Trading places: Kuiper comes to campus

A professor from the Netherlands and a Dordt professor have "traded spaces" for the spring semester at Dordt College.

Dr. Roel Kuiper and his family have come from the Netherlands and have moved into the Sioux Center home of John Vander Stee, emeritus professor of philosophy at Dordt College.

This is the first time that the Kuiper family has been in the United States, although Kuiper had previously traveled to Canada and had many acquaintances through the international family of Christian scholars.

"This is an adventure for me and my family," said Kuiper. Kuiper is married to Tjitske de Haan, who anticipates studying local politics here, as well as assisting her children with school. They have four children who are enrolled in Unity Christian High School and Sioux Center Christian Grade School. Kuiper said that every member of their family is excited about this opportunity.

Kuiper studied history and philosophy at Free University in Amsterdam and published his Ph.D. dissertation on 19th century nationalism, internationalism and the political ideas of Groen van Prinsterer and Abraham Kuyper in 1992.

Since political party in the Netherlands, 1998, Kuiper has been a professor of philosophy at Erasmus University in Rotterdam. He was also director of a research institute connected with the Christian Union, a Reformed/Evangelical political party in the Netherlands.

Kuiper's official title is "visiting professor of history," and he is teaching European history, Western Civilization and Historiography at Dordt College this semester.

Talent Extravaganza and Fireside Chats to Delight Students

The highly anticipated 20th annual Talent Extravaganza is right around the corner. The show will be held in the B.J. Haan on February 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Talent Extravaganza will go on sale Monday, February 10, for $4. Student IDs are required to obtain a ticket.

The show is composed of 15 acts. Students will have an opportunity to share their gifts and abilities, ranging from music to drama.

"The Talent Extravaganza will provide an opportunity for Dordt students to share their talents with the campus," Student Activity Committee co-chair Becky Schuller said.

Auditions were held February 4 and 5 for the prospective student acts. In order to tryout for the Talent Extravaganza, each act had to be less than six minutes, and the performers had to supply their own props.

Another activity for students to participate in is the Fireside Chats, held Mondays at 9 p.m. in the Ekhardt Lounge. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss important topics ranging from relationships to gender roles to masculinity/femininity. Attendees will walk away with a $1 coupon to the Humble Bean.

INSIDE

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Love to Write?

Participate in the Purple Martin Writing Contest

The English Department invites you to enter the annual all-college writing contest, with several categories designated specifically for freshmen. You can pick up a copy of the guidelines in the English pod.

Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in April. Entry deadline: March 7, 2003.

GIFT

8:30 p.m.
Cindy Holtrop aids campus worship

Cindy Holtrop spoke at Chapel about God's blessing on His children.

Garber struggles with "culture of whatever"

Kristi Mulder
World Editor
Tuesday, February 3, Dr. Steve Garber, former faculty member of the American Studies Program in Washington, D.C. and now Dean of the Chapel Fellowship at Calvin College, visited campus to talk with students and faculty about what it means to seek to live together in a Christian college community.

Garber has been working and listening to students for over 25 years. He is the author of The Fabric of Faithfulness: Weaving Together Belief and Behavior During the University Years, a book which challenges readers (specifically Christian college students) to connect what they believe and care about with their actions.

In an informal conversation held Monday afternoon in the Humble Bean, Garber and several students, staff, and faculty members discussed issues of accountability and consideration in community. Garber also recorded a talk with President Zylstra's for KDCR's "Conversations."

Garber also spoke to Dordt and Northwestern faculty Monday evening. He spoke on the tension believers often feel between their knowledge of God's world and the world's "culture of whatever." In the pre cis to his talk he writes, "The irony of the information age, for most of us, is that the more we know, the less we care. That reality is like acid rain on even the most faithful efforts of Christians in higher education, both students and faculty. At the dawn of the new century, learning to connect what we know about with what we care about is the most difficult task that Christian students face as they take up the task of learning to love God and God's world."

Helping students serve our world

John Kok, Dean of Humanities Div

Dordt College has been awarding summer ministry scholarships since 1991. Last summer $5000 was awarded to 10 students for their participation in summer mission or ministry work that has an emphasis on Christian service or requires a significant cross-cultural experience. Over the years students have indicated that they desire to know what the college experiences in non-paying or very low-paying summer ministries.

The good news is that thanks to the Lilly Vocation Grant this summer up to $30,000 more will be available to support this scholarship. To soften the dilemma, the college tries to encourage participation in these programs by making these scholarships available to those who are involved in non-paying or very low-paying summer ministries.

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Holtrop is originally from Sheldon, Iowa, and graduated from Dordt in 1978 with a major in second-year education with an emphasis in English, and a minor in drama and speech. After graduation she started teaching drama and speech at Unity Christian High School in Orange City, Iowa, and then began teaching a few courses at Dordt while working at KDCR radio station.

When Holtrop knew that God was calling her elsewhere, she moved on to work in the only Christian Reformed Church in Connecticut and then moved onto a church in Rochester, NY. In order to do all the tasks that God had for her to do, God placed a passion for hospitality in Holtrop. In both churches Holtrop lead in welcoming newcomers. Holtrop said, "I guess you could say I greeted them at the door, made sure they felt welcome and then shut the door once they were in."

"Hospitality is creating a safe place for people," Holtrop said. "In my job I taught the church to be a hospitable place where people can experience community and God's presence."

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Good Things, Everyday!

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The Diamond reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution. The Diamond is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond.

Any letters, comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be received before 5:00 p.m. the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue. Send contributions to:

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For more information, contact Prof. Leen van Beeck.

New faces join student forum

Orph Schiebout
Student Forum Press Secretary

As schedules and classes become familiar, the excitement of a new semester is wearing off. However, for Student Forum, it has just begun. On Tuesday, January 28, the faces of two new members—Christel Poelman and Jason Debbink—graced the presence of the regularly-scheduled Student Forum meetings in the Campus Center Boardroom.

Christel Poelman is filling the void left by two representative alums, Andrew Hooeksema and Renae’s Visser, as she spends the semester in Costa Rica. Poelman is a history major from Abbotsford, BC, who spent the previous two semesters on the American Studies Program in Washington, DC, and the Middle East Studies Program based in Cairo, Egypt. Besides Student Forum, she is a member of Bread for the World Club. She hopes to contribute a passion to get the student body involved in discussion and desires stronger communication between leaders and forum members and the campus. For Poelman, two of the larger issues on Dordt’s campus are over-consumption of alcohol and mismanagement of fiscal resources. Poelman’s role model is her high school history teacher who made history and current events come alive for her and gave her a passion for social justice.

Jason Debbink, a sophomore Business Administration major, is the replacement for sophomore representative Gerrit Wierenga, who is currently on the N’Spice program. Debbink hails from Leduc, AB, and he plays hockey for the Dordt Blades. In fact, playing hockey with his older brother was part of his initial reason for attending Dordt.

Due to his being a sophomore, Debbink thought he would give Student Forum a try and hopes to contribute everything he can to the group. When asked about one of the larger issues that Dordt faces, Jason suggested smoking. He considers his parents as his primary role models, and one of his favorite aspects of Dordt’s campus community is the people. Students have brought issues like open hours, married housing, and implementation of the Lilly Grant funds to the attention of Student Forum this year. The forum hopes to find ways to empower students who are not currently in leadership positions. In addition, Forum wishes to encourage student participation on Dordt’s campus through open forums, suggestions to its members, and an upcoming Student Forum bulletin board and suggestion box—all of which may be used for students to convey and discuss issues vital to the Dordt community. The group also looks forward to the Dean-student luncheon and the spring blood drive, both of which occur later in the semester.

Heynen is “Telling Tales”

Jim Heynen is an author of award winning poems, novels, novelettes and short stories. Heynen will be sharing “Telling Tales Out of School” with Dordt students and alumni as part of the “Renew the Ties at Dordt” during Homecoming weekend. Heynen will take to the stage Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Dordt College Campus Center.

The reading, beginning at 7 p.m., in the DeVager Activity Area, will be followed by an ice cream social at 8 p.m. and the student Comedy League at 8:30 p.m.
**Consideration, please**

Rodie Grantham
Staff Writer

**A long, long, time ago I think it was fresh- man year my friend Engelela and I were up studying for a Botany test. The test was the next day, and we were downtown in the East Hall basement because both of our roommates had already retired for the night. So we were studying away, trying desperately to cram the entire Botany text from blab-blah publishers into our little heads when suddenly, tragedy struck. About 5 or 6 girls came laughing and giggling down the stairs, established themselves on the couches in the same room we were studying in, and proceeded to laugh, talk, scream and do any one of a variety of things except... acknowledge we were studying.

The absurdity of the situation made me want to cry. There we were, studying our brains out for this really hard class, with our books open in front of us, and these girls seemed totally oblivious to our efforts. I didn’t say anything because I thought that in a Christian college filled with Christian adults, that surely they would “wake up,” realize we were studying and locate elsewhere. I thought for sure, that especially in this environment, people would show a little consideration. But apparently, we’re all pretty good at manifesting this part of our fallen nature.

In a lot of ways, consideration is the biggest issue on campus. It’s bigger than smoking or drinking because it affects everyone. It doesn’t matter if you’re trying to study for that Discrete Structure’s test, or if you just broke up with your boyfriend of 17 months, and your next-door neighbor is blasting Megadeath. Being inconsiderate is: smoking too close to the door of the classroom building where asthmatics have to walk every day, not letting your professor know that you’re absent from class, or peeing in the elevator in Covenant because they did a dance on Jackass. It’s a big problem, and all you have to do to change is to think a little.

This is a serious problem, and everyone struggles with this at one time or another. For one, I am not the voice of one self-righteous pig, squealing in the wilderness. This weekend actually, I was accused and convicted of being inconsiderate. At a quarter to five on Saturday night, a friend and I had just finished the Princess Diaries and were talking and laughing outside my dorm room. However, before we had the chance to be idiots for much longer, my next-door neighbor came out of her room and told us that we were being too loud. So we shut up and proceeded to locate ourselves elsewhere.

I’m grateful to have next door neighbors like that, who aren’t afraid to tell me when I’m being inconsiderate. At the time, I was a little annoyed, but now I know what I was in the wrong, and I needed to face up to that. What happens more often than not, is that people are aware that someone is being inconsiderate, but they’re too afraid to tell that person. As a result, the person keeps engaging in a behavior that disrespects others, and the people who are being annised, continue to be annoyed. It’s a lose-lose situation, and it can lead to gossiping about the inconsiderate person. That certainly won’t solve the problem, but only makes it worse. And the gossipers look worse than the person who committed the initial offense.

Jesus Christ came to earth with an attitude of humility, but he never shirked confrontation when necessary. And in being considerate we too ought to be like Christ by thinking of others first, and showing respect to those around us.
Schippers serves at Family Crisis Center

Andrea Vander Wilt
Staff Writer

Deb Schippers came to Dordt as a freshman wanting to serve. She found her place at the Family Crisis Center in Sioux Center.

Deb Schippers is now in her second year at Dordt College and has been working with the Family Crisis Center for a year and a half. "I came off a mission trip wanting to volunteer and COPs gave me the idea," Deb commented.

Deb heard about the Family Crisis Center through the Community Outreach Program, or COPs. The program was a great opportunity for her since she is a Social Work major and needed volunteer hours to complete her major. She immediately began working in the crisis center and has been a shelter monitor ever since. A shelter monitor helps women when they come in with a crisis situation. Deb helps make the children feel comfortable and safe as well as sharing her support with the women and children. Deb also answers the phones when people call and sits in on kids' groups. She enjoys talking to the children.

The desire to volunteer has always been present for Deb, so the crisis center was a perfect opportunity for her. "I enjoy helping them because I am interested of volunteers, and it is great to see the women happy to be safe," Deb said. It isn't always easy to know what to say, but she gives the women someone to talk to.

The hours are very flexible and random for Deb. She gets called to work when the shelter needs her, there is no set schedule. She can either work evenings from about 5-10 or she can come in around 9 and stay overnight there. Her work involves not only answering the phones and talking to the women but also giving the women tours, helping them make dinner, filling out the log of what happens in the shelter, and helping the kids with their homework.

Since her job is not always that demanding, she can watch television, do homework or sleep in her own room. One thing that is important to Deb is to make sure the women there are still in control. She is only there to support and lend a listening ear.

Deb is not the only Dordt student involved at the crisis center. She works with various other Dordt and Northwestern students. If any other students would like to get involved, all they have to do is talk to her, COPs, or a school counselor. The center takes a variety of volunteers to work with the hotline, office or shelter. A shelter monitor does require 24 hours of training because there is direct interaction with the clients.

Some of Deb's best experiences have been with the "kids" groups. "They are so excited that someone cares. This makes me excited to see kids enjoying themselves there," Deb said. Volunteering at the crisis center is a way for her to serve God through the community, and she is happy to do it.

Bookstore bogus? Students stingy?

Steve Kloosterman
Editor

Two hundred dollars is a lot of money to anyone, much less a college student, and chances are, if you are a college student, you're spending more than that per semester just on books. Ever wonder why books cost what they do? You're not alone.

The courtship of American professors.

One of the biggest reasons book prices are continually climbing is that money-hungry publishers are forever producing third, fourth, fifth, and sixth editions with additional tables, features, color panels. The additional features are meant to attract professors, who decide what texts are to be used in their classes. "It may be legitimately asked, 'Why must there be a new edition so often?"' says bookstore director Cornie Rylaarsdam.

Rylaarsdam says the bookstore is doing its utmost to be cost-effective.

"We go to book companies that deal in used books—we attempt to get as many of those books as possible," says Rylaarsdam. "Our next step is to go to the actual publishers of books." Book publishers include not only such giants as McGraw-Hill and Harcourt College Publishers, but also college presses of places such as Trinity, and yes, even Dordt. The Dordt College Press sells quantities of The Craft of Christian Teaching by Dr. John Van Dyk, for example, to other Christian colleges.

Buying back

Part of the bookstore's cost-effective policy is related to the re-buying of student books at the semester's end. Books are bought from students at a higher rate if the professor teaching the class(s) next semester can guarantee the book will be required. In such a case, the bookstore can simply store the books until the next semester.

But if the bookstore has no assurance that a given text will be required the next semester, the books must be re-sold to a used-book dealer for a lesser amount of money. As a result, students don't receive quite as much money for books that will not be used in the immediate future.

The policy after "Christmas"

The bookstore changed its policy last year regarding the return of newly-bought books, not to be confused with books bought back at the semester's end. The bookstore limited the terms under which a book might be fully refunded when returned, requiring proof that a student is actually dropping a class.

"The problem we ran into was that some people would come in and buy all their books. We'd get short on books and order more, while in the meantime people would go to Shamar (or to individuals) and buy aed books, and then return their other more expensive, newer books," says Rylaarsdam. "We'd have to ship loads of them back."

Cheap books—only a click away?

As if there weren't enough confusion already in the market of college textbooks, the situation is further complicated by online buying and selling of books.

Case in point: textbooks in England are much cheaper. "It's less usual to have a specific textbook assigned to the class. You're told, this is what you need to find out," says professor of economics Jonathan Warner, an English national. Price-conscious students are left to choose/buy their books accordingly. For an example, visit http://www.econ.ox.ac.uk/mentab/oliver/board/microf/microf.ht n.

As a result, publishers are more concerned with making textbooks affordable, and you may buy a text via Amazon.com (England) for much less than you may pick it up for locally. Rylaarsdam claims at least one publisher has been involved in a lawsuit because of unfair pricing overseas.

The trouble occurs when students buy both on the internet and pick up an additional text on the side from the bookstore to use until their cheaper copy arrives in the mail. Rylaarsdam and his staff dread being stuck with a bunch of returned textbooks, too well-used to be sent back to the publisher. And so we see...

The situation really is quite complex. It's almost as tough to provide books at a low cost as it is to pay through the noise for yet another part of our education. Book prices aren't likely to drop very fast very soon.
DIAMOND • A&E February 7, 2003

Wake Up to “Restless Slumber”

Chris Maust
Staff Writer

Prepare to be impressed. Gerald Folkers’ traveling art show, “Restless Slumber” has made a stop in the Dordt College’s Campus Center Art Gallery. This is big news. An art show is a sort of competition between artists. Judges examine their work and “jury” the best pieces. These “juried” pieces are entered in the show and compete against each other in the final round of competition. “Restless Slumber” has been juried eighteen times, winning awards in eight of those instances. All trivial details aside, these paintings rock quite heavily. The style, realism, and volume of work displayed simply demand that you come down and at least take a look.

Pictured to the right is “Freefall.” What I believe to be a seen is a young boy wrapped in bed sheets high above an Iowa-like landscape, minus the snow. What whimsy! What delightfully appropriate childishness! Since the gallery’s theme is “Restless Slumber,” I suppose that the child is getting ready to wake up from a dream. The odd angles on the bedsheet are what draw my eyes around the piece, and the fine brushwork on the skin’s reflections are duly worth noting.

Immediately beneath this column is a painting named “Spectators.” One inch shy of being five feet long, this piece shows five somewhat disinterested fans napping during a quiet part of the game. With a little concentration, one can really get a feel for the circular nature of the stadium as the sun’s reflection on the stadium seats decreases with every next chair.

Folkers’ brushwork is one of my favorite parts of his style. On a canvas measuring forty-eight inches square, he’s usually got three or four coats of paint. Each layer by itself would easily take a half hour or longer to apply, covered with a single color, but most of the final two coats consist of precise strokes using a brush almost one quarter of an inch wide! Hours can be spent perfecting less than one square foot of canvas! Being able to paint quickly is almost as important as painting well. The easiest place to notice Folkers’ careful brushwork is on “Forgotten in Chernobyl.” (Not shown) A sleeping woman is wrapped in bed sheets while reclining on a mattress in front of a wall painted a gauzy tangerine shade of green. This idea alone would make an interesting painting, but Folkers added an extra flourish to the walls in the painting. The green paint appears to be peeling off of the wall in great nasty chunks, revealing the tastefully decorative red-maroon hidden underneath. Only visual examination can fully explain what this painting looks like, so I again encourage you to stop by the Campus Center’s Art Gallery, which is open until 10 PM on weekdays and on Saturday.

Not for Sale. 16” by 59”

Chicago: Musical or lingerie fiasco?

Jason Mulder
A&E Editor

The story surrounds a situation in which Velma Kelly captures the Chicago stage spotlight as a night club sensation. After she shoots her husband and sister after finding out they were cheating on her, she becomes Chicago’s finest lawyers, and at the center of her notorious murder trial becomes the town sensation, increasing her celebrity status. naive, husband with the hopes that her lover will introduce her to the right people and get her dreams of stardom rolling. When he tries to leave her and reveals that he had in order to get her in bed, she shoots the "son of a b**ch" and ends up on murderess row herself, stealing the spotlight from her former lover. Even Velma’s husband lawyer Billy Flynn (Richard Gere) postpones her trial in favor of the made-for-tv books story of the city’s new sensation, Roxie Hart. Rosie and Roxie continue the film, trying to outdo each other and command the spotlight. Each will stop at nothing in order to achieve her own pursuit of fame.

Roxie Hart is a wannabe. She is wants nothing other than to grasp the spotlight like famous Velma Kelly and will do anything to get it. She cheats on her loyal, and extremely JOB. Catherine Zeta-Jones and Renee Zellweger are supported by big names including Richard Gere, Queen Latifah, John C. Reilly, and Lucy Liu. This film has the potential to be big, the talented cast alone will be enough to draw a sizeable crowd. However, the filmmakers will need to offer audiences something new if they hope to parallel the success of Moulin Rouge. The plot may be a bit silly but if I believe they can pull it off. If you get the chance, Chicago might be worth the price of a theater ticket. But if your budget is low, I recommend at least renting it. It’s not your typical flick, but you might actually expose yourself to some culture.

Our greatest glory consists not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. — Ralph Waldo Emerson

Check this out!

3 Doors Down Wed, Feb. 12, 6:30 pm Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND
Music Department Recital Fri, Feb. 14, 7:00 pm BJH
Talent Extravaganza Sat, Feb. 15, 7:30 pm BJH
Enid String Quartet Fri, Feb. 21, 7:30 pm BJH
Jerry Seinfeld Sat, Feb. 22, 7:00 and 9:30 pm Chester Fritz Auditorium, Grand Forks, ND
Twelfth Night Thu, Feb. 27, 8 to 11 pm The Duke Theatre
Romeo and Juliet Fri, Feb. 28 and Sat, Mar. 1, 7:30 pm Fisher Theater, Ames, IA
Campus Band & Jazz Band Concert Sat, Mar. 1, 7:00 pm BJH
Chevelle Tue, Mar. 4, 7:30 pm Trouscher, Des Moines, IA.
Choral Ensembles Winter Concert Fri, Mar. 7, 7:30 pm BJH
Disturbed Sat, Mar. 8, 7:00 pm Pershing Center, Lincoln, NE
The Go Show Tour featuring Audio Adrenaline and Mercy Me, with special guests Kutless and The Swift Sat, Mar. 22, 7:30 pm Rowanhouse Student Center, NWC

Have an event that you would like posted? Email jsmulder@dordt.edu
Dordt professor Darryl De Ruiter is stepping out of the bounds of simply teaching and putting his mind and body to a different task. Darryl De Ruiter of the HPER department is currently in training to run the 107th Boston Marathon in April. De Ruiter qualified for the Boston Marathon by beating the qualifying time of 3:15 at Grandma’s Marathon held last October in Duluth, Minnesota. This will be the seventh— and the biggest— marathon for De Ruiter. He ran his first in the spring of 1993 in California, and followed that with one in the winter of 1993, where he ran his personal best time of 2:57. Since then he has run in Minneapolis, MN, twice in Lincoln, NE, and once in Duluth.

De Ruiter is looking forward to this experience partly because of the history of the Boston Marathon. “This is the granddaddy of them all,” he says. “It has such a history behind it.” Because of the enormity of such an experience, De Ruiter says his main goal is to just enjoy the experience and “soak it all in.”

For training, De Ruiter puts most of his emphasis on long weekend runs. These guys are truly my great friends on this campus. We have put in the hard work and hopefully the conference thereby assuring a home playoff game. Finally, the ultimate goal would be to win the conference championship and go to nationals.

Do you plan to continue on with basketball in your future? I am looking into Europe and the CBA but I haven’t had any good leads right now so probably not at this point. It is fair to say that after Dordt my competitive experience, De Ruiter says his granddaddy of them all,” he says. “You’ve got to get time on your feet, and the only way to do that is to run.”

This will be the third marathon that De Ruiter will run solo. His wife ran with him at Minneapolis, and he also had company during the two races in Lincoln—once with his father-in-law and once with current Dordt student Josh Visser, who was a senior in high school at that time.

De Ruiter is finishing his final semester at Dordt before leaving to take an administrative position at Pella Christian High School. He has been a professor in the HPER department, the intramurals coordinator, and the men’s soccer coach during his two years at Dordt College.

On your mark, get set, run, Professor De Ruiter!

Jacque Scoby
Sports Editor

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De Ruiter is looking forward to this experience partly because of the history of the Boston Marathon. “This is the granddaddy of them all,” he says. “It has such a history behind it.” Because of the enormity of such an experience, De Ruiter says his main goal is to just enjoy the experience and “soak it all in.”

For training, De Ruiter puts most of his emphasis on long weekend runs. These guys are truly my great friends on this campus. We have put in the hard work and hopefully the conference thereby assuring a home playoff game. Finally, the ultimate goal would be to win the conference championship and go to nationals.

Do you plan to continue on with basketball in your future? I am looking into Europe and the CBA but I haven’t had any good leads right now so probably not at this point. It is fair to say that after Dordt my competitive experience, De Ruiter says his granddaddy of them all,” he says. “You’ve got to get time on your feet, and the only way to do that is to run.”

This will be the third marathon that De Ruiter will run solo. His wife ran with him at Minneapolis, and he also had company during the two races in Lincoln—once with his father-in-law and once with current Dordt student Josh Visser, who was a senior in high school at that time.

De Ruiter is finishing his final semester at Dordt before leaving to take an administrative position at Pella Christian High School. He has been a professor in the HPER department, the intramurals coordinator, and the men’s soccer coach during his two years at Dordt College.

On your mark, get set, run, Professor De Ruiter!
Pressure on Iraq Intensifies

Kristi Mulder
World Page Editor

President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell have attempted to focus the world's attention on Iraq in the past two weeks. President Bush delivered his State of the Union address last Tuesday evening and spoke about many issues occupying Americans, not the least of which is a looming war against Iraq. Secretary of State Powell addressed a special session of the UN Security Council on Wednesday.

Bush began last Tuesday by speaking first to domestic issues—the war on terror, education reform, energy concerns, and social security and prescription drug concerns for the elderly. Later he moved on to international issues, focusing on the AIDS pandemic in Africa and urged Congress to pass new legislation, giving $15 billion over the next five years to provide medicine and hope to over 30 million people suffering there.

Secretary of State Colin Powell continued to try to build the case against Iraq on Wednesday, February 5, as he addressed the UN Security Council. Powell presented tape recordings of satellite photographs and intelligence data showing Baghdad's evasion and deception in the face of UN weapons inspections.

Mr Powell warned against any further delay in tackling what he called Iraq's chemical, biological, and nuclear arms ambitions. But France, which has a veto in the Security Council, said that the work of the weapons inspectors had not yet run its course, that their numbers should be tripled if necessary, and that force should only be used as a last resort.

UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Mr. Powell has presented the most "powerful and authoritative" case against the Iraqi regime yet. Mr Straw called on the Instead it is the increase in public awareness and concern for the plight of the poor that has been part of Solomon's Temple. The Geological Survey of Israel says its geological tests confirm that the writing dates to the 9th century B.C., the time of the reign of King Jehoshua in Judaea. The tablet also has the potential to increase tension between Jerusalem's Jews and Muslims. Jews might use the tablet as further proof of their claim of the site of the former temple. The Temple Mount site has been claimed by Muslims, Christians, and Jews as a sacred area and is currently controlled by Muslims.

There are Christian intellectuals who talk about living out the biblical imperatives to impact the culture with faith based values, and to work for social justice. ICS is doing it!

Tony Complo, author and sociologist

Polluting Property Rights

Peter Anderson
Staff Writer

At the beginning of this week, the federal government brought a lawsuit against FirstEnergy Corp.'s W.H. Sammis plant in Ohio for not installing pollution-regulating equipment. The plant is the Northeast United States. Once again we could quickly conclude that we are just dealing with another failure of the free market system. In reality, polluting others is not an inherent negative tendency of the free market. Pollution actually stems from the failure of the government to uphold property rights.

Private property rights give individuals the right to do with and dispose of their property as they see fit; it gives them exclusive ownership. However, this does not give individuals the right to forcefully interfere with other property rights. For example, property rights would allow Mr. X - because people are considered the owners of their body - to imbibe something damaging like large quantities of alcohol. However, Mr. X's property rights of his body do not extend so far as to allow him to punch Mr. Q - which obviously would be violating Mr. Q or anyone else's individual property rights.

This matter of individual property rights can be easily applied to issues of pollution. If hypothetical Factory A emits chemicals and pollution into the air that spread to the property of Mr. B, and in turn harms Mr. B's health, crops, land etc. Mr. B has every right to seek compensation for the damage done to his property by Factory A. This situation is analogous to the man who could seek compensation for his property being invaded by a burglar. The first conflict is publicly owned land. If the government is to be the proprietor of our public land we can expect pollution to continue at the current rate. This is because the government has no economic interest in keeping property environmentally sound - other than conforming to voter pressure - because governments operate by coercion. Therefore, property owned by the government is not subject to market demands. Neither future nor present value of property comes into play with government decisions because they are not developing their property for profit or simple aesthetic pleasure like private owners. Besides voter pressure, the government has no market incentive to keep publicly owned property viable for market interests.

This second factor is that the courts have not historically protected property rights by mitigating pollution. Therefore, businesses have never had to create new devices to reduce pollution or make their product "property sensitive." Historically, property rights have not been defended against pollution and as a result the free market has not been able to correct this, or pressured to invest technological devices that reduce pollution efficiently.

In the end, any rational person realizes the importance of upholding property rights to the free market. Therefore, there is nothing inconsistent between upholding property rights by diminishing pollution and the free market. Instead it is the increase in public awareness and concern for the plight of the poor that leads to greater pollution. No better case can be made for this than the poor environmental records of the communist countries, which are the domain of the state.