**Orange Orphans**

Jessi Rieken
Staff Writer

Dordt's Justice Matters club partook in an event that happened on college campuses around the United States: about five percent of the student body (80 students) wore orange shirts last Monday through Friday. "Orphan" was printed in wide font across the front of the shirt to symbolize the one-in-20 ratio of children in sub-Saharan Africa who are orphaned by AIDS.

This shocking fact compelled Dordt students and faculty to wear the orange shirts. "I am glad I wore the orange shirt this week," said senior Rachel Kootstra. "I felt like I was making a little difference by just creating awareness. I had many people come up to me and ask me why people were wearing the orange shirts."

The orange shirt wearers were instructed to wear them every day of the week to show others that AIDS is an ongoing problem.

Some students also participated in a fast on Wednesday in the West Commons. Justice Matters held a Broken Bread Meal sponsored by World Vision and participants took time to reflect on the danger of AIDS in Africa and all around the world. The club encouraged a 24-hour prayer period for the Dordt community to reflect on the AIDS as a global struggle.

For more information about the orange shirts or the epidemic of AIDS, visit www.actingtonaids.org

**Criminal Justice Club helps search for new professor**

Jurgen Boerema
Staff Writer

Fourteen members of the Criminal Justice program formed a club in February to supplement their current instruction. The club elected Tim Boomisma as president and Jon Vroom as vice president.

On April 8, the group, accompanied by Professor Aaron Koning, traveled to the Sioux Falls Crime Lab and saw demonstrations of law enforcement techniques. They received instruction about evidence processing techniques, fingerprint identification and drug identification.

The group plans a trip to the Sioux City Juvenile Detention Center on April 17. They will tour the center and the juvenile courts.

The students are also looking into training in firearms and defensive tactics through a Western Iowa Tech instructor for next semester. Training will take place for approximately five Saturdays per semester, and 12 members have expressed interest in participating. Members of the club have also approached The Sioux County Sheriff's Department Special Response Team about possible assistance in training. Club members would volunteer as hostages, victims and criminals in the training aspect of the program.

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**Battle of the Bands brings on the best**

Sarah Gronneck
Staff Writer

Dordt students and English professors settled into the comfortable couches of the Alumni House on April 4 for the Purple Martin Writing Contest awards ceremony. The hosts for the evening, Professors Dave Schelhaas and Bob De Smith, started the ceremony with a time of socializing before the awards were given. Nearly 30 students attended, all of them eager to see if their submissions would be chosen for a monetary award.

Students were surprised when the professors announced that there would be no first-place winner in the fiction category this year. "There weren't many entries, and not many students write short stories on their own," said Dr. James Schaap. "It's not all that unusual NOT to award first-place prizes. Sometimes the faculty just doesn't believe that any come up to the kind of excellence that a first-place connotes."

Once the awards were presented, some of the first and second-place winners of the seven categories were asked to read their work to the crowd. Professor Schelhaas read Craig Romkema's "A Sort of Eden," a work of personal writing in which Romkema reflects on the birds in his old home in Minnesota. Robert Minto's poem about a group of graduating insects got a chuckle from the group.

Jon Trueblood, a freshman Physics major, had mixed reactions when his personal narrative "Taking My Time" won first place in the fiction category. "When I won, I was at first surprised, then proud of the story, and then embarrassed because I sat there clapping awkwardly until I realized everyone was waiting for me to go get the award," said Trueblood.

The contest has been a tradition at Dordt for decades, but many students know very little about it. "When Professor Schelhaas wrote 'Submit to Purple Martin' on one of my papers, I was bewildered and wondered what an American songbird would want with my literary analysis," said freshman Sarah Roth. Roth continued on page 2

**Writers win cash in Purple Martin Contest**

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**April 17, 2008**

**Dordt's Dazzling Tennis Duo**

TennisDuo pg 8

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Justice program for five years. It was initially designed as an emphasis within the liberal arts college. This year, the program focuses on the search for a new Criminal Justice professor and other issues, such as lack of hands-on training and applicable course work.

Faculty searches always take a great deal of time, from writing the job description to deciding where to place ads, to reviewing applications and following up on references, said Dean of Social Sciences Sherrill Lantinga. “Some areas are easier to hire in than others for a variety of reasons. Criminal Justice is a relatively difficult area and many colleges are struggling with this, too.”

Criteria for a new professor are: a candidate with strong academic credentials, interdisciplinary interests, commitment to Dordt’s reformed mission, and strong teaching ability.

Several candidates were qualified but lacked a master’s degree or a Christian background, said Lantinga. She is confident in the direction of the program. “I hope to see the program fully functional in about two years.” she said.

Lantinga spoke of some of the difficulties of implementing a well-rounded Criminal Justice program at Dordt. “A Criminal Justice program at a liberal arts college is a program with more of an academic focus. Therefore there is not a large amount of training regarding law enforcement in the field at Dordt College. This is something that can be explored at a community college or law enforcement academy.”

Several students have expressed frustration with the quality of the program as whole. “I am leaving Dordt feeling little preparation for criminal justice,” said Jed Bennett, a senior in the program. “All my training from Dordt to becoming a police officer has come from a professor with no experience in that field.”

There has been a general lack of communication between the administration and students.”

Nate Gibson
Staff Writer

As Dr. Henry Duitman departs for Grand Valley State University after this school year, Dordt has hired Brad Miedema to fill the dean position. Miedema is no stranger to the Dordt community. An Orange City native, Miedema attended Dordt College and graduated from Dordt in 1993. After graduating, he taught grades 5-8 at Unity for four years, with responsibilities including band, choir and classroom music.

In 1997, Miedema accepted a job at Lynden Christian School in Washington where he spent nine years directing all bands, grades 5-12, as well as the string orchestra. During that time, Miedema completed his master’s degree work at Western Washington University.

Two years ago, Miedema and family returned to Sioux Center, where he currently teaches and directs at Sioux Center Christian. Additionally, Miedema helped to establish the new Northern Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra, which he also directs.

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Our school and poverty

To my fellow students, faculty and staff,

God has put it on my heart to question our compassion for our brothers in Christ. It is estimated that 10.9 million children die each year due to lack of food. When I look around this campus and look at myself, I don’t see any hunger. In fact, I see luxury. How can it be that 10.9 million beloved children of our Lord are DYING and I am listening to my iPod? I would suggest that this campus does not really care for the suffering. How can we claim to love the poor and choose air conditioning over their lives? There are so many things on our campus that are unnecessary to education: air conditioned buildings, overhead projectors in many classrooms, cable TVs in every dorm, new signs, brand new desks, a coffee shop, new computers in labs, etc.

If Dordt is a business, these things make sense. If Dordt only exists to attract more students and make more money, then these have their place. But if Dordt is something more, if this campus cares for more than itself, if we truly are an extension of Christ’s body, then these things do not belong! Imagine a campus that did not waste money on itself, one where only the essentials to education were considered necessary. It would not be easy, but we would be suffering with those who are suffering. Is this dream so unreal?

Allow me to suggest the following changes as an institution:

1. For every dollar spent on food, Dordt gives a dollar to help fight starvation.
2. Charge one canned good as admission to sporting events.
3. Air conditioning is turned off in all but computer labs and other essential rooms.
4. Cut back on advertising, and let our love and compassion stand on its own.
5. Stop wireless internet around campus for our convenience.
6. Stop phone and cable services to dorms but rather learn to share communal ones.
7. Stop selling frivolous and unnecessary items in the book store.
8. Donate the surplus money to save the lives of God’s children.

And as students:

1. Stop complaining about the bounteous food we enjoy at the commons.
2. Stop buying items we don’t need.
3. Learn to share our possessions, instead of needing one computer per person, one cell phone per person and one TV per person.
4. Rather than complaining about slow internet speeds and lack of cable channels, let us find ways to share these blessings with others.
5. Stop paying for cell phone service, gaming systems, eating out, and use that money to save lives.
6. Help and encourage each other to show compassion to those less wealthy than us.

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." - 1 John 3:17-18

Daniel Mahaffy

Dordt direction needs to change in meal plan and more

Bree Wierenga
Staff Writer

After almost three years at Dordt, I can’t help but worry. Recent changes in the college’s administration, academics and policies make me concerned about the future of the school I once held in such high regard.

Let me make it clear that my intention is not to wrongfully accuse; I simply want to address some issues that I believe need to be considered by Dordt’s community. I also want to suggest how Dordt could better handle those issues.

Consider the implications of Sandi Altema’s recent dismissal. I understand that there are things that not everyone needs to know about. But I don’t recall the administration telling us that they legally couldn’t reveal more details; if they did, their statement was not concrete enough to warrant a satisfied understanding and acceptance of Dordt’s actions. Instead, students were left with the impression that Dordt was hiding something. I wonder if Dordt could have designated someone to handle “damage control” with whom we students could have shared our concerns. Let’s admit it: almost all of the people in leadership positions, including RAs, were not allowed to say anything about the situation and could not calm the students’ worries. Everything remained so mysterious and unresolved.

Maybe the football issue has been beaten to a pulp already, but no one can deny that the newly introduced sport has been the source of many arguments. At the same time that it is building up a football program because it brings in a fair amount of students, Dordt is undercutting other departments, such as music. Dr. Robert Horton’s contract was not renewed because Dordt looks at its statistics according to majors. Not enough music majors means that a music professor has to be let go. My suggestion: if Dordt put as much effort into recruiting music majors as they do football players, maybe both the football and music programs could draw in the same number of students and be equally profitable for their participants and the college. Besides, most of the members of Dordt’s choirs and instrumental groups are non-music majors. Music has been integral to Dordt’s character for many years. But the message that I see the college sending its students is: Did you receive the Horton’s unrenwed contract is that building up music is not as important as building up football.

The recent decision to require the purchase of meal plans by all students living in dorms makes me question Dordt’s administration even further. What if a few unfortunate juniors or seniors are unable to make ends meet in the apartments? These students will be forced to live in the dorms and therefore to purchase a meal plan; something completely unnecessary at the point in their lives where they should be learning to live life independently.

The junior and senior years prepare students for “real life” outside of college; well, “real life” doesn’t hand you food from a cafeteria for every meal. Required meal plans don’t have the option to buy a partial meal plan. A great solution to the proposed meal plan dilemma would be for Dordt simply to keep the meal plan as it is: an option to juniors and seniors who end up in the dorms. Don’t force it upon them because they couldn’t live in the apartments.

This way, upperclassmen who were never inclined to the culinary life could pay to have their meals made for them, and those that want to cook are freely able to.

I still love Dordt. I love the education I get, the friends I’ve made and the opportunities I receive here. However, the recent decisions made by Dordt are very questionable, even controversial. They make me worry about the college’s future.

As a Christian college, I should hope Dordt is concerned with the path it’s on, and right now, I’m not sure it is on the right path.
Dordt students desire more free time

Bree Wierenga
Staff Writer

Here’s some shocking news: Dordt students wish they had more free time. I asked the department chairs to send a survey about time management to as many students as possible. 58 students from a wide range of majors and grades replied.

The majority of the students who replied believe that they do not have enough time for personal hobbies or socializing. “I feel like I am always doing something related to school, keeping me from enjoying my hobbies,” said freshman James De Graaf. However, many of the surveyed students also understand that the reason they are here is to get a good education.

“Sometimes I wish I had less homework, but I realize the necessity of it,” said junior Julie Andree. “I am paying for my education, so I might as well get my money’s worth, right?”

Another student said, “We’re not enrolled here at Dordt to see how much free time we can get! We’re here to glorify God by working diligently to prepare ourselves for the calling He has laid out for us.”

When asked about their homework load, most students answered that they felt their load was in-between, not too little or too much. But many of them believe that their everyday load amounts to more than they can handle.

One student said, “If I did all the reading I was required to do I would never finish.” At the same time, the majority of students clarified that their homework load is very difficult to handle only when projects, exams and papers pile up, especially at the end of the year.

Class requirements assigned by professors can also affect students’ academic and personal lives.

“I have had many extra field trips or discussion groups outside of class or on Saturdays that have been required for courses,” said a frustrated student. “I have very little free time as it is and even fewer open Saturdays, so I am very upset that professors do not respect our need for time as well. They have class time, and we do homework for them outside of class already. Why do they feel they have the right to take more of our time?”

Though many students said that they always try to put homework first, some said they refuse to let academics get in the way of their social life. Freshman Adrian de Lange said, “Yes, I am here primarily to learn, and so I spend most of my time doing that, but the relationships are also important.

An anonymous student expressed regret because of a lack of a strong social life. “I am so frustrated with myself and feel as if I have wasted college in some ways because I have not focused nearly enough on relationships.”

Many students believe they need to maximize the free time they do have. “It’s not healthy to be sitting behind a desk having your head in a book all day,” said senior Josh Vander Heyden. “It’s important to get out, socialize and do what you want to do. Yet it’s also important to spend that time in a edifying manner, such as not playing video games, not watching TV, but rather going to work out, or enjoying a cup of coffee with a friend.”

“You have to make sure you make time for free time, or you’ll burn out with all the stuff you have to do,” said sophomore Rebecca Van Heeringen.

Students decide how to manage their time in the East Campus Apartments. Photo by Bree Wierenga

Salsa dancers spice up culture fair, plan to make club official

Ashlee Stallinga
Staff Writer

Junior Vero Torres-Carcoba loves salsa. No, not the chip dip—the dance.

Well, she may love the snack as well, but the club she plans on starting features the dance.

The unofficial “Sassy Salsa Club” has just about everything it needs—an instructor, members and even a Facebook group. However, it become an official club.

Torres-Carcoba plans to change that next year. The club will be open for anyone to join in the fall, to learn salsa, merengue and cumbia dances.

Interest in the club started small, but spread quickly. “It was funny,” Torres-Carcoba said. “I only told a few people about it, but at the first practice, 40 people showed up.”

The dancers were eager to learn salsa. In fact, after one practice, Torres-Carcoba pointed at the clock. “Look,” she said. “It’s 11:00. This practice was supposed to end at 10:30!”

However, she was delighted at how quickly they picked up the new dance. “The idea was to learn basic salsa,” she said. “But they got it so fast—now they’re just doing crazy steps.”

On April 15, the dancers showed what they’ve learned, performing both a salsa dance and Latin hip-hop. The performance made the dancers even more eager to see the club made official.

“Salsa dancers are increasing in popularity,” Torres-Carcoba said. “I only told a few people about it, but at the first practice, 40 people showed up.”

-Vero Torres-Carcoba, club leader

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freshman Mollie Ehlers.

Students say their spiritual lives are negatively impacted by homework and other college-related activities. “It can definitely be difficult to remain in the Word and in prayer,” said freshman Taylor Huisman.

Junior Jill Britt agreed with Kistler’s view: “I lose so much energy throughout the day that it’s hard to sit down quietly before the Lord even though I know it is important.”

Students generally agreed that their spiritual lives have to remain the top priority in their schedule, which means making time for God every day even if this means setting aside homework for a while. After all, “life isn’t all about getting A’s,” said sophomore Rebekah Trigueiro.

Junior Troy Leusink summarized the thoughts of all these students when he said, “It truly is a balancing act to fit everything in because there aren’t enough hours in a day.”

The answers of these students do not reflect the entire Dordt student body. Several factors, including the individual student’s major, the number of classes being taken and the amount of homework being assigned, can affect the students’ answers. Thank you to all students who participated in this survey. If anyone has further questions or comments, they may e-mail me.

Salsadancersspiceupculturefair,plantomakeclubofficial

April 17, 2008
Covenant Hall wins conservation contest

Staff Writer

The residents of Covenant Hall won the Creation Care Club’s 2008 Energy Conservation Contest. The residents decreased their energy usage by an average of 64 kilowatt-hours per resident each month, a 22.5 percent decrease that narrowly beat East Hall’s 20 percent decrease and earned the residents a pizza party paid for by the Business Office.

The contest ran through January and February in an attempt to raise students’ awareness about their energy usage habits in the hopes that they might become better stewards of electricity. The contest seems to have worked.

“Hands down, I think the contest worked,” said Brandon Vander Wel, an agency seeking to spread awareness about their energy conservation habits.

When you walk into North Hall, you hear TVs. In East you hear voices.” - Brandon Vander Wel

when you walk into North Hall you hear TVs. In East you hear voices.”

Saving power also saved Dordt money. Statistics put out by the Energy Information Administration say that energy cost an average of 68 cents per kilowatt-hour in Iowa in 2007. If this contest had occurred last year, Dordt would have saved an average of $1.70 per student per month, a savings of approximately $2,000 per month total. That certainly covers the cost of a pizza party.

Plans are also underway to possibly make the contest an annual event to continue raising awareness about energy conservation.

Group addresses sex trafficking

Nate Nykamp

Sex trafficking is not a subject usually broached at Dordt College. However, a group of concerned students is working with international groups such as “I am Coming” and the International Justice Mission (IJM).

“I am Coming” is an awareness group that started at Redeemer University in Ontario, Canada. IJM is a group that works to secure the rights of those that are oppressed by activities like sex trafficking.

Students are fundraising for the campaign called “Loose Change to Loosen Chains.” The students will be placing yellow cups around campus to collect change from the community. The proceeds will be sent to IJM.

The students are planning an awareness event in the Centre Mall during the week of April 21. The evening will feature jazz music and information about the sex trade, as well as ways and means to help.

“The issue of modern day slavery and human trafficking is huge,” said Brittnay Kajer. Group member Kajer added that studies have revealed that over “800,000 people are trafficked in sex trade every year.” But Kajer thinks that Dordt students can make a difference.

Students in the “I am Coming” campaign tied hundreds of bright ribbons to a tree in the middle of campus to represent those who are caught in sex trafficking. The group also hosted a showing of the movie “Human Trafficking” earlier this semester, which they have available for anyone to view upon request.

Those involved think that although Dordt may not feel as though sex trafficking has much of an impact on Dordt’s campus, we should still respond.

“It is our responsibility as Christians to be aware of the world around us, and more importantly to be striving to help the world around us,” said Julie Van Boom, another coordinator of the events.

“While Dordt may not directly feel the affect of the sex trade, we have struggles such as pornography and even lust that are so evident on campus,” she added.

Van Boom and others hope that the “I am Coming” campaigns provides a safe arena for students to think and discuss sex trafficking.

“We challenge people to think about what “human trafficking” can do in what seems like a hopeless situation,” said Van Boom.

Both Van Boom and Kajer invite other students to get involved in these campaigns.

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M, T, Th, F 9 - 5:30 Wed. 9 - 9 Sat. 9 - 4

Eveings By Appointment

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JEWELERS

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Bodywaxing Tanning Ear piercing

Bodywaxing Tanning Ear piercing

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April 17, 2008
Dr. Seuss adaptation falls short

Joel Veldkamp
Staff Writer

Nearly everyone I've talked to likes "Horton Hears a Who," the full-length animated movie based on Dr. Seuss' classic book. Critics on Rotten Tomatoes give it 79 percent 'certified fresh' rating.

So I feel outnumbered when I say: I didn't like it. And hasten to add, "but plenty of people did!"

There are some good things in "Horton Hears a Who." The storyline of Dr. Seuss' book is mostly preserved, the animation is superb, and there are plenty of theological and philosophical insights for us deep-thinking Dordt students.

Joel Veldkamp

Variety of concerts close out school year

Jessica Assink
Staff Writer

Four concerts, featuring a variety of music, signal the end of the season, as well as the ends of Dr. Henry Duitman's and Dr. Robert Horton's tenures as Dordt music professors.

Duitman will be conducting several ensembles in these concerts, and Horton will be the featured organist for two different pieces.

Receptions will be held in honor of Duitman and Horton's work at Dordt after all three instrumental concerts.

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra's spring concert is on Sat., April 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The concert features visiting cellist Maxim Kozlov in Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme," as well as Wotancraft's "Organ Symphony."

Tickets are $5 for students, and half-price student rush tickets will be available on Fri., April 18, from 12 to 4 p.m. in the Campus Center.

The concert's finale, Alfred Schnittke's "Organ Symphony," will be the piccolo soloist, a new conductor for the coming season.

Two more instrumental concerts at the end of the month feature Dordt ensembles. On Fri., April 25 at 7:30 p.m., the Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra, both directed by Duitman, will perform. The Chamber Orchestra's program includes two pieces for orchestra: "Finlandia" by Sibelius, which Duitman called "powerful," and "What Wondrous Love," arranged by Casllet.

Senior Andrea Lamahieu will be the piccolo soloist in Vivaldi's "Piccolo Concerto," performed with the orchestra. "Since it is Baroque music and a lot of period instruments during that time were wooden, the piccolo fits that sound and character of the piece really well," Lamahieu said. "I love playing with the orchestra, whether it is soloing or in the wind section."

Senior Brandon Wipf will conduct the orchestra as they perform "Amahl and the Night Visitors" from Menotti's 1951 opera, which was "the first opera every written specifically for television," according to Wipf, and "will add a good exciting "Mambo," and the brass section. The band will also perform a favorite of Duitman's that they performed two years ago, "October," by Whitacre.

"The concert's finale, Alfred Reeds' "Alleluia! Laudamus Te," features organist Horton performing the majestic piece with the band.

The last instrumental concert, on Tues., April 29 at 7:30 p.m., features the Campus-Community Band directed by Duitman, and the Jazz Band, directed by Horton. The Campus-Community Band includes a variety of sacred and lighter selections, and the Jazz Band will feature favorite pieces from their repertoire throughout the year.

The final choral concert will be on Friday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature all of Dordt's choral ensembles: Women's Chorus, directed by Pam De Haan, and Kantorei, Chorus and Concert Choir, all directed by Dr. Benjamin Kormelis. The choirs will perform the massed choir pieces featured in the recent High School Choir Festival, as well as individual selections that cover a variety of repertoire.

Cartoon by Nate Gibson

I guess I always kind of wished that you had asked me out. You wouldn't have gotten a yes.

Hey, can I talk to you a sec?

I really should start my homework... See ya in class tomorrow.

Three weeks till I get out of Iowa for good. I can't wait...

But I've listened to you complain about being single and scared the whole time.

I think I'll stay in Iowa just a little while longer.

The last few years have been great, and I'm so thankful for our friendship.

I guess I always kind of wished that you had asked me out. You wouldn't have gotten a yes.
Benedict Affair conquers the Battle of the Bands

Kyla Jamerson
Staff Writer

Band members lined the stage Saturday like soldiers ready for battle – Battle of the Bands, that is.

Positive Airwaves hosted a Battle of the Bands last weekend in the DeVitt Gymnasium as a friendly contest among three Dordt bands: Operation Joy Kill, Benedict Affair and No Days Promised.

Admission was one dollar; 60 percent of the money went towards funding for next year’s Battle, and the other 40 percent went to prize money for the winning band. The winning band, Benedict Affair, was chosen by votes.

The third Dordt band, No Days Promised, is a new face of the DeVitt music scene. Members Nate Woudstra and Nate De Groot streamed their guitars and drums while singing in a more mellow style than the other bands.

We thought (No Days Promised) would be a good fit,” said Positive Airwaves member Jeremy Brue. “They’re more acoustic, it’s different.”

No Days Promised made their debut in opening for a Benedict Affair and Operation Joy Kill at Dordt last semester.

“I played in Denver recently and had a rapper open for me, so that was pretty funny,” said Woudstra.

Operation Joy Kill and Benedict Affair, performed in their Battle of the Bands’ debut this year, though the two groups have been around longer than No Days Promised.

“We’ve been a band for two and seven-twelfths years,” said Benedict Affair bassist and ‘06 Dordt alum Elliot De Wit.

Originally, two North-western bands were going to come to Dordt’s campus to participate, but plans fell through and No Days Promised was invited to play.

“It would have been a lot of fun to be with Northwestern, ” said De Wit. “But it’s nice this way too because it’s less competitive.”

Operation Joy Kill drummer Jesse Walhof had a different idea. “Oh we are going to win... [We] are probably the best band in northwest Iowa, much less this room alone,” said Walhof.

Operation Joy Kill has been a band for a little over two years, and the members are still enjoying making music together.

“The fact that I get to beat on stuff and it’s legal is what I like most,” as well as the songs we play,” said Walhof.

“It’s being honest,” said De Wit. “Playing music for a career sounds pretty nice.”

Starch and water: so simple, so delicious

Alvin Shin
Staff Writer

The DeWitt staff loves Ugali. They mix water with corn meal in a pot over medium heat until it reaches a consistency that allows you to use it as a scoop for stew, like Piyada. There are different variations of Ugali used in southern and eastern African countries.

My Documentary Filmmaking class and I rushed out to Orange City to the DeWitt Gymnasium to see Operation Joy Kill for a concert. The film could be made in a couple of weeks. I’m not saying it’s going to be easy, but it could be enough for you to understand that they don’t like peppers, tomatoes or onions.

I write this while having a cup of coffee and wondering whether I should be doing something else. The coffee is so good, I can’t put it down.

One thing we can’t do without vegetable stews or soup if you don’t feel like using a fork. Food staples of people worldwide consist of durable and filling starch.

Unleavened bread can be wrapped around lamb, cucumber, olives, Feta and tzatziki sauce (I drooled as I wrote this sentence). Rice can be steamed (or boiled) and topped with curry or eaten raw, or shredded and wasabi. Tortillas can be made out of corn or flour and eaten with tuna and shredded beef and drizzled with lime.

Ugali (aka.pogo, ngima or papi) can be eaten with any type of stew or soup if you don’t feel like using a fork.

Starch and water, with cultural variations, make up the world’s idea of food. It isn’t strange, then, that these foods are so good, so satisfying, that they can be eaten almost by themselves.

Benedict Affair-conquers-the-Battle-of-the-Bands

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Two Seniors
Two Friends
Two Partners

A four year tennis duo prepares to part ways

Amanda Henke
Staff Writer

It's been said that playing tennis is 90 percent mental, 10 percent skill. And for Dordt's number one doubles team, Alanna Dake and Betsy Bor, tennis is no exception. "We have that," said Bor. "We don't get down. We encourage each other."

For the past four years, Dake and Bor have been encouraging each other on the same side of the net, developing a bond that puts them in a great spot to lead the conference in their final season together.

"You need that chemistry," said Dake. "I know where Betsy is going to hit the ball. And she tells me where to go," she said, smiling. Bor added with a laugh, "I'm not afraid to yell at her."

Bor is a Holland, Mich., native and was a four-year state participant in high school, though she claims, "I never expected to play very high here at Dordt." Since her freshman year, however, Bor has played in the top singles spots and, along with Dake, has been part of the number one doubles team since her freshman year.

Dake, a graduate of Southwest Christian (Chaska, Minn.), never once played tennis for her high school. Since Southwest Christian didn't have tennis program, Dake competed in junior league tournaments, playing in the AAU-type tournaments almost year-round since she was seven years old.

Both laugh at the irony of Dake never technically playing in high school tennis, but representing Dordt well in the number one singles and doubles spots.

Dake and Bor willingly took on the sometimes frustrating role of leadership. Despite the coaching changes, they said they have had nothing but good times with Dordt players. "It has been the best part of college for me," said Dake.

The team is now under the guidance of Marilyn Weidenaar, who currently 4-0 in the GPAC. Bor missed Dordt's first meets this year because of student teaching, but the duo is back on track and looking for a positive year for the whole team. "This is the year. We have almost everyone back, and they are all leaving next year," said Bor.

And when it comes to the end of the year for these seniors, the end of their four-year career together, "I'll cry," said Bor. "Definitely," Dake added with a sad smile.

Baseball:
Season Update
Jesse Veenstra
Staff Writer

Even though there are still scattered snowstorms in Siouxland, the Dordt baseball team has already been playing for a month.

The team bundles up and heads out to play a sport most commonly played in the dog days of summer.

The season began for the Defenders on March 1 in Kansas, with a quickly scheduled two-game set with Baker College. Dordt then escaped the cold as they traveled to Florida during spring break.

The Defenders played seven games during the five-day trip before heading back to start the conference season.

Dordt opened the conference season against Dana and split the doubleheader, winning the second game 10-5. Weather caused scheduling nightmares and forced Dordt to play their first 19 games on the road. The Defenders finally got a chance to play in front of a home crowd on April 5, as they split the doubleheader against Briar Cliff.

Junior Travis Feeske leads the teams with a .405 batting average, 13 runs scored, and 9 stolen bases. Senior Travis De Jong recently became the tenth player in Dordt history with 100 hits and currently has 105. De Jong is batting .380 on the season and leads the team with 27 hits. Senior pitcher Daryl Visser leads the team in wins, with a 3-0 record and a 4.91 ERA. Freshman pitcher Patrick Sinnema has the team's lowest ERA at 2.73, along with 19 strikeouts.

The Defenders still have 14 conference games, with eight straight home games stretching from April 18 to April 25. Dordt is currently tied for eighth in the conference and hopes to climb into the GPAC playoffs. Junior shortstop Evan Phe neger said, "Our goal is to make the conference tournament. We know we can compete with the best. We just need to get it done regularly."

Dordt is currently 6-15 overall and 5-7 in the GPAC conference. Rival Northwestern College leads the conference with a 10-2 conference record. Dordt still has four games left with Northwestern, including two at home on April 21.

You need chemistry, I know where Betsy is going to hit the ball, and she tells me where to go." -Alanna Dake

Dordt Sport Report: Suzi Butier

"We do goofy things to get pumped up for games, like playing link tag."

Suzi Butier
Softball

Year:
Senior
Major:
Elementary Education and Special Education
Hometown:
Byron Center, Michigan
Position:
Left Field

How long have you been playing softball?
Since 3rd grade.

What has been one of your best memories playing for the Lady Defenders?
Probably our trip to Arizona two years ago, we did a lot together as a team and it doesn't seem like we stopped laughing ever. We are really trying to focus on playing as a team and enjoying the game.

What are your personal and team goals for the rest of the season?
My personal goal is to hit well and come through with hits when we need them. As a team we want to win some games here at home and play good defense with less errors.

Do you have a pre-game song or playlist?
I like to listen to hip-hop music before games, it always gets me really pumped up. Black Eyed Peas, Flo Rida, all the good stuff!

What are your superstitions, traditions, or rituals?
We always do a pre-game cheer, one that we've done for many years. During the cheer someone always has the "funny word" and they say the word in our huddle. We also do other goofy things to get pumped up for games like playing link tag and whatever else we need to do to get excited. If we are really excited and energetic, we seem to play tons better.

What are your plans post-Dordt?
To teach, hopefully somewhere in the mid-west!