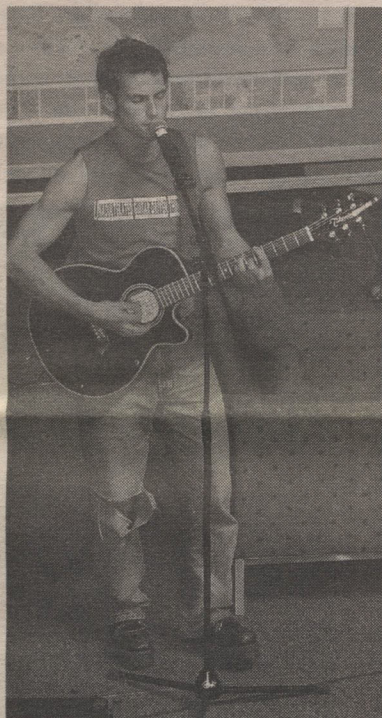
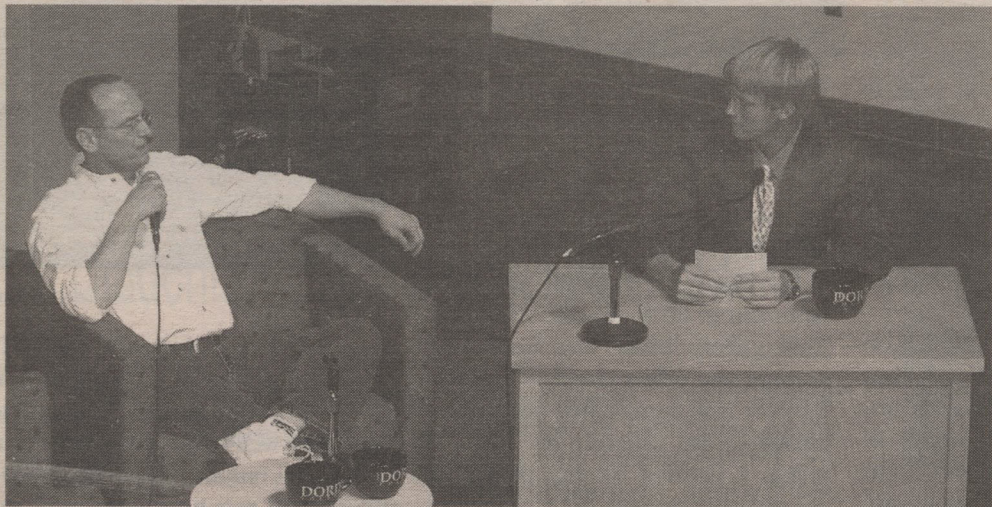


April 11, 2003

Late-night TV, DC style

Boerma, Joel G. and Fly-by-night entertain late-nighters



Top Left: Jim Calkhoven, manager of Carrie Foods, won a mug after playing "Name that Cut" in which he identified different photos of meat.
Top right: Isaac Boerma, late-show host.
Bottom left: JoelG shares his faith through music.
Bottom right: Professor Kuiper finds random places in the USA on the map.

Photo credit: Lois Garrett

Rosie Grantham Staff Writer

Last Thursday night, while some students were snug in their beds, night owls and procrastinators gathered in the Campus Center to see the Dordt Late Show with Isaac Boerma.

Boerma started the show off Leno-style with a minute or two of stand-up comedy, before progressing on to the rest of the show. The two guests featured on the Dordt Late Show were Jim Calkhoven, director and owner of Carrie Foods, and Professor Roel Kuiper, visiting history professor from the Netherlands.

The show used a combination of elements from various "late" or "Tonight" or "Late Late" shows, including the reading of the newspaper headlines, having the guests answer questions for prizes, and the Top Ten list.

Although original in content, the show roused minimal student response, with sporadic bursts of laughter at the quips of Professor Kuiper. When asked if he had seen any other states during the college's spring break, Professor Kuiper replied that his family went to visit friends in Holland, Michigan. Kuiper emphasized they went to visit friends, saying "We did NOT drive to Holland to see tulips, windmills or wooden shoes."

Those who stuck around after the late show were treated to musical talent both local and distant. Justin Vande Kerk's band Fly-by-Night kicked off the concert, performing some of their songs such as "the Happy Days Song" along with "Questions and Answers." Vande Kerk's sonorous tenor was allowed full play on "Cry for Mercy" and

blended beautifully with John Hoogeveen's voice on "Now I see." Ethan Koerner played base, with Joe Vande Kerk on lead guitar. Justin Vande Kerk sang lead vocals and rhythm guitar while John Hoogeveen kept the band steady on drums.

The featured artist Joel Gelynse finally took the stage at midnight, full of smiles and stories about the trip down from Guelph, Ontario Canada. Known better as Joel G., Joel apologized for only having his bassist, as his drummer and other guitarist had backed out a week before. But with Dordt's Jon Horlings on Drums and Beth Knight singing backup vocals, Joel G. successfully pulled off an enjoyable performance.

Although the music was decent, the real power of Joel G.'s talent lies in his lyrics. Focused on producing what he calls "guitar-driven think-rock," his painstakingly crafted lyrics are focused on sending a message. A line from his song "Presupposition" is his rallying cry: "Do you really want the truth to set you free, or are you satisfied with your state of complacency?" Other songs he performed had equal quality lyrical content. Particularly moving was his performance of "Requiem," which was birthed out of the death of two close friends who were killed in car accidents. "Think Rock" is a big part of Joel G.'s ministry. He says "My goal is not just to please the ear but also to provoke people to think about these things."

Joel G. also played at the Underground/Common Ground in Sioux City on Friday night and performed at the Firehouse in Sioux Falls on Saturday night.

Organist Higgs performs in the B.J. Haan

Ann Andree Assistant Editor

The BJ Haan organ was in the spotlight last Saturday night—David Higgs, one of America's leading concert organists, had come to town.

College and community have waited for this concert for many months now. One couple had driven down from Spirit Lake, Iowa especially for David Higgs' organ recital.

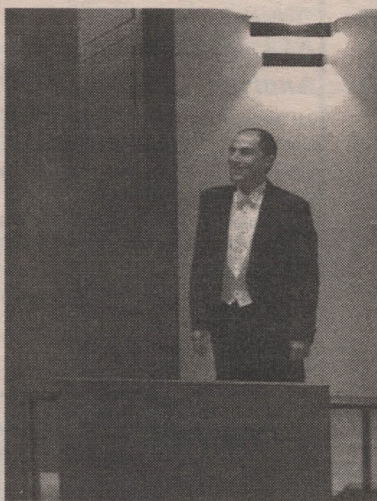
Higgs has great respect for the organ history of the Europeans, especially the Dutch. Higgs said, "To be Dutch is to have a history of pipe organs like none other. Dordt has followed the footsteps of its founders." Higgs also said he was impressed with the quality of the organ.

Higgs' secure and talented fingers gave the organ a chance to show its worth. The swells

swelled; the pedals pumped; the pipes played. Higgs played a variety of genres: from classic organ-style Bach to—surprise!—ragtime music.

Humour and history were integrated into the musical performance. Before playing "Canon in B Minor" by Robert Schumann, Higgs explained that a Canon was a two-part round, saying, "If all goes well, the left hand will follow the right hand." Of course, all did go well.

The concert was a musical timeline of organ history. Organ music has switched back and forth from secular to church and from ignored to popular over the centuries. The pieces played showed the contrasts history created. "Bach's Fantasy and Fugue in G minor," for example, was complex and intricate. The two preludes "E-flat Major" and "E-flat Minor" by J.C. Kittel, Bach's last student, however, were a rebellion to



Higgs explains the history behind the pieces he will be playing.

Photo credit: Lois Garrett

Baroque era of Bach and were more romantic and simple in style.

David Higgs earned his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at the Manhattan School of Music, and his Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music.

Aloha, it's Spring Fling

Kimberly Lucier Staff Writer

The annual Spring Banquet is right around the corner. This year's Hawaiian theme will be evident throughout the event.

Pictures and punch will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.—both taking place in the Campus Center. Carrie Foods will cater the dinner, which includes chicken teriyaki on rice, roast beef, corn, rolls, salad, potato casserole, strawberry fluff, fresh fruit and a beverage selection of milk or punch.

When dinner draws to a close, karaoke will provide entertainment among the attendees. Also, a dance will take place in the Recreation Center, with student

Matt Deppe, a senior. As the D.J., Deppe is currently working with other students to incorporate music that is linked to the dance's Hawaiian atmosphere.

"This dance is unique since we are relating some music to the theme, unlike earlier dances. And, there's a lot more enthusiasm involved with this event," said sophomore Rebecca Groenendyk.

A lot of time has been involved with the planning process for the Hawaiian Spring Fling. SAC members and banquet committee members have been contemplating banquet ideas since Winter Break. "I just hope that students will have fun with their friends by enjoying a tropical escape through good food, company, entertainment and dancing," says SAC senior co-chair Becky Schuller.

Senior students show their art skills

The 2003 senior class is the first to feature their senior project in the new art gallery.



Beka Schreur

The author exhibits her work for the Senior Art Show

NISO Concert features musical talent

Andrea Vander Wilt
Staff Writer

Tuesday, April 15, at 7:30 PM, Dordt will host the annual Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra concert, commonly known as NISO. The concert will be at the B.J. Haan auditorium and will feature musicians of all ages.

The orchestra consists of 90 members this year. About 60 percent of the members are students, and the other 40 percent are adults. The principal players are hired professionals local music teachers from the area. There are a few high school students, as well as some Northwestern students. Dordt's Chamber Orchestra will also be part of the group.

The concert will be directed by Dordt conductor Henry Duitman and will feature three pieces. It will open with composer Steven Yarbrough's *Alleluias for Orchestra*, followed by *Outdoor Overture* by Copland. The final

piece will be Dvorak's *New World Symphony*.

The orchestra rehearses every Monday night for seven weeks before giving the concert. "I love hearing all music come together!" Duitman commented.

This is an exciting and educational experience for both the players and the community. It gives the students the opportunity to play next to professionals. It is also a wonderfully cultural experience, being the only full orchestra in Northwest Iowa.

The music department is also excited about the High School Band festival coming up April 11. This concert will feature high school and Dordt students together in one mass band. This concert is an exciting opportunity to feature young people's talent from different schools performing as one group.

Tickets can be purchased at the door, or at <http://niso.dordt.edu>.

Denae Wittmeier
Opinion Editor

Every year in April senior art students display their best work. This year nine are displaying their work in the Campus Center's art gallery.

June Brands, Sara Mulder, Amanda Allen and Denae Wittmeier were the first four seniors to display their work. The show is running from April 1 until April 14. The show opened April 4.

Arlo Bakker, John Hansen, Lori Panchot, Kathrine Nugru and Andrea Helmus will be displaying their artwork from the evening of April 14 through the end of the month. The opening for their show will be on April 19.

The senior show is a culmination of student work. Seniors curate their own show, meaning that the students decide which work should or should not be in the show. Professor

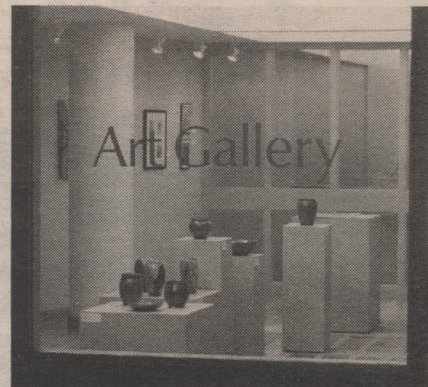
David Versluis, as manager, is there to help the students manage the process of hanging their work.

The students are pleased to be the first senior class to exhibit their work in the new gallery. The location of the gallery is outstanding. Professor Versluis said, "It's in a very public building for the college community and the community in general. To position art in that space speaks a lot for the institution and its regard for art."

Many art galleries are in the basement or off to the side of campus. This gallery takes foot traffic into account and offers respite. Professor Versluis also commented on the glass facade of the gallery. He said, "It makes it inviting because people can see the work through the walls."

The gallery provides an interesting surprise and mystery with the way it is laid out. When people see the artwork from the outside, it invites them to go in and take a closer look.

The final art show of the school



Beka Schreur

year will be a SuperSenior Show. The nine seniors will pick their best of the best work and display it in the new space as well as in the gallery in the classroom building. The Super Senior Show will run right over graduation time so the parents of seniors have a chance to see their work. While the senior's shows are not able to capture everything that is learned in the 4-year period, they are a good capstone to the students art career at Dordt College.

Purple Martin Winners

Congratulations to everyone who placed in Dordt's Purple Martin Writing Contest!

FRESHMEN

Analysis

1st place: Sara Gerritsma "Worldviews: From One Extreme to the Other in The Poisonwood Bible"

HM: Leah Van Wyhe "Oedipus the King: Divine Direction and Human Choice."

Exposition

1st place: Jessica Schelling "Tiger Paw"

Persuasion/Argument

1st place: Ann Andree "Idolizing the Media"

Personal Writing

1st place: Chris Van Huis "A Son's Choice"

HM: Dena Nicolai "Yesterday and Tomorrow"

ALL STUDENTS

Analysis

1st place: Andrew De Young "The Black Curtain: Gail Godwin on Priesthood"

2nd place: Nicholas Davelaar "A Kiss Greater Than All Others"

2nd place (tie): Sarah M. Van Egdom "E.E. Cummings' 'She Being Brand' and Sharon Olds'

"Sex Without Love": Sexuality in 20th Century Poetry

Exposition

1st place: Stephen Kloosterman "What do men really know about women? Henry James puzzles over an American girl in *Daisy Miller*"

2nd place: Matt Bakker "Reflections of Creation Stewardship"

Persuasion/Argument

HM: David Van Ee "SI--International Systems--vs. English"

Fiction

2nd place: Krista Krygsman

"Presence"

HM: Bethany Meservey "Friendship"

Personal Writing

1st place: Sharla Derksen "Good Ol' Gramps"

2nd place: Andrew De Young "Ghosts"

HM: Jeremy Hummel "I Went Out Walking..."

Poetry

1st place: Valerie Westra "A Collection of Poems: These Present Sufferings"

2nd place: Kristi Mulder "On Winter Nights, Crocheting Lessons, For Elizabeth,

To Kill a Plant"

HM: Sharla Derksen "Dust and others"

HM: Sara M. Van Egdom "Breakfast and others"

HM: Denise Ver Beek "Myrtle and others"

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Also, log on to our new webpage at <http://homepages.dordt.edu/~dimond/>

Education conference influences Christian schools

Leslie Larson
Staff Writer

The upcoming Education Conference will be held at the B. J. Haan Auditorium April 9-11. The conference, which has been held annually for the past twenty years, is intended to help assist Christian elementary and secondary schools educate their students. This year's theme is "Word and Spirit in the Christian School."

Twenty schools are expected to be represented at the Conference. Each school's team will work with other teams at the conference, design steps to take action, and bring back improve-

ments to implement the needs of their specific school.

According to the conference coordinator and director of the Center for Educational Services, John Van Dyk, "The conference will address many questions such as: How do current spirituality practices (chapel, devotions, Bible classes) affect the lives of the students? Do they build a Spirit-filled community or merely continue traditions? Do they contribute to or detract from the Christian character of the school?"

There will be two main speakers at the Conference. Dr. Gloria Stronks, a retired professor of Education from Calvin College

who previously taught at Dordt, will present specific steps schools have taken to design curriculum for student spiritual development. The topic statement is "In our school it is not cool to be too Christian" and make appropriate responses for parents and teachers. She is also assembling partnerships with Christian students in another part of the world.

Theology Professor Syd Hielema, the second speaker for the conference, spoke the previous two years. Hielema is an expert on the topic of the conference, "Word and Spirit in our Christian schools." He sees the school as a place that encourages maturing in

faith. Hielema said, "I hope that through this conference there is a sense of planting seeds which leads to a change in school systems."

All public is encouraged to attend the on discussion, Thursday at 7p.m. in C160.

The Education Conference is sponsored by the Dordt Educational Services and the Dordt Education Department. There are no registration fees to attend the conference, but pre-registration is necessary for everything except the public discussion.

Inescapable Philosophy

Dear Editor,

I often hear from people how much they despise philosophy; how they think philosophy is just people using big words and making things more complicated than they like. Though it is true that many philosophers have sometimes done this, these philosophers by no means represent the whole of philosophy. And it is easy to turn the accusation around, claiming that others have oversimplified issues that should not be simplified. Those criticizing philosophy do so only out of ignorance; that is, they are ignorant of the fact that they too are in the most basic sense philosophers; they too, philosophize.

Philosophy is something that is not an option (at least for a properly functioning mind). Each person holds their philosophy as one of the dearest things to them. Through it, they judge the world and their entire scope of beliefs. The person may not be aware of their doing so, but that does not change the fact that in the background, each person's philosophy shapes them.

No one can escape philosophy. To attempt to do so is itself a taking up of a certain philosophy. Perhaps we could call this popular view an escapist philosophy, where

the escapists attempt to deny their philosophy or that it affects them in any way. (One may object to this idea, claiming that it is just my philosophy, which is true; yet, if one rejects the philosophy, he is taking another philosophical stance).

"To be or not to be," to quote a cliché from Shakespeare, is always a philosophical question. Whether we shall be Christians or agnostics. Whether we should be farmers or engineers or theologians. These questions always evoke a philosophy. Albeit, circumstance occasionally forces itself upon us and does not let us choose to be or not to be. For example, I cannot choose my sex or race, or choose to change my past. But I can choose (to a large degree) what I will do, where I will live, and how I will view myself. And all these choices have and will continue to shape and to be shaped by my philosophy.

It is also true that some beliefs are not options for us. I cannot believe, no matter how hard I attempt to will the belief, that I am God. Yet, I find that it is also impossible for me to cease believing in God, though my beliefs about Him may change considerably (just as an agnostic could not easily admit a God). This is because I hold to a philosophy, which has become so much a part of me, that it pre-

vents me from believing certain things and causes me to believe others. My philosophy acts as a control to what beliefs I can and cannot hold. It may be possible for me to change those beliefs, but it would take a great force to do so, such as plain empirical evidence. For example, one would have a hard time believing that the world was flat if he could see the world from space and notice its shape or rotation. In the same way, no one could easily deny evolution if they could somehow observe it first hand.

Those who wish to deny philosophy is relevant to them, or those who hold an escapist philosophy, at best are misconceiving philosophy, or at worst, are expressing an ignorance of the beliefs most basic to them. This is why we philosophize, to know ourselves better and retreat in all ways possible (which may be in very few) from blissful ignorance. This is not philosophy as a necessarily systematic study, but philosophy as a helper of life itself. Philosophy is to be lived. Philosophy, whether we acknowledge it or not, is to be the root of our lives.

Dan Michael

The Sin of Social Security

Don Stenberg
Staff Writer

Social Security is far from ideal because it changes social norms and it breaks one of the Ten Commandments; namely, "Honor your father and mother." With this commandment, God requires that children would be responsible for the well-being of their aged parents. We don't really do that anymore; we don't have to. Instead, parents are expected to cover all of the expenses of raising their children and to save for retirement at the same time! (And what's up with retirement anyway? I can see working fewer hours, but who wants to sit on their duff all day?

That's another article, though.)

Why can't we invite our parents into our homes in their later years? Not only does this more efficiently use the space in our ever-larger homes, but it enables both parents to do more work outside of the home. For one, many grandparents would enjoy doing a portion of the housework. Also, they can care for their grandchildren without compromising the importance of raising children well and within a community. In fact, it's arguably a better environment for children to be raised in.

With more people living in fewer households, their environmental impact per person will also be significantly lower.

There will be less heating, air conditioning, electrical use, appliances, cars, furniture, etc. per person, and taking care of your own parents saves money when you consider everyone's expenses. We could hope that it would facilitate the transmission of values from generation to generation. Sure, housing might be a little crowded, but should we value comfort more than loving our parents and obeying God? Clearly not! And knowing that you'll someday have to live with your children might make you think twice about how you want to raise them. You'll make sure that they make wise choices with their lives, because it directly affects you.

One objection is that people can't afford to care for their parents. But if Social Security were eliminated, then every household would have 14% more income, because that is the current tax collected as a result of Social Security. That should cover most of the additional expenses, especially if the parents don't have to save as much for their own retirement. And eliminating the tax should encourage more investment in banks, bonds, and stocks so that the money is put to better use creating wealth.

What about lower income families? Government programs already exist for people that can't quite make ends meet because they have more dependants than


they can care for. These same programs could easily be modified to include grandparents as dependents.

If living in the same house is a problem because of grandparents that for some reason or another would be detrimental to family life, then you could build houses differently, so that they have separate areas. A "retirement home" would not be a big apartment full of old people; it would be a duplex!

Ending Social Security will require the cooperation of our children and our parents. But cooperation is just what this country needs anyway!

Objections, anyone?

Dark by Chris Maust



So imagine you're on the receiving end of a bombing campaign. Fleeing your city, you're joined by fleeing soldiers, but the joke is on you. The invading liberators decide that those fleeing soldiers pose an unacceptable risk to security. Thus are you bombed. Stop reading for just a second and look at your hands. Imagine the phosphorous burning your skin, peeling away the flesh in bloody strips. Watch the melting fat drip onto the ground where it sizzles like fresh bacon on a Sunday morning. But I suppose this is offensive. God forbid we talk about how we slaughter the enemy.

Don't forget to pray for our troops. None of us want anyone we actually know to get hurt. We only wish to bludgeon those faceless Iraqi people who threaten our... who threaten world peace.

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DORDT 2010

On the Gridiron

Steve Kloosterman
Editor

Here's the snap. The Quarterback fakes a handoff, looks left, then whips a 20-yard bullet into the gut of the receiver, who spins on his heels, and manages to dodge one tackle before getting mashed to the ground. The Dordt Defender mascot holds his much-too-big hat on his head with one hand and waves his foam sword around, cutting through the cold October air, the student section roars, and you swear you hear the ghost of BJ Haan himself screaming, "Somebody get me a hot dog!"

As strange as it may seem, a football program at Dordt may be a possibility in the not-so distant future.

It'd be nice....

"There's probably no singular suggestion that I hear more," says Dordt College President Carl Zylstra. Zylstra also expresses the feeling that football would be a desirable, enjoyable, fall community event. "It would be very exciting, but it would be very difficult as well. There are certainly grounds to look at it," says Zylstra.

Dordt's Co-curricular Strategic Planning Committee (chaired by Prof. Jim Schaap) has looked at the possibility, briefly. Perhaps what makes football seem like an attainable goal, more than anything else, is the fact Western Christian high in Hull is developing a football team. While one Christian high school team doesn't seem like a big deal in itself, there are implications.

Christian high schools, sometimes small, and usually committed first of all to academic excellence, have often gone without football teams in the past. But if Western Christian, and other high schools viewed as "constituents" of Dordt develop such programs, it would be

"The committee (CSPC) recommends the establishment of a committee to study the possibility of including football as an intercollegiate sport."

--the Co-curricular Strategic Planning Committee Report.

in Dordt's best interest to do so as well.

It might be necessary...

As the The Co-curricular Strategic Planning Committee (hereafter CSPC) report points out, today's student body comes to Dordt for much different reasons than it did in Dordt's earlier days.

Fifty years ago, students came to Dordt were mostly CRC. For the most part, they came from Christian Schools in North America, believed the same things doctrinally, worshiped similarly, and, as the report says, "came from parentally-run Christian schools where there were no dances or football."

Not so today. "More and more people choose Dordt College. Fewer and fewer come here because it is "our school," says the CSPC. Would more students "choose" to come to Dordt if we had a football team? Probably--and that's why, for perhaps the first time in Dordt's history, a football program is starting to look attractive.

CSPC's report states that "recently Dr. Zylstra told faculty that the greatest need in the academic program at Dordt College was for the institution to do a better job of its [own] strength."

But is it right?

Of course, as a Christian institution, Dordt ought not to develop new programs just because they are attractive and attainable. Football to the Glory of God? Of course. Such a thing is possible--and if a program is developed, that's what it ought to accomplish.

The only question is how. "This question must be asked and answered: can Dordt College 'do' football in a way that somehow 'redeems' the sport?" the CSPC's report suggests. The report contains numerous vague references to "the extensive history of abuse growing out of intercollegiate athletics" (although saying that Dordt coaches and the HPER department have successfully avoided this). If indeed such a trend exists, it would be serious.

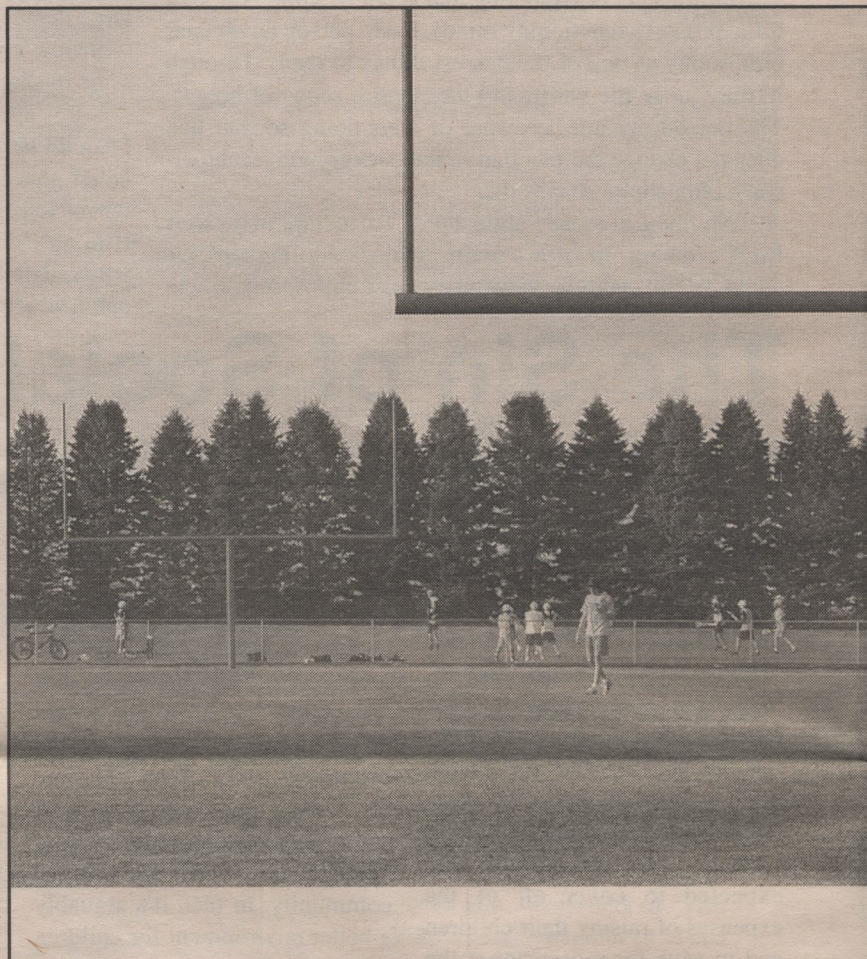
There also have been reports that the athletics department is not favorably inclined to a potential football program. The Diamond cannot confirm or disconfirm these reports.

The Bread. The Dough. Greenbacks. Moolah. What parents are made of.

Money remains another great, unanswered concern--and some serious accounting must be done before anything moves ahead. Determining football's "significant budgetary effects... was beyond our purview," the CSPC reports. Of course at big state universities, football programs more than pay for themselves (and usually turn million-dollar profits) but at Dordt, where attendance at sporting events is already declining, the bottom line would be doubtful.

Anything but apathy now and whining later.

"The committee recommends the establishment of a committee to



Football at Dordt? Students play in Sioux Center High's foot ball field on a Although there are reasons why a foot ball team at Dordt ould be a valuable ethical, monetary, as well as logistical, remain in the way before a program Strategic Plannning Committee has looked into the possibility briefly, and ried in more detail.

study the possibility of including football as an intercollegiate sport." Obviously, this is one instance in which you, the student, will have ample time to give your input before it is "forced upon you." What do you think?

If you've got an opinion, find a friend whose ear is available for yelling into for a few minutes. Make placards and march around the Campus Center seven times for seven days. Bring up the topic next time there's another one of those long awkward pauses during dinner. And of course, email Dordt Diamond, throw a letter in our box in Classroom building. Yell something at Steve Kloosterman as he passes you, sleepily, in the hall. Be heard!!

Other committee recommendations...

1. The Committee feels that Dordt College should continue to offer all athletic programs it presently does. dropping any could jeopardize the institution's standing within GPAC, as well as the legal requirements of Title IX.
2. The Committee feels that the co-curricular programming undertaken by the Music Department, its tours with the band, orchestra, and choirs, are doing an outstanding job in the difficult climate in which they presently exist. We have confidence in their ability and their desire to inspire listeners aesthetically, as well as educate them.
3. the Administration needs to determine who must take control of hockey at Dordt college.
4. The Committe recommends that the Office of Advancement, the Theater Arts Department, the Music Department, and Student Services meet together with the specific goal of finding ways to meet the needs and wants of its constituency in ways that will not compromise institutional integrity.

reFo

2, 4, 6, 8...Can we cooperate?

Steve Kloosterman
Editor

Two colleges, about fifteen miles apart, of comparable size, founded on similar religious beliefs, each with its own distinct athletic, academic and arts departments--and now both will have football? Does it seem a little redundant?

Well, while Dordt and Northwestern certainly aren't planning a merger anytime soon, and while both acknowledge institutional differences of philosophy that will keep them apart, the administrations of both colleges are discussing ways in which they might better cooperate with each other. Dordt College President Carl Zylstra and Vice President Rockne McCarthy met recently with Northwestern College

President Bruce Murphy and Vice President Karen Cianci to re-affirm the cooperation that has existed between the colleges throughout the years.

Dordt and Northwestern administration and faculty have participated in mass "roundtable" discussions twice already this year, first when speaker Steve Garber, and, later, Shirley Shoall, were in the area. "But this was the first time, with the four of us, to get together formally to talk about our relationship, although we get together quite often," says Zylstra.

The Northwestern Beacon broke the story late last month, with the headline "Presidents of Northwestern and Dordt meet to discuss possibilities for collaboration" with a manipulated photo showing the Dordt and Northwestern signs side by side. "I think that 'cooperation' is a better

term to use at this time than "collaboration," says Zylstra. "It would definitely not mean Dordt College would give up its identity as a distinctively reformed college, and Northwestern give up its own identity as a more broadly evangelical organization. There is a difference of ideas between the two institutions."

One difference lies in Dordt's requirement that all of its faculty be of a reformed persuasion--a policy it does not share with Northwestern. This difference could provide a barrier to shared classes between the two colleges.

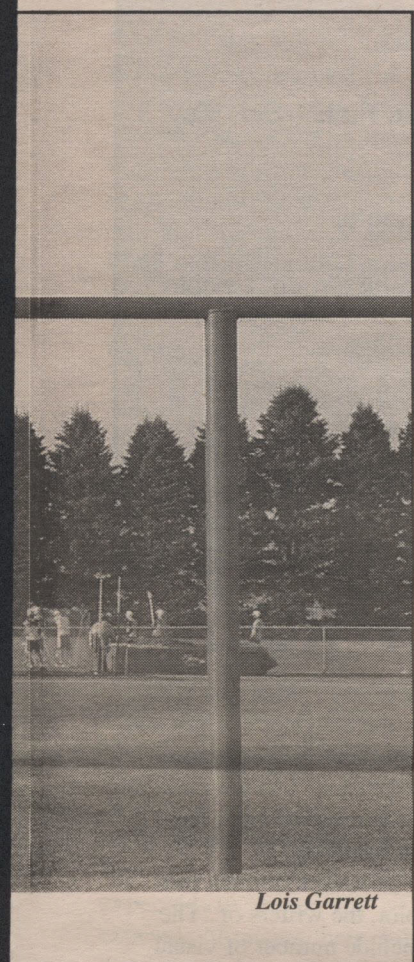
Zylstra also notes that Northwestern, in his own words, "has more things that we don't have, than things we have that they don't have." "We have to be careful it's not a lopsided relationship," said Zylstra, who says he suggested that there were many Dordt stu-

dents who would like to play on their football team. "It was a tongue-in-cheek proposal, but it illustrates the issues," he says.

However, a long tradition of cooperation exists between Dordt and its Orange City cousin, one that can only continue. We students have shared GIFT services together; we've done Model Arab League together. Both administrations have made every effort to allow certain students to take classes in each other's classrooms. And as Zylstra says with a smile, "Our basketball team helped tune them up for the national tournament. We even knocked them out once."

Zylstra, McCarthy, Murphy, and Cianci agreed to meet later this summer to continue discussion to further institutional cooperation.

line?



Lois Garrett

warm after last week. In addition, many barriers, both can proceed. The Co-curricular recommends that the option be stud-

orm.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES
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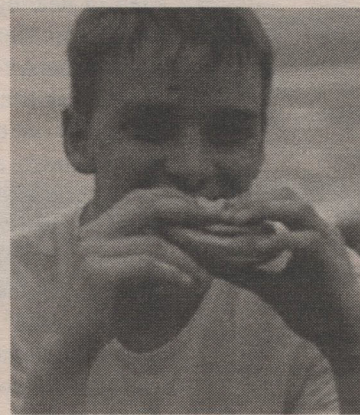


ABOVE: Let's face it: the soldiers knew what they were getting into.
-Laramie Devries

RIGHT: I have a cousin who had to quit her teaching job, she just got married and she's been called up into the reserves and will probably be transferred out sometime soon--the same place as Matt Berens went. It kind of hits home. I want to support them.
-Nicole Walker

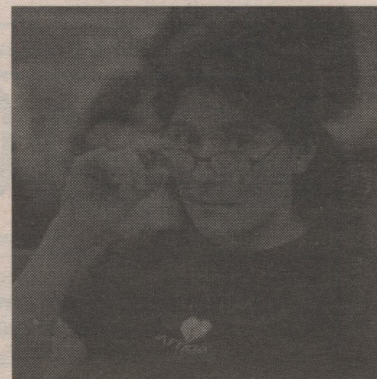


How do you feel about soldiers who have been killed or captured? Do you think it is justified or not justified?



LEFT: I think it's a real tragedy because we have the weapons for long range but were sending soldiers in because that's just the way Saddam has everything set up.
-Marcus Roskamp

RIGHT: It's called Operation IraqiFreedom, so it isn't so much about a personal vendetta trying to clean up what [Bush's] dad didn't clean up than going in here trying to free these people of this evil regime. They are people just like Americans.
-Rosie Grantham



Got a story idea? Got an opinion?

Email it to diamond@dordt.edu and

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In the Belly of the Big Fish

Chris Maust
Staff Writer

The Book of Jonah only has four chapters, so I'm assuming that Jonah's "33" stands for "3:3." Jonah 3:3 reads "Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city—a visit required three days." (NIV) Such a sentiment seems appropriate for the constant lyrical message Jonah 33's music contains.

Here's something I learned listening to the album Jonah 33: Presentation is everything. When I listened to this album on a cheap CD/cassette combination stereo, I had been prepared to give Jonah 33 a more critical review. Once I played the CD on a machine that has this funny thing called "bass," I realized that their music was actually produced very well. I'd just been listening to it on a low-quality system. However, after listening to this album several times I've come to believe that Jonah 33 is a band that focuses on performance over work in the studio. Again, the CD is produced well and it's mixed in a way that imitates a live performance, but I'm afraid I've been listening to

too much Pink Floyd during this last week to be impartial. My technical expectations are set too high.

Recently signed by Ardent Records, Jonah 33's self-titled debut album is due in stores on June 24. This makes me wonder... I envision a former fan finding this CD in a thrift store thirty years from now. What would he think? I think he'd see this music as reflecting the tastes of our time and proclaiming a message, heavily. After all, many of us give different reactions to songs based on what decade the song was released. As proof, I mention "Louie, Louie" and anything written by the Beatles. Thusly, from Jonah 33's name, their lyrics, and their choice of style, I conclude that this band's primary concern is adopting alternative music style in order to relay a message. To preach, if you will. While this is a motive that I can respect, it is not one that gets me to buy a CD. I had a similar experience before... One of my favorite hobbies is to search through discount LP racks in thrift stores, buy-



ing as many neat-looking records as I can carry. One of my better finds was a vintage copy of "How The West Was One." It's a live recording featuring the tour of "A Band Called David," "The 2nd Chapter of Acts," and above all, Phil Keaggy. Ah, Phil... His best track on the record was "My Life," a verbose version of his testimony set to insanely difficult-sounding guitar work to back it up. I mention this for the following reason: Keaggy's work was meant to be technically impressive first. Once the attention of his subject was gained, Keaggy then gave his message to them. Upon further reflection, Jonah 33 does this too, but their style of music isn't distinct enough for me to appreciate it willingly. It's not a major fault, but it's one that's sticking in my craw.

Every Young Man's Battle

Book Review Book Review Book Review Book Review Book Review Book Review Book Review

Ryan Gritters
Guest Writer

If you will allow me to, I want to share with you what I have learned during my four years in North Hall. GUYS LOVE TO THINK ABOUT GIRLS! We like the way they look, how they smell, and we are often frustrated by the way they can occupy our minds for hours on end. It remains a mystery as to how women can captivate us, but somehow they pull it off.

The shelves of Christian bookstores are lined with books outlining every opinion imaginable on the subject. It seems as if everyone has a slightly different point of view, so whom can we trust?

Stephen Arterburn and Fred Stoeker took this dilemma and went to the infallible truths found in God's Word. In their search these men made two discoveries that affect all of us. First, God's standard is this: "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity*" Eph. 5:3. Secondly, our striving for this standard is not so

we will be righteous enough for God. This entire battle is so that we can have intimacy with God. From these two themes emerged the book "Every Young Man's Battle".

"Every Young Man's Battle" is an overdue battle cry for unmarried Christian men. If you are tired of hearing men rationalize and joke about their sexual sins then you will love the message presented in this book! With God's standard in hand, the author's skillfully destroy every rationalization men can throw out concerning their sexual brokenness. As previously stated, the book has been broken down into subtopics as a way of making the issue of male sexuality understandable. These include: "Where Are We?, How We Got Here, Choosing Authentic Manhood, Masturbation, Setting Your Defenses, and Sexual Honor". Fresh life is breathed into these topics as the authors steer the reader away from shame and legalism towards Christ. Each chapter is a grace-filled journey that leaves the reader full of hope in Christ's strength and gift of holiness.

Seeing that I am a guy who is tired of the trendy idealism present in many sexual integrity and dating books, I was personally encouraged by Part V: Setting Your Defenses. The chapters dedicated to this section carefully flesh out practical steps to win the battle that is waging over our minds, bodies, and souls. The authors boldly challenge the reader to take the harder path of starving their sex drive by guarding what he takes in through his eyes. Not once do they soften this message with the deception that this decision will be easy to carry out. Instead, examples of common battles are provided from their own lives and the lives of those who have embarked on this journey.

"Every Young Man's Battle" is a must read for every man who is unmarried and ready to settle for nothing less than deep intimacy with God. The authors cut through rationalization and 'gray issues' with sound Biblical truths. Hope is placed in Christ and men are challenged to take His victory over sin seriously. This book is not for those who wish to live a life of compromise, rather, it is for those warriors who are ready to take the challenge and fight for the Kingdom Christ's strength.

Check This Out

Jason Mulder
A&E Editor

Shrine Circus Fri thru Sun, Apr. 11-13, Omaha Civic Auditorium Arena, Omaha, NE

NISO Spring Concert Tue, Apr. 15, 7:30 pm BJH

Easter Sunrise Service Sun, Apr. 20, 7:00 am BJH

Instrumental Ensembles Concert Wed, Apr. 30, 7:30 pm BJH

Cornstock Sat, May 3

Hope Haven Fundraiser featuring Go Fish Sat, May. 3, Sibley, IA

Dordtstock Thu, May 8, Campus Center

Blindside Tue, Apr. 29, 6:00 pm Royal Grove, Lincoln, NE

The Red Hot Chili Peppers Sun, May 4, 7:00 pm Omaha Civic Auditorium Arena, Omaha, NE

Have an event that you would like posted? Email jsnml-dr@dordt.edu

Who are the Pitts?

Chris Maust
Staff Writer

"The Pitts" is currently aired Sunday Nights on stations belonging to the Fox Network. Check your local listings for showtimes.

"The Pitts" is a family sitcom featuring the misadventures of a heterosexual, two-parent household doing their best to raise their two children in the best way that they know how. Already this show appears distinct from the Fox Network's typical style of programming, but as the program progressed, specific elements of the show caught my attention.

I don't believe I've ever seen a television show that has a tempo as high as "The Pitts." Within literally the first minute, jokes were made on subjects ranging from preference of breakfast cereal to peanut allergies to emergency responses to differences in gender roles.

Overall, this show has a mind-breaking amount of content that contrasts with an intentional lack of neatness. Sunday's episode tells the story of the Pitts' purchase of their second family car, partially paid for by the Pitt children. But all is not well. Similar to the "Herbie" films, the family invests in a vintage VW bug that has the ability to speak and control itself. Among other things, the car leads the elder daughter astray by convincing her to skip school and succumb to peer pressure. The climax of the episode comes when the VW kidnaps the daughter and brings her to Las Vegas where he plans to marry the daughter against her will!! The parents and younger son arrive just in time to hear the

minister to say "Man and Wife." Luckily, the daughter escapes and the car perishes in a well-produced explosion. As a widow, the daughter is released from the bonds of marriage.

In addition to the fast-paced plot, the writers of "The Pitts" include number of visual gags. When the car is feeling especially evil, the front bumper curves into a maniacal grin. This is no cheaply photoshopped effect. The show's makers took time to craft a bumper from a block of foam and twist it with remotely-controlled pistons. I find this to be an imaginative sort of joke that makes this show distinct from other syndicated comedies. True, just like every other comedy that uses creativity or imagination in writing, "The Pitts" is a lot like "The Simpsons," but there is a justifiable reason for this. Mike Scully, head writer of "The Simpsons" for nearly twelve years, is also in leader of "The Pitts" production. According to imdb.com, every writer has also been involved in "The Pitts" has been involved with at least one nationally popular comedy at some point in their career.

And what should my lasting impressions be? The acting/vocal talent has been chosen very well, but audience laugh tracks are used to the point of misery. The comedy is a little bit forced and difficult to watch without thought. This is not a show to be played in the background while doing homework. This is a show you need to watch with your undivided attention. Once you lose track of the action, there is little chance to catch up with it.

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Jason Mulder, Rachelle Kroll, Andrea Pausma, Sharla Derksen and Nick Vander Kwaak pose for the camera after the marathon.

photo by Jason Mulder

Students complete unofficial marathon

by **Jacque Scoby**
Sports Page Editor

While the rest of Dordt's student body was off relaxing or working their spring break away, five Dordt students were out running around-literally. Nick Vander Kwaak, Andrea Pausma, Sharla Derksen, Rachelle Kroll and Jason Mulder traveled to Washington D.C. with the intent to run in an official marathon.

What they didn't count on was a late cancellation of that marathon.

Organizers of the official Washington D.C. marathon decided the Wednesday before the big event to cancel this year's run due to security issues. In its place, approximately fifty volunteers organized an unofficial run, dubbing it Operation Run For America.

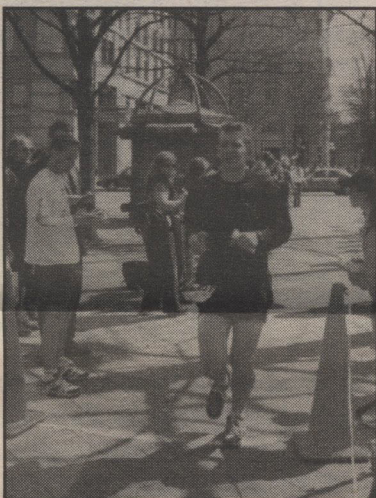
While the number of participants decreased dramatically, nearly 700 people still showed up early the morning of March 23 to run, including the five from Iowa.

The group from Dordt heard about the cancellation Thursday morning, they decided not to waste all their training efforts and entered the "un-marathon" instead.

The idea of running in a marathon was the brainchild of Vander Kwaak, who also spearheaded the group's training efforts throughout the year. Originally, more people signed up to train, but eventually dropped out.

Of the five that started the marathon, four finished the entire

26-mile course. Vander Kwaak registered the fastest time among the Dordt runners of 3:40:59. (That's three hours, forty minutes, fifty-nine seconds.) His performance was good enough for 29th place out of 199 finishers in the men's division.



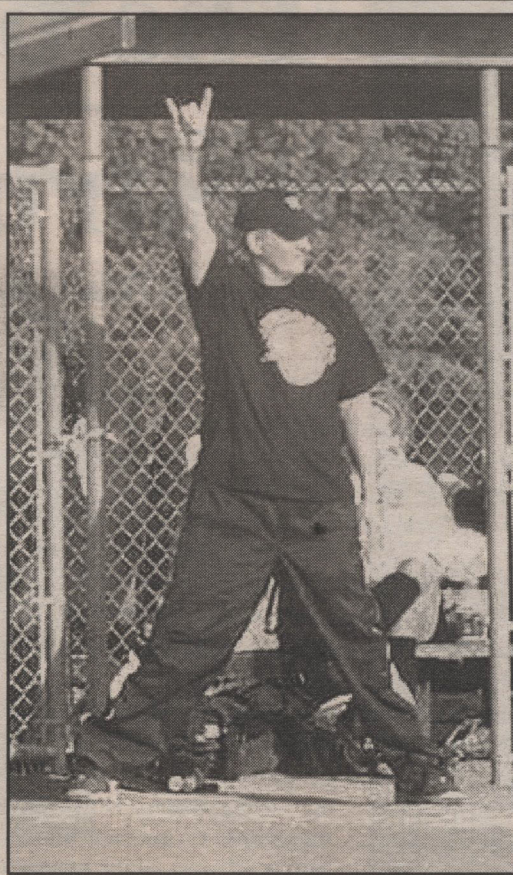
Nick Vander Kwaak crosses the finish line of the unofficial D.C. marathon. Nick finished with a time of 3:40:59.

photo by Jason Mulder

Kroll nabbed sixth place out of 159 women's finishers with a time of 3:49:28. Pausma turned in a 3:54:11 for 12th place, and Derksen finished 31st with a time of 4:10:32.

Mulder started the race with minimal training time, but did not finish.

"Even though it wasn't really official," said Vander Kwaak, "it was just as meaningful, if not more meaningful to run and to finish the whole thing."



Above: Coach Don Draayer calls the play from the dugout for his women's softball team.



Left: A Dordt pitcher delivers the pitch as his defense waits.

All photos by Lois Garrett



Above: The Lady Defender infield huddles around pitcher Dawn Van Kley before taking the field in a recent game.



Above: The Defender baseball team gets the play on base.

Spring Sports Swing Away

The Lady Defenders are currently 5-11-0 (4-6-0) this season, led by seniors Dawn Van Kley and Megan Begeman.

The Defenders have registered a 7-11 (2-8) record on the season behind seniors Mike De Jager, Tim Foreman, Chris Begeman, and Chad Roskam. Head Coach Tom Visker is completing his final season at the helm this year. He will be replaced by current assistant Jeff Schouten next season.

March Madness Results

March Madness did indeed blow through like a lion. This year's NCAA basketball tournaments came complete with the inevitable upsets, heart-breakers, and blow-outs.

The men's bracket featured underdogs Kansas and Syracuse in the championship-two teams most of the sports world passed over in favor of the likes of Arizona, Kentucky, Oklahoma and Texas. Kansas earned their ticket to the championship game by virtue of a 33-point blowout over Marquette, another Final Four surprise. In the other game, Syracuse ran enough too much time off the clock for Texas. The boys in orange did the same to Kansas in the final game. Down by as many as 18 points, KU came roaring back to within three, but could never recover, as Syracuse took the title game.

The women's bracket featured a near-perfect Final Four. Three of the four number one teams earned a trip to Atlanta, with the lone off-seed Texas, who was #2 in the West. Perennial powers Tennessee and

UConn fought off their opponents, and met Tuesday night in the final game, which UConn won to claim the title.

At this time, the Diamond staff would like to announce the winners of the first annual NCAA bracket contest. Our thanks to those who submitted brackets in both the men's and women's tournaments. Professor Paul Fessler scored 129 points in the women's bracket to win that division. He also tied with Jonathan Baartman in the men's bracket with 98 points.

As stated in the rules printed in the last issue of the Diamond, Prof. Fessler will receive first prize for the women's bracket, and Jonathan will take the men's bracket prize.

Congratulations to Prof. Fessler and Jonathan Baartman, and again, our thanks to all the participants.

Indoor track-stars compete well

by **Mike Byker**
Guest Writer

The Dordt College men's 4 x 800 meter relay team finished fourth Friday, March 7 at the NAIA Indoor Track and Field Meet held in Johnson City, Tennessee. The foursome consisting of Dan Foreman, Peter Franz, Stefan Petersen and Jeff Taylor blazed to a time of 7:45.58, good for a fourth place finish and All American status. Taylor also qualified for the finals in the 800 earlier in the day when he clocked a time of 1:55.21, the fourth fastest time of the semifinal heats and qualified for the finals which will be run Saturday afternoon. In the finals of the 800 on Saturday Taylor placed eighth with a time of 1:59.80. Dan Van Engen ran in the semifinals of the 3000 meters on Friday and failed to qualify for the finals with a time of 9:47.38 while the 4 x 800 meter women's relay team finished ninth in the finals on Friday with a time of 9:40.45. The women's team consisted of Rebecca Demarest, Jen Van Beek, Kristi Meendering and Tanya Holtrop.

WORLD NEWS



Kristi Mulder
Compiled from CNN.com

HONG KONG, China -- Hong Kong hospitals are bracing for a worst case-scenario of up to 3,000 cases of the SARS virus by the end of April. Hong Kong has been the region hardest hit by SARS outside of the Chinese mainland. The disease has infected at least 928 people there, killing 25, out of a total of more than 2,600 cases worldwide that have claimed at least 104 deaths. The latest victim was from Canada, bringing the death toll to nine in that country. Infections have risen to 179 in the province of Ontario, which has the bulk of cases. In Hong Kong, Hospital Authority chairman Leong Che-hung told a local television station there would be sufficient manpower and facilities to deal with up to 3,000 patients, although intensive care units would be under pressure. A rising number of infections has placed enormous strain on hospitals, especially since most of those infected have been health workers.

NIGERIA--The fuel shortage in Nigeria has worsened after the rupture of a major crude oil pipeline, apparently caused by explosives. The breakage set off an oil fire and cut supplies to two of Nigeria's main oil refineries. It is not clear who carried out the attack, but it was close to the oil city of Warri, where militant youths from the Ijaw community had threatened to blow up oil facilities as they demand greater political representation. Nigeria has been gripped by shortages of fuel for more than a month, with long queues outside petrol stations. The government had blamed it on "political enemies" trying to discredit it ahead of general elections later this month. Ethnic violence around Warri had led to an almost 40% cut in Nigeria's oil output, but oil companies had started to reopen some facilities in the region.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- With federal prisons leading the way, the number of inmates in American prisons topped 2 million for the first time, the Justice Department reports. California, Texas, Florida and New York were the four biggest state prison systems, mirroring their status as the most populous states. Federal prisons accounted for more inmates than any state, with nearly 162,000. The record prison population figures were driven by get-tough policies that mandate long terms for drug offenders and other criminals. The report did not count all juvenile offenders, which if included in the past, would have driven the nation's inmate population over the 2 million mark years ago.

MIDDLE EAST-- U.S. officials said it was still unclear whether Saddam Huissan is dead or alive after Monday's strike on a building where he was believed to have been meeting with officials. U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsferd said, "He's either dead, or he's incapacitated, or he's healthy and cowering in some tunnel someplace, trying to avoid being caught."

The price of war's destructive ideology

Peter Anderson
Staff Writer

A link on cnn.com will give details of those coalition forces that paid the ultimate sacrifice while fighting Iraq. One cannot help but being affected at seeing individuals' faces who are their own age or younger. In a like manner, many more Iraqis – who are also humans and have families – have lost their lives.

These casualties must also be added to the money spent by the coalition forces and Iraq to build up their military. However, it is impossible to measure the cost of human life just as the loss of freedom associated with a war is immeasurable.

It is the spirit of war that accounts for such destruction and loss. Saddam Hussein's regime advocated Iraqi nationalism from

which only a violent future could result. Iraq's nationalism and subsequent warmongering led to war with Iran and the destruction of those individuals that would oppose the almighty state. Likewise, the United States government cannot be absolved from having a warring spirit that seeks to justify the imposition of its will on weaker parties.

Nonetheless, some have argued that our aggression towards Iraq was drawn from a desire to promote justice or peace. However, these arguments ring hollow when we consider our country's former support of the Shah of Iran, Saddam Hussein, or use of force in Vietnam. The United States cannot seek to be a bastion of morality if it cannot hold to the moral principles that it is trying to enforce. Only the warmongering belief that the U.S.

can forcibly impose its will on others can account for the current aggression taken by our country.

It is this spirit of war that will continue to waste resources, destroy wealth, and indiscriminately end the lives of any age group or sex around the world. As economist Ludwig von Mises says in his magnum opus *Human Action*: "To defeat the aggressors is not enough to make peace durable. The main thing is to discard the ideology that generates war."

An ideology that generates the destruction of wealth and life is unacceptable whether it comes from the government of Iraq or the United States. Therefore, if we truly desire to end casualty lists containing 19 year olds or casualty lists altogether we must discard the idea of war for an idea of peace.

Model Arab League provides insight into foreign mindsets

Kristi Mulder
World Editor

Around twenty Dordt students last week Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, put aside their Canadian and United States citizenships and became delegates from Iraq, Syria, and Kuwait at the Great Plains Model Arab League held at Northwestern College in Orange City. Dordt's three teams joined seven other teams representing Egypt, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Sudan and Jordan from schools as near as Sioux Falls and as far away as Illinois.

The five or six members from each of the 10 nations represented spent the majority of their days in five committees where all countries represented tried to pass or oppose resolutions on issues as diverse as improving education in Arab countries, water rights, and how to address the war in Iraq.

The Dordt delegation from Iraq found its position highlighted this year simply because the current war poses enormous ramifications for nations in the Arab League of States. Professor Krygsman, advisor for the Dordt Model Arab League delegates, said, "This year is unique because there's such an emphasis on Iraq. Iraq is playing such a key role in debates."

Role-playing the Position

Part of the challenge of Model Arab League is the necessity

of students to role-play their country's positions. For three days

students pretend to be real delegates at a real League of Arab States meeting. "One of the most valuable educational parts of the Model Arab League is that students have to walk in other peoples' shoes," said Krygsman. "They have to understand and empathize with issues of people in another part of the world. It puts you in a position to understand and think critically about your own culture as well."

Playing Kuwait

Sophomore Diana Hoogerhyde represented Kuwait on the Council of Arab Social Affairs. "Role playing can be a lot of fun because everyone else is role-playing too," she said. "And because I don't have the time to research all these countries on my own, just listening to the other delegates I get a feel for what the other countries are about and what they think about issues."

Part of Hoogerhyde's role in committee was to address the issue of humanitarian aid. Hoogerhyde emphasized her country's position saying, "Kuwait is against the Iraqi government, not against the Iraqi citizens, but also at this time could not act solely in giving aid, so Kuwait called on the League of Arab States to give aid together."

Playing Iraq

In other counsels, Dordt delegates from Iraq proposed less popular resolutions. In the Joint Defense Council, Iraq

Representative, Freshman Jonathan Vander Vliet introduced resolutions condemning the war on his nation and others more specific that called on Arab League Nations to close their airspace and military bases to coalition forces. Many of his resolutions were opposed by delegates representing Kuwait and Qatar, which are nations who are friendly to coalition forces.

Excellence Recognized

The three day event concluded on Saturday afternoon with a Middle Eastern meal and combined session where resolutions passed earlier in committee were then voted on definitively by each nation's head delegate. At an awards ceremony, many Dordt students and teams were recognized for their excellence. Secretary General Nick Davelaar and Assistant Secretary General Jon Myers, both Dordt Seniors, were recognized for their leadership. Best delegation awards went to Dordt teams Iraq and Syria and many individuals were recognized as best and honorable mention delegates in their committees.

Senior Tricia Van Dyk, Syrian Representative to the Environmental Affairs Committee, commented on her second year, "I'm really glad I got dragged into it last year. It's a lot of fun even if you have no idea what is going on at first. It opened up a whole new world for me."

This is the seventh year Dordt has participated in Model Arab League.

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