then follows: what determines the exchange rate or the differing values of currencies, compared to others? We look again at supply and demand. There are certain rules in the economic world that govern supply and demand. On the one hand, if the supply of an object (be it apples, cars, or dollars) increases, the value, or price of that object will decrease. Why? With more of those objects present, if all of them are to be sold, the price (or value) must be lowered. On the other hand, if the supply of an object decreases, the value, or price of that object will increase. Why? Just as at an auction, the objects are sold to the highest bidder. So with a decreased supply, the price will continue to rise until one or more buyers decide not to buy, so that all the objects are sold and find an owner.

With the law of demand we find that as demand increases, so does the price (value); and as demand decreases, so does the price (value). Why is this? We turn again to our analogy of the auction. The more people there are that bid for an object (in other words, the higher demand), the higher the price will climb. The fewer people there are that bid on an object (or in other words, the lower demand), the lower the price will be.

When we look at the value

(price) of the dollar; we see that the more demand there is for the dollar, the higher will be its value. And vice-versa, the lower demand there is for the dollar, the lower will be its value.

Looking at the supply side of the dollar, the more dollars there are supplied, the lower will be its value, and the less dollars there are supplied, the higher will be its value.

The next question we ask then is: What is going to cause a change in the demand and supply, which will effect a change in the different values of various currencies?

The biggest effect on the demand and supply of the dollar (or any other currency) has to do with the balance of trade (otherwise known as balance of payments) of our country or any other country--in other words, the amount of imports and exports a nation may have. If we import more than we export, people from other countries won't be buying as much from us, so they won't need as many of our dollars to buy our products. We will be buying more of their products and also their currency. This will put less demand on our currency, which turns into a lower value for our dollar. If we export more than we import, people from other countries will buy more products from us and will demand of our money to buy our products. At the same time we will be buying less of their products, meaning less of their currency. This will place more demand on our dollar, and push up the value of our dollar.

The big cause of the U. S. dollar devaluating was the increased prices paid for petroleum. According to Vander Heide, "Considered by us to be a necessity (the petroleum), instead of telling ourselves we'll do with less, we bought roughly the same amount but at the higher price, making our total spending a lot higher." This increased the U.S.'s imports, which meant a decrease in demand for the U. S. dollar, and subsequently caused the U. S. dollar to decline on the world market.

So, now that we know that the balance of payments has the biggest effect on the condition of the dollar (or any other currency), why don't we just keep our exports and imports at a good level and thus solve our problem? It is not quite that easy though, because there are other things that affect the balance of payments, which in turn will affect the value of a nation's currency.

The first of these to affect the balance of payments are the prices of the goods and services along with the inflation rate of a nation. In the U.S. and Canada, inflation has been somewhat higher than in other countries. Inflation works through the bal-



Photo By Don Stocker

ance of payments to cause a decline in the dollar (Canadian or American). As our prices go up, there is going to be less demand for our products from other nations. Added to that, if the prices in our country are higher than in other countries, we will be demanding more of their products (more imports) because of the lower price of their products.

An increase in the incomes of a nation will also affect the balance of payments. If our incomes are increasing we will likely demand more of other nations' goods (again, more imports), which once more will hurt the balance of payments and the value of the dollar will go down. The opposite also holds. If incomes are increasing in other nations faster than they are increasing in our nation, the people in those nations will likely demand more products from us. This would mean an increase in our exports and a rise in the value of our dollar (again, speaking to both Canadian and American readers).

The flow of funds back and forth also affects the balance of payments, and hence the exchange rate. Interest rates have quite an impact on where funds are going to be invested on a world-wide

basis. If interest rates in the U. S. (or Canada) can be forced up, hopefully, some of the people (with funds) in other countries are going to buy dollars and invest them in our country. This increases the value of the dollar (Canada or U.S.) because there is more of a demand to buy securities and other investments which have a higher interest rate.

A final influence on the value of a nation's currency is expectations, or speculation in the market. If for instance, people think that the economy of a certain nation will go bad, and they expect the exchange rate to go down, they will try to sell the currency of that nation. This will increase the supply and lessen the demand of that nation's currency, resulting in a lower value for that nation's currency. In this case, it is simply the expectations themselves which bring about the devaluation.

So we see that prices and inflations, incomes at home and abroad, interest rates, and expectations all affect the balance of payments of any nation. We have also seen that the state of affairs of the balance of payments, whether a nation has more imports than exports, or vice versa-- has a big effect on the value of a nation's currency.

Season's Readings

from the

Dordt Bookstore

columns



Forum News

By Colleen Marcus

The Student Forum Committee is really digging into the interests of the students. The name of the game is to keep Dordt students happy by giving them what they want in the right perspective and keeping them informed about the progress of events as they happen on campus and the surrounding

"Inklings" of things to come

By Phil Weaver

all of us. I feel that this sort of interaction is an integral part of our building one another up. But how can we jointly reflect on issues? Obviously we can't unless we agree on what has to be discussed. The question that has to be asked then is "how can we decide what problems are relevant to us as students and faculty who are trying to be capable handlers of the word of God in all aspects of life?" This is what I consider the role of the Diamond to be.

Starting next semester, I plan to write a regular column delineating what I, as a newcomer, see as problems the Dordt community is, or should be, struggling with. Of course, these columns will be highly subjective, but hopefully they will reflect the concerns of us all. No doubt there will be criticism regarding my choice of issues and objections to my opinions, but they are all part of our interaction. It is my prayer that these columns will help to direct our thinking. Maybe then we will be able to say that, in a few areas at least, we were able to "get our act together" while being here at Dordt College.

"Repent... The end draweth nigh!"

That's the way most of us probably feel at this point of the semester. I know I do. I often take time out from my studies and wonder what on earth I'm doing here at Dordt College. Why did I ever decide to transfer from a highly academic university in Southern Ontario to a small liberal arts college in midwestern America? My usual answer ends up being "to get my act together" (or at least words to that effect). But, I sometimes reflect a little longer and try to figure out exactly what I mean by that cliché.

Dordt offers a unique reformed Christian environment in which I can reflect on my problems, knowing that others share my growing pains. However, I've found that some of my struggles are not encountered by many other people. Since I've never attended a Calvinist institution, like Dordt before, I probably see benefits and problems often overlooked by someone who has spent their entire life in a Christian school system.

Hopefully, this difference will lead to a dialogue beneficial to

In defense of womanhood

By Cheryl Van Kooten

Quite often, especially around Dordt, we hear a certain girl's plan of study referred to as "going for her M. R. S. degree." The majority of the student body, in theory at least, would pull up their nose at such a limited vision. I've often been curious exactly how this desire is created in the minds and hearts of girls--or is it inborn?

In junior high, when girls first begin to date, the chaff is quickly separated from the wheat. The prettiest girls are the ones who go out the most often with guys and consequently are regarded as the talented and successful leaders of the class. The "average-looking" girls attempt to model their appearance and behaviour after these proven successes.

This continues throughout high school, culminating in the senior year when several girls will appear with the ultimate status symbol on their left hand--a diamond ring. Upon this cue, all of her friends moan and groan and cast their eyes upward in Heavenly supplication that someday they will obtain a chance at this blissful state also.

This attitude is encouraged even more when a girl goes on to college. Upon her return from vacation, she is immediately asked the question, "Do you have a boyfriend yet?" If the reply is "yes," everyone immediately assumes that she is doing fine, that she is happy, and that she has been successful. But if the reply is "no," people shrug their shoulders, raise their eyebrows meaningfully, murmur clichés such as, "Love is just around the corner," and then move on to subjects such as her classes and studies. However, the implication is often there that these things are just temporary activities until the real object of desire--a husband--comes along. It is just this sort of system which would permit an intelligent and capable girl to flunk out of college willingly simply because she no longer has time for anything except her special man.

It is just this sort of system which produces bright and attractive young women who spend many valuable hours, during which they could be using their God-given talents and intelligence to develop themselves into mature persons, crying and bemoaning their lack of dates and single state. They occasionally become desperate--they begin to think, "If I'm not married by the time I'm out of college, I'm finished!" As a result of this, they spend many hours plotting to ensnare some eligible male, and so decrease their own opportunities and potential to learn.

Meanwhile, times have never looked better for the American male. Simply by flirting, a Dordt man can conceivably maneuver several women into performing such tasks for him as repairing his clothes, washing and ironing his clothes, baking him cookies, and washing his car.

In conclusion, many young women, especially around Dordt, are looking for husbands. This in itself is not so bad, for marriage is important, being a mother and wife is fulfilling, but the learning opportunities and potential which are often voluntarily wasted by these young women makes me wonder if perhaps American society should set a few priorities straight. There are other alternatives, especially during a college career.

community. The committee does just that.

They have provided a telephone, for both on and off campus students, in the Library. This allows the student to make phone calls without bothering the Librarians or their helpers.

A proposal has been passed by the committee to have regular curfew Monday through Thursday, but drop curfews on the weekend. Now that proposal goes on to a higher committee where it can either be approved or "killed." The committee has a ballot on the floor concerning discipline. Many

of the students, as well as some members of the community, think that a student shouldn't be suspended from college because of a few mistakes or because a few rules have been broken. Instead, he should be punished by being marked absent from classes, which would hurt his recommendation later on. Or, don't allow the person to participate in the non-curfew weekend, and if he does, fine him.

Student Forum meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in the North-west commons. Anyone who wishes to attend the meetings is welcome to do so.

Are Dordt students informed?

by Sherry Byerly

Hi, I'm calling for the Diamond. We're doing a survey to see... If you were one of the many students contacted last week you already know what the voice on the other end of the telephone wanted to ask. If you weren't, read on.

Are Dordt students being adequately informed concerning world news? Do students take the time to be informed and involved? Finally, are there adequate sources available at Dordt to keep students well informed? To find the answers to these questions, the Diamond did some investigation by observing students in the library and by telephoning students to ask them questions.

Many students, especially Canadians, feel uninformed. Unfortunately, the Dordt library cannot subscribe to all the main newspapers students are used to reading at home. The library receives only city papers from Iowa, Chicago, New York City, Vancouver, and Toronto. If you happen to be from anywhere else, you're out of luck, and "out of it." Canadian students are especially handicapped since the Vancouver and Toronto papers are usually out of date by the time they reach Sioux Center. With the majority of Canadian students being from Alberta, isn't it odd the library doesn't carry an Edmonton or Calgary paper? Perhaps, but "it's never been requested," said Mrs. Emma Vandenberg, library reference assistant.

One of the questions asked was whether students had voted in the November election. The overwhelming response was "No." When asked why, most students said they were uninformed. Obviously this answer is not hard to accept when a student is in Iowa and his home is in Washington. However, just as many Iowa students also failed to vote. Indeed, they could not use the excuse of being uninformed, and many admitted to "just not taking the time to sit down and read the paper."

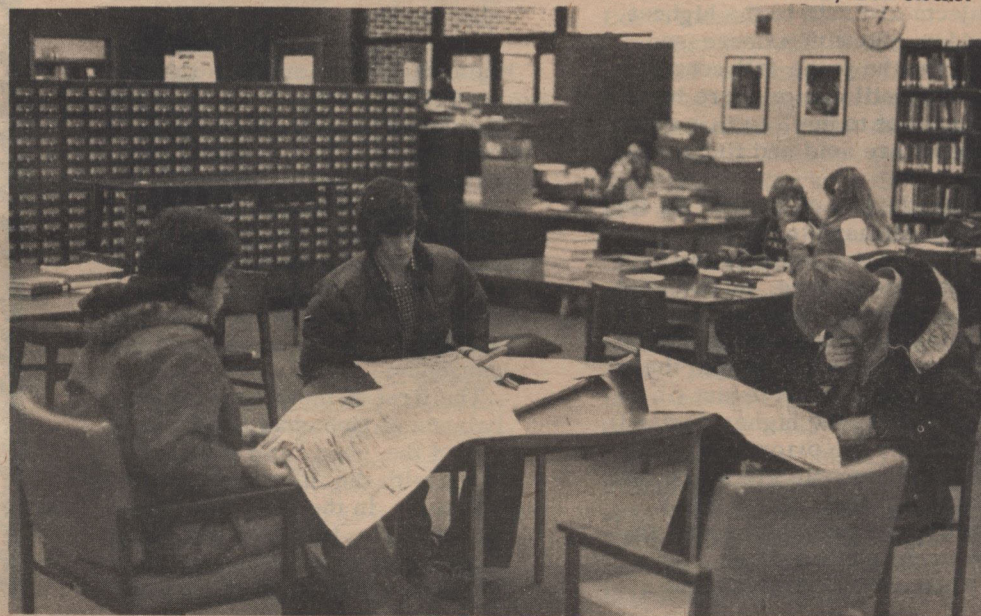
Apparently many other students don't either. As observed in the library and by students' answers, those who read the papers are a select few, consisting mostly of males. Mrs. Vandenberg has also noticed the situation saying that it's usually the same students who read the papers. She has also noticed that the Des Moines Register and the Sioux City Journal are the most widely read.

While most students don't read the papers, many listen to the radio or read the Noon News. Indeed, the majority of students replied that their main source of information was the radio, followed by the Noon News. Yet some of these same students who claimed they were uninformed claim to listen to the radio or read the Noon News everyday.

However there are different definitions of being uninformed. For some, being uninformed is not knowing what happened during the last several days. For others, being uninformed is not knowing who won the November elections. Therefore, when many students say they are uninformed, they are probably saying that they don't read a daily paper or regularly watch the 6 o'clock news as they would at home. These students will probably know the major events of the week and nothing else.

It appears that Dordt has the necessary sources to keep students well informed on world events, but lacks in providing students with more of their particular state or provincial news. It also appears that even though sources are available, many students don't take time to utilize them. As one guy stated, "I guess it's a lack of ambition."

Photo By Don Stocker



Roadrunners defeated by Blades

By Rich Kok

Last weekend the Thunder Bay Roadrunners of Thunder Bay, Ontario visited Dordt for a two game hockey series against the Blades. The Roadrunners, coming off a snowy 10 1/2 hr. journey from Thunder Bay Friday, suffered a 6-0 shellacking by Dordt that same night.

Stan Schalk registered his first shut-out of the hockey season while Rich Riemersma and Rick Kok netted two goals each in the victory. Colin Senneker and Brian Doornenbal also tallied individual goals. Saturday morning was a different story for the Blades. The Blades squeaked by Thunder Bay 6-5 in the early morning game (7 a.m.). Al Brandsma started in the nets for Dordt but was replaced midway through the second period by Stan Schalk. Rich Riemersma and Colin Senneker collected a pair of goals while defensemen Andy Straatsma and John Huitsing tallied single goals.

On Tuesday, November 28, Dordt suffered a stinging 10-0 defeat to the Iowa State University Cyclones at the Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa. The Blades played well in check with the ISU speedsters but could not muster an effective attack. The Cyclones skated well, backchecking and forechecking effectively in their home rink (seating capacity 12,500) before a crowd of 2,000 fans.

The Blades will travel to Des Moines this Friday and Saturday for a two game contest against Drake University. These two games will be the last games Dordt plays before their hockey tour in January.

The Dordt Blades will begin their hockey tour January 5th in Edmonton, Alberta, then swing down through southern Alberta and Saskatchewan and northwestern Ontario playing games in various hockey centres. They will return January 17 just in time for school. On behalf of the Dordt Blades we wish you, students and faculty, a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Blades Individual Scoring Race

No	Player	GP	G	A	Pts	P/Pim
14	Colin Senneker	7	8	2	10	3/6
9	Sid Bandstra	7	3	5	8	4/16
4	Andy Straatsma	7	2	6	8	4/8
10	John Huitsing	7	4	3	7	3/6
3	Brian Doornenbal	7	4	2	6	0
18	Wayne Visser	7	3	3	6	7/14
8	Elco Vandergrift	7	1	4	5	0
2	Frank Voogd	7	0	5	5	6/12
5	Theo De Groot	7	3	1	4	2/4
17	John Mulder	6	0	4	4	8/16
19	Rick Kok	7	3	1	4	2/4
7	Rich Riemersma	4	4	0	4	0
	Martin Gelderman	6	1	3	4	1/2
	Bill Koopmans	6	1	2	3	3/6
	Ed Top	1	2	0	2	0
12	Charlie De Jager	7	1	1	2	0
11	Tom De Jager	7	0	2	2	1/2
6	Ray Veenbas	7	0	2	2	0
1	Stan Schalk	3 2/3	0	1	1	0
	Sid Couperus	1	0	0	0	0
30	Al Brandsma	3 1/3	0	0	0	0

Goaltending Record

No	Player	GP	S on G	S	GA	SO	Average
1	Stan Schalk	3 2/3	100	86	14	1	3.82
30	Al Brandsma	3 1/3	135	111	24	0	7.20

Legend

GP - Games Played
 G - Goals
 A - Assists
 Pts - Points
 P/Pim - Penalties / Penalties in Minutes
 S on G - Shots on Goal
 S - Saves
 GA - Goals Against
 SO - Shut Outs

TOUR SCHEDULE

Jan. 5 --Edmonton, Alberta
 Jan. 6 --Neerlandia
 Jan. 6 --Edmonton
 Jan. 8 --Lacombe
 Jan. 9 --Red Deer
 Jan. 10 --Southern Alberta
 Jan. 11 --Caronport, Saskatchewan
 Jan. 12 --Emo, Ontario
 Jan. 13 --Winnipeg (Manitoba) in Emo
 Jan. 15 --Thunder Bay

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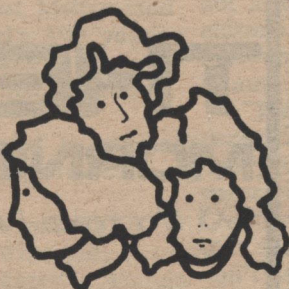


Photo By Bill Myles

calendar

by Joyce Owen

December 7	-7:00 pm, -7:30 pm,	Madrigal Dinner, West Commons Men's Basketball, Dordt vs. Dakota-Wesleyan, at Dordt
December 8	-7:00 pm, -7:30 pm,	Madrigal Dinner Women's Basketball, Dordt vs. Dana, at Dordt
December 9	-12:30 pm, -2:00 pm,	Bridge Discussion, speaker: Dr. Skillen, on voter apathy Women's Basketball, Dordt vs. Northwestern, at Northwestern
	-7:00 pm, -7:30 pm, -8:00 pm,	Madrigal Dinner Men's Basketball, Dordt vs. Bellview, at Bellview Square Dance, Gym
December 10	-2:30 pm,	Chorale Christmas Concert, Gym
December 11	-8:00 pm,	Recital: Julie Folkerts, Kathy Sanderse and Bev Van Gelder, Choral Room, Chapel-Music Center
December 12	-7:00 pm,	Meeting of all English Majors
December 13	-7:30 pm, -7:30 pm,	Men's Basketball, Dordt vs. Dakota State, at Dakota State Women's Basketball, Dordt vs. Sioux Empire, at Sioux Empire
December 14	-8:00 pm, -8:00 pm,	Senior Recital: Jay Oostra, TePaske Dordt Christmas Party, GLAD concert in New Chapel, reception in SUB following
December 15	- -7:30 pm,	Review Day Swim meet, Wayne State Women's Basketball, Dordt vs. Briar Cliff, at Dordt
December 16	-2:00 pm, -7:30 pm,	Women's Basketball, Dordt vs. Simpson, at Dordt Men's Basketball, Dordt vs. Morningside, at Dordt
December 17	-am, -9:00 pm,	Testing Christmas Hymnsing, SUB
December 18	-am & pm,	Testing
December 19	-am & pm,	Testing
December 20	-am & pm,	Testing
December 21	-	Christmas Break begins

Defenders lose to Buena Vista

by Bruce Hibma

Tuesday night Buena Vista College hooted Dordt College in a basketball fiasco at Storm Lakes, Iowa. The visiting Defenders fumbled and bumbled their way through the first half, giving the B.V. Beavers an early Christmas present with a 10-point half-time lead, 47-37.

Coach Vander Berg's locker-room comments must have fallen on something besides deaf ears, for in the second half the Defenders mounted a valiant comeback, until they had knotted the score with two minutes to play. But they didn't stop there; they continued their intensity until they were up by four with 60 ticks on the clock remaining. Calling for the 4-corner delay offense, Coach Vander Berg smelled the aroma of victory. All the Defenders had to do was keep the ball and only

to their shooting at the charity stripe. But then things always look good on paper.

Making several extremely costly turnovers, Dordt allowed B.V. to tie up the score and then go back up on top in a wild finish that left Dordt with dejected Defenders, a crushed coach, and flattened fans as Buena Vista received their best gift yet, an 87-83 victory.

Dordt shot extremely well--when they got the opportunity--hitting 52% from the field. But this fine statistic was complimented by 26 crucial turnovers which proved to be the deciding factor. Dordt was led in scoring with Vande Pol, Van Zanten, and Vogel each netting 17, followed closely by Visser with 16. Buena Vista's O'Hern shot unconscious the entire evening, finishing the game with 41 points.

Students present recitals

On Monday, December 11 at 8 p.m. Kathy Sanderse and Julie Folkerts will present a joint sophomore recital in the choral room of the chapel/music building.

Kathy will perform on the piano and Julie on the French horn. Kathy's selections include "Etude Op. 25 #1" by Chopin, and "Pas-sacaglia" by Copland. Julie's selections include "Horn Concerto No. 2 in D" by Haydn, and "Sonatina" by Von Kreisler. Bev Van Gelder accompanies Julie.

The recital is free and open to the public.

Jay Oostra will present his senior recital, December 13 at 8:00 p.m. in TePaske Theater.

Oostra, a Music Education Major from Rock Valley, Iowa, hopes to share his talents with the presentation of two opera Arias from "Don Giovanni" (Mozart) and "L'brea" (Halvey). Oostra will also perform "But Who May Abide" by Handel, "Deep Rive," a negro spiritual from Rogers and Hammerstein, and "Ya Got Trouble" by Meredith Wilson.

As usual, the recital is free of charge and open to the public.

Messiah sing planned

The choir of First Christian Reformed Church of Orange City invites all interested singers to join in a Messiah sing on Sunday, December 17, at 2:00 p.m. The event will be held in the sanctuary of the First CRC.

The idea of the Messiah sing was considered since several people have expressed interest in singing and there is no performance of the oratorio in the area this year. This type of sing has proved successful and popular in other communities.

Clarence Doornbos, director of the First CRC choir and Assistant Professor of Music at Dordt College will conduct the sing. Miss Joan Ringerwole and Dr. Noel Magee, both also members of the Dordt music faculty, will accompany on organ and piano.

To achieve a degree of continu-

ity, selected solos from the oratorio will be sung by Janice Doornbos, soprano; Lisa Van Someran, alto; Ron Boot, tenor; and John Doornenbal, bass.

According to Doornbos, the emphasis will be on "singing through" the Messiah, not on rehearsing. Singers are asked to bring their own copy of the Messiah if possible, (Schirmer edition preferred) and to "bring a friend."

Doornbos says, "The possibility exists for an exciting afternoon on December 17. It should be a meaningful addition to the Christmas celebration this year. I hope many singers, representing a cross-section of the community and college population, will join us."

Although the event is designed for those who wish to sing, some seating will be available for those who wish to come only to listen.

Chorale plans concert

SIOUX CENTER, Iowa--The Dordt College chorale will present a Christmas Concert Sunday, December 10, at 2:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. The 65-voice group is directed by Dale Grotenhuis, professor of music, and is accompanied by Rachel Koele.

The concert will open with "Sing a Song of Merry Christmas" by Mozart. The four sections--soprano, alto, tenor, and bass--will stand in the four corners of the gym to sing the round. The audience will join in singing the familiar carol "Silent Night" during another selection, "Peace, Peace" by Powell.

Other songs chorale will sing include "Every Valley" by John Ness Beck and a Negro spiritual, "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby

Boy." "Do You Hear What I Hear?" by Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne will be accompanied by percussion instruments, such as drum and finger cymbals.

The concert is open to the public.

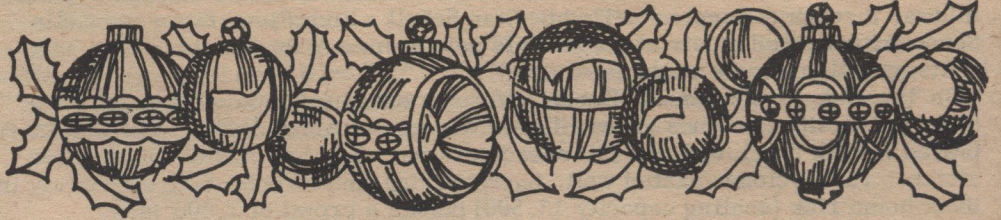
DORDT BLADES TOUR TEAM

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Sid Bandstra | Rich Riemersma |
| Al Brandsma | Colin Senneker |
| Sid Couperus | Andy Straatsma |
| Charlie De Jager | Ed Top |
| Tom De Jager | Elco Vandergrift |
| Brian Doornenbal | Ken Vander Veen |
| Martin Gelderman | Ray Veenbaas |
| John Huitsing | Wayne Visser |
| Rick Kok | Gerde Vlieg |
| Bill Koopmans | Frank Voogd |
| John Mulder | |

news brief

Approximately 35 senior pictures have been turned in to the Signet office to date. The Signet office once again asks all seniors to turn in their senior pictures. For the sake of continuity, the Signet is extending the deadline to

Wednesday, January 17, 1979, the day classes resume. If all senior pictures are not turned in by that date, mug shots will be used for all seniors. Your co-operation is asked for. Please help us get your yearbook on TIME!



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