

DIAMOND

Vol. XVI No. 8

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa.

February 15, 1973

OCTC BACK IN MENAGERIE

Den Besten

Focuses on

Medicine

Dr. Den Besten of the University of Iowa Medical School will be at Dordt sponsored by the Special Activities Committee on February 21 and 22 to speak several times concerning medicine in a Christian aspect.

"Who Shall Live?" will be the title of his message on Wednesday, February 21 at 8:00 p.m. in C160. He will deal with the problem of euthanasia, regarding the "mercy" killing of the old and feeble.

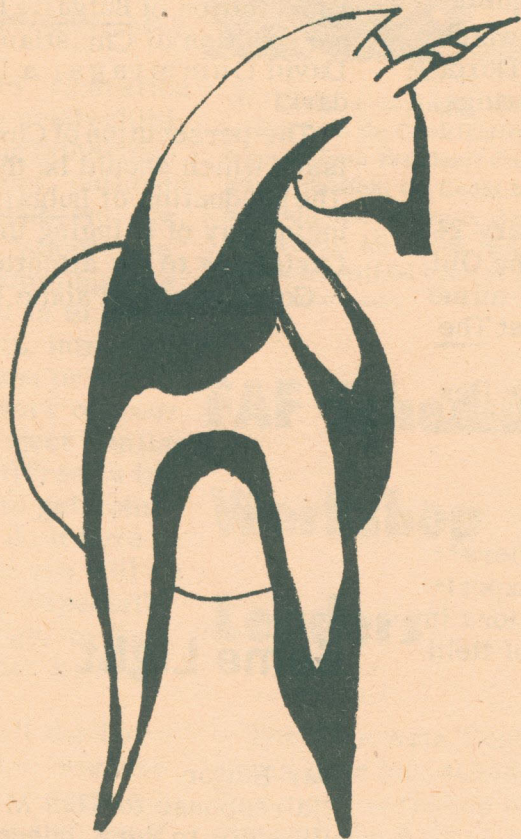
The next morning, February 22 Dr. Den Besten will speak to chemistry and biology students on Current Studies on the Origin of Gallstones - An Example of the Relevance of Basic Chemistry and Biology to the Study of Complex Human Disease. This meeting will be in C106 at 8:30 a.m.

Dr. Den Besten will also speak to the entire student body the same morning in a combined chapel service. "The Medical Missionary's Message in 1973" will be the topic of his address.

Also on February 22 Dr. Den Besten will confer with pre-medical students at Dordt and the Pre-Medical and Nurses Training Advisory Committee on medical school admission procedures. This discussion will take place in the Northwest Commons at 10:00 p.m.

Dr. Den Besten is a former Christian Reformed medical missionary to Nigeria and is presently professor and vice-chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Iowa Medical School. He is also Chief of Surgery at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Iowa City.

wb physical education, natural



The mythical unicorn proves to be a key figure in The Glass Menagerie.

Dordt Homecoming Revamped

The 1973 Dordt Homecoming, scheduled for March 2 and 3 has a new appearance. Instead of the traditional basketball game, the Homecoming committee has planned activities which will involve more areas of Dordt's student life.

Homecoming activities begin with a Concert Band performance on Friday evening, beginning at 8:00. Alumni attending the concert will be seated in a special section of the audience. Coffee in the SUB follows the concert.

On Saturday, March 3, the activities begin early with the sectional series at 9:30 a.m. Presented by faculty members from various departments, these meetings will allow alumni and students to hear about and discuss some of the departmental changes that have occurred at Dordt over the past few years. After meeting in C-106, those attending will divide into various interest groups, each attending three of the sectionals which will be running concurrently. Sectionals in drama, speech, music, physical education, natural

science, special education, business, library, and curriculum changes are scheduled.

That afternoon, beginning at 2:30, the Student Union will be the headquarters for activities with publications, art and bookstore displays planned, as well as a theatrical performance. A basketball game between the alumni and an intramural team follows in the gym.

At the evening banquet planned for the alumni in the West Commons, the new Dordt College sight-sound program, "a Vision for Learning," will be shown.

The Talent Program, scheduled for 7:30 that evening, completes the Homecoming activities. A Thaliens production, Reader's Theatre presentation, faculty skit, choreography demonstration, and musical numbers from Dordt students, as well as an alumni presentation, will fill the program.

The Homecoming committee, headed by Jeanie Zink and made up of Dordt alumnus Agnes Struik as well as Mr. Koldenhoven, and Rev. Hulst.

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The Old Creamery Theatre Company, a professional theatre troupe, will present Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie at the Dordt College Classroom Auditorium on February 24. The one-night performance, sponsored by the Thaliens, is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m.

The first year-round professional theatre group in Iowa, the Old Creamery Theatre Company has its home base in a renovated creamery building in Garrison, Iowa. Presently in their second season, the theatre troupe is travelling throughout Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Illinois, sponsored partially through an Iowa Arts Council grant. The group presented The Mime Show at Dordt last year.

Their production, The Glass Menagerie, presents the pathetic lives of four people who have never fulfilled their ambitions. The domineering mother recites her romanticized memories and daydreams to her children. Her son, a writer whose talents have been frustrated by a warehouse job, tries to escape his situation. His sister, a crippled girl, creates her own world through her glass menagerie.

The focus of this intense drama is on Laura, the cripple. Caught between the ideals of Southern gentility and Northern industrialization, Laura escapes into the music of her victrola and the world of her little glass animals.

Tickets are on sale at the SUB. Seats may be reserved by calling or stopping by the switchboard.

pr

Madwoman

Chosen for Spring

Mr. Koldenhoven has chosen The Madwoman of Chaillot as the Thaliens spring production. Performances are scheduled for April 26, 27, 28, and 30.

Books have been ordered and should be here a week before tryouts begin. Madwoman is a comedy based on an anti-capitalistic theme. The play is set in France, near Paris.

The Madwoman, the main role in a cast of 20-25 characters, and her friends overhear a group of businessmen talking about getting the oil which lies beneath the streets of Paris. Realizing that these men could be dangerous, the Madwoman and her compatriots set about finding a way to stop them.

tk

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Photo: Van Dyke

Koldenhoven says that it's the Madwoman this spring.

Bits and Pieces II

by Karen Walhof

Homecoming began at Dordt five years ago; and at that time the organizers adopted a traditional format for the homecoming activities.

Take a look at the front page article on the plans for homecoming this year. It's changed.

I think this year's committee has taken a step in the right direction. If "Homecoming" is to be just that, the activities which they have planned fill the bill. Alumni will see just how Dordt has changed in the areas of student activities, course offerings, and curriculum requirements.

It may be enlightening even for students.

Another event to mark on your calendars is the February 24 performance of The Glass Menagerie (see page one). The Old Creamery Theatre Company was here last year with their mime show. Students who saw The Mime Show will tell you that The Glass Menagerie shouldn't be missed.

The OCTC has been featured in a full-length article in the Des Moines Sunday Register. They're rapidly being recognized as a fine professional group.

And they're going to be here.

You know, hearing the reports from some practice teachers--about how they're learning so much in their teaching experiences--really reinforces a feeling that non-education seniors in certain fields should be able to participate in some type of field experience. Maybe soon--next year?

It doesn't seem like an impossible scheme.

Dig Out Your Good Papers

Dear Editor:

Students are continuing to overlook a real opportunity for the furthering of Christian scholarship. Bill deJager, '71-'72 editor of the Diamond and Gary Wondergem in a recent Cannon editorial made strong appeals for a library of student papers to be set up in order to gain new insights from other Christian scholars, have access to a bibliography on the subject, and be able to carry on the work of Christian scholarship with the aid of other struggling Christians.

As a committee we urge students to bring good papers on various topics to the Reformational Dugout. They will be put on file and thus become available for general student use. We must build on the work that has been done before by fellow students in order to move forward.

The secular world laughs at our use of precious time to stop and restudy issues repeatedly and the Kingdom of Christ will not progress unless we step out of the treadmill. Start digging!

The Reformational Dugout
-Executive Committee

DIAMOND

Published fortnightly by the students of Dordt College. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the student body, faculty, or administration. Subscriptions available at \$1.50 per academic year, September to May. Address all correspondence to the Diamond, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250.

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Questions Bulgaria 1961 Cancellation

The Editor of the Diamond,

In the last issue of the Diamond we were informed that two plays were cancelled by Dordt's Drama department. A full explanation was given for the cancellation of Ruth, an improvisation on the book of Ruth in the Bible, but as to the reason for the cancellation of Bulgaria 1961, an evangelistic play based on the persecution of Christians behind the iron curtain, produced by David Cummings, a 1972 Dordt graduate, we were left in the dark!

The persecution of Christians behind the iron curtain is a real issue which should be the concern of Christians everywhere. The production of Bulgaria 1961 by the Thaliens would be a meaningful way of bringing the plight and suffering of these fellow Christians to the attention of our community.

Could you shed some light on this mystery?

Just wondering,
Tom Meyer

Some Light

Dear Editor:

In response to Tom Meyer's question about Bulgaria 1961, I will admit to very inconclusive reasons for cancellation. Generally, the reasons are a mixture of principles, program, purpose, psychological reaction, and time. I do not believe I can separate these nicely into a convincing pattern for anyone, even myself. But let me offer a few remarks.

It has been my purpose, since coming to Dordt College, to give the drama-theatre program a Christian direction. Just what this means is too complicated to elaborate on here, except to note that technical finesse, historical perspective, analytical pattern, and a host of other considerations accrue to the question: "What is a Christian approach to theatre?"

On paper, in theory, and within the confines of the classroom, this question can be pursued with safety and encouragement. It is quite another thing, however, to apply the principles in production without the pressure of detractors who force me into a defensive position. In short, we have to spend more time talking about why not to do plays than about why we are doing them. I am prepared to go against the stream of secularism, but so far the drama program has not got beyond the boat launch and the harbor, the current being what it is in the Christian community.

To try an improvisation on the Book of Ruth, that is, for example, to put Boaz in bib overalls, or to stage a tenth wedding anniversary party in Moab, would possibly have risked a longer delay in attempting a Christian play. So Ruth was cancelled. Bulgaria 1961, on the other hand, might have been applauded by the same mentality that would condemn the overalls and anniversary party. Bulgaria, while it has many commendable strengths as a play, is more evangelical and moralistic than I had envisioned Ruth to be. My feeling is that when we are ready for both kinds of theatre, we will do both. But I feel it is a risk to a comprehensive Christian theatre program to satisfy wrong responses, at the wrong time. We are, I think, approaching the brink of a really significant break-through in Christian theatre, but the problem is we have been "approaching" for three years. There is a reason to be patient in such matters, but brinkmanship is tempting.

I hesitate to bring up the subject of stage language, for it illustrates the frustrating defensive posture that we get into in the business. But here goes. Cummings' play contains some language that is, frankly, taboo. It isn't shocking, but definitely in honest keeping with his non-Christian characters (presuming for the moment that Christians all have sanctified mouths). Cummings wrestled with this problem and finally wrote a friend-professor of his at Westminster about what to do. The answer, in effect, was--well, certainly, if you are going to represent God-denying characters on stage, you are at liberty to give them God-denying language. Such language in the play is sparse, but very much present.

Before I leave this subject, let me urge this much, that I have no desire or compulsion to defend the use of "objectionable" language in play productions. Such questions do not cross my mind until someone calls attention to specific objections in a

Adopt a Little Brother

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter so that I can familiarize the students with a new organization that is presently still in the planning stages. First, may I say that this organization needs members--members who are willing to donate some of their time. "I'm sorry, I'm too busy" can't be used in this project. May I describe it.

The project is presently being called "Operation Big Brother." It is our intent to locate needy children in the immediate area--for example fatherless children, children from broken homes, children from homes in which alcohol is a problem, etc. We then want to get Dordt students to "adopt" one of these kids, take him to games, swimming, the Autodine, talk to him, etc. The object is to get to know the child and then work with him, introduce him to God and to things he has never seen or heard of and then eventually (with a lot of work on your part) become his "Big Brother." A project similar to this has been started for ghetto children in big cities. I don't think we need a ghetto to get something like this going. I think we can do it here in Sioux County. This may aid the child you will be a Big Brother to, but it will aid you too, especially if you're a Physical Education, Psychology, or Sociology major, and/or a Christian. What better way to witness for your Lord!

There will be a meeting discussing all the for's and againsts of the projects. If you are interested in any way, and even if you aren't, come to C118 Monday night at 6:30. Please come and see if you can help out. I won't take much time!

Keith Vander Zwan

Koldenhoven, con't from page 2.

play--unless it (the language) is there with the explicit purpose of shock.

In many ways a really good play, Bulgaria 1961, stand to lose for us more than it will gain at the moment. Detractors will like it because it has a scene in which Bibles are smuggled to citizens of a Communist-controlled country, and they will like it better if we take out the "damns" that Cummings has sparsely assigned to non-Christians, Communists, of evil intentions. It seems to me that until we are free to apply God's Word in a variety of ways, and to show the effects of the absence of God's Word in society, we are not free to practice what we preach. To provide opportunity for an audience to believe that Christian drama is defined as drama in which Communism is put down, in which Christians are persecuted, and in which Bible distribution is the answer, is to limit too severely the definition.

Cummings' play is not that simple, by no means! But it will, in my judgment, trigger simplistic responses which will be damaging to the drama program. The Diamond article, by Ted Koopmans, stresses properly, I think, the point of unity. Let me repeat, when we can do both Ruth and Bulgaria 1961, when we can freely explore a variety of ways to bring God's Word to theatre, then we may take the next step in developing the drama program as Christians ought to do. In the interim, ironically, we continue to do things which, though they have their own educational value, are profoundly secular than Christian in play selection.

When our community (on and off campus) becomes elastic enough to provide drama its necessary freedom, in Christ, then we can do both Ruth and Bulgaria 1961, and we can be less paranoid about making a mistake in our experiments in Christian drama.

Mr. Koldenhoven



Photo: Van Dyke

Mr. Cook is staying. Through letters from the Cook family and requests from the Dordt College administration, the Cooks have been allowed to stay in the United States. Mr. Cook, English professor, will be back at Dordt again next year.

FAF Schedules Workshop Leaders

The Fine Arts Festival Committee has scheduled four more workshop leaders for the April 12-19 festival.

Pastor Robert Meyering, assistant pastor of the Palos Heights Christian Reformed Church will lead sessions in drama productions. Students will be able to participate in the seminars, actively involved in the process of dramatics. Meyering has a long list of acting credits from Calvin, and is active in youth work in Palos Heights.

Mr. Mike Vanden Bosch, Dordt professor on leave of absence at the University of Iowa, will discuss what is involved in watching the film, as an art. He is also featured in an informal workshop during which he will discuss the problems faced by writers and offer suggestions to struggling writers at Dordt.

Dr. Drake, professor of art at Northwestern, will lead a seminar on sculpture. Students attending will be able to try their hand at the sculpting process. Dr. Drake's work was displayed in Dordt's library earlier this year.

Mrs. Hop, a homemaker from Orange City, will show students attending the ceramics workshops exactly how its done.

It is important that Dordt students realize that these leaders will merely lead the workshops. Student participation will be the primary activity of any seminar.

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The Power Struggle

by Gail Stockmeier

Nixon has been identified as a foreign policy President, that is, he is most active in and professes a great relish for foreign relations. He has been criticized for ignoring most domestic issues, and concentrating his efforts largely upon highly publicized and glamorized world affairs. There is evidence that Nixon's emphasis is shifting during his second term, to the seething domestic scene.

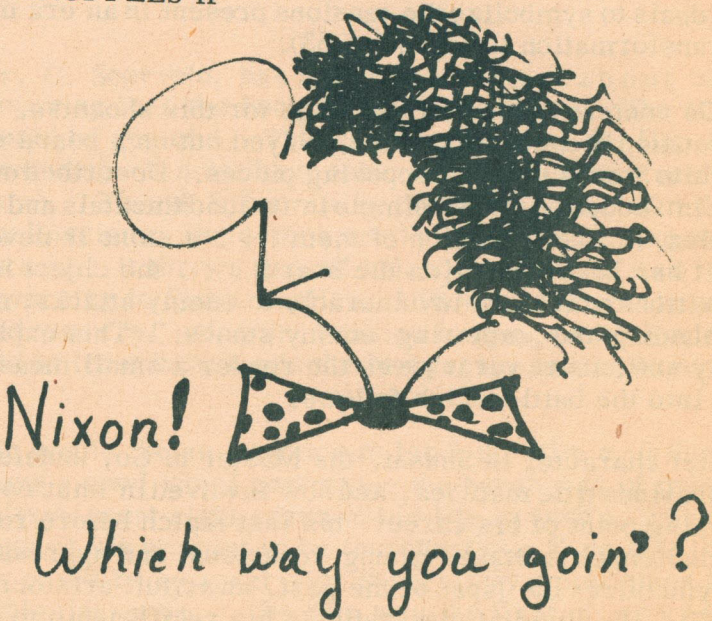
As part of his program to deflate our climbing inflation, Nixon is impounding large chunks of already appropriated funds which have been earmarked for many of the Great Society programs enacted during the past eight years. Nixon is engaged in a zealous purge of what he considers inefficient and useless government agencies; most notably the Office of Economic Opportunity has been abolished. Many other federally funded welfare, farm, minority and poverty programs have been financially trimmed or eliminated. Nixon is under heavy Congressional fire for impounding funds appropriated for such programs. He is being accused of usurping Congress' control over the national purse strings. Many predict a constitutional crisis that may have to be settled in the courts. Lobbyists for the various defunct or crippled agencies have poured into Washington, and are stirring the ire of Congressmen against the Administration. Democrats in both the Senate and the House are united on this issue, and even many Republicans oppose the President's tactics.

The validity and usefulness of our system of checks and balances is being challenged. At present it seems as though the executive branch has aggrandized more power than it was intended to have. Congress is in the throes of asserting itself and finding its identity in the federal system.

The specific problem facing our federal government today is that Congress wants to spend more money and on different areas than does the President. One can see the need for the controlled budget which Nixon is trying to achieve. On the other hand, Congress has created various programs by law, and provided money for the same. It is the Chief Executive's responsibility to implement these laws.

In the next few weeks the burgeoning office of the Presidency is expected to be severely challenged by a Congress that is fast developing an inferiority complex. The outcome will be crucial to the direction and scope of federal power. Hopefully the branches of government won't get so caught up in seeking their own identity that they forget their purpose: to work together for justice for all of the people. Even though they attain an almost perfect balance of power and responsibility, unless their activity is directed by true justice and love, their power seeking will be selfish and grasping, and they will fail to perform the task of the State.

SNUFFLES II



Gripped By the Gospel!

by Janet Vlieg

Although weekends are days always looked forward to, February 2-4 was an especially memorable weekend for about seventy Dordt people. That was the weekend of the Study Conference at the University of Iowa, in Iowa City. From Dordt, Trinity, Geneva and Bethel Colleges, Minneapolis, Denver, Toronto, and Pella came four hundred Christians interested in proclaiming the Good News of Christ in fields of art and politics.

The situation was unique. Children of the Reformed tradition met together with Evangelicals of Bethel and Geneva Colleges and with Young Life. Young Life was organized about thirty years ago to provide clubs so that young people could enjoy Christian fellowship. In no way could we match their outgoing enthusiasm particularly in song, but then there really was no need to. Finding our common bond in the King of life, Jesus Christ, we could commune with them, respecting their self-expression as they did ours.

Organized by a small group of Reformed and Evangelical University of Iowa students, the conference focused on the power of the Gospel in politics and art. Lectures and workshops by Bernard Zylstra, Calvin Seerveld, Peter Steen, Hugh Cook and Rockne McCarthy helped us to take a good hard look at our American culture in relation to these fields.

How can we Christians ever make a redeeming dent on that scene with the Gospel Message? Again and again we were humbled with the word that our numbers and organizational finesse will get us nowhere fast. Only the strength of God in Christ can move mountains. In that we must have unswerving faith. Now our task is to equip ourselves so that we may be used of God to proclaim His Victory in the battle fields of politics, art, business, education, and all the areas of life.

Dr. Calvin Seerveld in his keynote address, "The Meaning of our Nakedness," stressed the aesthetic distance in viewing nu-

dity in a sculpture or painting, film or poem. Because of a denial of the aesthetic dimensions on the part of some, "The Song of Songs" has wrongly been ignored and dismissed as pornography. "The Song of Songs" should be read literately, says Seerveld, as a pedagogical oratory back and forth between two young lovers. In that sense, "Song of Songs" becomes more than a spiritual allegory or a Bible book to avoid.

In offering a Christian critique of pornography, Seerveld described it as work that "evil-spiritedly violates God's ordinances. Pornography is the immaturely disgusting work of a hardened sadist. The glory of being a man rather than an animal does not come through in pornography." If we obey the way that God set up things to be--"creaturely reality"--then we will grasp something of the Biblical conception of freedom in our artistic activity.

Dr. Bernard Zylstra, the other keynote speaker, told of "Politics Gripped by the Gospel." Justice, he said, is a community of citizens responsible for the administration of justice. Thus, "politics gripped by the Gospel can only mean people gripped by the Gospel!" Because we must not only be hearers, but doers of the Word of God, the life of society is to be the life of the Holy Spirit. Society is called to be mankind's response to the ordinances of God, according to Biblical teaching, a communion of saints to serve and to love God and one another. Love and justice cannot be separated. So that all people are taken care of justly, God has instituted the state as His servant for that purpose. For that reason, the Gospel must be proclaimed to those responsible for the administration of justice, so that they might "Live to worship your Creator."

The distance to Iowa City is no small one. But every mile was worth the power of that experience in Christian action. Right now our action as students, as Dr. Zylstra said, is to study, to serve our Lord in the classroom and in the library and try to concentrate.

Kawabata's Finest

by Dan Gibson

From the recipient of the 1968 Nobel Prize for literature comes a unique book, The Master of Go. The author, Japanese novelist Yasunari Kawabata, considered this work to be his finest. For a lack of a better word, we call the book a novel. The Japanese have a more correct literary term, shosetsu. The main characters in this book are real-life figures, the contest in which they are involved really happened, and the "I" in the narration is the actual author. Shosetsu is a term which can comfortably include all of these elements. What gives this book more than a journalistic character is that Kawabata has used the struggle of two individuals to symbolize the tensions present in an era of historical transformation in Japan (p. 53).

A Go contest serves as the stage for this shosetsu. Go is a competition between two people, played out on a board with black and white stones used as opposing pieces. Described on page vii of the Introduction, it "is simple in its fundamentals and infinitely complex in the execution of them . . . a stone is never moved once it has been placed [on the board] . . . the object is to build up positions which are invulnerable to enemy attacks, meanwhile surrounding and capturing enemy stones." This explanation is hardly sufficient, yet it gives the reader a small measure of insight into the battle which follows.

Chief character is Shusai, the Master of Go, undefeated in all his previous title matches, and now involved in what could be the crowning point of his career, his last match before retirement. His challenger is Otake--young, tenacious, and aggressive. Shusai symbolizes the Japan of the past, an artful, aristocratic past (p. 52). His style of play reflects his relationship to this past. Otake, on the other hand, represents the new Japan, a strong, surging, somewhat artless Japan. His desire for strict adherence to the superimposed rules (designed to make the game more fair and efficient) reflects the rationalism which characterized

the new Japanese spirit (p. 52).

What strikes one in reading is the author's seeming resignation to an inevitable flow of history (pp. 144, 146). When you realize that, the whole conflict seems senseless. The master was retiring. The end of his career, of an era was clearly in sight. Although he was a sick man, his powers were not diminishing (p. 128). He was simply a victim of the time flow.

What then is the justification for all the fuss and tension? Or is this rather sorrow, mourning taking place for a passing era, which the new Japan, in its rush to leave, will not even allow a proper burial? Perhaps the knowledge that Kawabata felt a close, sentimental, even vital attachment to this bygone era will shed light on the problem. He had no such ties with post-WW II Japan, and maybe this lack of identity with the present motivated his suicide at the age of 73, a little less than a year ago (this is only speculation on my part).

The style of the book comes across beautifully at times. When simple words have such impact, paint such a vivid picture, as Kawabata's do, we know we are handling the product of a literary artist. But to the average reader of the Western world, unfamiliar with the intricacies of Go, the book can be difficult to read, and thus some of its beauty is lost. The technical language of explaining the game's progress right next to a fragrant depiction of a nature scene struck me as incongruous. To get the feel of Kawabata, I recommend that you first read one of his earlier works, such as Thousand Cranes. I have no way of knowing what the Japanese manuscript is like, but the English version of The Master of Go was clear and simple, so I thus commend Edward Seidensticker for his fine job of translation.

Mobilization for Life

by Ruth Harthoorn

Several weeks have gone by since "Black Monday", the day the Supreme Court released its ruling on abortion. During this time the pro-abortionists have had time to reflect on whether their long hard battle was really worth the trouble. Women's Lib groups who sought "control over their own bodies" are discovering that the Supreme Court ruling has not ended the exploitations of women by men; but instead has opened the way to a whole new field of exploitation, the entrepreneurship of abortion. Since the majority of doctors and abortion referral agents are men, males are profiting from women's desires to "have control over their own bodies." Likewise, other groups, as the poor and minorities, have not accepted the ruling with the eagerness that the white middle class had hoped for; rather, many of these women are refusing abortion, labeling the measure as genocide. Concurrently, anti-abortion groups have begun to mobilize their forces.

Prior to the Supreme Court ruling, the rights of the unborn were valid and the government recognized these rights. The unborn had a right to medical care, could be considered a legal heir, and in some cases, could sue if his rights are violated. In the allocation of aid to dependent children in Iowa, the unborn could be included on an equal basis in receiving welfare benefits. The Supreme Court ruling violates these and other rights of the unborn. The American Constitution formerly protected all of its citizens, even its prospective, unborn citizens, especially as spelled out in the right of "life, liberty, and property." This same constitution can now be used to override the rights of the unborn, in concession to the wishes of the mother and the doctor. The United States supports the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of the Child: "The child needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth."

Since the ruling of the Supreme Court, Christians are struggling to stand together in protest. The Biblical concept of justice, especially as it applies to the unborn child, is a basis for that stand. Justice is simply an obedient response to the love commandment, as it applies to the political context. The Scriptures constantly show that the special recipients of justice are those who cannot fully defend themselves, "the poor, the widow, the fatherless." The unborn child cannot defend himself. Since

justice applies to the mother as well, the state must provide the legal channels for weighing the safety of the mother over against the life of the child.

Pro-abortionists accuse Christians of "imposing your private morality on the general public." Abortion is more than a moral issue. Abortion stands in opposition to the God-instituted laws for justice among mankind. Christians act as agents of Christ's reconciliation when they get involved in the loud outcry of protest against abortion.

Another case on abortion is awaiting the acceptance to be heard by the Supreme Court. This case, "Byrn vs. New York City Health and Hospitals, Incorporated," is probably the best argued case against abortion on demand. Write Chief Justice Warren Burger and urge the court to hear the case. His address is: Supreme Court Building, Washington, D.C. 20543. In Congress, a Human Life Amendment has already been started, guaranteeing the right to life for the unborn. Both of Iowa's senators are against abortion; support them, and urge them to support this amendment. (Address your senators and representative as follows: The Honorable,, U.S. Senate, (or House of Representatives), Senate Office Building (or House Office Building), Washington, D.C., 20515.) Or you can even call President Nixon for only 20¢. Dial this number direct after eleven (for cheaper rates): 202-737-8900, and ask for the President's message center. Urge the president to make a strong public statement against the Supreme Court ruling.

Alternatives to abortion do exist. Legislation which offers educational and counseling services on birth control and abortions is one. An organization is trying to help women with problem pregnancies -- Birthright. Genuine concern and sympathy sustaining women facing illegitimate or unwanted child-birth could be one of the easiest ways to prevent abortion. The stigma of abortion should far out-weigh the stigma of having an illegitimate or handicapped child.

The shock of "Black Monday" should not lead to the frightened paralysis of "Oh, my, what is our country coming to!" The ruling can be reversed.

Monotony in Norway

by Syd Hielema

On Friday, February 9, Dordt's first film of the semester, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, was shown. The film was based on Russian author Alexander Solzhenitsyn's first novel. The setting is a Siberian Labor Camp during the early fifties. Most of the prisoners are victims of Stalin's postwar purges. No exception is Ivan Denisovich, sentenced for alleged traitorous activities with the Germans.

The film follows Ivan through one of the 3,653 days he must spend in prison. The entire camp is roused before dawn for inspection. Following this, breakfast is served, consisting of boiled grass mush and a bowl of soup with a few fishbones floating in it. Ivan, not feeling up to a dawn-to-dusk shift at a construction site after this, reports in sick. He is told that the day's quota of two sick men has already been filled. After the men have re-assembled and been re-inspected, they undergo the two-mile march to the construction site. The men are divided into competing work groups. Yelling at each other continually, they work at a feverish pace raising a building that looks as if it will melt with the spring thaw. At dusk they are back, inspected, and given some more of the "food" they had for breakfast. The day and the film end as they began silent, dark, a camp spotted with searchlights.

Though the film convinces us that Siberia is hell on earth, Ivan feels that this particular day has been a good one. He manages to scrounge an extra bowl of mush, a cigarette butt, and a broken knife blade which he successfully smuggles through in-

spection. He goes so far as to silence the complainings of his fellow prisoners. After all, things could be worse. Through Ivan, the film suggests the strength of the Russian people--Ivan's taken it for eight years and he's still going strong. The ruling dictators may do what they please but they will never conquer the Russian spirit.

Art critic, Dr. C. Seerveld, has said that a film cannot be judged by comparing it to the book it may be based on. The film producers should be grateful. The subject matter of the film is not the most exciting--it must have taken some doing to stretch it into two hours. Though Siberia is the setting, the film does not seem very Russian. The actors are British, the filming was done in Norway. It throws one off balance to hear Russian prisoners conversing in fluent English. Though it might have inconvenienced viewers, using the Russian language with English subtitles would at least have made the Norwegian setting excusable.

However, it would be an injustice to label the film a failure. It certainly does a good job of portraying the harshness of prison life. Solzhenitsyn spent eight years of his life in such a camp, so we could expect his account to be trustworthy. Even that the film is boring could be an asset--for it certainly emphasizes the monotony of this life-style. The film was the first of several which Dordt's film committee plans to sponsor this semester. Among those coming are "Z" and 2001, A Space Odyssey.



Photo: De Vries

Vanden Berg Schedules Journalism Workshops

Depending upon the amount of student interest, evening sessions on journalism may begin soon. Mr. Jack Vanden Berg, English professor, has made thirty copies of selected chapters of *A Survey of Journalism*, a handbook of major aspects of journalism. According to current plans, the sessions will be informal group discussions of the handouts. Members of the Diamond and Cannon staffs, as well

as all interested students are urged to attend the meeting. Students who are interested in the journalism study should sign on a sheet which will be placed on the bulletin board. If the number of interested students is negligible, the sessions will be dropped. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, at 7:30 pm in the Diamond office.

kw

One Act Performed at Homecoming

Among the various events planned for Homecoming is a short one-act play, *The Sisters McIntosh*, to be presented Saturday afternoon during Homecoming. The play will be informally presented in the SUB lounge so that the audience will be free to come and go as they wish. *The Sisters McIntosh* is a comedy, with a cast of three characters. Tizzie (Barb Andriesen) and Lulie (Barb Eskes) McIntosh are two elderly spinsters. They are visited, late at night by a young man who claims to be their Cousin Archie (Bryce Bandstra), Aunt Matilda's son. They become suspicious of him, and even more so when Archie fails to pass "tests" assuring them of being a McIntosh. To get rid of him, they formulate a plan by pretending to be crazy.

Gordon College Plans European Seminar

Last summer a group of students from Gordon College in Wenham, Mass. headed for Europe on an expedition organized for Christian students. They chartered their own jet, boats, buses, and all the rest. Because they feel that the idea is worth spreading and that Dordt students would like to hear about it, they're offering information to other Christian college students. According to Rebecca Fulginiti and Philip Tier-

ney, Gordon student body president, the following features were highlights of the tour: 1. 't was a carefully planned odyssey to the places of significance in the history of the Christian faith and the evangelical movement. 2. It gave them a chance to get outside the American Christian community and see it from other eyes. 3. They lived and traveled informally with knowledgeable historians who have studied and traveled extensively in Europe. 4. It was an inexpensive (\$700-\$800) do-it-yourself type of thing, with emphasis on the spontaneous, the offbeat, the unusual. The expedition has been growing rapidly the last few years, as veterans of earlier trips have spread the word around various campuses and through InterVarsity groups. Interested? Write Philip Tierney, 255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, Massachusetts, 01984. pr

bb

Concert Choir Heads West

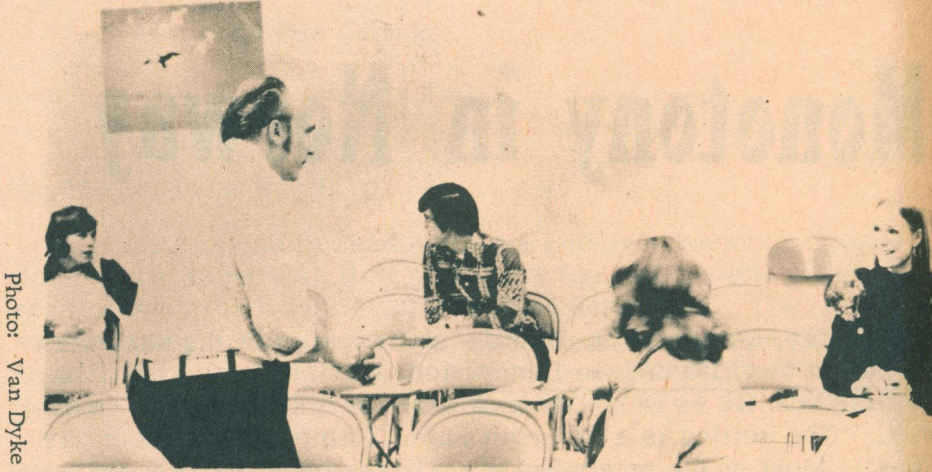
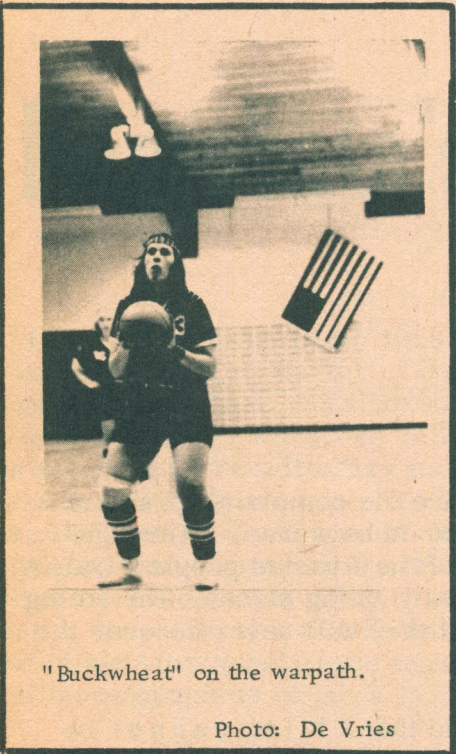


Photo: Van Dyke

Gee...I'm sure glad we're not going to South Holland!!

All styles of music, ranging from the Baroque period to the contemporary will be featured in a series of concert tours performed by the band. Under the direction of Mr. Gerald Bouma and Mr. Dale Grotenhuis, the band will first perform March 1 in Edgerton, Minnesota. On March 2, they will present a special homecoming concert at the Dordt College auditorium-gymnasium. And on March 3 they will move up to Prinsburg, Minnesota. Then in late March, during the spring vacation, the concert choir takes over the tour scene in one of the largest tours ever for Dordt College music ensembles. Between March 20 and April 2 they will visit eleven states and travel via Greyhound coach as far west as Ripon, California and Lynden, Washington. They plan to give twelve afternoon and evening concerts and eight high school assembly programs. The Chorale Choir has also planned a tour during the spring. They plan to tour throughout South Dakota and Minnesota. The Choir is directed by Mr. Gary Warmink. hm



"Buckwheat" on the warpath.

Photo: De Vries

OP Church Organizes

A congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church is holding worship services in the basement of the Sioux Center Public Library. Under the supervision of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church of Bridgewater, South Dakota, morning worship services at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday School classes for all ages are conducted each Sunday morning. Presently there are about half a dozen families of Orthodox Presbyterian

background in the Sioux Center area and a number of O.P. students at Dordt. No evening worship services will be held at first, but there will be a Wednesday night prayer meeting. For the present time no pastor will be called. Rev. Hodgson and Drs. Van Houte and Zinkand will conduct the services.

wb

Take Note

Mr. Vanden Berg, head of the English department, has called a meeting of all senior English majors in secondary education, who must take independent study after practice teaching. The students should meet at 8:00 pm on Monday, February 19, in the SUB Coffee Shop. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss possible projects and topics for the independent study course.

kw

Non-Ed Seniors Schedule

Interviews

According to Placement Office schedules, seniors interested in a non-education career will have opportunities to talk with many prospective employers during the remaining days in February. During the two week period from February 16 to 28, seventeen business firms will be interviewing students for post-graduation jobs.

Interested students will be able to talk to representatives from firms that include J. C. Penney, Allstate and Prudential Insurance Companies, the Civil Service Commission, Sioux City and Omaha Public Schools, the Girl Scouts, Firestone Tire and Rubber, the Marine Corps, Zenith Radio, International Multifoods, the Union Pacific Railroad,

and many more. The Office supplies a complete listing.

Students who wish interviews should contact the Placement Office immediately for details and interview arrangements. According to a Placement Office bulletin, it is important for students to begin their employment applications now, while choice opportunities are still available.

The Placement Office has also included another facility to aid students in securing jobs. Microfiche shows all the jobs presently available in Iowa, updated each week. Students may ask at the library or stop at the Placement Office in room C200.

pr

Rare Event Obscured

Early in February, Dordt's Instructor of Astronomy received word from the Planetary Laboratory in Tucson, Arizona, of a very rare astronomical event visible in South Dakota and in the Sioux Center area. Minor planet #2 Pallas was predicted to pass in front of (and therefore hide from view) a moderately faint star in the constellation of Virgo on February 6, at 7:10 am. The star would be hidden for upwards of 30 seconds.

Because there are so many stars in the sky, one might think this sort of occultation (as it is called) would be a frequent event, but such is not the case. Never before had there been an observed occultation of a star by a minor planet, and it would give opportunity to make an accurate determination of the planet's diameter if several observations from different locations could

be secured. Pallas is one of the largest of the minor planets with a diameter variously estimated between 430 and 700 km. A good series of observations of the occultation could give a result accurate to a few kilometers.

Before dawn for the next few mornings several of Dordt's astronomy students practiced finding the star that would be hidden. It was decided to send an expedition out to western South Dakota to attempt observation in darker dawn sky, and Ken Eiten, Jay Stravers, and Kurt Vander Horst were chosen for this task. They drove over to Wall, South Dakota, but unfortunately were clouded out.

Clayton Danzeisen and Rev. Hodgson were planning to observe this occultation with the 16-inch reflection in Sioux Center, but they were also clouded out.

pr

Phase II Puts It Together

Spiritual Emphasis week to be held March 5-9, has adopted a new name, a take off from the Fall Retreat - "Putting It All Together - Phase II." During this week the committee urges the total involvement of all Dordt students and Faculty as the various clubs present papers and activities related to the theme.

The following clubs will attempt to show how their particular area of Kingdom work is indeed a service to God, and that a clear Christian witness is absolutely necessary for the coming of His Kingdom: Phi Kappa Sigma, Pre-Sem, Missions, Opera, Varsity and Sports, Biology and Physics, Business Sociology, Languages, Thaliens, Political Science, Cannon and Diamond, and organ. During this week the classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday will be telescoped so as to make room for a Phase II hour without the cancellation of classes.

The committee urges all students to become actively involved in the planning stages in order that Christ's name may be truly honored in all our academic pursuits, not just during March 5-9, by starting now--a Christian community of dedicated scholars.

kdg

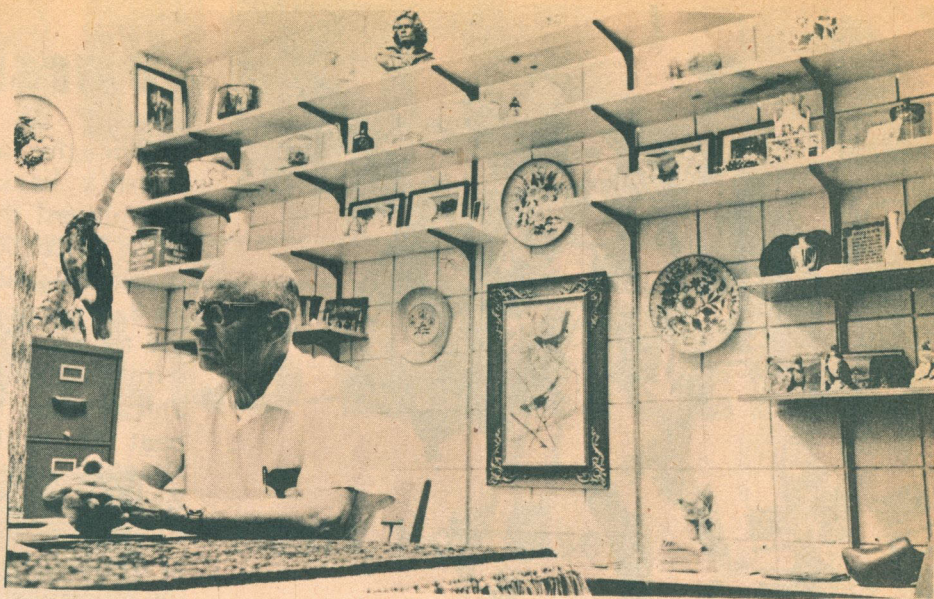


Photo: Van Dyke

Mr. A. J. Boersma, custodian of the Student Union Building, caretaker of the flower gardens in the spring, summer, and fall, and frequenter of the Dordt campus, must have the most interesting as well as the most beautifully decorated office on Dordt's campus. Souvenirs from throughout the United States and Canada, as well as those he has collected during his European travels, fill his office walls and shelves.

For example, the Beethoven bust is an antique which Mr. Boersma says is from Austria. The stuffed bird is a Red-Tailed Hawk which he had found during his traveling. The wooden shoes which are at the bottom corner of the picture belonged to Mr. Boersma's father.

Hodgson Watches

Minor Planets

Rev. Richard Hodgson, instructor of astronomy at Dordt, has just received appointment as Recorder for the newly created Minor Planets Section of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers. As such he will direct the observation of minor planets by advanced amateur and small college observatories in the United States and Canada.

At the present time the orbitals of 1,799 minor planets, most of them located between Mars and Jupiter, have been accurately determined. Since there are so many of these planets, attention will be given to determining orbital and physical data for those which are of special interest, Rev. Hodgson indicated.

Another concern is for those few minor planets which have orbits which cross that of the Earth. Recent photographic studies have led to the discovery of several more of this type. There is the remote possibility of collision of these planets into the Earth. Such a collision could have devastating effects, Rev. Hodgson noted. "A planet about three miles in diameter crashing into the Atlantic Ocean could send tidal waves over the Appalachian Mountains. Advanced warning of such a rare event might prove

helpful," he commented.

At present Rev. Hodgson is also Mercury Reader for the A. L. P. O. He will undertake these duties in addition to his teaching responsibilities at Dordt.

pr

CMA Offers Travel Aid

Career and Placement Services of the CMA has announced an important new feature of the spring Career Recruiting Program. Provision has been made for travel reimbursement of students who drive cars to career interviews at the Sioux City or Sioux Falls Career Centers from out of town. Two-cents per mile will be paid if the student travels alone, and three-cents per mile if he brings one or more additional passengers.

"This should be of some help to students who have hesitated to come to interviews in the past because of expenses," said Dr. Robert McCleery, director of the program.

Seniors should stop at the Placement Office (C200) for information.

pr

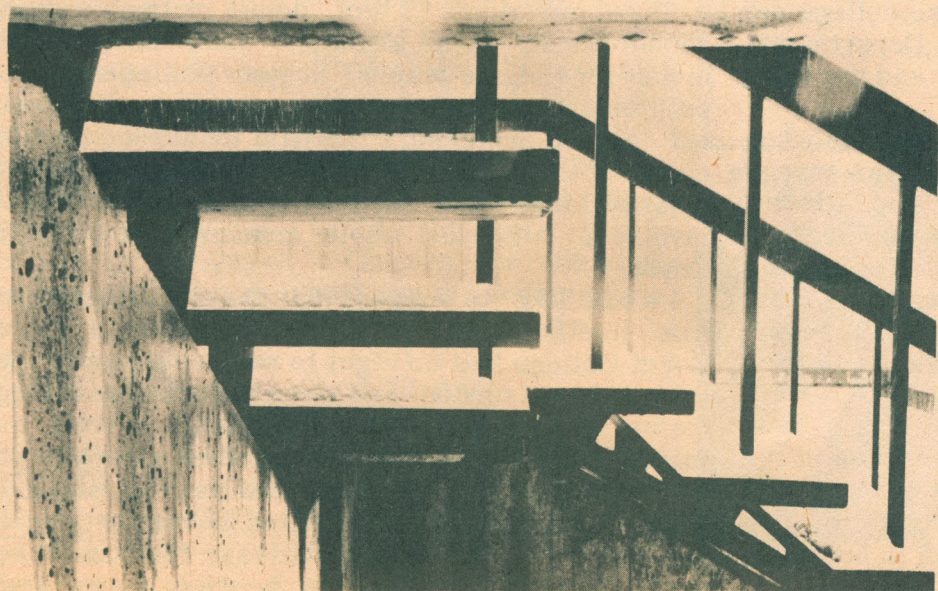


Photo: Van Dyke

Just when we thought winter was over. . .



Photo: De Vries

Donna Wierenga slips past a Raider in the Women's 60-43 victory.

Women's BB Now 6-1

Throughout the past two weeks the Dordt woman's basketball team has proved itself worthy of cheers. The girls have met six opponents and bowed only once. The team started out with a 5 and 0 record, but lost on Saturday, February 10, to an undefeated Westmar team.

On January 31, the girls played a highly rated U.S.D. team and walked away with a 63-56 victory. Dordt led throughout the entire game and was visibly strengthened with the addition of Pat DeYoung to the squad. The entire team played well defensively and all contributed to the scoring.

The following evening, February 1, arch-rival Northwestern invaded the gym and, as usual, the blood-red Raider uniforms were indicative of the prevailing atmosphere. The entire team played exceptionally well with Donna Wierenga, Pat DeYoung, Winnette DeStigter and Judy Fopma deserving special mention for a brilliant defensive effort. All team members added spirit and points to soundly defeat the Raiders by a 60-43 count.

The next encounter involved Buena Vista on February 3, in Storm Lake. The team seemed to lack the extra hustle that characterized them against the Raiders, but they still emerged with a 48-41 win.

On February 5, the team travelled to Hawarden to play Sioux Empire. The girls returned with a relatively easy 59-34 victory.

On Saturday, February 10, undefeated Westmar invaded the home floor and left with a perfect record, defeating Dordt 65-42. Judy Fopma continued to lead the team in scoring with 16 points.

On Monday evening the team again took to the road to do battle with Mt. Marty in Yankton. The girls jumped into a commanding lead and never looked back. Judy Fopma once again paced the team with 24 points and played an aggressive offensive game. Donna Wierenga, in excellent form, scored 22 points in addition to playing a fantastic defensive game. With her countless steals and Grace Bos' 18 rebounds, the match was safely tucked away. The entire team deserves a standing ovation for their hours of diligent practice and commendable 6 and 1 record.

jr

Varsity Falls, JVs Keep Rolling

Since the last Diamond, Dordt's basketball team has played three games. They bettered their 7-8 mark by going .500 with an 8-8 record. However, the team couldn't hang on with two tough opponents and are now 8-10. Dordt beat St. Paul 75-39 with Shannon, Hulstein and Zandstra hitting double figures. Dordt led by 12 at the half, but outscored the visitors 43-19 in the second half.

Dordt then went to the losing side when they were defeated by Briar Cliff, 77-62. Balanced scoring prevailed for the Defenders with Shannon high with 14. The team started out slow and came back near half-time, 24-18. Briar Cliff hung on for victory in the second half, putting the Defenders 8-9.

Next the team traveled to meet Mt. Marty in a

high scoring contest. Both Sybesma and Netz held scoring honors with 17 points, while Shannon came away with 15. Dordt came on strong offensively scoring 78 points, but allowed 96 on defense to lose the game.

Dordt's JVs are still rolling alone undefeated and deserve some recognition. With their fine ball handling ability, shooting, and teamwork, they are setting a new Dordt JV winning record. Behind the playmaking abilities of Steenstra who has 61 assists for the year, and Ruter rebounding, they are giving other members of the team scoring power. With Kooy's ball handling and shooting, he has demoralized teams with his 25 point average. They are winning big again by beating Nebraska Christian 109-57. Kooy was high

point man with 25, and pulled in 10 rebounds. The rest of the team had balanced scoring with 4 or 5 in double figures.

Van Gronigen has started to score now with 26 points in the Buena Vista game. The JV's played quality ball and put in another good show with a victory, 99-85. Kooy was high for the game with 28.

Against Briar Cliff they won a defensive battle, 77-67, with Van Gronigen hitting 29 points. The Briar Cliff team, which had height over the JV's, could not stop the 14 rebounds by Ruter, who paced the team on the boards. The JV play three teams yet which the Coach says will be difficult. This reporter would like to see the team go undefeated.

11

Briefly Speaking...

Things have sprung into action at the bowling alley and the gym as far as Intramural action goes. The 23 teams that have signed up for basketball action have begun their seasons. Some of them are not doing so well as they haven't won any of their games, while others

are as yet undefeated. The talent seems to be spread around quite well as no one class has most of the wins to its credit. (That should make for a very vigorous campaign for everyone involved.) It must be noted that the sophs have a total of 12 wins against a total of 3 losses. A rundown shows that the seniors have 6 wins and 7 losses, the juniors are even-up at 6-6, and the frosh are bat-

ting their way alone with 5 wins and 13 losses. From the looks of things it will be quite a season.

Women's basketball is going strong on the I. M. courts as well. There are five teams of girls out to challenge each other to the game of basketball. They haven't played too many games yet so it's important that they get all the support they can get from any fans they might have.

bz

Dordt Needs New Sports Policy

by Julius de Jager

Early in 1970 the Sioux Center (Ice) Hockey Association was invited to join the Central States Collegiate Hockey League. The Association's team, the Blades, was to fill out the western division of the league consisting of ISU, Drake U., and Graceland College. One stipulation was that the team had to represent a college. Since all of the players on the Sioux Center team were from Dordt anyway, this was no problem.

The difficulty arose when the Association tried to obtain spectator insurance for their home games. Realizing that they could get a more reasonable rate if the team was under the college, they approached Dordt for recognition. The recognition was granted at a faculty meeting that fall. Not knowing where to put this new club, the college decided to place it under the Athletic Department. No further troubles came up that year and the team played their hockey.

The next fall, the crisis came. Since hockey was under the Athletic Department it was part of their budget. Going over the budget, the Administration decided not to supply funds for hockey. Horns were locked. Some said it should be included and others said it shouldn't. At the same time other sports were interested in organizing on the inter-collegiate level. Some Dordt students had been asked if they could enter a soccer team in a newly-formed league. The proposed swimming pool pointed to a Dordt swimming team sometime in the future. Golf on an inter-collegiate level was being talked about. The problem of supplying money to new sports was not going to be limited to hockey in the upcoming years.

In an effort to console both sides and with an eye to the future, the College decided to set up a new

Sports Club structure. Under the new arrangements a club could receive \$300 on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Both sides agreed. At present there are half a dozen different clubs in the Sports Club structure.

After attempting to explain the background of the problem, I would like to ask if anyone can see the injustice of the whole system. Why should Cross-country receive College aid at a different rate than the Golf Club? Why does someone pay for all his home basketball games when he pays his tuition and is still charged \$1.00 for each hockey game? What about the people who never attend basketball games (and there are some) and still have to pay for it? What kind of program is there to change the status of a Sports Club into a Varsity sport?

These questions, I feel, do not go deep enough. Should Dordt, as an academic community, supply money for college teams? Is inter-collegiate competition an integral part of the academic community? Should professors be paid by the college for coaching these teams? These are questions that must be answered, not only by the people directly involved, but by the whole academic community at Dordt.

I would like to suggest that Dordt College separate itself from both Varsity and Sports Clubs. Dordt College has no right to set aside money obtained from tuition and contributions for college teams. If some people wish to engage in inter-collegiate athletics let them get together and raise the money themselves. There are ways this can be done. Gate receipts and selling advertising space are only a few. If Dordt would take this stand they would be able to redistribute the extra funds in order to improve the level of academics here. Another suggestion -- lowering the tuition!