

the diamond

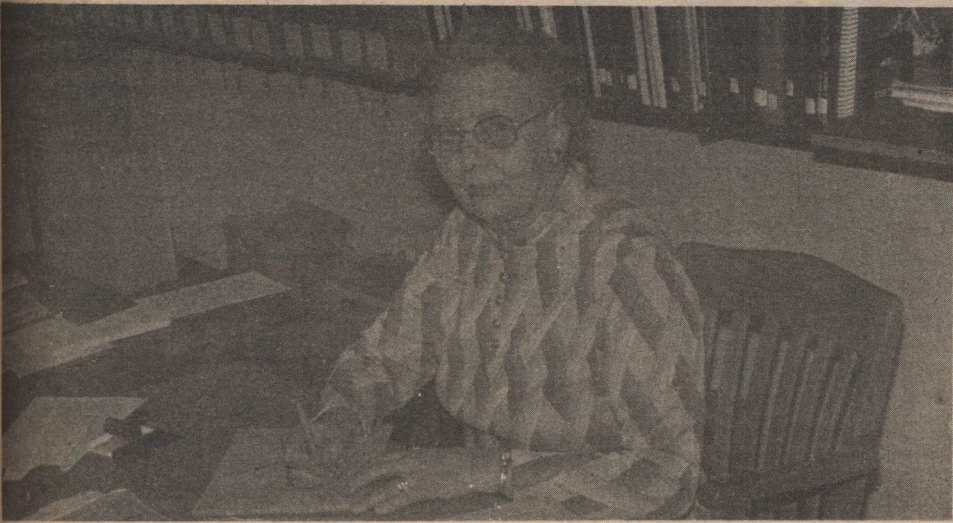
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february 15, 1979

Minnie Dahm appointed new archivist

by Deb Butler



MINNIE DAHM

The Archives collects anything that's related to Dutch history in the churches and schools, Dahm explained. Already it includes bound issues of the Dordt Diamond, Pro Rege, the Sioux Center News, tapes of interviews with people who have recollections of early churches and schools and microfilm of the consistory minutes of the classis churches.

"We have a policy of confidentiality," Dahm explained of the Archives, "which means that if a student in history or sociology wishes to make a study of his home church, he must obtain written permission from his home church to do this. The written note is given to the li-

brarian. No materials are checked out--all work is done here."

Dahm added that the purpose of the policy is to protect people's names and churches' private papers or official minutes and that the Archives is not unique in its policy of confidentiality.

"My responsibility is involved in that too. Church consistories are also concerned," she added. "I couldn't let any student read church minutes unless he did have written permission."

Dahm said that she enjoys her work as a librarian and archivist. "I think," she commented, "this is a great service for the Kingdom because it deals with our Christian heritage."

Minnie Dahm, librarian and donator of the Chapel organ, recently replaced the late Martin Seven as archivist in the Dordt College Archives and Dutch Memorial Collection located in the library.

Dahm, who began her part-time work February 6, explained her reasons for taking the job. "I like this kind of work," she said. "It was the challenge to serve Dordt in this capacity. I am a librarian by career and I like to work with students."

Although the Archives have been closed for eight months, Dahm explained that there's a lot of work to do since churches have been sending in materials. "I'm really just feeling my way now," she added. "Mr. Seven was a very good person. I worked with him in helping collect material for the six classes. I'm going to follow in his pattern which I know was solid librarianship. Mr. Seven was a man of great expertise."

Dahm began her library science career with a B.A. from William Penn in Oskaloosa, Iowa, where she majored in elementary and secondary education and English, with a minor in social science. In 1957 she began her Masters Degree in Iowa City at the University of Iowa where she finished it in 1960 at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

After teaching at Pella Christian then at Oskaloosa Community Junior High School, Dahm retired, but she continued to set up libraries in various churches as well as in Oskaloosa elementary schools. Dahm also started a library at Rehoboth New Mexico Christian High School from 1973-74. Since then, she

worked at her church library in Pella before moving to Sioux Center three weeks ago.

According to Dahm, the heritage collection is a preservation of God's doings with his people over the years, and she is interested in history and sees the need for preserving historical data.

"My goals," she added, "are to catalog the materials that the churches of the six classes and the Christian schools are sending us. I just hope people keep digging in their attics. People have been really good about sending us stuff."

Orchestra appears in concert

On Friday, February 23, the orchestra will present a concert in the Chapel/Music Building at 8:00 p.m.

Directed by Clarence Doornbos, the concert will include "Sunfest Overture" by M. L. Daniels, a powerful and contemporary work featuring brass and percussion, and "Fantasia on the Alleluia Hymn," a powerful and moving piece based on the Hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King" by Gordon Jacob. Also included in the concert is "Danza for String Orchestra" by Vaclav Nelhybel, "Rosamunde Overture" by Franz Schubert, and Selections from "Fiddler on the Roof" by Jerry Bock.

Mr. Gary Vander Hart, vocal and instrumental music instructor in the Sioux Center Christian School, will perform a violin solo in the First Movement of Violin Concerto in E Minor, Opus 64, by Felix Mendelssohn.

Simeon appears in concert



Dordt is sponsoring the Christian rock group Simeon on Saturday, March 3. They will perform at 8:00 p.m. in Te Paske Theatre.

The group originates from Toronto, Ontario where they recorded their first album entitled "Simeon" from their recording studio, the Master's Workshop.

Early in the development of the Master's Workshop Corporation, a group of artists were brought together for the purpose of providing a qualified rhythm section accompaniment in the production of record albums, radio commercial advertising, sound tracks for film and tele-

vision. Later, after years of experience as a unit in the studio, the group began to develop a "sound" of their own. Now under the name of Simeon they are touring the midwest from March 3-11, presenting a message of hope based on Christian principles.

Tickets may be reserved by calling Dordt between 1-5 and 7-9 p.m. Tickets are \$2.50 in advance and \$3.00 at the door.

The group was warmly received at the Young Calvinist Convention in Kingston, Ontario in 1978 and also at the YCF international youth convention.

Editorial

Supporting proposed research program

"If an educational institution is not engaging in research, but is so busy keeping itself alive, is it living up to its educational responsibilities?" The question was asked in a Diamond interview last semester with Elaine Botha, professor at Potchefstroom University in South Africa. The answer to the question is one that many are struggling with in light of a proposed research program at Dordt.

The proposal, yet to be approved by the Board, is this: With gifts of money from supporters of Dordt, the college will be able to establish several "lecture chairs" for the purpose of research. These chairs will be occupied by various doctorate-holding professors outside of Dordt and some from within. The establishment of this research program will enable not only money, but also time to upgrade the college through research.

Along with the campus rumors concerning the proposal, many questions have been raised--one of them directly challenging the responsibility of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for research. Is it responsible to spend vast amounts of money on research with skyrocketing operational costs and tuition?

To answer the question we must re-acquaint ourselves with the responsibilities of our educational institution. The responsibility--To Glorify God--is well phrased but somewhat vague. To clarify then, Dordt's responsibility to glorify God manifests itself in three ways--socially, spiritually and academically.

Socially--Dordt does not guarantee that students will choose the "right" friends. Neither does Dordt guarantee that students will be socially inclined. Instead, Dordt does train students in the way of the Lord and we are to base our social life on that premise.

Spiritually--Dordt integrates a Christian perspective through course work. But perspective doesn't stop there. The spiritual experience is gained throughout the community of Dordt. The student is taught and shown the love of Christ in daily life outside of the classroom.

Third, Dordt is responsible for academic development--to purport Christ in every aspect whether that be in Math, Science, Art or Music--Christ is set as an example.

With these responsibilities in mind and the understanding of their importance, we should not be willing to place a monetary ceiling on our convictions. However, that does not mean that we can spend thousands of dollars blindly or condone such spending with child-like naiveness. Rather, we should focus on the direction and future of Dordt and the fulfillment of Dordt's responsibilities--our responsibilities today and the responsibility we will have for our children and all of God's covenant children.

Elaine Botha answered the question put to her: "If you really want to motivate students, to make them enthusiastic and to give them perspectives, ideals and visions, then you need to do some research work. You have to have some new ideas, some time to think, to reflect on what you've been reading and to see what is going on in the world around you."

I don't expect anyone to call on my door for research money. I am sure the money is already available. But, I will give my spiritual support of the proposal and the spending of the money that will further help Dordt fulfill its responsibilities in the Kingdom.

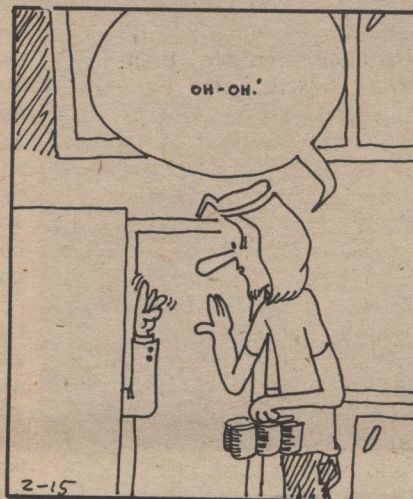
Audrey Vlieg

the diamond

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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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Signet statement of purpose

The future of the Signet has been the subject of much discussion and debate in the past year. Due to problems last year, the '77-78 Signet has not been printed yet (but will be ready for students to take home in May). As a result of these problems and the increased expense--due to inflation--of producing a quality yearbook, a subcommittee was appointed this year to investigate the Signet.

What is the purpose of a yearbook? Do students want a yearbook? Is it worth the price? These are some of the questions that members of the subcommittee--Len Van Noord, Rev. Hulst, Mike Vanden Bosch, Dan Zinkand, Sue Medema, and Cleon McClure--are dealing with. As well, the subcommittee is considering the possibility of printing the Signet in Sioux Center.

The subcommittee has drawn up a "Statement of Purpose" for the Signet:

Signet's Statement of Purpose:

1. The Signet must capture in print and in pictures the history of each school year. This means that its reporters and photographers must discern what it is that distinguishes a particular school year from the preceding or following year. In one year the introduction of a new major may be the most significant event. In another, concern for some world-wide problem may be the one thing that intrudes on coffee shop conversations more than anything else.
2. While the Signet aims to capture the spirit of each school year, it must also focus on individual people and on the roles played by people in campus history. Since Dordt prides itself on its concern

for the personal welfare of each student, the Signet must try to reflect each person's place in the school's history. For some students, this may be merely our printing a photograph with the name, address, and class of the student. But for students active in school affairs, it would mean both more copy and more pictures to reflect their expanded role in Dordt's history.

3. Since the ultimate goal of Dordt College is to glorify God, all other goals of the Signet must be subservient to this goal. Hence what is printed or pictured should never glorify the obscene or commemorate the tawdry, but should reflect the desire of the college to serve God in higher education.

Letter



Dear Editor,

It seems that Phil Weaver enjoys raising an issue when there is none. Simply because he knowingly disregards a Dordt policy, and happens to be a member of the Diamond staff, he chooses to air his gripes in his Inklings Column. Disobeying the "card playing rule" doesn't concern the student body anymore than a student breaking curfew.

Mr. Weaver is entitled to his opinion. But instead of publicly portraying his disciplinarian as a bad guy, may I suggest he either confront the administration or keep silent and conform to Dordt policy.

Sherry Byerly

Botha discusses the nature of academy

By Charlie Claus

Last semester, Dr. Elaine Botha of Potchefstroom University (P.U.) in South Africa visited Dordt College. She was on campus in December, gave two lectures and also spoke in chapel. Her colorful personality and academic clarity were a breath of fresh air in an otherwise busy time of year.

At Potchefstroom Dr. Botha teaches in two areas: the philosophy of the social sciences and in interfaculty social and cultural philosophy courses. Last semester she was a visiting professor at Calvin College and taught two courses: the philosophy of social science and political philosophy.

Dr. Botha obtained a doctorate from P. U. in cultural history and a second doctorate in systematic philosophy from the Free University at Amsterdam. "Actually the doctorate in philosophy was the philosophical counterpart of the study I had done in the social sciences," commented Botha.

search, but is so busy keeping itself alive, is it living up to its educational responsibility?

Although I don't agree with the particular philosophy in the book *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, there is a particular passage I often quote to my students. The author had been a teacher at a small college; several years later he describes his feelings as he drives by the school: "You teach and you teach and you teach and if you can't teach anymore, then you still teach, until you're drained, and you have nothing to say and your students are amazed at how dry, uninteresting, unimaginative, uncreative and unmotivated you've become. And they (the students) cannot understand this. The author says it's because you've been teaching and teaching and teaching. That's been my personal experience as well.

If you really want to motivate students; to make them enthusiastic and to give them per-

of providing insight into all disciplines?

The model that we have of the body of Christ in the church as an institution is a good image to use here too. All these different

ment of your tuition fees and your residence fees doesn't necessarily make you a student. A student is the type of person who has understood something of the specific calling that God has given him--

Academic training...a very serious business

groups should have some input to make, some specific responsibility. It should be structured in such a way that they are all able to participate in the academic work of the body of Christ.

Diamond: What is the responsibility of the student in keeping the academic institution true to its task especially when he feels this isn't the case?

I always tell our students that they don't realize the power they have in the classroom. Students should be doing the readings, preparing for the classes and accompanying what's being done in class with real thinking and reflection. Then they are prepared to ask uncomfortable questions in class that could bring a faculty member who is not willing or not interested to take some real direction in doing some responsible academic work. That could put him or her on the spot so easily. In most cases students don't wield their power enough.

Diamond: What makes a student a student?

I often say to our students that in a class of 40 students there are usually just about 7 or 8 that are "students." The mere fact of existence on a campus and pay-

he should very penetratingly try to understand some specific area of life in an academic sense. Once he's finished his academic training it is not as easy to reflect, to read, to discuss, to ponder. This is a very serious business when your mind and personality are being shaped for some specific calling in God's kingdom.

Students don't realize their power

Diamond: What is the task of the educational institution in relationship to society?

I think it's a place where a lot of scholarly work should be going on--scholarly work meaning good solid research. You're not called in the first place to deliver some finished goods for society but you should provide responsible insights into the contemporary problems of the World.

Diamond: If an educational institution is not engaging in re-

spectives, ideals and visions, then you need to do some research work. You have to have some new ideas, and some time to think, to reflect on what you've been reading and to see what is going on in the world around you.

Diamond: Once an educational institution is established such as a Christian college, how do the constituency, administration and the faculty share responsibilities in holding the college to its task



ELAINE BOTHA

Band has adventurous tour

Little did the Concert Band suspect that when they began their week-long tour they would return to Dordt to celebrate their spirit of oneness and togetherness in the Lord and to praise God through their music as never before.

The band toured parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa before presenting their home concert on January 17. Although the band usually goes on tour every other year, director Gerald Bouma will be on leave of absence next January, so the band went this year instead.

What began as a routine Midwestern tour turned into an adventure brought on by a stalled bus and a blizzard. The troubles began after completing their third concert on January 13 in Prinsburg, Minnesota. Since there were two buses, they had agreed to meet for lunch at McDonalds in Albert Lea. Not until the first busload reached McDonalds did they realize the other bus wasn't a mile or two

behind as previously thought. Instead they were stalled in Fairmont. After a phone call it was decided that the first bus should continue on to Pella, Iowa, where they were to give a concert that night. The second bus would arrive as soon as possible.

In the meantime, TV and radio announcers were urging people to stay off the roads due to a raging blizzard. By late afternoon several inches of snow had blanketed central and eastern Iowa and the wind had whipped the snow into six foot high drifts.

The first bus turned around near Prairie City and returned to Des Moines where they called the Christian Reformed minister and requested shelter and sleeping bags. Rev. Meyer soon had enough sleeping bags for the guys to sleep in the church basement and the girls in the parish house next door. To complicate the situation the second bus carried all the luggage so the students

were forced to sleep and attend church in their jeans and flannel shirts. Reflecting the group's attitude, Deb Vos said she was "kinda down" that night but soon realized it wasn't that bad and joined in with the others in practicing singing for the next morning.

The second bus finally made it to Albert Lea where they spent the night. After starting out for Pella on Sunday, they once again had bus trouble at Fertile, Iowa. Here the students were taken in by a Church of Christ where they were invited to partake of communion and were treated to a delicious Sunday dinner prepared by the church women. Lavonne Nannenga said she couldn't explain the "wonderful feeling of being one in the Lord after sharing communion with these total strangers." After the bus was fixed they continued on to Pella where they gave a concert at 9:00 p.m. Since

Pella didn't have school on Monday they gave another concert Monday morning before coming back to Dordt.

Even though they had problems, Bouma was proud of the way the students kept up their morale and didn't give way to despair. Stan Schalk and Jan Van Milligan were glad to be on the second bus, despite all the problems. Compared to last year's tour Jan said she felt "more Christian love and togetherness, and the kids grew more spiritually." Both she and Lavonne expressed hope that through their troubles they were good witnesses to both the Church of Christ families and especially their bus driver, a non-Christian.

Since some of the tour's purposes are to bring a part of Dordt to people who wouldn't ordinarily have direct contact with the college and to praise God through their music, it seems that this tour was a wonderful success.



Title: KNOXVILLE - SUMMER OF 1915 Choreographer: Loyce Houlton

Minnesota Dance Theatre

The Minnesota Dance Theatre is the performing company of the Minnesota Dance Theatre and School, located in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota. The company will be visiting Orange City, Sioux Center and Le Mars for a 3-day residency in February.

They will be holding lecture-demonstrations, workshops, matinees, and a public performance. On Wednesday, Feb. 21, they will be in Orange City, on Thursday, Feb. 22, they will be in Sioux Center, and Friday, Feb. 23, they will be in Le Mars. A majority of the activities are scheduled with the school children in mind, but the public is invited for a public performance Friday evening in Le Mars.

The matinee will be held at 3:45 in the Te Paske Theater. Children in 8th grade and below are admitted free. Adults are charged \$1.00 at the door. Sioux Center Recreation and Arts Council has purchased a

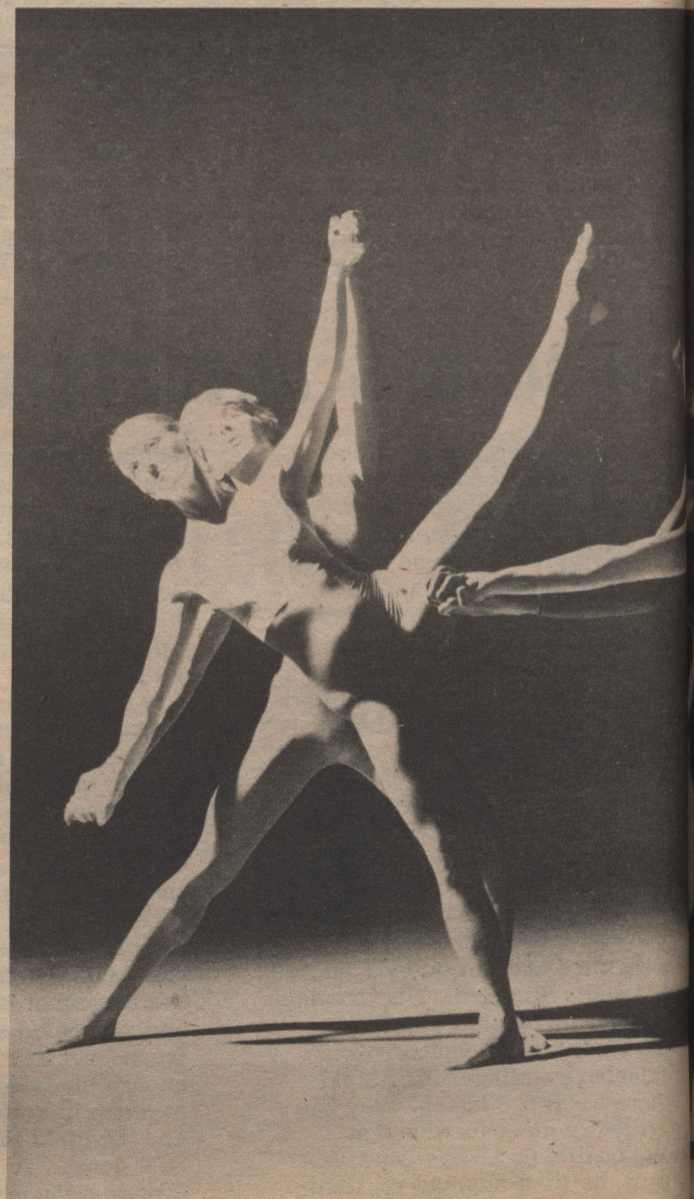
block of tickets for the Friday evening performance. The cost is \$2.00 and reservations can be made by calling the Box Office at Dordt College (722-3771). The performance begins at 8:00 P.M. and is being held at the Le Mars Community Junior High School.

The Dance Theatre has been performing and teaching since 1962, when artistic Director Loyce Houlton and a group of her students rented an old Masonic Hall near the University of Minnesota campus and began to work together.

The Minnesota Dance Theatre is one of the few dance groups in the world which perform both classical ballet and contemporary dance. The company performs a repertoire of more than 60 ballets and contemporary works, including the choreography of its Artistic Director and that of Frederick Ashton of the Royal Ballet (London), Jose Limon, Glen



Title: ESSAYS OF THE NIGHT Choreographer: Loyce Houlton



Title: ENCOUNTERS Choreographer: Loyce Houlton

Dance Theatre

...recently of the
...Ballet, Michael Uthoff
...Hartford Ballet, John
...and other great dance
...of our time and of the

...Minnesota Dance Theatre tours
...ly in the Midwest and
...Nutcracker Fantasy, jointly
...by the Minnesota
...Theatre and the Minnesota
...each holiday season,
...seen by more people
...other cultural event in
...History, and has been
...the best (Nutcracker) in
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...Iowa Arts Council is very
...that these communities
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Funding is supported by these three councils plus the Affiliated State Arts Agencies of the Upper Midwest: Iowa Arts Council, Minnesota State Arts Board, North Dakota Council on the Arts and Humanities, South Dakota Arts Council, Wisconsin Arts Board, with funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal Agency. The Minnesota Dance Theatre is supported by a grant-in-aid awarded by the Minnesota State Arts Board with funds appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal Agency. The public performance is partially supported by the Iowa Arts Council.

For more information contact a representative from your local arts council or the Sioux County Arts Council.



Title: ESSAYS OF THE NIGHT Choreographer: Loyce Houlton



Title: ESSAYS OF THE NIGHT Choreographer: Loyce Houlton

columns

"Inklings"



by Phil Weaver

Writing a column like "Inklings" is a unique experience for me. I usually think over what I'm going to write about and how I'm going to say it several times. However, when pen is set to paper, my mind invariably goes blank.

I start writing an introduction, get frustrated, throw it away and start again. Of course, I don't like the new beginning either, so I get another cup of coffee and start again. No doubt most of you would figure that I'd have no trouble finding something to write about. After all, the Diamond manages to fill up eight pages every two weeks, so there must be an unlimited supply of material I can use.

That's just the problem: there is a lot out there to write about, but nothing which is clearly a major issue. Therefore, this column doesn't have any subject matter unless I can find some. Unfortunately, that's hard to do if the subject matter is my personal opinion on issues which I think are of interest to the students, the faculty, and the administration of Dordt College. Hopefully, those things which I do write about which aren't considered of interest when you begin reading will be so by the time you've finished.

It seems as if a large number of people felt my last column failed to reflect what was going on around here, but was me trying to make a mountain out of a nonexistent molehill. I'm sorry that some people felt that way, but I don't. If I thought that what I had to say was worthless, I wouldn't have gone through the agony of trying to put my thoughts on paper. I don't particularly enjoy being a target for people's pot shots, nor do I sit up at night plotting how I can alienate myself from the entire Dordt College community. What I am trying to do is share my ideas with that community in a thought-provoking way.

Unfortunately, it seems some of the thoughts I've provoked have not been pleasant ones. I guess I have to take my fair share of guilt for this situation, but I don't feel that I can take all of it. I no doubt fail to adequately get my real point across, or else much of the criticism levelled at me would never be raised. However, I don't possess a special gift which allows me to write in a style which can't be or won't be misconstrued. Nor am I completely justified in what I write about because I often misinterpret what others are

trying to say by their words and their actions.

Fortunately, the vast majority of people here are willing to realize that I am still growing in my understanding of the response God demands from me in my totality. This growing means that I come to regret some things that I write, a regret which I am sure others share in. No doubt all of us have been sorry for some things we've said, but at the time and under the circumstances we felt we had to say them. However, if I were to begin to list all the things I've changed my mind on since I've arrived at Dordt, the Diamond would have to expand to twelve pages. Also, I'd have to write a column every issue telling you what I've changed my opinion on since the last Diamond had gone to press. So, in the interests of conserving paper and ink, I'll give up that idea and get down to trying to say what's on my mind.

All through this verbose preamble I've been hinting at what I feel is a problem here at Dordt--there seems to be a difficulty in communication. I don't know whether everyone will agree with me on this or not, but I think that a lot of criticism on both sides has been the result of us failing to see one another's intentions. I know that as this year has progressed, I have come to see that many things I've said have been unjustified. However, I feel that the communication and dialogue that is the purpose for my starting this column is still necessary. Unfortunately, most of the things I've written have elicited a diatribe, not a dialogue. But how can we turn one into the other?

For me, the key to our working out our differences (whether they be in print or out) is to discuss our views in the Spirit of Love. This means that we not only have to see what positions we hold, but why we hold them. If I am guilty of harboring a log in my eye, I would appreciate having it removed instead of having my eye poked out with an unjustified hurtful criticism. No doubt I have been guilty of such criticism, but I can say that my motive was to share my ideas in a thought-provoking way. If my reason for writing "Inklings" is anything other than a desire to bring us all to a deeper commitment to God, my words are useless.

The same thing goes for your response to what I have to say, be it positive or negative. As believers, our efforts can only be effective in the Dordt community if we are united by that Love which was made incarnate for our salvation. This single-mindedness of purpose will be and is hard to put into practice, but if you have any ideas let me know. I'll probably surprise a lot of you by being willing to talk about it.

Forum News

Student Forum has been busy this semester, working to improve things for Dordt's students. The number one item of business will gladden the hearts of all dormitory residents. Student Forum is working hard to get a new curfew proposal passed. This new proposal would eliminate curfew Friday and Saturday nights, while keeping curfew Sunday through Thursday nights.

Rising out of the curfew proposal is the matter of "quiet hours" in the dorms. With a new curfew, quiet hours may need revision. A questionnaire has been sent to dorm residents, and Student Forum will discuss the matter with the R.A.'s.

The exam schedule for next fall has been changed as a result of efforts by Student Forum. Two exam periods have been moved to the afternoon of Review Day, so that the exam load on the two full

days of testing will not be too heavy.

Student Forum is also working to get a phone in the Music Building.

As the "day of fast" last semester was so successful, a suggestion was made to have this every Friday night in the commons. Students could sign up to miss the meal and Mike Cassidy would donate the money to the CRWRC.

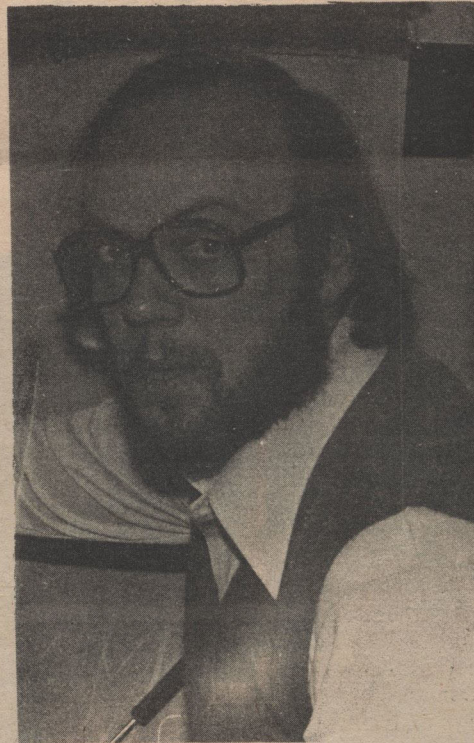
There have been problems with books disappearing from the library. Student Forum is discussing a solution to the problem. It may be necessary to have someone at the door inspecting all book bags for books that have not been checked out, or an electronic system may have to be installed.

Student Forum meets Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the North-West Commons. All students are welcome to come to the meetings and make suggestions.

"Sign of a Promise"

By Lavonne Nannenga

Photo by Arlyn Slagter



JAMES SCHAAP

said he learned about the character of the people by looking at simple occurrences. Adding some word-of-mouth information, Schaap took specific incidents and built stories around them. "It's easier for me to see a plot, say, 'That's the story!' and develop characters and incidents," he indicated.

Schaap said he graduated from Dordt lacking pride in his Dutch heritage. "But," he added, "later I wanted to come back. The Dutch are a good people. Besides, I wanted to teach in a small college and write." He chose to focus on this people.

"I don't know if I want to be more American--that is, divorced from the past. Liberation? I've seen many kids who didn't know who they were. A sense of the past keeps you in touch with reality. If you know how you came to be where you are then there can be progress," Schaap explained.

Having begun reading some of his stories in various schools, Schaap enjoys the response of the children. He said he hopes to eventually go on a reading tour of the Midwest. The Banner carried the title story of the collection in a four-week series.

This allowed people of many areas to taste Schaap's intent and style of Sign of a Promise. Schaap hopes this coverage and his oral readings will promote book sales.

Being published by the Dordt Press, the book can be ordered at pre-publication price at the Dordt bookstore. Publication is expected in April. Readers of the book should see that, in his way--through his stories--Schaap announces that "our heritage is better than all the tulip festivals this side of New Amsterdam."

Sign of a Promise, a collection of fifteen short stories, was written for the people of this area. James Schaap, Instructor of English at Dordt, wrote these stories of the 19th century Midwestern Dutch immigrants in Iowa and Wisconsin. The pieces revive the struggles, disappointments, entertainment, and joys of these rugged people whose roots were firm in their reformed faith. Schaap's style reflects his view that "ethnics are tied with religion." He stresses the reality of the immigrants' dependence on God--not flaunted piety.

Schaap started the collection in 1976, finishing one first draft per month. His sources were Van Dyk's History of Sioux County, other county records, maps, old newspapers, and journals. He

Pucci's Pizza - the best pizza in town

By Verlan VanEe

Pucci's Pizza -- Is it really the "Cat's Meow?" Most Dordt students agreed that it's worth barking about. In a survey of 50 Dordt students, 31 said they had already tried the "Cat's Meow." Those who had tasted Pucci's Pizza unanimously agreed that Pucci's was indeed a greatly needed convenience in the community.

"Now we don't have to truck clear to Le-Mars for pizza" or "It's nice to be able to just run uptown and get a pizza" commented many pleased students.

Just how good is Pucci's Pizza? In the survey, 37 Pucci's Pizza partakers rated the "Cat's Meow" against the pizzas of Pizza Hut, Emporium, and the Godfather's. Of the 37 Dordt students polled, 60 percent said they preferred Pucci's over Pizza Hut; 43 percent preferred Pucci's over Emporium; and 27 percent preferred Pucci's over Godfather's.

Six students said it was the best pizza they've had in the area or ever. Five students really couldn't decide, and three students rated Pucci's last. Students were not directly asked what pizza they liked the most since the survey was geared towards comparison of pizzas. It was obvious that tastes differ widely: some preferred Pizza Hut over Emporium while still others preferred Emporium over Godfather's. Not all students had tried all four types of pizza so it was difficult to distinguish which pizza was the most popular. The general trend, however, was to rate Pucci's Pizza right with Emporium and Godfather's: "It's kind of a mixture" or even "The best of both," commented some students.

To qualify the survey and the opinions of those polled, every pizza eater was asked how often they went out for pizza. Fifty percent ate pizza once a week, 30 percent once every two weeks, 13.3 percent once every three weeks and 6.6 percent once a month or less. One of the students who went out frequently for pizza mentioned that now with Pucci's being in town, he at least got a nice break from Commons food.

Jim Oconnor of Omaha, the food consultant for Pucci's, pointed out that the long-awaited arrival of pizza in Sioux Center has indeed changed the dining habits of the community. Now that it's easily obtainable, people are eating more pizza.

Oconnor added that the bulk of Pucci's business is drawn from people who used to drive to the Pizza Hut in Le Mars, but are now finding Pucci's to be not only a convenience, but also a better quality pizza. "Cleanliness and a good quality food is what Pucci's strives for," stated Oconnor.

When Dordt students were asked to comment on Pucci's and its pizza they had this to say:

"M - m - m the crust"; "Lots of good cheese and the crust is just the right thickness"; "Good moderation"; "I like the cheese, the

crust, and the ingredients"; "It tastes good"; and finally "It's just good pizza!"

Some students commented that they felt the pizza needed more cheese, while others complained about being carded all the time. A larger number of students said they appreciated the adequate service and the concern shown by Pucci's owners and workers for their customers.

Also, while several students winced at the price of the "Cat's Meow," others affirmed that Pucci's was still the best buy.

Manager Bill Vande Hoef of Sioux Center added that those students who are price-conscious should invest in the large pizza as often as possible in order to get the most for their money.

Owners Russ Wunchell, a lawyer, and his assistant John Whalay of Carroll, Iowa, originated the first Pucci's. They are in the process of establishing a chain of Pucci's Pizzas throughout Iowa. Pucci's in Sioux Center is the first of these to open, with another one opening in Algona in one week. Wunchell and Whalay hope to open five Pucci's in Iowa by the end of the year.

Oconnor explained that prospective locations are examined carefully before Pucci's decides to move in. Two major factors leading to the selection of the Sioux Center site were the absence of any other pizza place in town and the presence of a college. Oconnor added, however, that the college has not been as supportive as they anticipated. Said Oconnor, "Business is good though, but it could be better."

Actually, the community comprises the bulk of the business, and Pucci's business is generally more with families than with the younger generation. "That's why we've geared our accommodations and atmosphere more towards a family-style restaurant," Oconnor explained.

When asked why there was a delay in beer sales at Pucci's, Oconnor replied, "We were not sure if the community wanted us to have beer." Oconnor observed that by not having beer at first, they convinced the community that their business was not going to be built on being a beer establishment. Likewise, although Pucci's could have obtained a beer license directly from the state, they preferred to wait until the city had established their policy on the beer issue. As a result, Pucci's received their beer license as a courtesy of the Sioux Center community.

According to the poll, 56 percent of Dordt students said that Pucci's should definitely sell beer. Only 19 percent said they shouldn't and 25 percent said it really didn't matter to them.

However, Oconnor noted that five percent or less of their customers ordered beer. "Beer is made to go with pizza, and we felt that we should offer this service," stated Oconnor, but he added that it's the community's decision as to whether they want to use it or not.



Photo by Corwin Slagter

PUCCI'S PIZZA

Manager Vande Hoef, formerly an employee of Doc's Cafe, remarked that he was really surprised by the low beer sales. He added that actually their beer was just as cheap as Doc's.

Vande Hoef is excited about his new job and he said he shows it by putting his emphasis in the traditional service with a smile. Faster service is a must to Vande Hoef, and the fact that they pay their employees more than most restaurants is an evident and successful means of achieving that goal. Vande Hoef also praised his Dordt employees Karen Kole, Jackie Veenstra, and Reg Vanden Broek for adding an efficient hand to his staff.

Probably the one aspect that has drawn the most attention to the "Cat's Meow" since its opening is the name Pucci's (pronounced Poo'chees). Oconnor, revealing

some information on the origin of the name explained that Pucci's comes from the name of a historical cat character called Pywacket. The rest of the name consists of a typical Italian ending to go along with the idea of pizza. "It's like an Italian name for a cat," explained Oconnor.

Russ Wunchell, owner of Pucci's, struggled with the idea of a name for over six months. He wanted something to match their slogan, "It's the Cat's Meow," a coined phrase from the 20's meaning it's tops or it's the best.

Pucci's is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekly and from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Oconnor commented that Pucci's did not even consider being open on Sundays in Sioux Center, although the other sites probably will be.

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Men's basketball breaks losing streak

By Verlan VanE

The Defenders capitalized on a homecourt advantage Jan. 30 to break the cold snap of 4 losses. Bellevue took the tail end of an 82 - 69 score that found four Defenders in double figures.

Jerry Vande Pol led with 27, followed by Dean Visser with 12, who literally couldn't miss for the night hitting 5 - 5 from the field and 2 - 2 from the line. Arnie Veltkamp and Dennis Van Zanten also contributed 10 apiece to the score. The team shot a satisfactory 57 percent from the field.

The teams' shooting percentage dropped to 47 on Feb. 3 and Yankton took advantage of the situation by defeating Dordt 74 - 67. Van Zanten, shooting 7 - 11 (64 percent) from the field, led the scoring

with 20 points. Kevin Wolterstorff followed with 16 and Vande Pol with 11.

On Feb. 7 the Defenders again threw up a lot more shots than would go down. The team shot a poor 37 percent and only two players just managed to score in double figures. They were Daryl Vander Well and Jerry Vande Pol, both with 10. Dakota State scored the 70 - 58 victory over Dordt.

Saturday, Feb. 10, the Big Red Rivals were due in town. Preparations had obviously been made as the Defenders stuck close to the Red Raiders in the opening minutes of play, but then the roof fell in . . . in more ways than one.

Coach Rick Vander Berg said he was fairly satisfied with most aspects

of the game. NW simply ran away with the game in two short separate periods of the game: one in the 1st half and another towards the end of the 2nd half, shortly after Dordt had managed to fight back within four. Again poor shooting of 38 percent from the field compared to the 52 percent of NW was reason enough for the 77 - 61 loss of the Defenders.

Vander Berg explained that the men weren't working the offense effectively enough to get the good shots. "We simply have to work for better shots and shoot with confidence. You can't expect to win games by shooting lower than 40 percent," Vander Berg said.

Defensively the Defenders were at a loss to stop both Yoder with 18

and Kraayenbrink with 20. Dordt's zone defense could not stop the hot hands from outside of either of these men. Yoder successfully shot holes throughout Dordt's defense the length of the night.

For the Defenders Vande Pol had 18, Wolterstorff 16, and Rowenhorst 10; not to mention that Coach Vander Berg got a lifetime supply of silk goodies for his wife, while Coach Van Soelen took claim to the invention that took a memorable and enjoyable cut out of everyone's night.

Musketeers dull Blades

The Sioux City Musketeers chose their weapons well as they pierced the Dordt Blades 12 - 2 in an exhibition hockey game on Monday, February 5, at the Sioux City Auditorium.

The Sioux City team consisted of players under 30 years of age and some who had been former scoring leaders of the Musketeer club. Their scoring punch showed as they plastered goaltenders Al Brandsma and Stan Schalk with 74 total shots.

The Blades played tough with the intimidating Sioux Citians which resulted in several fights between the two teams. In the first period the Musketeers bottled up the Blades in their own zone firing 17 shots on Dordt's Al Brandsma and only managed to squeeze one shot by for a 1 - 0 score. This frustrated the Sioux City team and it led to the intimidation of the Blades into fighting. Colin Senneker poked a pair of goals past the Sioux City goalie as the Musketeers went on a rampant scoring barrage in the 3rd period.

The Blades are presently preparing for the upcoming Winnipeg Hockey Tournament to be held on Valentine's Day weekend.

Women's basketball has good season

The Women's basket team continued their heavy schedule of action on Jan. 31 by defeating Mt. Marty 70-60. Shelli Van Ginkel led the scores with 28 followed by Diane Dodd, Arla VanderWoude and Lisa Vander Wal with 18, 12, and 10 respectively.

The following Saturday, the women battled NW to a disappointing 69-64 loss. Vander Wal was high scorer with 23, with Dodd adding 14, Van Ginkel 13, and Vander Woude 11.

Tuesday, Feb. 6, the women were rematched with the earlier beater Briar Cliff squad. The battle was led by Vander Wal who assuited the opposition with a remarkable 93 per cent (13-14) shooting average from the field. This accounted for the team's 52% shooting from the field which excelled that of the opposition, but Dordt still came up on the short end of the 80-69 score. Van Soelen pointed out that as usual his women were out-rebounded. And in this game particularly, 16 offensive rebounds by

the opponents gave them a big advantage of getting more shots in the ballgame.

On Feb. 8 the women broke the ice again with an impressive victory over Morningside. Tough defense characterized the game. The women led 43-21 at half. All the women got a hand in the final victory of 62-36.

Van Ginkel led the scoring attack with 15 points, shooting 7-11 from the field for a respectable 64 per cent average. Also in double figures were Dodd and Vander Wal with 12 each.

With one game left in the season, the women's conference record stands at 9-5 with the overall record being 11-9. Coach Marion Van Soelen remarked that in view of their goal for a 500 season, he and his women are very pleased with their performance and consider it to have been a very successful season.

Forensic club announces plans

The Forensic Club has announced its plans for second semester activities. Under the direction of the Communications department, the Forensic Club gives students an opportunity to practise their public speaking skills.

To start the semester's activities, the Forensic Club will attend the IIFA Tournament at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, February 15-17.

Students representing Dordt at the tournament are Kim Buss and Lisa Shelley in Oral Interpretation, Kae Evink in Oratory, Bonnie Miedema in Informative and After Dinner speaking. Later in February and following into March, the Club will judge grade school interscholastics in the vicinity of Sioux Center.

The Forensic Club has scheduled entry into the Mankato, Minnesota Tournament, March 9-10. Kae Evink, president of the forensic club announced that the categories for entry into the tournament are still open for student sign-up. Those interested should check the Communication Department bulletin board by the faculty offices.

To conclude the semester's activities, the Forensic Club is planning the Fourth Annual Dordt Speech Contest. The date is set for April 16. Finalized

plans will be released at a later date.

Any students desiring more information about the Forensic Club are encouraged to contact Kae Evink.

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