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afterall.
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Pandemonium descends upon Dordt
Matthew Kunnari
Staff Writer

You heard the music, you saw the bustle, but what
the heck was going on?
On Thursday morning at 9:25 a.m., Dordt senior
art majors congregated in front of the Campus Center
to create original works of art. What may have looked
and sounded like mass chaos was actually a well-
planned and purposeful event.
Every Tuesday and Thursday morning this semes-
ter, all senior art majors drag themselves out of bed
and stumble into C140 to discuss issues artists face
and issues that they will face once they depart from
Dordt.
One recent topic of discussion has been about
how artists can become involved in their communities.
This is where "Pandemonium" came into motion. It
was decided that one way to become involved is to
bring art to the public.
This can be done by fashioning public works for
permanent display, but the pandemonium artists opted
instead to have a live event in which the public, mean-
ing you, could see art actually being made.
Pandemonium was planned and executed entirely
by the senior artists. Professor Jake Van Wyk super-
vised the process. It was scheduled for Parents
Weekend to provide a wider venue and to make more
people aware of the arts here at Dordt.
Overall the event was successful. Despite a few
frozen fingers, the artists enjoyed themselves. The
artists worked in teams of two and had an hour and a
half to make an original three by six foot piece.
As a participant in this event, I at first found it a
little nerve-wracking to be drawing with a partner (no
offense, Josh de Groot). Almost all of the art assign-
ments at Dordt are original works of art made by indi-
viduals. This was not only a fun occasion to make art
for the community, but it also forced the participants to
make art as part of a community.
So this called "pandemonium" was probably more
mayhem for the artists than the average passer-
by. Hopefully you had a moment to see the finished
pieces and enjoy the artistic atmosphere. If not, there's
always next year. This is the second year that
Pandemonium has taken place and it will be up to next
year's senior art majors to determine if they will follow
suit. If you were one who enjoyed it, let 'em know!

Paypal scheme prompts warning across campus
Samantha Henderson
Staff Writer

The number one Internet and e-
mail scam to watch out for, accord-
ing to Unwantedlinks.com, is pass-
word & credit card fishing scams.
These scam e-mails appear to
come from a company you might
have an account with (such as eBay
or PayPal) and states that your
account needs to be updated or that
your credit card is invalid or has
expired.
Even Paypal itself has been hit
recently escalated out of control
and there are many precautions
Dordt students should take to pre-
vent personal encounters with such
scams.
Although you may not be able
to prevent identity theft from occur-
ing altogether, there are ways to
minimize your risk by managing
your personal information wisely.
Alan Kopit, a consumer attor-
ney with the firm Hahn Loeser and
Parks LLP in Cleveland, Ohio and a
regular contributor to "Today" has
made a list to keep our bank
accounts safe while we surf the web
and buy online.
Keep your personal informa-
tion safe while using computers by:
1. Update your virus protection
regularly. Do not download files
sent to you by strangers or click on
hyperlinks from people you don't
know.
2. Use a firewall program,
especially if you use a high-speed
Internet connection like cable, DSL,
or T1, which leaves your computer
connected to the Internet 24 hours a
day. (A firewall will stop uninvited
guests and hackers from stealing
personal information.)
3. Use a secure browser--soft-
ware that encrypts or scrambles
information you send over the
Internet—to guard the security of
your online transactions.
4. Try not to store financial
information on your personal com-
puter unless absolutely necessary.
5. Before disposing of your
computer, delete personal informa-
tion. Use a "wipe" utility program
to overwrite the entire hard drive.
6. Review Web site privacy
policies. They will tell you how
personal information collected will
be used.
7. Never give your password
out online.
Approximately 50 Dordt students gathered throughout the evening and into the early morning last Friday. Starting at about 8 p.m., the students brought TVs, Xboxes and computers to set up in a network to test each other's skills. The main games played that night were Halo and Halo II on the Xbox and CounterStrike on the computers. Also played were Warcraft, Zelda and Project Gotham Racing, to name a few.

Part of the reason for the gathering was to see who the best "Halo player was. In an individual competition, the last match came down to Brian Matthews and Calvin Doornbos. In the end, Brian Matthews was the champion, but an undisputed Doornbos teamed up with Mike Ochsner to dominate in the two vs two King of the Hill competition.

The LAN party was the collaboration of the Computer Club as well as work done by Mike Keuchenmeister. This event was a bit of a bust, however. Set on Parents' Weekend, the party was scheduled at the same time as a concert and a Blades hockey game. Another event similar to this is in the works, but a time as of yet is uncertain. One thing's for sure—many of the 50 students are sure to return.

"It was fun though. We should do it again sometime," commented freshman Mike Bylsma.

Originally, the event was supposed to work with big screens and projectors connected to the Xbox consoles, but when this was not working, TVs were used for the Xboxes. About ten to fifteen computers were brought to the campus center by students.

**Bird flu continues**

Jacqueline Wojcik
Staff Writer

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says of the bird flu, "Wild birds worldwide carry the viruses in their intestines, but usually do not get sick from them."

The bird flu is contagious to birds and can be passed to domestic birds and cause fatalities. Humans very rarely get the bird flu and when do, they usually are not able to pass it on to others.

Symptoms of the bird flu in humans include normal flu symptoms, eye infections, pneumonia and some severe illnesses that depend on which virus caused the illness. Humans in contact with infected animals or the animals' excreta can be at risk to get the disease.

The influenza A (H5N1) virus is the virus that is currently being discussed in the news. In the past two years, according to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK), the virus has killed 61 people in Asia. Recent outbreaks have so far been found in Turkey, Romania and Russia.

The CDC says, "Because all influenza viruses have the ability to change, scientists are concerned that the H5N1 virus one day could be able to infect humans and spread easily from one person to another."

This could cause an influenza pandemic. Because of this, experts are monitoring the current bird flu in Asia and Europe. Since the flu has not been found in the United States and has only occurred in people who have come in contact with infected birds, the CDC does not consider the bird flu to be a big threat for Americans.

The CDC currently advises that travelers heading to countries with known outbreaks of H5N1 should avoid close contact with poultry (and poultry feces) during their trip. The CDC is also researching a vaccine for H5N1 in case the virus transfers to humans.

**David Netz retires from Dordt College**

Nate Nykamp
News Editor

David Netz has been responsible for keeping Dordt's information services up to date in a cost effective manner for the past eleven years, during which tremendous changes have taken place in the way that we handle information.

For example, eleven years ago, Dordt's computers had green screens hooked up to 56k modems. At that time, Dordt was just beginning to get the card catalog on computer, but the system was a minimal program that barely worked. Now we have a very effective networking system. Instead of seven hundred journals, students have access to seven thousand, which proves very useful to their academic/research needs. Netz will be the first to note that the task of information services is far from complete. As the technology has evolved, so has the student. Netz notes: "The 21st century learner is different than when I was a student" [in the 1960's].

As students, we expect a college that is properly equipped to ensure that we have access to all materials.

Unfortunately, our expectations are often higher than Dordt can feasibly provide. This is where Netz's task was difficult. He noted that the task of providing the necessary service at a feasible cost was one of the greater challenges that he and Dordt faced.

After Netz's retirement, the departments he oversaw will remain useful for students in the next ten years and many years after that.

**Got Milk?**

Jill Hiemstra
Staff Writer

A new "Got Milk?" commercial is getting in a lot of trouble with officials of MLB, as it references the recent steroid scandal. The commercial shows a player pulled from the field after testing positive for a "performance-enhancing substance," which happens to be a carton of milk. Advertising leaders said the only message they want to get across is that "milk is good for you, that milk actually does many of the things that people hope those wonder drugs might do for them and does so naturally."
Over the river and through the woods...

Jessica Braunschweig
Editor

Dordt's impressive theater production of "Into the Woods" made for yet another powerful performance. Children in the audience were both dazzled and baffled by the dancing, prancing Little Red Riding Hood, the Big Bad Wolf, the Witch, the Baker, Rapunzel, Cinderella and so many other fairytale characters.

But it was far from a G-rated play—older members of the audience had a bit more to reflect on. For, going a little deeper into the fairytales, we find the woods beckoning, the characters calling and the theme prevailing—for many of us, perhaps a bit too close to home. That is, if you stayed for the second half?

Why doesn't a fairytale wish of their own today? A handsome prince, a damsel in distress, a bag of gold or even some magic beans. But worldly wishes all too often bring a handsome price along with that handsome prince, a deadly giant along with that bag of gold. And soon, before we know it, we're captured, enchanted and we've entered into the woods—only to find, that once inside, you're far from out of the clear. And the harsh realities of life loom larger. The seductive princes take on many forms and the choices we make become the roads that we take.

We long to imprison our young ones from such realities, from such brokenness and pain. But they'll just let down their hair when we aren't there, as every kid longs to find things out for themselves. The child in everyone is bound to grow up, get out and live life. Yet, along the way we so easily fall into seductive traps and other threats that promise Granny's house, but leave us eaten away—by life's troubles, predators and the markings of our sin.

The next SAC sponsored event wasn't much more of a success. Fest. The weekend included Bigger and Better, a boogie and... well, does anyone know what else? "Hey, did you go to Fall Fest?" I asked Laura Christensen, a freshman Chemistry student. "Huh?" she replied, just as confused as Nicole had been when I asked her about SAC.

Alright, so maybe I've been a little harsh on our hard-working SAC members. It's certainly not easy keeping an entire campus entertained and happy. So, one thing I can say that has been a success was "The Price is Trite." There was an excellent turn out, a wonderful array of participation and a most excellent wealth of prizes. Almost everybody I asked knew about and attended "The Price is Trite." How was this different than all the other activities? Maybe it has something to do with SAC finally figuring out that you have to post signs in residence halls for students to learn the event is actually going to take place. However, SAC didn't have it entirely figured out yet. One minor problem remained: We all knew "The Price Is Trite" was going to happen. We all knew it was that weekend and even that it would be in the B.J. Haan. However, they forgot to say WHEN the event was going to take place. We soon had the first SAC-sponsored campus-wide guessing game on our hands.

Well, the year is still young. There are many more events planned and there is definitely time for improvement and organization to take place. Maybe SAC will even considering updating its miserably outdated website that nearly no one even knows exists. Let's just up the attendance for when we kick Northwesterner's behinds at NCDC this month, ok guys?

Why has SAC sunk?

Diane Feucht
Staff Writer

"So, what do you think of SAC's events this year?" I asked Nicole Top, a freshman Health Science student. "Umm...what's SAC?" she replied.

I think many freshmen are asking the same question: "What the heck is SAC?" Those of us who were here for previous years are asking, "Where the heck did SAC disappear to?" This year, our Student Activities Committee seems to be slacking on the advertising, the characters calling and the theme prevailing—for many of us, perhaps a bit too close to home. That is, if you stayed for the second half?

Who doesn't have a few fairytale wishes of their own today? A handsome prince, a damsel in distress, a bag of gold or even some magic beans. But worldly wishes all too often bring a handsome price along with that handsome prince, a deadly giant along with that bag of gold. And soon, before we know it, we're captured, enchanted and we've entered into the woods—only to find, that once inside, you're far from out of the clear. And the harsh realities of life loom larger. The seductive princes take on many forms and the choices we make become the roads that we take.

And it's then that we wonder where God is. We wonder why this narrow trail is surrounded by so many scary trees and eerie shadows. We wonder why the other trails look so much brighter. And we wonder where God is amidst the darkness. There's so much going on in the woods today—so many strange hearts, hurt souls, abused bodies and frail human beings. But God is bigger than the Giants in the woods. And He's clearing a path that will eventually take us through it all.

Some audience members were a bit miffed by the play's too realistic second half, but others argued that "it brought a more realistic side to the fairytale, challenging our own lives as well."

And it's easy keeping an entire campus entertained and happy. So, one thing I can say that has been a success was "The Price is Trite." There was an excellent turn out, a wonderful array of participation and a most excellent wealth of prizes. Almost everybody I asked knew about and attended "The Price is Trite." How was this different than all the other activities? Maybe it has something to do with SAC finally figuring out that you have to post signs in residence halls for students to learn the event is actually going to take place. However, SAC didn't have it entirely figured out yet. One minor problem remained: We all knew "The Price Is Trite" was going to happen. We all knew it was that weekend and even that it would be in the B.J. Haan. However, they forgot to say WHEN the event was going to take place. We soon had the first SAC-sponsored campus-wide guessing game on our hands.

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What's the "Key" point here?

Julie Ooms
Guest Writer

Several articles have appeared in the last few issues of the Diamond about the degeneration of "conservatism" in the Christian Reformed Church and, along with that, the role women are or are not to play in the church. It's certainly not easy keeping an entire campus entertained and happy. So, one thing I can say that has been a success was "The Price is Trite." There was an excellent turn out, a wonderful array of participation and a most excellent wealth of prizes. Almost everybody I asked knew about and attended "The Price is Trite." How was this different than all the other activities? Maybe it has something to do with SAC finally figuring out that you have to post signs in residence halls for students to learn the event is actually going to take place. However, SAC didn't have it entirely figured out yet. One minor problem remained: We all knew "The Price Is Trite" was going to happen. We all knew it was that weekend and even that it would be in the B.J. Haan. However, they forgot to say WHEN the event was going to take place. We soon had the first SAC-sponsored campus-wide guessing game on our hands.

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Let's play dress up!

Helping the campus and community have fun

Joelle Sparks
Staff Writer

Want to go trick-or-treating, attend the Winter Banquet or go to a costume party? Do you want to search far or wide to find that perfect outfit to dazzle your friends? You can just head on over to the costume shop right here on Dordt's campus. Many people on campus do not even know we have a costume shop because of its hidden location. It is tucked away behind the scene shop in the classroom building.

Still confused? Find New World Theater and go down the skinny hallway away from the classrooms through a door to another skinny hallway with painted masks on the walls, up the stairs and to the left. After you walk through the entryway, it's time to climb the stairway up into the attic space to see the wide assortment of costumes.

Walking in the attic through more than 1,000 costumes is like walking through time. There are sections of ancient Greek apparel, medieval dresses, kingly robes, outfits from colonial days and all the radical changes of style throughout the 20th century with flapper outfits, sueve suits and swing dancing skirts.

There are even sections of different military uniforms, with armor from the Dark Ages to shiny shoes and decorated coats for the American Army. Walls are lined with shoes, hats, purses and crowns that are available to perfectly accentuate the outfit of choice.

Prior to January 2005, the costume shop and theater department were joined together behind the scene shop. But the shared space was getting a little cramped for everyone. The number of costumes had grown so large that the costumes were almost ready to take over the professors' offices. Then the business office immigrated to the new Advancement/Business Office building, leaving behind a lot of space. This vacant space was conveniently located across the black box theater and scene shop. The theater department was able to expand and move into the old offices, leaving a lot more room for the costumes flowing out of the attic space. Now the shop has more room to organize costumes upstairs and downstairs. The costume shop provides this wide variety of clothing and props for the theater department, the campus and the community.

"Last year we rented costumes to over 800 people from the community, nine area high schools, and eleven churches," said theater costume designer Sue Blom. Blom was hired three years ago as a new member of the Theater Department staff to design and sew costumes for the Dordt productions, so now she is also in charge of renting out the costumes.

Blom said that the prices for rental vary per item rented but are very reasonable. "The price for a necklace is $1 all the way up to a fancy wedding dress which would be about $25," said Blom.

"When you rent something, you do not pay per use, like if you have several performances or parties close together, you do not pay per wearing," Sue said. "As long as we have a date of return, say within a couple weeks, you can use the costume as many times as you like for one fee."

So if you want to play dress up but don't want to hurt your wallet with high rental fees or high gas prices for driving beyond the campus, you should stop by the costume shop for your costuming needs.

The costume shop is open for business on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Stop in and say "hi" to Sue and she will help you find the perfect suit or toga to run around in.

Software review: OpenOffice 2.0

J.A. Hubner
Page Editor

For the past five years, OpenOffice.org, founded by Sun Microsystems, has been working on productivity software as an alternative to Microsoft Office. This past week the company released the second version of their award winning Office Suite, entitled, "OpenOffice 2.0."

OpenOffice is an open-source project, meaning the code of the program can be altered by any programmer. This also means that the software is free of charge.

The 2.0 release of OO (OpenOffice) is such a major release because it is the greatest competitor to Microsoft's Office 2003 to have ever come on the open-source software market. OO 2.0 can be directly downloaded from www.openoffice.org in over 20 languages. Let's take a closer look at what OO is.

Let's parallel MS (Microsoft) Office to the OO 2.0 productivity suite:

MS Word - OO Writer
MS Excel - OO Calc
MS PowerPoint - OO Impress
MS Access - OO Base

OO not only sufficiently provides applications equal to Microsoft's, but the suite also contains two extra programs called "Math" and "Draw." Math is an entire program for performing complex math functions and algebra formulas. Draw is a photo editing program capable of 3D effects and exportation of over 15 major picture formats.

Since word processing is the most commonly used application of computers, it is only logical and necessary that I go into a little more depth of the Writer program.

Once in Writer, the interface seems very similar to MS Word. Menus and tool bars have most of the same icons as Word and over- all feel is similar. So, what makes Writer different from Word? Here are a few of the major advantages and advancements of MS Writer over MS Word.

PDF (Portable Document Format) Export: This feature allows any document to be exported directly as a PDF file. This feature is not available with any MS Office software. This ability to export documents is also available with all of the other OO Programs.

Format Compatibility: OpenOffice can both open and save MS Office formats as well as OpenDocument format and XML (Extensible Markup language).

Cost: Computer Users have two choices:
A. Pay $250 for MS Office Pro and an additional $200 for Adobe Acrobat Writer.
B. Pay nothing and use OO 2.0.
C. Those who already have Office on their computers, keep it and use it - lacking the ability to open OpenDocument format and export projects to a PDF file.

It's a no brainer, free yourself from the chains of Microsoft and
Matthew Kunnari  
Staff Writer

What would you do if after a hard day of classes you came back to your room to discover that someone had meddled with your things, leaving a fresh jar of peanut butter opened and a large finger indent in the middle of it? Well, this is just one of numerous occurrences that senior Krystal Finseth had during her semester abroad study in Costa Rica on the Latin American Studies Program. The Diamond managed to catch up with her one afternoon in the Humble Bean to learn a little about her time in Latin America.

So Krystal, you spent five months abroad in a completely different environment; how do you explain your time to people here at Dordt?

It was good, but hard. I would say that the toughest part was daily living. I always felt a little uncomfortable while being there because I could never fully fit in. I had food poisoning twice. That wasn't very fun.

When I landed in Miami I cried because I was so happy to return to something familiar. But don't get me wrong. I loved it all. It was a great experience nonetheless.

Was the food that different or perhaps too spicy?

The food wasn't spicy, more flavorful than I expected, but not spicy. It was typical rice and beans—sometimes up to three times a day; so, not always exciting, but not bad.

My favorite was Platano, which is really ripe plantains (by ripe I mean black) deep fried.

How was learning in a different culture? Were all your classes in Spanish?

Actually most of my classes were in English. I had only one Spanish class. The majority of my classes were seminars with guest speakers. Interpersed between courses the program had learning trips to Nicaragua, Cuba and Guatemala.

How was your relationship with God while you were there?

Faith really was a struggle. I really depended on my devotions to help keep me grounded. The program was "Christian," but no set structures for worship were established. Everything at church was in Spanish; there were no overheads or songbooks, which made singing difficult.

What really helped me was knowing that people at home, at Dordt and at church here in Sioux Center were praying for me.

It has been said that absence makes the heart grow fonder. Did this ring true for you and your fiancé Nathanael?

[Krystal had a huge smile at this point!]

Well, you might have to talk to Nathanael about that. Being apart for a long period of time was a good test for us. We talked on the phone or he and my friends would send me emails describing their daily activities.

I was afraid when I returned that Nathanael would be so used to me being away that it would be hard for him to bring me back into his life. In the end, it hasn't been the case. Being separated was hard, but we've grown a lot because of it.

What aspects of your trip do you plan to implement into your life?

This was a huge question that really depended on my devotions to learn more about Costa Rica, see how its culture works and the values are different in the beginning.

What would you like to do in the future?

One thing that I would like to do is continue to be flexible. Definitely be open to trying new things.

If you are interested in possibly studying abroad for a semester, contact Corinne Henges, the new off-campus studies coordinator. To learn more about Costa Rica, see Spanish professor, Dr. Woodbury, who will be leading a one month program there this summer.

West Hall brings historic memories to past residents

Melissa Hofland  
Staff Writer

West Hall was the first dormitory on the Dordt College campus. The building, now 42 years old, has been home to several men and women over the years. The dorm experience was quite different in the beginning years than it is today. When the dormitory was first built, it was known as The Dordt College Dormitory, but was soon changed to its current name—West Hall.

Professor Lorna Van Gilst, a member of the first class to live in West Hall, said, "When I moved into West Hall, the dorm was not completely finished. We had eight girls in our room that was designed for four. Mice crawled into our suitcases when we were unpacking the first week."

Additionally, "There were construction crews working on the building every day that year, and we never did get closet doors put on our closets," said Van Gilst.

Dordt College Admissions Counselor, Garry Zonnefeld was a member of the second, "privileged" class to move into the dormitory.

West Hall was originally designed with two different wings—the south wing, occupied by the women and the north wing, occupied by the men.

With separate quarters, "never the twain should meet," Zonnefeld said, adding that "We also did not have open hours." Instead, the guys could go to the girls' rooms once a year, only before Christmas, during the "open house."

Back then, students brought a bag of clothing and bedding to college—no TVs and only a few stereos.

The rooms in West Hall were set up with a set of bunk beds on each side and stayed in that arrangement. Today, many rooms have all of the beds on one side and a seating area on the other side.

Zonnefeld remembers how carfew was set up in the residence hall. "Sunday through Thursday nights we had to be in by 11:00 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday we had to be in by midnight. The girls; however, had an earlier curfew during the week."

Smoke was a common smell in the dorms, as smoking was allowed in rooms.

Now however, the scent of popcorn wafts through the halls. Ironically, it was popcorn poppers that used to be banned in the rooms.

Yet, students still sneak them in by showing "a rug against the door so the smell wouldn't leave the room while they made popcorn," Zonnefeld said. Another interesting aspect of dorm life back then was the fact that each room could sign up to receive a daily newspaper for just 50 cents per week.

"Our own paperboy brought the paper by each morning," said Zonnefeld. Yet, unlike today, students didn't have the luxury of having telephones in their room.

"There was one telephone on each wing and when it rang, we usually yelled down the hallway to get the attention of the person wanted on the phone. We didn't take messages; we simply hoped that the person would call back," said Zonnefeld.

When the time came for the students to pick their living locations for the following year, they chose from out of a hat. There was simply not enough room for all of the students living in the building that year to stay, as there were incoming freshman that would be moving in the next year.

Many of the students had to live in other buildings even though West Hall was the favorite. The housing situation is very similar today, operating on a lottery system.

Over its 42 years, the structure of West Hall has seen many changes as well. When the building was built, terrazzo flooring covered the hallways.

Today, that flooring has been covered up with carpet to give the building a more "cozy, home-like" feeling, but also to make the dorm quieter.

The wiring and plumbing have been redone in the entire building. New windows were put in and air conditioning was an addition in 2003. Arguably, the biggest change has been the renovation of the main lounge in West Hall. Once called "The Orbit Room," it's redecorated and known as "The Lodge."

As new students keep coming to Dordt College, West Hall will undergo more changes. Yet, it will forever be an important link to the history of Dordt and the many memories made there.
Narrator Josh deGroot, Cinellera (Laura Dystra), Jack (Jonathan Shaftstall) and Jack's mom (Kendra Triemstra)

contemplate fun and fear in this semester's production of Into the Woods.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This review was written solely by the author and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Diamond staff. Comments and questions can be directed to the writer.

Nathan Terrell

Opinion

Adapted for the stage by Stephen Sondheim, "Into the Woods" is a fairy-tale-crammed critique of "happily ever after" stories. With 23 cast members, several coordinated scene changes and breath-taking music, "Into the Woods" won’t likely be staged by any high schools. Yet, on their final dress rehearsal, director Jeri Schelbaas and the theatre department’s castcrew seemed to be managing the musical with ease.

"Into the Woods" is a swirling mish-mash of four Grimm brothers fairytales: "Rapunzel," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Little Red Ridinghood" and "Cinderella." But leave the kids at home: the musical is about two-and-a-half to three hours long and most of the dialogue won’t be understood by children. The Baker (Marcus Roskamp) and his wife (Laurel Koerner), from "Rapunzel," have been cursed by the witch (Joelle Sparks) and cannot have children unless they bring back the wish four items before three midnights pass. Desperate to break the spell, the Baker and his wife set off into the woods. Meanwhile, Jack (Jonathan Shaftstall) is forced to sell his pet and only friend, Milky White the cow. Little Red Ridinghood (Amy Blok) is on her way to grandmother’s house, scarifying baked goods along the way. And Cinderella (Laura Dykstra) is awaiting her chance to dance with Prince Charming at the royal ball. Encounters in the woods are happenstance, and viewers were delighted with the characters' quirks. Koerner played the part of a willful wife perfectly, and Kendra Triemstra, who played Jack's mother, had a voice that simply sparkled against her character’s rough features.

The humorous steward (Jake Silver) pulled off a difficult combination of indifference and annoyance. Pompous and ridiculously self-gratifying, the princes (Nick Engbers and Kevin Riemersma) added needed charisma and comedy to a play that can slip easily into the depressive. Sparks' performance as the witch often overshadowed the other actors on stage due to the mastery of her character. Meanwhile, Shaftstall performed the part of Jack so well that the audience couldn’t stop giggling and Jonathan Horlings’ antics perfectly and creatively captured the role of the Big Bad Wolf. The play suffered only in Act II, when it seemed most of the actors had lost their steam. It was most notable in the song between the Baker and his father (T. J. Lagestee), both of whom sang well enough, but wounded the power of the performance with sulky or mechanical movements. Several audio issues plagued the sound system, and at some points it was difficult to hear the dialogue. But audio problems are certainly not signs of incompetence. The orchestra, conducted by Jim Van Ry, had only a few problems keeping up with the actors' dialogue and lyrics (or did the actors not keep up with the orchestra?) but the minor glitches did not detract from the overall performance. Indeed, Shaftstall sang the lung-busting "Giants in the Sky" admirably, though not perfectly. While it isn’t your typical Disney-filtered, kid-safe fluff, "Into the Woods" is a wonderful musical/play to watch. Catch it at Oct. 20, 22 and 29 at 7:30 p.m., with matinee shows on Oct. 22 and 29 at 2 p.m. The prices for the shows are $5 for students and $8 for non-students at the box office in the Campus Center.

Jars of Clay

Katie Buyck

The unique sound of Jars of Clay has returned with the release of another album entitled Redemption Songs. The up-beat tunes draw you into the music. The classic prayer songs accented by distinctive instrumentals have made the group Jars of Clay popular.

Run over to Dordt's library and check them out. Dordt's music club, Positive Airwaves, has started a collection of great worship cds open to students in the library; just ask the librarian where they are. Jars of Clay can lift you up when you just need a break; their positive message is fresh with a light sound. If you like their songs look for their previous titles, Who We Are Instead, If I Left the Zoo, Eleventh Hour, and a self titled album. Jars of Clay will be performing at Northwestern College in Orange City, October 30 at 7 pm. You may purchase tickets from the True Vine bookstore in the Center Mall or go to www.nwciowa.edu/concerts. Positive Airwaves will be providing van rides to the concert.

Email airwaves@dordt.edu to reserve your seat in a van. Keep your eyes open for more announcements from Positive Airwaves. Also, watch for other great music in the library.
“Price is Trite” not trite at all

Bree Wierenga
Staff Writer

Where can you find a toilet, trees, cornstalks, Goths and cowboys all in the same place? Try Dordt’s annual “The Price is Trite.”

“The Price is Trite” took place in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on Saturday, October 15. Hosted by the Student Activities Committee (SAC), the event was Dordt’s rendition of the popular TV show “The Price is Right.”

Freshman Chris Kuiper played Bob Barker and senior Jonathan Schans portrayed Rod Roddy. SAC, following past tradition, encouraged those who were interested in attending to dress up in costumes for a chance to win prizes.

The event followed the same pattern as the TV show, calling on random audience members to “come on down” and bid on an item. The bidder closest to the actual retail price would then go on to play such familiar games as Plinko and Spin the Wheel for another chance to win prizes.

The prizes ranged from a new bike to a Burt’s Bees gift set. Most prizes were helpful “college student” items such as mugs and free oil changes. But for such a highly enjoyed show, some prizes, like a TV brand beanie baby, were rather trivial and had little practical use. Even the night itself had some shaky points, like when a stand-up dollar sign toppled over. Nevertheless, such problems were quickly overlooked when the full impact of the show hit.

“There was a great deal of excitement in the air and it made the atmosphere very enjoyable,” says freshman Andrew Voss. Sophomore Jeremiah Kats speaks for many when he says, “I think the best part was seeing all the costumes.”

Indeed, seeing familiar faces smothered in paint and makeup was enough to bring a laugh out of anyone. Voss calls his rather hastily thrown-together Superman costume a “childish version of an infamous character.”

The night was a success. Slight difficulties were nothing in comparison to the triumph of the entire show. “It’s worth going to next year because you never know if you’re going to get called to ‘come on down’ and win some sweet stuff!” freshman Betsy Sapp says. “Plus it’s a great excuse to dress up!”

There is something about the idea of having a real motorcycle that attracts young men to almost motorcycles. In a previous “Wheels of the Week” on pocket bikes, we learned that Jason Shumate has a mini-sized motorcycle that he compares to a real man’s bike.

This week, the focus is on Jesse Veenstra and his wanna-be Harley—his moped.

At the age of 14, the idea of something with only two wheels and a motor seems cooler than your neighbor’s regular ten-speed. Veenstra’s moped was purchased at an auction for $75—not a bad investment for a young teenage guy. He drove it until he got a car and then it was left in the barn to die an early death.

After a few years of neglect, Veenstra decided, in a sudden burst of nostalgia, to take it out and try to revive it. His uncle got B running for him and now it’s here at Dordt.

Why a moped? “I have it here because it is cooler than a moped and it is a good way to pick up chicks,” says Veenstra. What is more desirable than a ride that gets you quickly from point A to point B and also attracts the womenfolk? And those are just a few of its perks. It gets awesome gas mileage, which is especially important considering the effects of gas prices on the wallets of poor college students.

“I love sitting back on it, acting like it is some kind of motorcycle and stuff like that,” says Veenstra. Maybe one day he won’t have to pretend with a moped anymore.

Send article-related comments or questions to diamond@dordt.edu
Tara De Boer and Lindsey Van Wyk attempt to block Iowa Wesleyan’s Luren Baylon.

Fall sports take success into postseason

Josh Dystra
Staff Writer

"It's a shot and... goal!" If you've been to any of the Dordt soccer games, you might have heard this phrase quite a few times. Both the men's and women's teams are in the GPAC playoffs.

After a rocky start, the women's soccer team finds themselves in a strong position for the playoffs. The team goes in as the regular season runner-up, with the number one seed in the playoffs.

The Lady Defenders finish the regular season with an 8-7-2 overall record and an 8-2-1 conference record. They have a strong team and are looking to go far this year. Their semifinal match will be played at home on Saturday at 2 p.m.

The men's team finished in fifth place this year with a 6-5 conference record, qualifying them for the 5th seed in the GPAC playoffs. They were the regular season champions.

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Men's basketball kick off new season

Jeremy Hilt
Staff Writer

Squeak. Squeak. Squeak. Sneakers grab furiously for a hold as they run across the laminated and swishing through nets also leak out of De Wit Gymnasium.

Curious, you walk down the hallway and peak through the glass; the Dordt College men's basketball team is hard at work. In a preseason poll released on Oct. 12, the Dordt College men were picked to finish sixth in the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

Coach Greg Van Soelen is hoping to improve on a solid 14-12 season last year. Returning three starters from last year's team should help the cause. Among those returning are seniors Luke Ruter and Brandon Zanten, a freshman from Pella, Iowa. Chad was one of several underclassmen that played important varsity minutes last season.

Returning at the point this season is Derek Keizer. Keizer skillfully led the Defender offense, while proving a menace to opponents on the defensive end of the court. Keizer dished out 5.4 assists per game average. Haan brings a blue collar work attitude to the post, leading the team in rebounds (6.7 per game) and averaging 15.3 points per game.

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Although soccer and volleyball steal most of the thunder and headlines, Dordt's Sowers lacrosse games offer fans a more fast-paced hard-hitting sport to watch. The men's team has played a couple of matches this fall and still has one home match left before the long break leading to the important spring season.

The fall season began with a scrimmage against bitter rival Northwestern. Dordt dominated the game and won 9-4. Following this game, Dordt faced off against University of South Dakota last weekend under the lights at the Sioux Center football field. The Sowers pleased the large parent's weekend crowd by dominating the game and taking a 14-4 win.

The Sowers finish off the fall season with a huge match up against Creighton this Saturday, October 29. The game will be played on the old soccer field behind Southview and it begins at 2:30 p.m. Creighton is currently ranked number one in the Great River Lacrosse Conference and Dordt is ranked fourth.

Dordt hopes to end the brief fall season without a loss and head into the nine game spring season with a lot of confidence.

Q: Why did people remove a cloud from the sky? A: "Because there were a lot of expectations."