

# DIAMOND

## 'Esther' to portray God's providence

--Evelyn Luymes  
Vern Van Hofwegen

"We're comin' up with new stuff all the time," stated Mr. Koldenhoven in reference to the improvisation of Esther, "and who knows, we may even make some minor changes right during performance."

The Thaliens are attempting "to capture the reality of the Book of Esther, the barbaric circumstances of the Jewish captives, the personal fears, and the human strength of Mordecai and Esther as they face unequal odds." "The Hangman Cried" will be presented on December 6, 7, and 9 in the C106 Theatre.

They have been studying the book of Esther for about four weeks, and they are trying to portray the impact of the book through drama. A committee made up of student directors and various actors has been meeting four afternoons a week. They have been working and reworking the plans for the actions, music, and props which will be used to present their version of the "gutty and earthy book." Mr. Koldenhoven commented, "I've about worn out my copy of the book."

The down-to-earth story takes one through the constant conflict which takes place, shown especially by the cruel King Ahasuerus in comparison to Esther. At the end of the books, the huge killing by the Jews is portrayed by a simple conflict with sticks. "It's different than the rhythmic version of Ruth last year," Mr. Koldenhoven added, "This is more of a jarring, foot-stomping type play."

The theme of God's providence was their main discovery. In Esther 4:14, Mordecai tells Esther, "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this."

They discussed the book of Esther in terms of deliverance. "Deliverance in the Scripture means strongly, deliverance from the bonds of sin," he said, "To limit the meaning of the book of Esther to preservation through providence (to be pickled) and to fail to sense at the same time the full meaning of deliverance, salvation, and service - the complete convening God - even the judge of sin and

disobedience, is to do an injustice to God's Word."

The Book of Esther also lends itself to a variety of characters. There are very few actors who keep the role all the way through, and, "There are really no stars," he mentioned. Interesting characters include Haman, who gets hung on his own gallows, his wife Zeresh, Esther, Mordecai, and the king, who is either sensual and celebrating, or viciously angry.

Modern life is also brought into the play. Haman delivers an acceptance speech when he is promoted. When choosing a wife for King Ahasuerus, the play turns into a beauty contest, and when the Jews hear

(Esther Improvisation continued on page 7)



Photo: Suk

## Asaph prepares for concert

--Vern Van Hofwegen

It was different than the hymn-singing crowd in church, but the spirit was the same. Last Sunday afternoon, the band room was ringing with the sound of Ken Hogenes' guitar while the other instrumentalists and the singers started warming up.

Soon, the four singers, two guitarists, piano player, and drummer were into the song "I'm gonna keep on singing." When the photographer entered the room, John Van Groningen and Steve Vreeman

pulled out their combs while Syd Hielema kept on smiling and playing his piano.

"We don't have mikes for the singers today," John apologized, "so I hope you can hear us." It was a little difficult with the microphone on the piano and with the two electric guitars, but the voices and faces of Steve, John, Rachel De Groot, and Melody Olivier still portrayed the message. We'll have them by next Sunday for our concert," John said.

Bernie Haan changed his pace on the drums as they began "Why Isn't Everybody Singing Allelu." While Marv Sturing provided the bass sound from his guitar, the singers switched to "I Wish We'd All Been Ready."

"And now for a change of mood," said John as they changed positions for "We Beseech Thee." They moved with the beat, and they smiled with the words. "We don't have a choreographer or anything," stated Syd, "I guess everybody does it on their own."

When finished with "Come on Down to the River," Melody said, "Let's go through 'em all one more time, so we get 'em down." John consented, "Yeah, 'cause now we'll have to work on the acoustics in the SUB."

They had been working on these songs since the end of September so they could, as Ken stated, "grow together, share together, and provide something that's needed in the Dordt community."

Syd said they "wanted to use a Bible character that would fit" to name their group, and since Asaph was a Psalm writer and was "really involved in music," it seemed appropriate. Since then, they have associated the words "Always Sing And Praise Him" with the name.

After leading a hymnsing, they will be performing their own numbers in the SUB this coming Sunday night, beginning at 9:00.

--Richard Mulder

## Dordt exposed to jazz



Stan Kenton

violin, conga drums and piano.

61 year-old Stan Kenton has been on the road for almost 35 years. During that time, he and his orchestra have won wide acclaim from the public. Kenton was the third person elected to Downbeat magazine's Hall of Fame.

The orchestra's purpose in performing is to create an interest in Big Band jazz among young people and to recreate a market for Big Band music.

Kenton feels that the importance of a music education is not stressed nearly enough in the present educational system. In his own words, Kenton feels that music is "...utilizing a multitude of abilities to produce his (a person's) maximum creative potential." With this as his philosophy, he feels that music should be a required subject for every student.

When Dordt received the rare opportunity to have the Stan Kenton Orchestra perform, they accepted it in hopes of entertaining and exposing the students and the community to jazz, a different type of music than many are accustomed to.

The total cost of the performance will be \$3,000. Advanced tickets for Dordt students will be \$3.00 for reserved and \$2.00 for general admission. For all others, tickets will be \$.50 higher. They can be obtained at Mr. Bouma's office or the switchboard. All tickets at the door will be \$4.00 for reserved and \$3.00 for general admission.

The Stan Kenton Orchestra will perform a two-hour concert on Friday, December 13, 1974 at 8:00 p.m. in Dordt College Auditorium.

The Stan Kenton Orchestra is acclaimed as one of the best jazz orchestras in the country. The 18-piece orchestra consists of five trumpets, five trombones, five saxophones, a tuba, drums, bass

## Living our calling

--Cal Tuininga

What sort of students are we?

On the large part we can be considered old high school students. We fulfill the expectations in order to settle down after graduation and earn a living. Or we are taking a coffee break education between high school and the rest of our life. We largely tend to look at college as a stepping stone to the rest of life, and not as an integral part.

Life is not just a succession of stages in life of trying to earn a living. The Christian life is not just earning a good living, nor is college just preparation in order to live a good life. God forbid! We are not out to earn a living but to work out our calling. We are redeemed, the ones called to give God the glory. We are kings in God's creation, and we have been saved. Salvation is a calling. We are called to work out that salvation in fear and trembling.

The purpose of our life is not just to earn a happy life. Happy is the man who knows God's will and does it. God has saved us so that all things could again glorify the Father. Through us God wants the world to resound with his praises.

Preachers, and teachers are called, but so are farmers, businessmen, ditchdiggers, engineers... whoever. The capitalistic notion of earning a living is unbiblical. We do not earn a life. We are called to a life of service. That is the distinction between us and the world.

How does this affect students? College is not preparation to earn a living but an integral part of our thankful life of learning how we in our daily work are to glorify God. College is life, and part of our calling.

Our professors don't always give this impression. But students must do scholarly work on their own. They must work out their calling. A teacher must set guidelines, but we are not here just to regurgitate. Students must see their work in the light of Scripture. They must remember their Creator, now.

What more can one say? We are all guilty of laziness. We are really students. Maybe this Thanksgiving we have to sit down and question whether we have been living lives of thanksgiving. A life of thanksgiving means doing God's will in all our life. Have we as students seriously taken this part of our life and submitted it to God's word and will?

## DIAMOND

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The Diamond publishes all signed "Letters to the Editor" concisely expressing opinion on Dordt-related issues. Letters longer than 200 words will be edited.

## Continue your important work . . .

Dear Editor:

For the past year and a half, I have had little contact with the Dordt community. Last week I had the opportunity to spend four days talking, listening, discussing, learning, expressing, experiencing the spirit of Dordt. Hats off to all who made my brief business trip much more than merely "business."

With or without your various controversies from time to time, Dordt's purpose rings out louder and clearer than ever before. Continue your important work so that many of us outside the scope of your academic community can continue our work.

Again, thank you Dordt!

In Christ,  
Wayne N. Farr

Hey man, I hear they're thinking of having an art department here next year?

All right! All these art critics will have to face a living artist!!!



## Ramblings . . .

--Nigel Weaver

Suddenly the faint maternal hum that has been crooning its way softly into your subconscious explodes into a combination of fire-house clamour and the 1812 overture heard from inside one of Moscow's victory bells. You turn off the alarm.

Now I don't know how it is with you, but my favorite pastime has got to be crawling up from under the covers (to turn off the alarm), seeing the ice on the windows, staring at the clock as the minutes between 7:00 and 7:45 tick by, and deciding whether or not I'm going to my 7:30 class. I don't really have anything against 7:30's, it's just that, despite the fact that I have had good profs for them, I've never really got my money's worth out of any of them. However, before I go into a tirade about the need to reschedule classes, and the Academic Dean erupts, let me explain the solution I have arrived at to overcome this problem. It's called, quite simply, "Getting to bed before 1 a.m." and it allows you to be fresh and wide awake enough at 7:30 to take an active part in what's going on. So, having solved that myself, and having passed on my wisdom to you at no extra cost, I'd like to pose a few questions re: academics which I haven't been able to solve.

ONE: Why is it that we don't use our senior students to act as teaching assistants? This would not only give the profs more time but would also give the assistants opportunities to grow and learn themselves. I imagine that we do have some students who are quite capable of teaching many of the freshman courses, or portions thereof, if they were given the necessary guidance by the one they were assisting. And of course, if it were impossible for them to be paid for their work, or to receive remuneration in the form of tuition reductions, they could always be given course credit.

TWO: Is it a complete impossibility to have courses that are confined solely to those who are majoring in that specific field, offered at the junior-and-senior level, where there would be room for intensive, scholarly work? Or perhaps the same course could be offered at two different levels. If this "two-tier" course system cannot be implemented, could it be that the majors in a course and those who have to take it as a minor or an area of specialization, or whatever, meet separately once a week for a more individualized approach, perhaps on a seminar basis--two classes together and one separate?

THREE: Why is it that education students must wait until second semester, senior year, to find out that they're not cut out to be a teacher? I realize of course that they can "mini-teach" if they wish, but wouldn't it be better if they were exposed to the rigors of teaching a little earlier -- say for two weeks in the first semester of their junior year, so that there's still time for them to change their minds and get into something else?

Anyway, there are my three problems, perhaps presented with what may be considered as partial solutions. How about some answers?

# Recital seasoned with quality

If you have ever been to a recital you know that they are usually organized historically. Well, not this time! Although there was a time-element involved in its organization, Rochelle organized her songs around the topic of the seasons, providing us with a breath of fresh air.

She started with summer and a number by George Blake accompanied by Patti Venhuizen on the flute which went over well. (We really should give Patti a lot of credit--it seems she performs in each recital, and I haven't heard a bummer job yet!) But it was the second number that proved the most interesting of the first section. It was a good long song by JC Bach (JS's son) that required an ensemble, which, we all know, has never been Dordt's forte. But this was one ensemble that sounded OK. They worked together as a group, were sensitive to what was happening (musically) around them, and although they weren't letter perfect, made an overall pleasing sound.

Following the summer section, of course, came autumn, winter, and spring. Most of the songs were performed well, and many had moments of musical excellence. The North Wind Doth Blow by John Beckwith is a delightful children's song of winter (What will the robin do when the north wind blows cold? Hide its head under its wing). December Lark incorporated bells into it that gave it a very effective and excellent quality.

There was a distinct lack of non-English songs, which, although facilitates understanding, hinders variety of musical style, but even without the common Italian aria, Rochelle was able to 'show-off' her technical ability through A Pastorale by the baroque composer Henry Carey from the 18th century. We were also treated to the bawdy mind of the pre-baroque era through Now is the Month of Maying by Thomas Morley, even though many terms were softened. The lighting of the recital was simple but effective.

Undoubtedly the most innovative part (other than there NOT being a photographer present) was the song cycle of the seasons where Rochelle had slides

flashed on the screen while she was performing. Although the slides fit the songs well, I found that they distracted from the music in that I concentrated more on the pictures than on the songs.

Through the entire recital Rhonda Huizenga, the piano accompanist, stood by Rochelle's side (so to speak) and thus helped make the evening enjoyable.

One last observation: invariably it seems that composers equate seasons with stages of love. One always finds his love in the spring time, deepens the relationship in the summer, begins to see his love drift away in the autumn, and is left alone in Winter.

## Future executives initiate 'book swap'

During final exam week the Future Business Executive Club plans to begin taking books for sale from the students. Interested students can bring books they want to sell, to the Student Council room in the SUB basement. With the book price set by each student owner, the amount received upon the book's sale will be the sale price less a 10% commission plus 15¢ for handling.

The book swap will be open from 11:30 to 1:30 each day from Dec. 13 to Dec. 18. Next semester the hours will be increased to meet demand.

--John Fluck

## Bikes stored for winter

A student request for a bike storage over the winter months has now been met. This request was based on the fact that there are no facilities on campus where bikes can be stored. Storage will be located at the Ten Kredit Electrical Warehouse and the charge is \$4.00 a season.

The rent will be collected on Nov. 23 when all bikes must be brought in. If a student wishes to remove his bike during the middle of the season, a charge of \$1.00 will be required.

The bike storage program will be moved to Dordt Campus next year. Plans for the new maintenance building will include a storage unit.

Only 987 spaces left

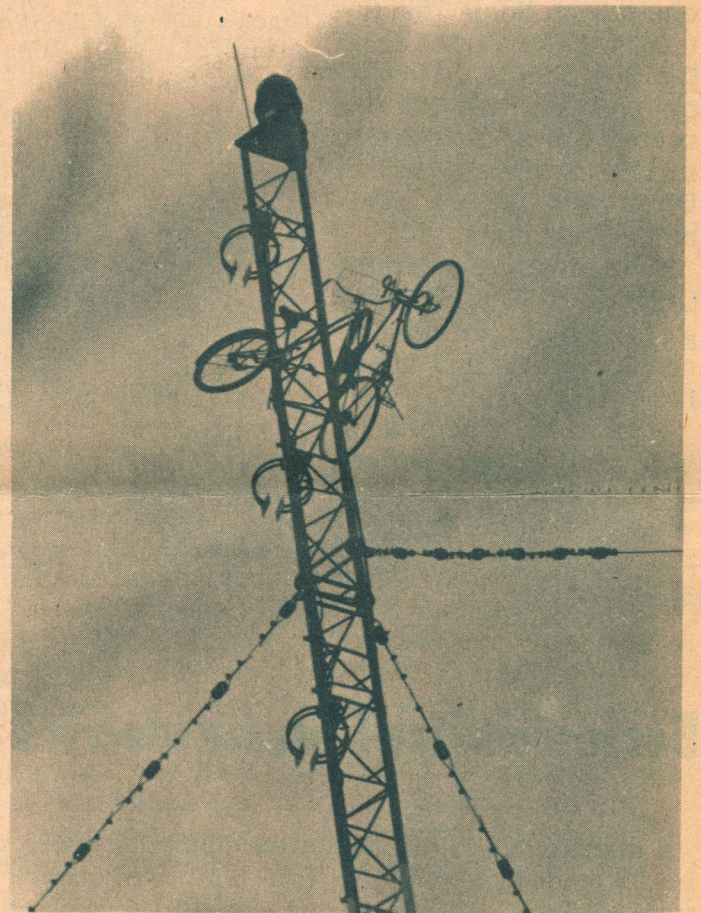


Photo: Matheis

## On sharing poverty

Dear Editor:

I am upset by the rising habit in the Commons of throwing away food. It is a sin to throw food away because, while someone is throwing it away, a person on the other side of the world dies of starvation. Each day literally thousands of people die of starvation. Students here seem to forget that, and take their food for granted. Let me ask a question, when their plates are full of food, now many students remember that it's God's grace that put it there? Or has it just become a daily habit to say grace before a meal? Do we remember to pray for our fellow brothers and sisters who are starving?

I've noticed that quite a number of students are fussy eaters. Once I was standing in line for a piece of pizza and the student ahead of me refused the corner piece just because it was a bit dark along the edges. Another student took off the crusts on his slices of bread and left them on his plate. Students should be thankful for the food they receive instead of being so picky. Maybe it would be a good idea to skip a meal or two occasionally so that we can experience what it's like to go without food. That way we would become more thankful to the Lord for our meals instead of taking them for granted. We should feel uncomfortable about our wealth and abundance of food when we read and hear about the starving millions. We must reach out to those who have little or none at all and give generously of our money to relief organizations.

At Dordt we aren't exposed much to world problems. But that doesn't mean we can just forget about them; on the contrary, we must make it our responsibility to get to know the problems and be concerned about them.

It's easy enough to say of the starving people that their poverty is God's will when we ourselves have everything we need, and much more. But if we put ourselves in their situation and share some of their poverty, would it be easy to say it is God's will for ourselves?

Miranda Cupido

## The disappearing Word

Dear Editor:

Where is the Word of God today? It's a question we all struggle with but do not find answers to. As students away from our homes, where do we go to really discuss and hear the meaning of God's Word in our lives. Bible discussion groups may appear to be one answer, but they are few and far between. Where else can we turn to; our roommates, but they are usually too busy with their own work and activities and there just does not seem to be anytime to open up the Bible together. What a frightening thought. Well, maybe we will get a good shot of Christian perspective today in one of our classes to put us through another day. But sad to say (in my experience) that has also been soured by the power of humanism and moralism. Is Dordt really the place where we can obtain an education that focuses God's redemptive Word in all areas of life? Or does the Word of God only play regular role in competition with all the other philosophies, seeking to interpret reality as just another of the many alternatives available to man? From some of my classes here at Dordt the above thought appears to be only too true. As a matter of fact, there seems to be little difference between them and the courses taught at the secular institution I attended as a freshmen. How can we serve both man and God at the same time? For the confessing believer it is impossible; yet the presentation of many courses at Dordt advocates this type of middle road worshipping.

God is sovereign. His way is sure. But if at Dordt we continue to mix up the glorification of ourselves (inside and outside of class) and the glorification of God, Dordt College will no longer exist as a witness to the world, but will also succumb to the moralistic humanism of the rest of society.

Fred Folkerts

## Club provides outdoor activities

A new club on Dordt's campus has recently been organized for the benefit of the students who are interested in getting outdoors and into a part of God's creation.

Jim Sytsma, the president of the 33-member Outdoor Club, feels that, as Christians, the students of Dordt have a responsibility to take care of nature and that they can enjoy it in a recreational sense.

The club collects dues from its members and uses this money to finance activities for the club and to buy sports and camping equipment. Some equipment will be rented from the Boy Scouts. This equipment will also be rented out at reasonable rates to the students of Dordt who are not members of the club.

The equipment which the Outdoor Club is trying to get includes toboggans, canoes, sports and camping equipment.

Most of the Club's activities will be taking place during second semester when the weather will permit a greater variety of activities.

# Christian psychology in action

--Sharon Tiemstra

"Yes," says Mr. Ken Bussema, "I believe we can have a Christian psychology." He went on to add that historically, "Christians have tended to avoid psychology and reduce it to the views of Freud, Skinner and others, as if there were nothing Christian in psychology." Yet, Bussema feels that "psychology is no different than, say chemistry, in that it studies part of creation, man." However, it is somewhat more difficult to develop because "man is looking at himself."

In developing a Christian view of psychology, "we have to start with who man is." And to discover the nature of man, "we must go back to creation, where man was created in God's image. This is reflected in our ability to solve problems, to be rational, and to be responsible beings." Also, "man was not created in isolation, but in relationship with other men." At this point Bussema rejects the behaviorist view of us being the products of our environment, because, "we are responsible for what we do, and we have the cultural mandate which commands us to have dominion over creation."

"The second thing to deal with is the nature of knowledge and our source of truth." We then find Christ as the source of truth and we "examine Scripture to find out what it says about the psychological nature of man." Ideas formulated are about "the nature of man and his responsibilities," and we are to "observe man and his behavior, come up with propositions, and check their validity with the ideas we get from Scripture." The main problem with secular psychologists, is "how they handle their theories. Because they don't recognize the Creator, the way they fit their theories together is distorted. However, as Christians, we find psychological principles to go along with Scripture." Yet too, "our theories and hypotheses on man's psychological makeup must be tentative, because man is looking at himself."

Bussema then went on to say "how much we are shaped by our environment depends on the individual and how much he is willing to allow himself to be conditioned. We cannot separate ourselves from

the environment, but it doesn't completely determine everything one does: that takes away our personal responsibility." One's definition of environment makes a difference in this connection. Bussema rejects the behaviorist view that environment includes everything in nature plus any social-type situations in which one may find himself where everything happens by chance, over which we have no control. Instead, "we were created for a certain purpose at a certain time and space in the universe. Our job then, is to find our purpose and work at our purpose in our environment; and not a purpose as given and shaped by our environment, but as given to us by God."

When asked about the usefulness of psychology in connection with his work among the Navajos, in Shonto, Arizona, Mr. Bussema replied, "it helped me to be more sensitive to the types of things that make people hurt, and more sensitive to, especially with children, some of the problems of adjustment." Mr. Bussema worked one year as a Special Education teacher to 12 boys, ages 14-18, who had "behavior problems" and needed "vocational adjustment." They found that the best way to help those boys was to teach them very practical things, by relating their morning studies to their afternoon activities. Mr. Bussema then worked for two years as a dormitory guidance counsellor to 260 boys, from grades 4-8. His wife also worked 4 1/2 years in Shonto as a bilingual teacher for very young children.

In contrast to white men, Navajos tend toward shyness and introversion. "It was very difficult to get them to talk about themselves, because their culture teaches them not to let other people know when they're

## Ecclesiastical issue draws students

--Stan Kruis

A discussion on the topic, "Women in Ecclesiastical Office", sponsored by the Pre-sem Club last Tuesday night, attracted about fifty interested students.

Rev. John Hellinga, pastor of the First Orange City CRC, came to familiarize the group gathered in the SUB conference room, with the issue. Hellinga is chairman of a synodical committee dealing with this topic.

Recently some denominations have received women into ecclesiastical offices. The Christian Reformed Church has al-

ways held that only men can hold the offices of deacon, elder, and pastor. This, coupled with the Women's Liberation movement, has made the question an emotionally charged issue.

Hellinga didn't give his own opinion on the issue, or that of the committee. Rather, he showed the problem from both sides of the issue.

"I want to warn you against easy conclusions on this whole matter," cautioned Hellinga. "Together with the Church you must learn to struggle with this issue, and, with

much prayer, study, and discussion, you must come to a conclusion."

Hellinga said he feels there are serious exegetical problems with some of the scripture passages used to find an answer to the question. This makes an easy solution unrealistic.

Some of the questions brought out are: Did cultural-social conditions of the times cause Paul to make such statements as in I Cor. 14:34, 35? If some of Paul's instructions for women are valid today, why not all, such as those for wearing veils (I Cor. 11:3ff)? If women aren't allowed to teach or lead in the position of an ecclesiastical office, why are they allowed to teach and lead in other positions (I Tim. 2:11ff)? What about Paul's criteria for the offices of elder and deacon, which seem to imply that only men are eligible?

Such questions make it hard for anyone to hold dogmatically to any opinion on the issue.



Mr. Bussema

Photo: Matheis

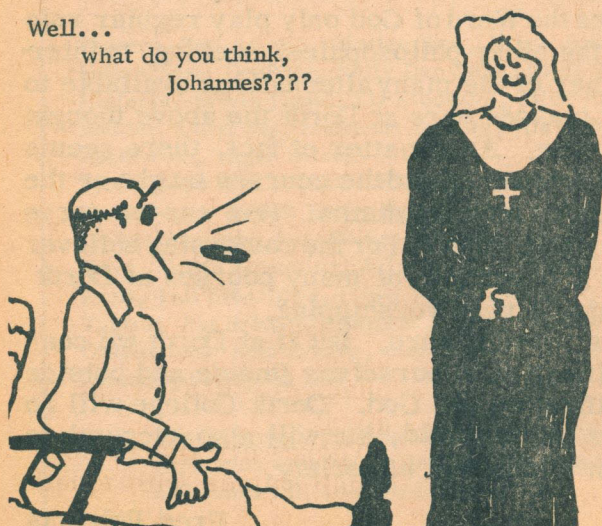
hurting." Mr. Bussema had thought it was connected to the fact that he was white and they were Indian, but his staff of 17 Navajo helpers also experienced the same frustrations. It was mostly a matter of "understanding their culture and working psychology along with the particular situation you found yourself in. They're very proud people, and have to be hurting pretty much to come for help."

As far as dormitory work with the boys, they worked in terms of "when the boys looked like they were in situation in which they hurt, to try to find out why and perhaps change that," or changing their environment." Mr. Bussema doesn't feel it was too difficult to practically work out all theories, but it was much more difficult to "apply the theory to fit the things you did." However, he feels that he would have worked on the same principles in a white dormitory as with the Navajos in Shonto.

This is Mr. Bussema's first year of teaching psychology at Dordt, and he finds it an even greater challenge than working with the Navajos. The reason for this is because he now has a "double job;" that of getting people to think in terms of a Christian psychology plus trying to give something to the students; that of giving some background to psychology, plus giving a Christian perspective. It's a matter of knowing "which things to reject as hearsay and heresy, and supporting our idea that man was created in God's image. I find it a challenge, and I'm enjoying it." He also throws out the challenge to others, "to come up with ideas that we can put on the market place where people can see that there are Christians working in psychology."

Well...

what do you think, Johannes???



## Curriculum to include Canadian literature

--Vern Van Hofwegen



Another Cook book

Photo: Matheis

The English department considered the possibility of a Canadian literature course a couple of years ago, but they didn't receive the real incentive until this year when Andy Kesteloo, a sophomore, started a petition calling for such a course. Andy hoped that a "substantial number" of Canadians and Americans "would get to know that group and culture 'cause you really limit yourself when you stick to just one type of literature."

Approximately 400 people signed the petition, with a representation of over two Americans to every one Canadian. The department took action to OK the idea.

Mr. Cook, who has been assigned to be the course instructor, said that it will be offered to Freshmen in second semester. He realized the disadvantage to interested upperclassmen, but "if it's any consolation, at least we have the course here now." He also stated that the

department had considered making it "a course exclusively for Canadians because of the possible size of the classes, priority will most likely be given to Canadians." He did desire a more even balance, however, and he hoped that Americans could be involved.

All who do get involved will most likely find some differences in American and Canadian literature. Mr. Cook noticed two main differences.

He felt Canadians allowed their neighbours to "maintain their ethnic background; sort of a mosaic type thing instead of the melting pot in America." He noted the French, Polish, Dutch, and even Jewish sectors which make up Canadian literature.

He also noted the Canadian interest in "the interaction of man with nature." He mentioned that a population of approximately 22 million over that "large an area" could bring up settings in its literature like "small towns, prairies, and the maritimes" which would help to portray themes like loneliness and solitude.

Many of the best modern writers, in Mr. Cook's estimation, are found in Canada. He mentioned Margarete Atwood, Joyce Carol Oates, and Alice Munro as examples. Christian writers include Mennonite Rudy Wiebe and Morley Callaghan, a Roman Catholic.

Mr. Cook has always "kept up to date on Canadian writing," and the course is well under preparation.

## Petra, Randy Matthews in concert

# Bringing them together

--John Fluck

The question is: Where is Jesus music going? (The next question is: What am I writing? answer: I'm reviewing the Randy Matthews/Petra concert held at Northwestern auditorium Monday, November 11). Listening to *Illumination* I'm pleased to hear what is finally happening among young Christian artists. Christians are coming out and expressing themselves in the contemporary medium, and I think that we can expect this to continue. More important, I think, is that Christians are beginning to develop the expertise needed to be a (musical) light in the folk/rock wilderness. This was evident at the Matthews/Petra concert. Gone are the days when the best the Christian community could offer was a freak with a guitar leading sing-alongs! We can now offer groups that can easily match the world in use of instruments, sensitivity, professionalism, and improvisation.

Petra comes from an Indiana city which is NOT predominantly CRC; as a matter of fact, the 'unchurched' outnumber the 'churched'. Perhaps this is one reason music is confessional in nature. Starting with two numbers practically unannounced may have left some starved for talk, but those of us who measure a group by their music and not by how long they can BS were delighted. With characteristic brevity they introduced themselves, why they play, and what they were trying to say through music--not BS, just square biz. Then they continued to do their thing. The absolute control of their instruments, the expert handling and precision left me astounded: I did not think the Christian community capable of producing a rock band of such quality. *Gonna Fly Away* gave the crowd a song they knew from *Illumination*, but *Backsliding Blues* took the cake with the improvisations involved. Both guitarists and the drummer showed their hands with the instrument. Petra's last scheduled number featured a bass improvisation that proved the bassman to be of the same musical quality as his associates. As an encore they did Larry Norman's *Why Don't You Look Into Jesus* better than Larry did on the album.

Randy Matthews hit the stage with---talk. And a 'dumb' act. And Introduction. And a verble history of himself and rock and roll that left us laughing but not hearing any music. There he stood with an \$800 D-35 Martin guitar, and he shot the breeze--and my patience! Perhaps in that first 20 minutes he did do one song--I don't remember. Enter two other guys with guitars and you have the Randy Matthews Trio--who proceeded to continue the act begun twenty minutes earlier. Finally the talk solidified into an intro to a song, and we had opportunity to hear first-hand what these three could do musically. And we were not disappointed! because when they finally got down and did their music it was of excellent quality. The voices blended well, complimenting each other, and the guitars fit so well together that one might think that Giuliani himself wrote the guitar parts (Giuliani was a composer and guitarist of the late 19th century). All of Randy's songs were separated by about 15 minutes of talk that amounted to either entertainment or preaching (in one and a half hours he did six songs). But I want to emphasize that when he got down and performed it was a performance of top quality,

showing extreme sensitivity to his music, and mastery of his medium. My criticisms are these: (on entertainment) Randy, I want to hear you perform, not watch you imitate a television. (On preaching) If you can't say it in your music, you should not be on stage.

I began with the question where is contemporary Christian music going, and I'd like to comment on that briefly. The Matthews/Petra concert, I think, shows us exactly where it's going--and it is in two different directions that may just clash. On the one hand, some Christian artists (Petra, Joshua, Mustard Seed Faith) see 'Christian music' as something that talks directly of Jesus, or relates Biblical stories and/or morals. On the other hand, men like Randy Matthews, Larry Norman, Paul Stookie, and Lazarus have caught the perspective that music--Christian music--is a reflection of all of life--both the confessional and the non-confessional areas--and therefore doesn't necessarily have to be limited to speaking directly about Jesus. With these differing perspectives Satan could drive a wedge right between Christian artists, but if the unity, grace, and love in the Spirit that pervaded the Matthews/Petra concert continues Satan will be powerless to divide us. May such be the case. Oh, and one more thing the Matthews/Petra concert also showed us that Christian musicians have developed that expertise so essential for top-quality music. Both groups realize that perspective is nothing without expertise--a fact that perhaps we at Dordt College need to learn.

## Penny carnival offers kids 'cheap' thrill



All wet... again!

Photo: Matheis

On November 19, from 8:00--11 p.m., the Commons was the scene of excitement on Dordt's campus. It was the night of the Penny Carnival, a "cheap" thrill for many.

The Varsity Club sponsored the carnival to raise money to pay for the basketball programs. An added feature was the fun and socializing many enjoyed.

The main attraction of the evening was the dunking machine. There was a constant crowd as students eagerly waited for their favorite pros to get soaked.

The grand prize, a stuffed animal, went to Gregg Sjoerdsma, who managed to come closest to correctly guessing the number of corn kernels on a cob.

There were also various small games with small prizes won by many.



Photo: Matheis

Warmink up for the big performance.

## Mass choir to perform Messiah selections

On Dec. 8, selections from the "Messiah" will be sung in Dordt's gym. A mass choir from the community and college plus the chorale and choirs from Unity Christian High and Western Christian High will participate. The Sioux Community Orchestra will accompany

the choir. The soloists include students from Dordt as well as professionals. When asked why he chose the "Messiah", Mr. Warmink replied, "Because it's Scriptural." He said that the Hallelujah Chorus as well as certain Christmas selections will be performed.

# NACPA moves to Washington, D.C.

The National Association for Christian Political Action (NACPA), formerly known as the Christian Action Foundation (CAF), was founded in 1966-67 by Rev. Louis Tamminga. CAF was basically concerned with general Christian social action, but by 1969-70, the members realized that the best way to have effective Christian action, was for them to "go political." NACPA's first concerns then, were to develop the organization, write a constitution, gain membership and spread its name and idea abroad.

Jim and Glenda Vanden Bosch were its first Directors of Development, having since been replaced by John and Marilyn Hamilton. A Board was elected, which consists of Rev. J.B. Hulst as Chairman, John Van Dyk (Dordt College) as Secretary, and Rockne McCarthy (Trinity College) as Vice-Chairman. An Executive Committee, chaired by Jim Skillen (Messiah College), was chosen to supervise and take care of day by day operation of the organization. The Politikon has become useful as NACPA's publication, to educate and alert people to Christian politics.

The last few years NACPA has been working more on the 'idea' of Christian politics, and has been expressing its views through various papers, a film and the Politikon. In the August-September issue of Politikon, Skillen wrote that "NACPA has come to the point where it must begin to develop a more complete and concrete political program... First of all, the concrete problems of education, economics, race relations, energy and natural resources, environmental quality, the judicial process, international relations, and many others, will be taken up as the avenues through which NACPA will enter to develop its unique understanding of, and alternative policies for true political justice... In the second place, if NACPA is going to accomplish these purposes, it must set up its headquarters in Washington, D.C."

At headquarters, Jim Skillen and a secretary will be working on a part time basis, while an Executive Director will eventually be employed full-time to "coordinate the research and policy efforts of a growing Analysis-Research Team."

So, NACPA is now engaged in moving out of Sioux Center and paying off its debts.

NACPA has its problems too. It is accused of being idealistic, of being part of the AACS, and of trying to fit a strictly-Netherlands idea into a distinctly American political system. There is the problem, of course, of trying to work as Christians in the present day political system. But, as Rev. Hulst says, "It's all a matter of being truly

## Signet dedicated to 're-creation'

Anne Zwaal, this year's Signet editor, has great plans for the 1975 edition of this annual. The entire book will be worked around a nostalgic tone. A brownie lettering on a yellowing page will replace the regular black and white print. Only the content of the pictures will reveal the actual age of the book. Zwaal says the faculty has been of great help, agreeing to pose with their families in a traditional 1930 style.

Each picture will be picked to reveal a re-discovering of self, a re-dedication to God, emphasizing Signet 1975's theme of "Re-creation." Zwaal said that establishing a foundation theme for a yearbook takes a lot of heavy brain-work. A school year is full of events. She said care must be taken to select a theme which will relate to everything done at Dordt. Zwaal admits it will take a lot of organization to get

the idea of re-creation across without being too obvious.

Zwaal said the size of the staff was a great encouragement to her. It has increased from thirteen to thirty-five members. The new members are mainly freshmen and sophomores, many of whom have had previous experience working in high school annual clubs. Zwaal said that the way things look now, everything is set for a really great Signet 1975.

## BBB promotes consumer welfare

--Richard Mulder

The functions and purpose of the Better Business Bureau were explained by Ms. Helen Anderson in a meeting held November 14 in CI 60, sponsored by the Future Business Executives.

Anderson, manager of the Sioux City office of the Better Business Bureau, told how the Better Business Bureau is sponsored by businessmen of Sioux City for the consumer's protection as well as for the businessman's own well being. The Sioux City office covers an area of 27 counties in north-west Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

According to Anderson, the Better Business Bureau works in three major areas. The first of these is advertising. They make sure that local as well as national advertising is honest and complete. The second major area concerns reports and inquiries into mail order gimmicks and the like. The third area takes care of consumer complaints through

consumers are allowed three days to change their mind concerning merchant an arbitration system wherein three businessmen mediate between consumer and producer.

Anderson reminded the people that under Iowa law,

dise which they agreed to buy from salesmen at their door. Residents of the Sioux Center area and Dordt Students were encouraged by Anderson to make use of the services that the Better Business Bureau offers.

## Kuyper collection discovered

--Les Top

When Dr. J. Stellingwerff, Director of Libraries at the Free University of Amsterdam, visited campus recently, he made what was, in his estimation, an exciting find. In the Dordt College Library he discovered approximately 75 written works of Abraham Kuyper, a famous Dutch theologian, statesman and politician. Kuyper wrote on many aspects of the Christian life as it pertained to his time and situation. His favorite subjects were:

Calvinism, Reformed Doctrine and church-state relationships, although he wrote about many other subjects. All the books are written in Dutch (a few English translations are available however) so the average Dordt student won't get much use out of them.

No special effort was made to obtain the books. Most of them came into the library's possession through gifts. The most common reason the books were given to Dordt was because later generations of the Dutch immigrants couldn't read Dutch so they had no use for them. Several of Kuyper's pamphlets were also obtained as gifts. These pamphlets are quite rare and very difficult to obtain. Also found in Dordt's library are copies (actual and on microfilm) of De Herault, a Dutch weekly newspaper which contained many writings of Kuyper.

According to Dr. Stellingwerff, Dordt has the majority of Kuyper's writings. Dr. Stellingwerff also expressed willingness to send Dordt copies of other Kuyper books he has in duplicate in order to make Dordt's collection more complete.

--Sharon Tiemstra

# Rock Valley fires kindle discussion

--Cheryl Den Boer

"After my night without sleep, I'm hoping they catch the man really fast." Hope Haven Director of Public Relations Gerald Vermeer was speaking of the phantom arsonist who has disturbed Rock Valley for the past two months and of a nightly patrol of the school grounds which he had helped conduct very early last Thursday morning.

Seven of the nine Rock Valley fires seemed aimed to harm Hope Haven by destroying property--group homes being remodeled, buildings owned by employees and board members. As Kathy Mast, a Dordt student who works part-time at the School for the Handicapped, commented, "There've only been fires in places where nobody's living; they're careful not to hurt anybody."

Vermeer noted that before setting one barn on fire the mysterious person took time to open the door to let the horses escape. "So he's got some heart for life, fortunately."

Even so, the community feels somewhat "frustrated and baffled" though "not as uptight as it was at first." Some families have purposely stayed home to protect their property. And "You don't roam out at night, because you might be shot by the patrol," according to another Dordt Hope Haven worker, Sandy Vandekamp.

One of the fires occurred in Christian grade school Principal Al Vande Griend's home. Unlike the others, it happened during the day, when people were around. "It was scary for awhile," Kathy said, because "If it had been the arsonist, it meant he had changed his tactics." Inspectors found, however, that the fire began because of faulty electrical wiring.

But the ninth fire, which burned the Ed Kooima barn, does seem to indicate a change; contrary to U.P.I. report, Mrs. Kooima teaches at the Christian Grade School; she is not a Hope Haven employee. The Kooimas do support Hope Haven though. If the arsonist plans to choose victims on that basis, Vermeer estimates that 90% of Rock Valley's citizenry could be in the line of attack.

Karen Van Maanen, a Dordt student who stays with Hope Haven kids for nine hours on weekends to give their foster parents some free time, senses that the fires have made the community feel more sympathetic toward the school than before. Sandy Vandekamp agrees: the incidents have "drawn

people closer together...and to God...and helped them realize the importance of their task, too," she said.

"Out of all this, we're sure some good will come," Vermeer said. "But it's tough at this time to understand."

Vermeer shares the general bewilderment about who the arsonist might be--and about his motives. If someone does hold a grudge "We'd be more than happy to talk to him and try correct that situation," he said. "Perhaps we're just victims of circumstances" and the man simply likes to build fires.

But evidence seems to point against that. A Hope Haven maintenance man who lives at Hull, for example, found rags wrapped around his car when he went outside to make a habitual check of his premises. Fortunately the gas and match had not yet been applied.

"If this continues, he'll make a mistake somewhere along the line," the Public Relations Director hypothesized. So far, though, the fire maker has left no evidence behind.

The fires have brought mass media coverage to Hope Haven, with both positive and negative effects. "We don't know what to release," Vermeer commented: "Maybe the more he reads, the more kicks he gets out of it."



An old tradition started in the 60's is being revived by seniors, who have possessed the well-worn Santa Claus since their sophomore year.

They plan to present the object at several school functions, giving the other classes a chance to steal the taped-up model.

Photo: Poelman

## Dance issue raised

# Dordt evaluates Synod's decision

--Cal Tuininga

Since Synod's decision in 1972 concerning the dance, Dordt College has seriously tried to examine the matter of dancing to see if it can develop a Christian frame of mind about the dance. The college has sponsored two on-campus appearances of the I. S. U. Dance Troupe, and has also introduced the square dance into the social activities' calendar in order

to determine the proper place of dancing in the Christian life.

November 8's dance in Children's Park (not school sponsored) led to an acceleration of the discussion. The planning committee of the dance, "The Beat Co." previously discussed how Christians could hold a dance that would not detract from their witness. Music with questionable overtones was ruled out, and liquor was strictly forbidden. Student reaction to the dance varied.

The Student Life Senate feels, however, that the dance issue has not been adequately discussed, and is appointing a sub-committee for further study. The committee, to be chaired by Rev. J. B. Hulst, will consist of four faculty members and four students, including a representative of "The Beat Co." The purpose of the committee is to discuss the implications of Synod's decision for the situation at

Dordt.

In the meantime the S. L. S. asks that there be no more student sponsored dances until the committee has come to an acceptable position. Rev. Hulst said, "We want to take seriously what Synod has said." In reference to the dance Hulst questioned, "How do we do this Christianly?... This has not always been done." Hulst also said that we must seek to bring "the regenerative mind to use in the dance so that when we do use the dance for recreation we do so Christianly."

The students who sponsored the dances said that they are respecting the S. L. S. request, and that while it is too late to cancel tomorrow night's dance, there will be no more dances until a position has been reached. The newly appointed committee will start discussion immediately, recognizing the urgency of the issue.

## Faber introduces Dicotamus key

--Clarice Baas

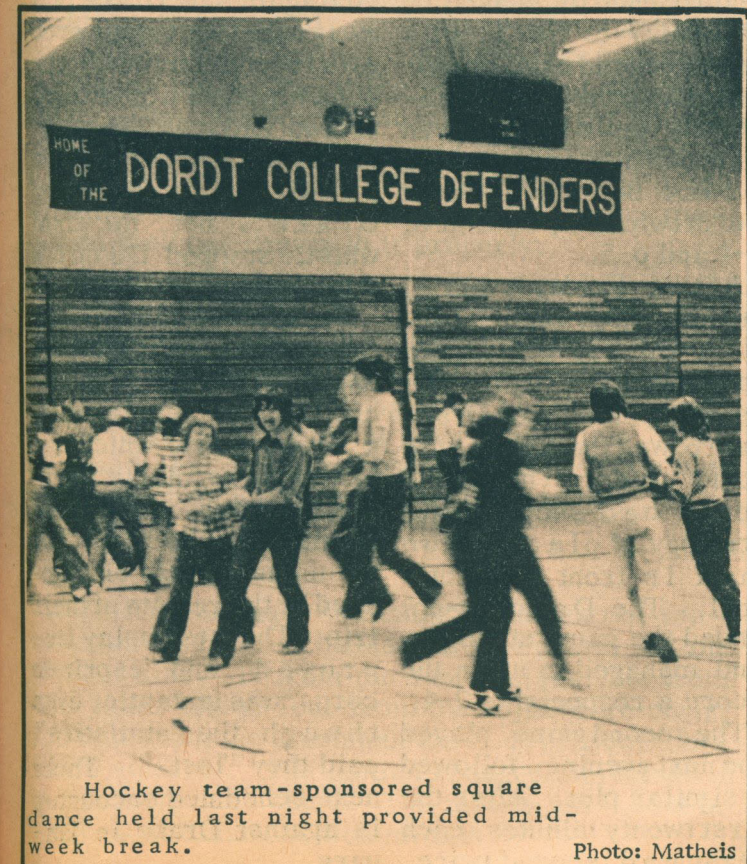
On the evening of November 14, approximately 30 Dordt students attended an Outdoor Education Workshop in C217. This workshop was sponsored by Phi Kappa Sigma

for anyone who wanted to attend, but it was especially planned for those who are interested in teaching careers. The workshop, led by Dr. Faber, gave the stu-

dents a chance to work with the Dicotamus key. This "key" is a method of classifying objects according to their similarities and differences. The students first worked with simple geometric shapes and then went on to apply the key to classifying common trees of the Midwest. Faber said that this same method can be used to classify rocks, insects, birds, etc.

Faber feels that often times a teacher will avoid taking his students outdoors because he feels he cannot answer all the questions the student might bring up. By using the Dicotamus key, the teacher can work with his students and they can find the answers together.

According to Faber, this method of classification will definitely be useful in a teaching situation because of the increased attention being given to outdoor studying in the modern educational system.



Hockey team-sponsored square dance held last night provided mid-week break.

Photo: Matheis

## Esther improvisation (Continued from page 1)

that they can defend themselves, people become telephone poles and crepe paper becomes the lines by which the story is spread.

"You limit yourself to a certain amount of props and you work with that," Mr. Koldenhoven said. Crepe paper, fabric, styrofoam, and newspapers make up most of the props, not to mention the galls in the background.

Syd Hielema is working on the music, concentrating on the scene in which Esther is encouraged by the crowd to appear before the king.

Tickets will be on sale in the SUB beginning Wednesday, November 27th. Students should know that local residents will be able to purchase tickets throughout Thanksgiving break, and so are advised to reserve theirs on Wednesday.

# Defenders open basketball season Friday

--Chuck Kooistra

The Dordt Defenders open their 1974-75 basketball season here tomorrow (Friday) night against Bellevue College. Coming off a fine 13 and 8 season and Dordt's first NAIA berth ever, the future is bright for Coach Len Rhoda and his squad.

Rhoda has seven lettermen back from last year including all five starters. Leading the returnees is the senior captain Craig Shannon. Shannon manned the pivot spot for the Defenders last year and he led the team in rebounds while excelling in playing defense against men as much as 5 inches taller than himself.

Mark Sybesma was the leading scorer last year and he returns to play one of the backcourt positions.

The other guard spot is held by Danny Steenstra, who was the playmaker for the team last year and led the club in assists.

The two forward positions will be handled by seniors Jerry Schnyders and Bob Grussing. Schnyders is an excellent shooter while Grussing provides much-needed muscle under the boards.

The two other returning letter-winners are senior Jeff Crull and junior Dave Ruter. Ruter missed the last third of last year's season with a leg injury. Other members of the Varsity squad are senior Dave Ver Velde; sophomores Jim Hop, Bob Vande Pol (who saw some Varsity action last year) and Dave Den Herder; and freshman Terry Crull.

The ball club's major weakness appears to be a lack of height. The Defenders put their top assets - speed and muscle - to good use last year when they used a full-court press to defeat a much taller Sioux Falls College team 80 to 64. The Sioux Falls front line went 6'8", 6'8" and 6'5". But the NAIA playoff game with Loras proved that height could hurt the Defenders.

The Defenders are faced with their toughest schedule ever playing three participants of last year's NAIA tournament. St. Ambrose, Wartburg, and cross-county rival Northwestern all won berths in the tournament. Other tough teams on the schedule include Westmar, Sioux Falls College, and Briar Cliff.

The Junior Varsity opens Friday night's action with a 5:30 game against Jackson Vocational of Jackson, Minnesota. The varsity game begins at 7:30. Last year Dordt split with the Nebraska team with Dordt winning the opener 80-69 and Bellevue winning the second game 85 to 82.

Next Tuesday the Defenders host Mt. Marty College in another 7:30 game.



When they're moving that fast the pictures are always blurred.

Photo: Suk

## Baker races olympic runners

--Randall Palmer

Dordt's Larry Baker earned himself a starting slot in a field of about 425 runners in a nation-wide cross-country meet.

Last Saturday Dordt ran against four other teams at Waverly, Iowa in a district meet of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Baker, a sophomore, finished 14th in the meet with a time of 27:10. Dordt as a whole, however came in 5th place, out of as many teams.

Coach Len Rhoda commented afterwards, "We are quite disappointed with our performance. We didn't run as well as we should have."

Both Baker and Dordt's second runner, Dave Kobes, said that it was a rough, hilly course.

The winning teams had the following scores: Westmar, 27; Loras, 48;

Graceland, 67; Wartburg, 116; and Dordt, 120.

The winning time for the five-mile course was 25:10.

Dordt runners after Baker had the following statistics: 14, Dave Kobes, 27:54.26, Mark Kauk, 28:04.28, Ken Schreur, 28:33.29, John Ensing, 28:37.30, Doug Seebeck, 28:51.

The best three teams and the best fifteen runners from the meet went to a national meet on November 16 in Salina, Ks.

The meet attracted Larry Baker, Mike Boit from Kenya, Africa, and about 420 other cross-country runners on Saturday. Boit, who is going to Eastern New Mexico University, ran in the 1972 Olympics for Kenya. Several

## Women's BB team looks good

--Cheryl Otte

Five returning players and seven Freshmen were chosen to make this year's Dordt College Women's Basketball team. The players are:

- \*Grace Bos
- \*Margaret DeValois
- Mary DeWaard
- Marlys DeWitt
- \*Judy Fopma-Capt.
- Laura Jonkers
- \*Nancy Matheis
- Sandy Nieuwendorp
- Gayla Vaandrager
- Terri VanderGriend
- Leanne VanDyke
- \*Ruth VanZee

\*indicates returning players.

According to Coach Huisman, everyone on the team is very well-skilled and the team looks good.

The seniors on the team provide the needed stability. Also, this year's bench will be used more extensively, and thus will be using freshmen who are not quite as experienced in 5-man basketball.

The team is working hard for their opener, Dec. 9 when they face Sioux Empire.

other Kenyan Olympic runners, also presently enrolled at E.N.M.U., were part of the crowd of 420.

Boit finished the five-mile course first, in 23:40; Baker finished about 230 men and 250 seconds later, in 27:50.

Coach Len Rhoda of Dordt commented, "The course is by far the toughest course Dordt runners have had to deal with." The hills were very steep.

## Dordt hosts volleyball scrimmage

--Cec Van Niejenhuis

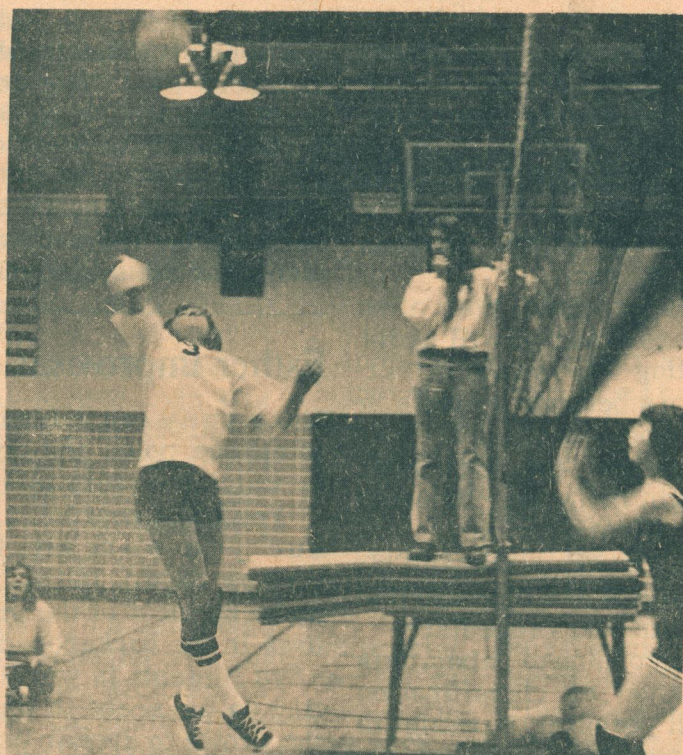
Dordt's women's volleyball teams hosted a scrimmage with Westmar and Briar Cliff, Tuesday, November 12.

Dordt's "A" team opened play against Westmar. Westmar won the series 15-8, 12-15, and 15-11. They displayed fine serving in their winning efforts.

Against Briar Cliff, Dordt fared no better. In two straight games, Briar Cliff eliminated Dordt's team 15-6, and 15-8.

Briar Cliff and Westmar then opposed each other in the final match. Evenly matched, the two teams played three games, with Briar Cliff coming out on top.

Dordt's "B" team also competed against the two teams. Against Westmar the team bowed in two straight games, 15-11,



Up in the air...

Photo: Matheis

and 15-3. The series against Briar Cliff went three games, with Dordt

winning one game 15-4, but losing two others by scores of 15-7, and 15-1.

## Dordt Blades duel Drake Bulldogs

--Cec Van Niejenhuis

Dordt College's hockey team opened its season by travelling to Des Moines for a weekend doubleheader against the Drake University Bulldogs. Played November 8 and 9, the Drake Bulldogs defeated Dordt twice, by scores of 7-4 and 6-5.

After Friday's initial faceoff, both teams battled evenly, with Drake taking a 2-1 lead. The second period saw Drake overpower the Blades with four goals. The Drake team had success with strategy of placing two men in front of Dordt's goal. The Dordt team ended the game strongly, and managed to make the score a respectable 7-4.

The second game, played the next evening, followed a similar plot. After the first twenty minutes, each team had scored twice.

However, the second period again saw Drake pull away with four unanswered goals. Behind 6-2, the Blades played a fine third period and came to within one goal of tying the game. Buzzing around Drake's net, the final whistle stopped Dordt's attempted comeback.

The Blades had gone into the doubleheader with only one hour of practice behind them. Playing against a Drake squad which has practiced regularly for over a month, they came admirably close. The team was greatly encouraged by the results of their trip: Their team play improved, and "esprit de corps" was fantastic, even though the "statistics" said they "lost." Their next scheduled encounter is against Drake in January.