Late-night TV, DC style
Boerma, Joel G. and Fly-by-night entertain late-nighters

Organist Higgs performs in the B.J. Haan

Aloha, it’s Spring Fling

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’ sure hands and talented fingers gave the organ a chance to show its worth. The swells, the pedals, 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 blend 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.

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 Boerema.

Boerema 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 raised 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

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 6:00 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 for the attendees. Also, a dance will take place in the Recreation Center, with student
Senior students show their art skills

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

Denise 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 Allen, and Denise Wittmeier were the first four seniors to display their work. The show opened April 1 until April 14. The show opened April 1.

Arlo Bakker, John Hansen, Lori Panchot, Katherine Negru and Andrea Helms 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, making sure 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 place and it is the very public place 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 in to go in and take a closer look.

The final art show of the school year will be the 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 seniors have a chance to see their work. While the senior show's 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 Gortsen "Worldviews: From One Extreme to the Other in the Prisoner/Bible"
2nd place: Noah Veldhuis "7 Qualities the King David: Divine Direction and Human Choice"

Exposition
1st place: Ann Andrea "Unifying the Model"

PERSONAL WRITING
1st place: Chris Van Huis "A War in the Heart" bena
2nd place: Andrew De Young "Ghosts of Yesterday"
3rd place: Elena Hettinga "I Went Out For Poems"

POETRY
1st place: Valerie Westra "A Collection of Poems: These Present Sorrows"
2nd place: Keri Muller "On Winning Night, Crocheting Lessons, For Elizabeth, To Kill a Faint"
3rd place: Shara Durkson, "Dust and Others" and Shara Durkson "Worldviews: From One Extreme to the Other in the Prisoner/Bible"

EXPOSITION
1st place: Denise Van Egdom "E.E. Cummings: 'The Being Brand' and Sharing Days"
2nd place: Sean Hottle "Sex Without Love: Sexuality in 20th Century Poetry"

ALL STUDENTS Analysis
1st place: Andrew De Young "The Black Captain: Gillian Godwin on Priesthood"
2nd place: Nicholas Davidsen "A Kiss Greater Than All Others"
3rd place: M. Van Egdom "E.E. Cummings: 'The Being Brand' and Sharing Days"

ANALYSIS
1st place: Andrew De Young "The Black Captain: Gillian Godwin on Priesthood"

2nd place: Stephen Kloosterman "What do I really know about women? Henry James explores over an American girl in Daisy Miller"
3rd place: Matt Bakker "Reflections of Creation Stewardship"

Persuasion/Argument
1st place: David Van Ee "St-International Systems-En, English"

Fiction
2nd place: Krist Kuykens "Presence"

Exposition
1st place: Bethany Moseroy "Friendship"

PERSONAL WRITING
1st place: Shara Durkson "Good Of Giants"
2nd place: Andrew De Young "Ghosts of Yesterday"
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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 improvements 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 (chapels, devotions, Bible classes) affect the lives of the students? Do they build a Spirit-filled community or merely continue traditions? Do they contribute or detract from the Christian character of the school?"

There will be two main speakers at the Conference. Dr. Gloria Stroocks, a retired professor of Education from Calvin College who previously taught at Dordt, will present specific steps schools have taken to design curriculums for student spiritual development.

The topic statement is "In our school it is not cool to be 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 Helieema, the second speaker for the conference, spoke the previous two years. Helieema 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. Helieema 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 7pm 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.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the DIAMOND or Dordt College, but represent the views of individual writers.

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. on the Monday before publication to be printed in that week's edition.

Additional contributions to the DIAMOND are welcome.

Beka Schreuv
Opinion Editor

The theater exhibition for the Senior Art Show

NISO Concert features musical talent

Andrea Vander Will
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 program.

The concert will be directed by Dordt conductor Henry Dutman and will feature three pieces. It will open with composer Steven Yarbrough's Alleluia 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," Dutman commented.

This is an exciting and educational experience for both the players and the community. It lives the students the opportunity to play next to professionals. It is also a wonderful cultural experience, being the only full orchestra in Northwestern 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.
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 escapist 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 God). This is because I hold to a philosophy, which has become so much a part of me, that it prevents 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 misconception 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.

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.

Ending Social Security would require the cooperation of our children and our parents. But cooperation is just what this country needs anyway! Objections, anyone?

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.
Quarterback fakes a handoff, looks to Zylstra. Zylstra also expresses the possibility in the not-so-distant football program at Dordt may be a ghost of BJ Haan himself screaming, and you swear you hear the October air, the student section around, cutting through the cold.

Defender mascot holds his much-mashed to the ground. The Dordt spins on his heels, and manages to get the football into the gut of the receiver, who calls them.

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 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, full 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 into the possibility briefly, andied in more detail.

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 a traditional background 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.

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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.


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 study the possibility of including football as an intercollegiate sport."

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.

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

Other committee recommendations...

1. The Committee feels that Dordt College should continue to offer all athletic programs if 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 choir, 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 Committee 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.
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 administrators 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 students 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.

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

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

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 Iraqi Freedom, 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 LET Y O U R VOICE BE HEARD!
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 given the 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 the funny thing called "bass," I realized that their music was actually produced very well. I'd just been listening to it on a budget-quality system. However, after listening to this album several times I've come to believe that Jonah 33 does this too, but its focus is on performance over work I'd been listening to. 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 think I'm a fan, finding this CD in a thrift store thirty years from now. What would he think? I think I'd reflect on the torch 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. Thurlow, from Jonah 33's name, their lyrics, and their choice of style, I conclude that this band's primary concern is adopting native music style in order to relay a message. To preach, if you will. While this is a passive 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 disc count LP racks in thrift stores, buying and selling records and forgotten, too many records as I can carry. One of my better finds was a vintage copy of "How The West Was Won." It's a live recording featuring the tour of "A Band Called David," "The 2nd Chapter of Acts," and above all, a local Keggy. Ah, Phil... His best track on the record was "My Life," a verbose version of his testimony set to insanely difficult-guitar-playing with an occasional lead in it. I mention this for the following reason: Keggy's work was meant to be heard through his eyes. Once the attention of his subject was gained, Keggy then gave his message to them. Upon further reflection, Jonah 33 does this too, but their style of music doesn't distinguish enough for me to appreciate it. It's not a major fault, but it's one that's sticking in my craw.

Every Young Man's Battle

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 how 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 ahint of immorality, or of any kind of impiety!" Eph. 5:3. Secondly, our striving for this standard is not so

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99th Summer Boardwalk Chapel
Wildwood, NJ

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Blindside Ve, 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 jsmiller@cord.org

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 misadven-
tures 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 programing, 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 marriage against the story, "The Pitts." Within literally the first minute, jokes were made on subjects rang-
ing from preference of breakfast cereals to peanut allergies to emer-
gency 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 was 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 older daughter astray by convincing her to skip school and succumb to peer pressure. The climax of the episode comes when the VW kid-
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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.


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.”

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 9:40.65. The women’s team consisted of Rebecca Demarest, Jen Van Beek, Kristi Meendering and Tanya Holtrop.

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 routing back 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.

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 Rostkan. Head Coach Tom Vicker is completing his final season at the helm this year. He will be replaced by current assistant Jeff Schouten next season.
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- 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 warmongering 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 continue to waste resources, destroy wealth, and indiscriminate-ly end the lives of any age group or sex around the world. As econo-mist Ludwig von Mises says in his magnum opus Human Action: “To defeat the aggressor 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 mindssets

Around twenty Dordt students last week Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, put aside their Canadian and United States citizenships and became delegates for 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 seven other teams representing many individuals were recognized for their excellence. Secretary General Nick Davelaar and Assistant Secretary General Jon Ludwig von Mises says in his magnum opus Human Action: “To defeat the aggressor is not enough to make peace durable. The main thing is to discard the ideology that generates war.”

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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 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 humanitarain 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 support the almighty state. Likewise, the United States government cannot be absolved from having a warmongering spirit that seeks to justify the imposition of its will on weaker parties.

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Playing Iraq

In other committees, Dordt delegate 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 for coalition forces 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 as first. It opened up a whole new world for me.”

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