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Sioux Center, Iowa



# DORDT DIAMOND

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Number Five

## Project Thank-You Mushrooms CHRISTIAN CONCERN MANIFESTED

"RIP UP A DRAFT CARD? MARCH ON THE PENTAGON? NO! WE'VE A BETTER IDEA. WE DON'T WISH TO DISCUSS WHY OUR MEN ARE IN VIETNAM—WE ONLY RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT THEY ARE THERE, SACRIFICING FOR US. DO YOU REALIZE VIETNAM IS A HOT, STICKY, HUMID PLACE? DRINKING WATER TASTES FOUL, AND SOCKS ROT AWAY IN WET BOOTS. WE WANT THOSE MEN TO KNOW WE APPRECIATE THEM AND ARE INTERESTED IN AND CONCERNED FOR THEM, CONCERNED FOR THEIR SPIRITUAL NEEDS AS WELL AS THEIR PHYSICAL NEEDS. WE WANT TO SHOW THEM CHRIST'S LOVE. HERE'S WHAT THE LAYMEN OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH ARE PROPOSING: WE PROPOSE TO SEND A THANK YOU PACKET TO EVERY MAN IN THE FRONT LINES IN VIETNAM...YOU CAN JOIN WITH US. FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU SEND YOU CAN SAY "THANK YOU" TO THREE MEN IN VIETNAM!"

This statement began a marathon broadcast over radio station WJBL in Holland, Michigan, on Saturday, November 25, in support of a local project which very soon turned into a huge national project. Project Vietnam, or Project 'Thank You' as President Johnson dubbed it in a special news release at 12:01 Saturday, snow-balled throughout the country following the broadcast in which WJBL donated time from 9 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., cancelling the scheduled Michigan State football game because of the fantastic success of the program. Over \$33,000 needed to send 100,000 "Thank You" gift packages to all the U.S. combat troops in Vietnam was collected and pledged during this first broadcast.

Project 'Thank You' is sponsored by the Christian Reformed Laymen's League; officials in Grand Rapids approached WJBL soon after the Octo-

ber Peace March on the Pentagon with the idea of a four-hour broadcast. The idea grew out of a set of circumstances begun by a lady in Hudsonville, Michigan, who was sitting in a restaurant, just having finished a chicken dinner, with a wet-n-dry towel in her hand. She was reading a newspaper with a picture of a young GI in Vietnam. She thought how the boys in Vietnam could use and needed such things as wet-n-dry towels so much more than she did and enclosed it in the letter she wrote that evening to a young serviceman from her church in Vietnam. Soon she was sending packages and hundreds of towels to that boy and all of his friends and it got to be too much for her. She approached the Laymen's League and the League began sending thousands of the towels to Vietnam.

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## Completion Of Tower Slated

The 300-foot KDCR radio tower, located Northeast of the Physical Education building is slated to be completed by December 17. The tower is being built by Gates Radio Company of Quincy, Illinois and will serve to beam out the radio's 45,000 watts. Gates will also equip the station with the necessary radio equipment as required by the FCC. The station should be ready for broadcasting by late March.

A former Dordt graduate has received the most recent appointment as station manager and pending his approval, the station should be "Proclaiming a God-centered Culture" by early summer.

### Speaker Chosen For Lecture Week

The lecture for this year's Student Lecture Week, March 19-21, 1968, will be Dr. William E. Wilmers, an internationally famous linguist from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Wilmers was born in Orange City, his father then president of Northwestern College. He graduated from Hope College and received his Th.B. and Th.M. degrees from Westminster Seminary. Dr. Wilmers has worked in many countries, attempting to transcribe the spoken language into written form.

### De Groot Outlines Financial Aid

Information on the '68-'69 loan, grant, and Work-Study programs will appear shortly after the Christmas recess. Students should watch for announcements, posters, and newspaper articles.

Meetings will be scheduled by Mr. John De Groot, the student financial advisor, explaining the various aids and the process of application. Mr. De Groot stressed that all application material must be submitted by the end of the '68 school term.

## EDITORIAL

Norman Bomer

Our Christian responsibility in the area of personal appearance was thoughtfully approached in the last Diamond editorial. Certainly Christ's admonition to "Let your light so shine before men," must be a prominent aspect of the Christian life, as we are instructed not to offend in our witness. Current attitudes on our campus, however, have in many cases substituted sincere Calvinistic epistemological self-consciousness with the self-righteous banners of subjective preferences of taste and habit. The result of such a tendency is a misdirected emphasis in the Christian life.

All educational institutions are committed to certain standards and must maintain them for the preservation of discipline and order, and the respect of the institution. Dordt College has a great responsibility as a truly Christian school to reflect its standards as a witness to the rest of the world, as well as to impress the community for financial support. But these standards run much deeper than mere stripes and polka-dots. The proper emphasis must be recognized and applied.

The static of unnecessary personal prejudice crackles in indignant whispers through the student body, and Christian charity is consequently a mockery. The side on which you part your hair or the number of buttons on your coat become the basis for profound dissertations and vehement debates. Those who consider themselves the standards of good taste equate their preferences with Christian duty, and in turn label others as "offensive." But in the majority of cases, the offense is not the fault of the "offenders," but of the "offended." The responsibility of the "offender" to eliminate the problem, regardless of the real source, is too often over-emphasized. Mutual understanding is necessary, and forbearance and forgiveness overdue. "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, ... (Col. 3:12)." Here the emphasis lies on the interior, not exterior.

"Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye (Math. 7:5)." How many of the "squeaky cleaners" at Dordt College are able to present and defend the Reformed position on such issues as socialism, capital punishment, atonement, creation, baptism, the Law, or the Covenant? There are those who cannot, and there are those who seem hardly interested. There are those among us who disbelieve certain segments of our doctrines and argue against them, and there are those who attend Bible classes with more intention to sneer and contradict than to learn. Where lies the concern of our "model Christian?"

Modesty and personal cleanliness are personal responsibilities, but fitting concern with appearance has degenerated into stone throwing. Prayerful introspection cannot avoid pondering Christ's admonition: "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone... (John 8:7)." The Christian conscience must demand good grooming, but the self-righteous judging of others with the narrow gavel of personal taste must cease. ARGUMENT AD HOMINEM has become the most popular mode of avoiding the principal issues of our faith.

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### CORRECTION PLEASE

There appeared a printing error in my reply in the last "Letters to the Editor" column. The statement as it appeared was: "Thus they illogically dismissed my criticism which was not intended to be a call for facing current issues in a Christian perspective." This is a complete reverse of the original statement which was written as follows: "Thus they illogically dismissed my criticism which was not intended to be a shying away from the world, but was intended as a call for facing current issues in a Christian perspective."

—ed

## Memorial Service Held For Hans

Tuesday, December 5, the Dordt College student community was shocked and saddened by the death of Hans Faber. Mr. Faber died early Tuesday morning from a heart attack.

"Hans" as he was known to most students, together with his wife Sadie was in charge of the campus snack bar since it opened in the fall of 1966. He had spent Monday evening working at the snack bar.

Thursday evening, December 7, a short memorial service was held for Dordt students at the Vander Ploeg Funeral Chapel. John Byker reminded the attending students that even though "man goes to his long home" and the mourners go about the streets, his soul "shall return unto God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:5, 7. It is from the last statement that the Christian has comfort, knowing that the dead in Christ are with God.

Public funeral services were held the following morning at 10:00 o'clock in the First Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Center, with burial in the Sioux Center cemetery.

The student body wishes to offer its condolences to Mrs. Faber, and all those near to the deceased. May God give abundantly of His grace to the Faber family.

The familiar, towering figure of Hans will be missed by all those who knew him as a real friend.

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May true peace  
and happiness  
be with you  
at Christmas  
and throughout  
the New Year

## Dordt Hosts Area Chemical Society

On Saturday, November 18, Dordt College was host to the meeting of the Sioux Valley Section of the American Chemical Society.

The lecturer, Dr. Foil A. Miller, who is professor at the University of Pittsburgh, spoke on "Studies in the Far Infrared." Dr. Miller has completed much research in spectroscopy, having published over fifty papers on his work, and at present he is setting up a lab to be used solely for spectroscopy. He is also editor of the Journal of Spectroscopy.

The purpose of meetings such as this is to acquaint chemists with recent discoveries in chemistry. The Sioux Valley Section of the A.C.S. encompasses chemists from over fifteen colleges in South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska.



## Blankespoor Offered Associate Position

Ron Blankespoor, a senior at Dordt College, has been offered a teaching associate position at the University of Minnesota. If Ron accepts this position, he will be a full-time graduate student in addition to teaching in the Chemistry labs. He is as yet undecided as to whether to accept this position.

## Panel Discussion Held At C.A.F. Meeting

On November 28, 8:00 P.M. the Christian Action Foundation held a meeting in the Dordt Commons. After a discussion on the principles of Christian Social Action there was a panel presentation on the subject "The Relationship of Christian Schools to Government and Society." The panelists were Mr. John Bajema, Mr. Ray Geerdes, Rev. B. J. Haan, and Prof. Nick Van Til.

The panelists affirmed that ideally the parents of school children should allocate funds directly to the school or the educational system of their choice. In view of our economic structure, however, it was agreed that justice would be served if the parents of children in private schools should receive the benefits commensurate to the taxes they pay, as do the parents of children in public schools who pay no more tuition than is included in taxes.

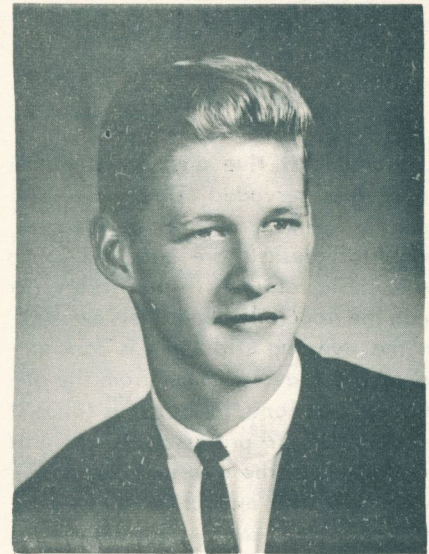
A committee was appointed to investigate the question of our involvement in Viet Nam. They are expected to report their progress in this field at the next meeting of the C.A.F.

## Debaters Compete At Westmar

The Dordt College debaters had their second debate tourney at Westmar College, Le Mars, on November 18. There were four novice debaters from Dordt present. Betty Vreeman and Jack Van Vliet took one out of three rounds. John Byker and James Vanden Bosch won two of their three rounds and were presented with a certificate of excellence.

On December 1 and 2, the debaters went to Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska. Here the four varsity debaters — Barb Jabaay, Dean Vander Veen, Ronald Oostra, and Reynold Siebenga—won two of their ten rounds. The novice debaters—Betty Vreeman, Jack Van Vliet, John Byker, and James Vanden Bosch—won five of their ten rounds.

Charles Veenstra, a senior speech minor at Dordt, served as a judge at both of these contests.



## Mellema Accepted At Med School

Burnell Mellema's goal to become a medical doctor received real impetus Wednesday, November 29, when he learned that he had been accepted at the University of Minnesota Medical School in Minneapolis.

Application for admission to medical school may be made after three or four years of college, but only rarely are three-year students admitted, so Burnell's acceptance at Minnesota is a real honor both to himself and to Dordt. Before accepting a student, a medical school considers grades, character recommendation, and the score on the Medical College Admissions Test, a national standardized test required by all medical schools.

Beginning September, 1968, Burnell will attend medical school four years before he will get his Doctor of Medicine degree. To practice, however, this must be followed by a year of internship and, if desired, from two to five years of residency for specialization.

## Chorale Choir Performs

On Sunday evening, December 10, the Chorale Choir presented a concert in the Sioux Falls Christian Reformed Church. The concert began immediately after the 7 o'clock service.

At 3:30 p.m. December 17, the Chorale Choir presented a concert in the Bethel Christian Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Iowa.

# SPARKLES

Carol Addink

For the past five days an abnormal quiet has pervaded Dordt College campus. Parking places, dorm rooms, and library desks(!) are empty. Tijuana Brass music resounds in the library (to keep the floor polisher pushers awake). In the evening Old Main is dark except for a brave glimmer from the office of one lone, industrious (or is it procrastinating?) professor. Dorm lights don't disturb the wee morning darkness, with the exception of one student's, whose beacon burned until 3 A.M. (It wasn't ambition; he slept until 5 P.M. the following day.) It's not summer; the fallen leaves belie the fact. It's the last day of Thanksgiving vacation.

How have the forty Dordt stayovers spent vacation? It began Wednesday evening with De Jong-De Young engagement. (This is probably what touched off the Senti-Roosma diamond hunt Friday morning.) Thursday many students gobbled traditionally at the homes of professors or friends. Twenty-one of them, however, had to be content with chicken at the Auto Dine. As one student said, "It was good, and we had lots of fun, but it just didn't seem like Thanksgiving without turkey." U.S.-Canadian volleyball competition followed by pizza and popcorn parties highlighted Friday and Saturday evenings. The Canadians won all four Friday games. Why? John Schuurman gives this version, "We Americans decided, since it was our Thanksgiving, the Canadians also needed something to celebrate. So it was arranged that the Canadians would win." Saturday, however, the U.S. decided that the Canadians had celebrated enough, and each team won five. (Any rumor that the Canadians won five out of nine games is due to a miscount.)

Students have spent today cramming to salve their consciences about the leisure of the other four. The away-overs are arriving and campus life is returning to normal. For some stay-overs it's been boredom, for others fun, but for all of them its been "not quite like home."

DEAR SAN FRANCISCO WEEPER

When the sun flaunts JEHOVAH'S Glory  
—Flings a splash of color at the fleecy clouds  
Who mount in angry metamorphosis  
Into glowering monsters swinging through the night  
When the buzzing roof-top ventilators  
of the tallest buildings burn out to shadows,  
And descending solitude like falling rain  
And nervous tobacco smoke bury the huddled day,

When dusty winds usher fits of frosted rain  
Past hotel windows, torn curtains,  
Faded prize-fight posters in the alley,  
Blurring burning eyes with its ice,  
Flapping coattails as you wander,  
While the city curls her warm toes  
Before her private fires,  
And the wind moans only...only...only  
You creature of no place day or night,  
Then come;

When busy lighted stores promise  
But elude,  
And you walk  
And walk the shimmering side-walks in the fitful rain,  
When your heart so cries,  
You suddenly run across the streets  
Blind, green light or red—  
Then come unto Me,  
And I will give you rest.

Charles William Van Gorkom



The beauty of the Christmas season pervades the Dordt Commons.

## GRETTA'S ATTEMPT

Joyce De Bruin

white intensity. The three-inch snow-fall of that day provided the perfect setting for a romantic stroll. Finally Gretta broke the silence. "I love winter," she said. "When it's this pretty I don't even feel the cold."

Dave laughed. "that sounds like a typical girl-remark. But I'll have to agree with you." After a minute he he said, "You know, it's strange that we always think of snow as part of Christmas when there was no snow at Christ's birth."

"It's just part of the commercializing effect, don't you think?" Gretta replied. "We associate several things with Christmas that we shouldn't—like Santa Claus and feasting and even Christmas trees. They're nice traditions, but we tend to make them more important than Christ."

Dave looked thoughtful. "My father always says, 'Go ahead and enjoy Santa Claus, but worship Christ. Remember that Santa is just an impostor.' Dad makes every Christmas a real religious experience for us, and his Christmas sermons are usually his best sermons."

"I didn't know your father was a minister," said Gretta.

"He's not; he's a home missionary. He works with the Indians in New Mexico," Dave replied. But as long as I've known him, he's lived as close to God as he does now, even before he went into the mission field seven years ago. I thank God for Dad's example."

Gretta was silent and her face reflected her serious thoughts. Dave noticed immediately. "Tell me about your family, Gretta," he asked tentatively.

"My father manages the super-market in town. He's a deacon in our church. I have two sisters and one brother, all younger than I." She volunteered no more information. Dave glanced at her, expecting her to say more, and noticed a little frown on her face. He kicked at a twig that lay imbedded in the snow.

"I'm so anxious to get home to see my family," he said. "This is going to be one of the best Christmases our family has known. My brother Jay is making profession of faith the Sunday before Christmas. I had some good talks with him this summer—he's real-

ly grown up." Dave laughed shortly. "In fact, he really puts me to shame. I think he knows God better than I do."

Gretta looked up quickly. "Oh, I wish I could talk to Sue that way!" she said intensely. "I don't really know how she feels toward God—I'm afraid she's rebelling. She's gotten into a pretty fast crowd at high school and she's really changed."

Dave answered cheerfully, "You'll be home in two days—then you can talk to her."

"But that's just it!" Gretta broke out. "I can't talk to her. I can't talk to anyone in my family about my faith. We all keep our thoughts to ourselves—we always have. There are barriers between us that won't allow us to speak. It's so wrong; I know it is, and it bothers me."

Dave asked carefully, "Does anyone else in your family feel as you do?"

"I don't think so," Gretta answered. "They've never known anything else. It's only since I've been away at college that I've realized that some families are different. When I talk to someone like you, whose family is so vitally Christian, I feel sort of cheated. I just wish my family could be like that."

Two days later Gretta was home for the Christmas holiday. She was in high spirits. Dave had brought new excitement into her life and she smiled more often than usual. Her mother noticed her new glow but she didn't have time to analyze it. Christmas was always a busy time for the Franklin family, and this year was no exception. There was the grade-school program, the high school concert, the Sunday School program, the young people's caroling at church, and several family activities with grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Gretta was busier than usual. A few of the young people of her church had formed a Mission Club and they invited Gretta to join in their Christmas activities. She was very interested in missions since she had spent a summer doing volunteer mission work in New York City.

The second day of vacation, Gretta was dressed and down to breakfast by

(Continued on page 6)

Gretta took the stairs two at a time and burst into the long corridor of the dorm. She flung open the door of Room 208. Karen looked up, grinned, and said, "Oh, he asked you."

"How did you know? I wanted to be the first to tell you. Has Marcia been up here already?"

Karen laughed. "No silly. It's written all over your face. You don't hide your emotions very well, you know. Well, sit down and tell me about it."

That had been two weeks before the Christmas banquet. The banquet was the biggest event of the year except for graduation. Gretta Franklin had set her heart upon going to the banquet with Dave Baker. She had met Dave at the last meeting of Kingdom Crusaders, a campus club for students interested in mission work. Since their meeting, they had carried on a flirtation of glances in Logic 319. Old Professor Gurling didn't take note of such things.

The banquet was perfect in every respect. The decorating committee had captured the spirit of a Christ-centered Christmas with a wall mural of the nativity, done in semi-abstract design. The students had especially loved the carol-sing, accompanied by the string quartet.

As Dave and Gretta walked to the dorm, Dave hummed bits of the last solo, "O Holy Night."

"It was beautiful, wasn't it?" said Gretta. "I can't remember a nicer Christmas banquet."

"Yes, it was really great. And this night makes it complete. You know, it's just perfect for taking a long walk. Why don't you run up and change into some warm slacks?"

A few minutes later they walked from the dorm. Their feet made munching sounds against the little strips of snow left on the sidewalk by a careless shovel. At each corner a street light displayed a tumbled heap of diamonds, sparkling with blue and

PROJECT THANK-YOU  
(Continued from page 1)

Then came all the draftcard burners and peace-marchers, and the Layman's League wanted to do something for all the troops in Vietnam. Project 'Thank You' came out of it. The idea of the project is to send "Refresh Soul and Body" packages to all front-line troops in Vietnam. The package is enclosed in a reusable, sealable plastic bag; it contains wet-dry towels, a pair of wool socks, pre-sweetened Kool-Aid packages because of the undrinkable water in Vietnam, pen and paper, and the Gospel of Mark. Top officials in the Pentagon have guaranteed shipping the packages to Vietnam.

The marathon broadcast began, and it soon snowballed unbelievably. Senator Everett Dirksen gave a beautiful speech in support and praise of the project from his home which was played periodically over the air on request. People from Holland and Grand Rapids and the local area contributed staggering amounts of money. Soon calls began coming in from out of state. President Haan called and pledged, over the air, a sizeable contribution from Dordt College students and faculty. At 12:01 President Johnson released a statement and message "thanking those of you who would demonstrate your personal appreciation of this patriotic project."

Dr. Bell, an editor of Christianity Today, called along with Mrs. Billy Graham, the governor of Michigan, senators, representatives and just plain people from all over in warm-hearted support and approval of this project. In the afternoon a call went through to General Westmoreland who talked with the officials sponsoring the project for some time and then made a statement from the phone over the radio: "I'm impressed with the project and I'd like to thank all the people involved. It's a tremendous accomplishment." Donations poured in from all over ranging from \$1 from a little girl who broke her piggybank to \$1,000 from a businessman in Grand Rapids. Two small boys from Grand Rapids gave their entire pony fund to the project and Capt. Randall Jansen, an ex-Marine, crippled in Vietnam when his helicopter was shot down

and six of his friends killed—gave a donation in commemoration of his buddies. A prayer was offered at the end of the broadcast to thank God who had truly shown how great He was and blessed the project and those who had had so little faith in it.

Support is still mounting throughout the country. Dr. Plekkar's statement is being read at this moment over many radio and T.V. stations, nation-wide, in preparation for more marathon broadcasts. A four-hour broadcast in Elkhart, Indiana, on December 13, brought in \$5,000. A ten-hour broadcast was scheduled for Saturday, December 16, over a large station in Los Angeles, California. The president of a prominent airline company has given free transportation to the officials who will man the broadcast anywhere in the country, and a sign company in Grand Rapids has donated nation-wide space. President Johnson wrote a personal letter to Dr. Plekkar, which was read over the air December 13, congratulating him on the success of the program and saying: "I am also aware of the two boys who gave up their pony to help our men in Vietnam. I know how much a pony means to a boy." The first 100,000 packets are being prepared by volunteers from schools and groups all over the country. A second group is being started. On December 14, \$40,000 in cash was deposited in the Project Vietnam 'Thank You' fund in the bank. Thousands of pledges are still outstanding and more are coming in every day. A very special 'Thank You' is going to be said, maybe again and again, to all of our men and boys in Vietnam. In this way, Christ's love is being shown in Vietnam.

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GRETTA (Continued from page 5)

7:00. Her mother looked up, surprised. "Gretta, where are you going so early?"

"Oh Mom, I forgot to tell you. The Mission Club is going to Larson City today to distribute tracts to the Christmas shoppers. Judy Sterns is picking me up at 7:30."

"I wish I had known, Gretta," Mrs. Franklin said. "I wanted you to help me with some last-minute shopping today."

"The next evening at dinner, Mrs. Franklin said, "Tonight is the night we bake Christmas cookies for the neighbors and for old Mrs. Porter at the nursing home."

"I get to frost them," said Jeanie, a fourth grader.

Little Todd piped up, "I get to put the beads on."

Mrs. Franklin laughed. "Of course, you can all help. Gretta will mix the dough."

"I'm afraid I can't, Mom," she replied. "The club is going downtown to sing carols in front of the courthouse. I'm sorry, but I'd hate to miss it."

Mrs. Franklin looked disappointed, but she said nothing.

Christmas day was cloudless and beautiful and the sun shone brightly. The Franklins attended Christmas church services and came home for a leisurely dinner together. After dinner Gretta's father turned to her and said, "would you get the big Bible, Gretta, and read Luke 2." He smiled at her. "You're almost a guest, so I'll give you the honor."

Gretta looked embarrassed. "I'd love to," she said, "but I have to run. The club is conducting a Christmas service at the mission this afternoon and I have to give a brief message. I'm expected in half an hour."

Her father stood up to get the Bible. "I guess you'd better be excused then, Gretta," he said. "What are you talking on?"

"My topic is 'The Joy of Christmas—Giving Yourself.'"

Less than two weeks later classes had resumed. Gretta was very busy finishing up papers and preparing for final exams. She sat at her desk with about fifty file cards spread around her, choosing one here, discarding one there. She was organizing her American History term paper. Suddenly the sound of the intercom jarred the stillness of her room. "Miss Franklin—telephone."

Gretta walked to the phone station eagerly, hoping it would be Dave. Her voice sparkled, "Hello!"

Her father's voice cut across her happy anticipation, chilling her with its tone. "Gretta, I'm sorry to have

(Continued on page 7)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Editor,

"Isn't it a shame that the poor fellow had to die?"

"That was a great film! I don't agree with it, but I don't know why." Your reaction to Hoodlum Priest? Let's hope not.

The movie did point out that the attitude of Society to the criminal is wrong, but its total approach to crime had a perversive effect on Christian thinking. The modern humanistic attitude toward crime, which is contrary to the Biblical requirement of justice, was advocated. For example, the criminal was presented only as a victim of the inhumanity of society, and his responsibility for sin was disregarded. Also, the picture of capital punishment presented was unscriptural. In emotion packed scenes the impression was given that the state was morally wrong in taking a man's life as punishment for crime. Romans 13:4 states, "The state does not bear the sword in vain; he is the servant of God to execute his wrath on the wrongdoer." (underscoring ours)

The priest's compassionate approach to criminals was non-Christian since it was grounded on humanism, and not centered in Christ. His testimony was also unChristian, for to the very end he told Billy to remember Dismus, the thief on the cross, rather than point him to salvation in Christ.

Some say that since the priest was a Jesuit we cannot expect that he would present truly Biblical ideas. But in the eyes of the world this man represented all Christianity and also our views on such moral issues as capital punishment. For this reason, we must object to this use of Christianity to support humanistic views.

The subtilty by which this film presented its views through high-pitched emotion would make it easy for the uncritical member of the audience to be drawn in by some of these views

and unconsciously accept them. Only through serious critical evaluation could the pernicious influence of this film be combatted. Without this, the showing of this film on campus could possibly have been a stumbling block to some, and thus certainly warranted a Christian critique.

Don Sinnema  
Harry Fernhout

GRETTA (Continued from page 6)

to tell you this. Sue ran away from home this afternoon. Her high school friends know nothing about it. We just can't understand it..." His voice broke. "We must have failed her somewhere," he finished weakly.

"I'll come home, Dad," Gretta replied. She knew suddenly, terribly, who had failed.



The Dordt standard bearer again lies battered after a toppling midnight attack.

## POST

We found this in his Bible:

I AM A FAILURE AND A FRAUD  
WHO MIRRORED THE WORLD WITHOUT  
MY TWISTED HEART WITHIN—  
THE FEATURES OF MY GOD  
BEAR THE IRON CONDEMNATION  
OF MY DOUBLE SIN.

We liked him, he had honest eyes,  
We smiled at his smile because

He seemed to know us well.

I remember sometimes in church  
His prayers were flung against the skies  
Less in reverence, it seemed, than agony,  
But he was spiritual.

Who could have dreamed the molten hell,  
The years he must have screamed alone,  
Dying in the liquid fire

That burned within his human shell  
—Who could have known—

Till the smoke was gone,  
Till this pillar of ashes named "DESIRE"?

Charles William Van Gorkom

# sports

by Marly Breems

## Defenders Struggle In Tough Season

### BRIAR CLIFF

On November 29, the Dordt basketball Defenders dropped their season opener in a 97-86 battle with Briar Cliff.

Although the first section of the game was close, Dordt held the lead at all times and built up a five point margin. At half time, the score was 51-42. The squad showed a fine amount of team work and the ability to score. 13 points was as large as the lead could grow, however. Midway in the second half, scoring leader Gene Hospers got into foul trouble and was taken out of the game. This signaled the turning point. The Defenders lost the ball several times and eventually the lead through mechanical mistakes and slack defense.

Hospers led all scoring with 31 points. Freshmen Vander Pol and Kruen, both in their first college game, had fine nights and each scored 18 points. Bovenkamp had 11 points while Van Wieren added 6.

Briar Cliff was led by the scoring of Hinrich and Nellist. Both shot a scorching 67% and had 24 and 23 points respectively.

Varsity coach Timmer refused to comment on whether, despite the loss, the game should give us any reason at all for optimism. He did say, however, that Briar Cliff had a good ball team, much improved over last year's.

### LOSE TO WESTMAR

Dordt's varsity basketball squad dropped their second game in as many starts in a game with Westmar College December 2. The score was 101-66.

The Defenders were able to stick with their opponents through the first 8 minutes. The score at that time was tied 17-17. Soon, however, the strong

Westmar offense proved to be too much for the Dordt defense, and led by 6'10' center Roger Moller, they pulled to a 20 point half-time lead. They were never again threatened.

Moller had 20 points for Westmar. Oordt and Hamsen each had 18 and were outstanding on defense.

Kreun led Dordt scoring with 19. VanWieren turned in a fine game and 17 points in a losing cause. Hospers also hit double figures with 15.

Coach Timmer seemed displeased with his team's lack of hustle.

### DORDT LOSES TO DENISON

The Dordt Defenders went for their third straight setback December 5, as they dropped a 97-75 bout to Midwestern College of Denison, Iowa.

The Midwestern team was first to strike in the game and grabbed a 10-2 lead. The Defenders then staged a comeback and drew within two points for several minutes. By half-time the gap was again at eleven points where it stayed until late in the game. Several times Dordt put on small scoring spurts but the tired starting lineup was unable to continue an accelerated pace for an extended length of time. Through mechanical mistakes and slow defense they lost whatever gains they had made.

Hospers and VanderPol each made 20 points for the Defenders, while the unstoppable Dubsy had 28 for Midwestern.

### KENNEDY DEFEATS DORDT

On December 9, John F. Kennedy College handed Dordt its fourth consecutive loss. The final score showed 96-85.

In the game, played in the Sioux Center High School gym, the Defenders always kept within striking distance but never succeeded in overpowering their opponents. The half-time score was 50-44.

The JFK offense centered around big 6'7" Rasmusse who pulled in at least 16 rebounds and netted 32 points.

Gene Hospers played what was undoubtedly his finest game of the year as he put in 36 points in a losing cause. Also hitting double figures were Kreun with 17, VanderPol with 12, and Bovenkamp with 10. Several other players did commendable jobs without breaking into the scoring column.

### DORDT vs. BUENA VISTA

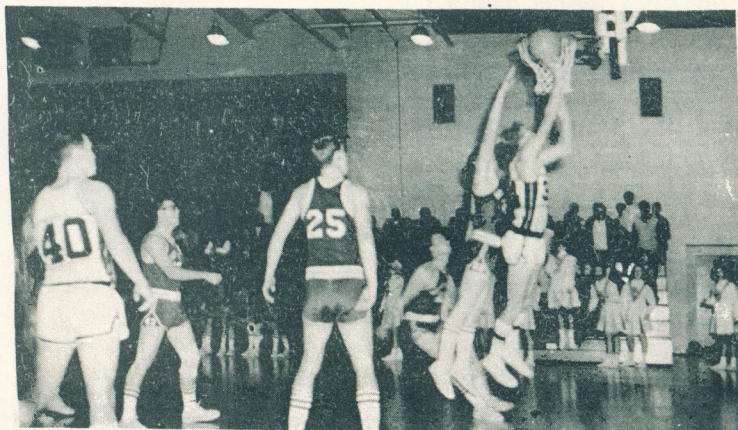
On December 12 Dordt played host to and were defeated by Buena Vista College of Storm Lake, Iowa.

The Buena Vista team jumped off to a lead at the start. After 12 minutes of play their lead settled at 37-20 and the Defenders were held at that distance through most of the game. The final score showed Buena Vista with 97 and Dordt with 80.

The Defender offense appeared fairly strong but was unable to dent the lead of the big and mobile Buena Vista machine.

Britner hit 60% from the field and scored 31 for the winners. He was followed by Johnson with 19.

Hospers and VanderPol took scoring honors for Dordt with 20 and 18 respectively. (Continued on page 9)



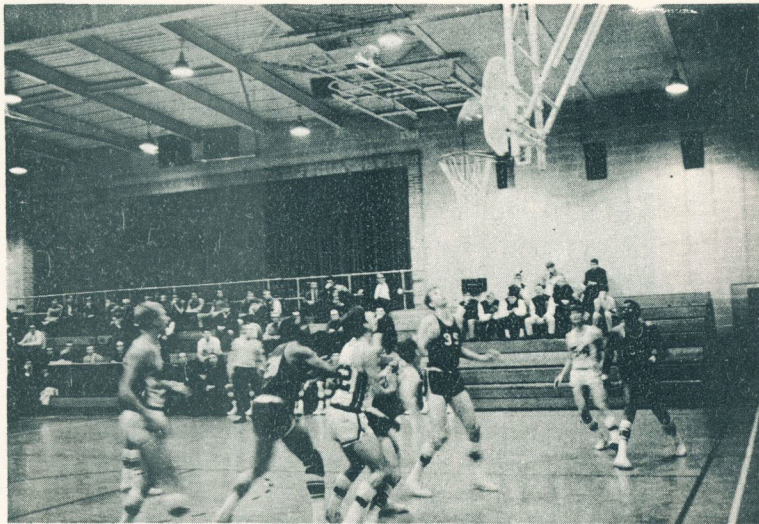
Gene Hospers flies for a lay-up in another losing cause.



spectively. VanWieren came up with 15 points.

After five defeats without a win, students at Dordt have a tendency to be down on the team and give up all hope for a win or even satisfactory basketball. Possibly they should be reminded that eleven of the members of the team are Freshmen and Sophomores, still much in need of practice. The team has only one Senior.

Most losses so far can be attributed to mistakes that can be done away with. Once the winning combination is found we could well see a change of pace. Competition has been keen and this is a year for building. Maybe students should think twice before applying too much pressure to win.



Defenders poise for a rebound against usual towering odds.

## J.V.'s Undefeated In College Action

J.V.—SIOUX EMPIRE

Dordt's Junior Varsity basketball squad led off their 67-68 season with a demolishing 102-75 win over Sioux Empire College.

Led by the 30 points and fine play making of John Roelofs, the J.V. Defenders were never headed. The 14 point lead after 10 minutes of play was added on or maintained throughout the entire stay of the first string J.V. players. Louters, Dappenburg, and VanVoorst furnished plenty of rebounding power for the team plus putting in 22, 22, and 14 points respectively. For Sioux Empire Don Bork had a good night with 30 points.

When coach DeWit was asked for his comments on the November 29 performance he told a Diamond reporter that he was well pleased with the fiery offense of his team but that their defense could stand some building up.

When asked a question about future opponents and his hopes for the season he stated "It is going to be a tough load to haul. We play some pretty good basketball colleges. The strength of our team is really going to be tested."

### DEFENDERS DEFEAT WESTMAR

In a December 2nd contest at Le Mars the Dordt J.V. squad came through with a strong second half to squeeze past Westmar, 70-69.

Throughout the first half, Dordt's offense failed to use its full striking power. The game's lead changed hands

throughout the first period of play. Dordt held a slim three point lead at the half. Soon in the second half, the Defender offense came into its own and gained a lead until they held the best side of a nine point margin with two minutes of play remaining. At this point the Westmar shooters began scorching the nets. This, combined with untimely Dordt mistakes, turned the game into chaos. Fortunately for the Defenders, time ran out while they held the edge.

Louters led Dordt scoring with 23 points and a fine floor game. Van Voorst had 16 and Dappenburg followed with 15. Roelofs also hit double figures with 10.

Coach DeWit was encouraged by his team's improved defense. He is hopeful, however, that his team doesn't make a habit of starting as slowly as they did in this game.

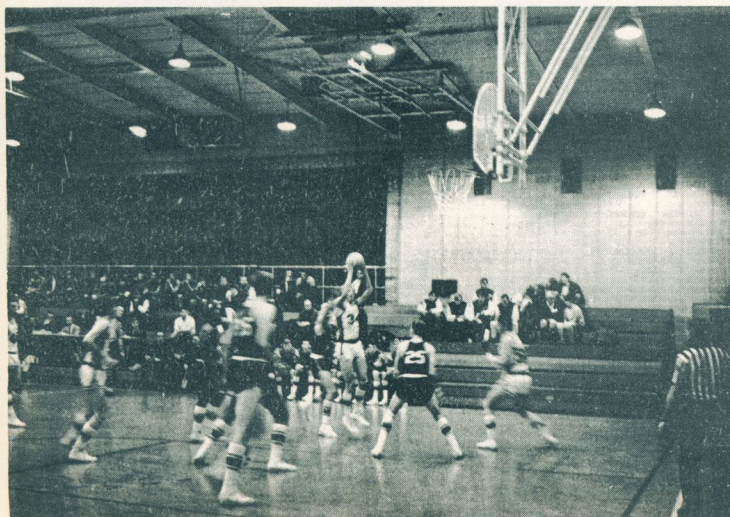
Functioning as they did for a while in the second half, the J.V. could well outdo a good share of their tough opponents.

### DORDT J.V. vs. WESTMAR J.V.

Even scoring once again gave the Dordt Junior Varsity the push they needed to put down the Westmar J.V. by a score of 79-73. The win brings their record to 3-1.

The game started out to be all Dordt-centered. The half-time score showed 46-34. The second half was another picture. Several times Westmar put on scoring threats but each was put down before tragedy struck.

(Continued on page 10)



In the air for two points, Defenders score in another scorching battle.



Ridders soars over opponent to capture ball for weary Defenders.

J.V.'s (Continued from page 9)

The entire first five hit double figures. John Roelofs led with 19. Louters had 17. Van Voorst was next with 16. Doppenburg put in 15, while Heemstra chipped in with 10.

JUNIOR VARSITY-NETTLETON

On December 12 Dordt's Junior Varsity picked up their fourth win of the year as they dumped Nettleton College 76-49. The Defenders set the pace from the beginning. Despite playing the reserves for a good share of the game, the J.V. cagers held a 38-26 half-time edge.

The second half turned out to be a repeat of the first. The Defender starters and substitutes continue to control the game and added to their lead.

Roelofs again led the offensive attack for the winners with 19 points. Louters added 14 while Doppenburg and Heemstra had 12 and 10 respectively. DeHaan led the Nettleton scoring with 18.

"In America, the youth are always willing to give those who are older the full benefit of their inexperience." —Wilde

"Youth is a wonderful thing; what a crime to waste it on children." —Shaw

- DORDT DIAMOND STAFF
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"A boy becomes an adult about 12 years before his parents think he does and about 2 years after he thinks he does." —Hershey

ROM. 1:20

Biting spray in flashing sunlight,  
But what does it matter?

A browner back for seamen  
Wrestling in the water.

Belly cave in hungry loins  
Beneath a towering chest,  
Churning elbows flashing fire,  
Blue eyes vague with veiled fire—  
Cautious kisses bursting wine

—Ask the breathless mermaids why,  
Ask the sun who loves them how  
It matters from the sky  
Or ask the lapping water.

Charles William Van Gorkom

"Youth; My salad days when I was green in judgment." —Shakespeare



PREVIEW OF NEW PHYS. ED. BUILDING

# Intramurals

by Brad Breems

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES CLIMAX VOLLEYBALL SEASON

The Women's Intramural Volleyball season's most exciting event, the championship play-offs, was held on November 21. The top two teams from each league exercised all the year's accumulated skills in their contests. The final results of the championship contests revealed the Sophomore Upsetters as the champs, as they defeated the Junior Mugwumps. Third and fourth positions went, respectively, to the Seniors' Twinkies and the Smiterines, another Junior team.

The final league standings are listed below with the final column indicating the number of games from first place for each team:

### BLACK LEAGUE

Team	Class	W	L	G.O
1. Upsetters	So.	8	0	0
2. Smiterines	Jr.	7	1	1
3. Doodles	Jr.	6	2	2
4. Volley Victors	So.	5	3	3
5. De's and Do's	Fr.	3	5	5
6. Vollaires	So.	3	5	5
7. No-Ones	Fr.	2	6	6
8. Blanks	Fr.	1	7	7
9. Unpaid	Fr.	1	7	7

### WHITE LEAGUE

1. Mugwumps	Jr.	8	0	0
2. Twinkies	Sr.	7	1	1
3. Konk-Outs	Sr.	6	2	2
4. Sassy-Ones	Sr.	5	3	3
5. Late-comers	So.	4	4	4
6. Lively Set	Fr.	2	6	6
7. Novices	Jr.	2	6	6
8. Utnapishti	Fr.	2	6	6
9. Last Recruits	Jr.	0	8	8

### SPORTS FLASH

According to reports from the Intramural Office, Rog Sinkey, quick-pivoting play maker for the Swishers has been sidelined due to an ankle injury.

Apparently no specific details are available. A Sports Department

spokesman sadly remarked, however, that the Swishers have now possibly lost their last chance of losing the remainder of this season's games.

### REMINDER

Women's intramural basketball entry sheets and payments are due by December 19.

### DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

by John Huil

Did you know that there are some strange things being done in our gym? One just has to visit it at any "odd" hour, and one will see the wonderful world of intramural basketball open up before his eyes. You may see anything from a hapless Frosh (or other) trying to stop a Milt Schonewill hook to a Marlo De Young dunk shot on the side basket.

The 1967-68 season is now here, and 18 teams in three leagues are trying (well, maybe all but the Jacques) to win top honors. The Seniors have put together six teams, three of which should be very tough. The other classes each have four teams.

The White League has almost completed its season with the Senior team, the Rinky-Dinks, and the Sophomore best, the Syndicate on top. The Grey and Black Leagues are not as far along in their battles, but the teams to watch are: Soph. N.A.A.C.P., Sen. Grey Beards and Hoop-Benders, and maybe the Junior Kamikazes. Sorry Freshmen, but your only hope, the Buckeroos, blew it.

The top two teams in each league will play in a double-elimination tournament after Christmas vacation. Remember now, anytime your studies are getting you down, and you need a good laugh, chances are you will find it at the gym. However, if you appreciate good basketball, then come too, because there are some very fine teams to watch. Be sure to check the local intramural bulletin board so you won't miss your favorite team.

### SIGNET 68 NEWS IN BRIEF

- the Signet Staff has completed a the major planning for Signet 1968
- the Staff prepared an original cover design.
- all the underclassman pictures are processed.
- a few graduating Seniors still need to turn in proofs or schedule appointments with Bodnar Studio.
- candid photography has resulted in some excellent pictures.
- three staff members attended the Yearbook Workshop at Yankton College on Dec. 2 and learned much.
- all club pictures will be taken shortly after Christmas vacation.
- the small, efficient staff will keep many "items" secret until publication time.
- Signet 68 will definitely be different!

## Biology Dept. Receives Shell Collection

The Biology Department recently received a collection of one-hundred fifty shells from Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wanless, a couple living in Harwarden, Iowa. The couple spends each winter in Florida and collect shells as a hobby. The collection will be displayed in the new science building when it is completed. Northwestern received a similar collection.

## J.V. Team Hosts Independents

The Dordt J.V. Defenders suffered their first loss of the year on December 5, against the Sioux Center Independents, 87-77. The Independent furnished Dordt with their best competition of the year. Led by former Westmar star, Sutherland, with 21 points and former Northwestern star, Mellema, with 25; the Independent were never headed. Several times the Defenders threatened, but the Independents' superior power always managed to put them down.

The Defenders had three men hitting the 20 point mark: Doppenburg with 24, VanVoorst with 21, and Roelofs with 20.