Inside your Dordt Diamond

Ground broken at Campus Center ceremony

by Mark Haan
Staff Writer

Ground has officially been broken for the Dordt College Campus Center.
President Carl E. Zylstra, Dordt College officials, student government representatives and Sioux Center Mayor Dale Den Herder broke ground during the fall board of trustees meeting on Oct. 9. The building is due to be completed the spring of 2002.

Student Body President Brandie Ochsner said, "The new Campus Center is an important move for a growing college. The student body will benefit from a larger worship area, a new coffee shop, an improved snack bar, study rooms and lounge areas." Ochsner feels that the new campus center will help build unity on campus by bringing both students and faculty together in one building.

The new $5,000 square foot campus learning center will be "the central hub of campus," said Ken Boersma, Vice President of Student Services. It will be connected to the library and will replace the existing Student Union Building. The new Campus Learning Center is a building "designed to better serve student needs" and "will provide access to many resources in one location." It will be the new entrance to the library, and will house many offices that before were spread throughout campus.

"Hopefully, it will also promote an atmosphere in the library that is more conducive to studying," said Ochsner. "The socializing can be taken to the adjacent Campus Center. This building promotes Dordt's philosophy of educating the whole person—our education does not stop when we leave the classroom building—the Campus Center will promote additional learning outside the classroom."

President Zylstra said the Campus Center will be a building "that never closes, for an academic community that never stops learning."

Students to present work at poetry reading

by Rose Ann Vander Wal
Staff Writer

"Poetry is often a forgotten art," says junior English major Sarah Den Boer. But the English 303 class of Reading and Writing Poetry hopes to change that at Dordt.

Den Boer is one of the eleven poetry students who will be reading their original work at a student poetry reading at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 12, in L160. Refreshments will be served and all are invited.

Joining the class will be students who have recently had pieces published in Lyrical Iowa, an annual anthology of poetry. The reading is an English 303 class requirement, and students look forward to it with mixed feelings.

"It is kind of scary," says junior Josh Christoffels. "You have to get up there and read your own work in front of people. But it will be a good experience because it will give us all a chance to express ourselves in front of a group of people, and it will be a good lesson in self-confidence. We will be able to practice sharing our ideas publicly."

Each student will be reading a collection of his or her work, about three to five poems, depending on the length the poems. Each student will speak for three to five minutes and will have some time to introduce and explain the poetry.

The students have been writing and revising their poetry all semester and the reading promises to be interesting even for those not usually interested in the mysteries of poetry. A wide range of styles and themes will be presented, ranging from sonnets to free verse, and covering topics from childhood experiences to losing loved ones.

Den Boer encourages people to attend the reading because she says, "It is important to support the arts, especially when they are in our community." Fellow class member Allison De Jong agrees. She urges all to attend, especially students. "They should come to support their fellow students who are reading," she says.
DDL costume dance is a success

Amanda Kubacki and Laura Groen dressed up as flappers at the DDL costume dance last Friday night. Awards were given to those with the best costumes. Jen Hoogeveen, Melinda Van De Berg and Rebecca Van Ee won the award for the ugliest and cheapest group for their hobo costumes. Laura Schippers dressed up as a rooster and won the prize for best individual. Brett Danzeisen won the award for the ugliest individual costume. Renee Van Groningen, Tonja Van Boek, Val Kallemeyn, Jackie Eerkhoff and Molly Schuttinga won the best group award for their gypsy costumes.

World hunger: an issue of the heart

by Allison Schaap

News Page Assistant Editor

People digging in the garbage in hopes of finding money or food are not pretty pictures, but for some families, it is a reality. With World Hunger Week approaching the week of November 6-12, the campus is being urged to support and help the starving families both in this country and in others.

Tammy Walhof, the Midwest Organizer with Bread for the World, emphasized the importance of caring for the poor. She ties it in with Jubilee 2000, an international movement calling for a one-time cancellation of the crushing debts of poor countries in the new millennium. Walhof said that Jubilee 2000 was a movement based on the Old Testament idea of jubilee. Jubilee is a part of the Sabbath vision that God has for the world. God has given us the mandate to care for creation and to care for God’s people.

“Many people are in need of jubilee,” Walhof said. “We are also in need of jubilee; the whole world needs jubilee.” She stressed the importance of having a “right relationship with God” and a “right relationship with each other.”

Syd Hielema, professor of Theology, believes that the most important thing that we can do as Christians is expose the cause of world hunger. Hielema made the point that most of us are “schizophrenic” when it comes to world hunger. He says this is because, on the whole, we find a lot of compassion on the hunger issues, but then, whether it is in our own homes or at the Commons, we tend to waste food.

Hielema compares the three main dimensions that Walhof brought up in his series of journal articles. He said that, like a three-legged stool, we need all three of these dimensions to stand up.

Junior Holly Bonnema has just begun working for Bread for the World. During World Hunger Week, she took part in the CROP walk. Around 11 students participated in a three-mile walk. The money they raised was donated to the Family Crisis Center. Bonnema mentioned that the CROP walk raised more than $2,000 and approximately $700 came from the Dordt community.

Bonnema said that they will hold a fast some time in November, as they do every year, but they are still uncertain of the date at this point. “There are many reasons to have a fast. It is a good time to realize all the blessings that God has given us; it is also a really good time for prayer and meditation. That is why when we do have the fast, we will have rooms where people can go to pray and meditate.”

Since joining Bread for the World, Bonnema said, “I have become more aware of the issues that affect so many people, and I have realized that I can make a difference. There are so many things we can do, such as write letters, make phone calls, fast to raise money, walk in CROP walk, and serve food at food kitchens. I realize that I am not going to be able to solve the problem of hunger, but I can do my part to alleviate it.”

Hielema said, “We have to seek to change the character of the situation...it’s an issue of the heart.”

Interactive repertory theater to perform

by Rachelle Vander Werff

Staff Writer

An interactive murder mystery theater is coming to Dordt College. The Repertory Theatre of America is sending two actors and four auditions to perform The 1939 Nightclub Murders on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7:00 p.m. in De Wit Gymnasium. However, this is not just any ordinary play where the audience only sits and watches; instead, the audience is actually allowed to participate in the performance.

Each audience member will be given a name tag as he or she enters the room and will have the opportunity to be involved in the entertainment—ten to twelve audience members will actually be given speaking lines. The Repertory Theatre of America says about the event, “The 1939 Nightclub Murders is an interactive murder mystery. Because of that, your evening may be structured a little differently than it might for a traditional theater experience.” The Repertory Theatre of America is sending two actors and two actresses; the rest of the participants come from the audience.

The 1939 Nightclub Murders is being sponsored by SAC. Dinner will be provided during the performance. Tickets are $5 and go on sale Thursday, Nov. 2 in the SUB box office. Seating is limited. Guests are encouraged to dress semi-formally, or to dress for the occasion by wearing clothing appropriate for 1939.

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John Hansen

Rats compete in mini-olympics

by Kristi Mulder

Staff Writer

Hold on to your cheese—the Rat Olympics are coming to Dordt College! On November 14, seven rats will compete in the long jump, hurdles and high jump for top prizes. The rats have been practicing for the past four weeks with their trainers from the Psychology Learning Theory and Applications Class, and with only two weeks left before the competition, they are refining their skills.

The furry athletes had no comments for John Hansen wouldn't do anything, but now he can do hurdles, high jump, and long jump. We can't train them to do pole vault or anything, but I'm very proud of him."

Preparing for the Olympics has taken a lot of time and dedication. "The student trainers are responsible for the care of their rats and most work at training their charges 30-60 minutes a day, six days a week. "It's a lot of work, but it's fun to see them improve," said trainer Shannon Snieder. "It's really quite amazing because you don't think rats can do this stuff, like jump that high, but they can."

"It's cool because I'm using what I'm learning," said Nicole. "But I really like my rat and want to keep him when we're done. I wonder if rats are allowed in East Campus?"

Price is Trite returns to Dordt

Luke "Bob Barker"

Shannon and Rick Roeda watch Junior Chad Van Hofwegen try his hand at Hole in One. He won the game. Other winners included freshman Sarah Bonnema, who won the Race Game. She competed in Showcase Showdown, but did not win. Freshman Katie Kroese won the Plinko game. Sophomore Matt Bogaard won the Spelling Bee game and sophomore Mark Ten Hagen conquered the Cliff Hanger game. Sophomore John Boer was victorious at the Clock Game. Boer also won the showcase, which included a stay in the Sioux Falls Sheridan Hotel, a necklace from Pat's Jewelry, a cooler of miscellaneous items and 15 gallons of free gas.

SAC shows Awakenings

by Mikala Poll

Staff Writer

"Awakenings" will be playing on the big screen next weekend in C-160. Starring Robert De Niro and Robin Williams, the film tells the true story of a doctor who works to find the right drug to revive hospital mental ward patients. This film is a passionate exploration of common questions about health, disease, suffering, cure and the human condition. Student Activities Committee co-leader Heidi Kooiman calls it "a film that begs for a good handkerchief at the end."

SAC plans activities on campus nearly every weekend, including movie showings about once a month. The guidelines continue, "We want to provide an atmosphere at Dordt where Christians can together discuss issues, practice discernment, and actively learn to redeem God's world."

SAC plans activities on campus nearly every weekend, including movie showings about once a month. Kooiman says SAC members choose different types of movies for different times of the year. In late fall, they generally host a more thoughtful and reflective film, whereas around Halloween, they have "Scary Movie Night." SAC generally chooses fun, lighthearted movies to show at drive-in movies, which are held in early fall and late spring.

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Narrow-minded world-views are not acceptable for Christians

by Sarah Eekhoff

Growing up in an upper-middle class family in America I thought I had it pretty tough. There was always someone else who had nicer shoes, better clothes, or parents who drove a nicer car. I never gave much thought to those who had less than I did, although I was glad that I had more than them. I also never gave much thought to those living in poverty in Third World countries, because our church paid missionaries to go to those dusty backwaters to fulfill our “Christian obligations.” I don’t think many of us were as child much different from each other in similar situations. This is typically how we think as Americans.

But the more I learn about our “global village” and our country’s efforts to help alleviate some of the suffering I am ashamed of our nation. The American philosophy of “look out for number one and try not to step in number two” just doesn’t seem to jive with what the Bible teaches.

The first time I realized this was during Operation Desert Storm. As the name implies, we took the Middle East by storm, supposedly to protect the innocent people that were suffering under the yoke of their ungodly government. But after it was all said and done, we left Iraq with nothing. Even as a middle school student I could figure out that something wasn’t adding up. In fact, we did not bomb the pants of Iraq to protect innocent people, we did it toedi our access to cheap oil! It was all about money. That’s why the ‘80’s are unable to pay the money back. In fact, many of those countries are picking up the tab, much as twice the amount they had borrowed, but are still unable to vince the overwhelming debt on their own.

Secondly, as college students, we can do much more than just write letters to the congressmen that have been the source of so much debt in the third world, will be helping to finance this enormous project.

One day I wrote an editorial for the Diamond about the fact that world hunger is a solvable problem. I told about a book I was reading for a class. “Grace at the Table” is a book that by taking action politically, we can influence our state representatives to start voting on initiatives that would alleviate much of world hunger.

One month ago I wrote an editorial for the Diamond about the fact that world hunger is a solvable problem. I told about a book I was reading for a class, “Grace at the Table.” I mentioned that by taking action politically, we can influence our state representatives to start voting on initiatives that would alleviate much of world hunger.

I also presented an argument for the forgivenship of debt for the poorest countries around the world.

Last week Tammy Walhoff, regional director of Bread for the World, was on campus discussing world hunger with many students. She visited one of my classes, and one of the many facts she shared deeply stirred me.

Walhoff was speaking of Jubilee 2000, a worldwide program that is striving to gain debt cancellation for over 40 underdeveloped countries. These countries are currently drowning in loans from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) and are unable to pay off even the yearly interest.

Perhaps a structural explanation of the World Bank and the IMF would help you better understand. Five of the seven great power countries of the world (the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany and Japan) have immense voting power in the IMF and World Bank. There are 24 executive governors in the IMF, of which these five are a part. The United States holds 17% of the power on the board of executive governors, and it takes an 85% majority to pass a resolution without the support of the United States.

Here is what truly ruffled my feathers. Walhoff informed us that virtually there is only one man standing in the way of this legislation, but on Wednesday of last week, the very day that Walhoff was on campus, Gramm lost his battle with the bill and it passed with overwhelming support in the House and Senate. The bill allocates $435 million for debt relief and releases IMF gold to help finance the project of debt cancellation. Both parts of the bill are incredibly significant, but I was intrigued and even more so by the fact that the very organization that has been the source of so much debt in the third world, will be helping to finance this enormous project.

I put all of this information before you for two reasons. The first is to merely applaud Congress for finally passing this incredible legislation, Rev. David Beckman, President of Bread for the World said, in a press release early Thursday morning, “Congress has taken an historic step [today] toward ending hunger in our world.” Not only did the seven most powerful countries in the world collaborate on this legislation, but this legislation is a large step in the right direction for those hungry families in countries like Nicaragua, Venezuela, Guatemala and so many more.

Secondly, as college students, we can do our own kind of lobbying. In the spring, the Bread for the World club on campus will sponsor an Offering of Letters, and I encourage everyone to take part. Bread for the World also encourages people to check their website regularly to see if there are any current issues in Congress that could use some extra outside influence. More than anything—constantly remember in prayer those men, women and children living in the debt-infested countries. Just as God reached out to us with the hand of his Son, we can reach out to those in need with the hand of Christ.

Continued on page 8

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Letter to the Editor: Not so proud to be an American

by Andrew Moody

Growing up in an upper-middle class family in America I thought I had it pretty tough. There was always someone else who had nicer shoes, better clothes, or parents who drove a nicer car. I never gave much thought to those who had less than I did, although I was glad that I had more than them. I also never gave much thought to those living in poverty in Third World countries, because our church paid missionaries to go to those dusty backwaters to fulfill our “Christian obligations.” I don’t think many of us were as child much different from each other in similar situations. This is typically how we think as Americans.

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Buchanan, Nader discuss 2000 campaign issues

Buchanan, Patrick J. "Pat" (Reform)

Abortion
As a committed, no-compromise pro-life President, I will:
1) Insist that my running mate be pro-life.
2) Require that my nominees to the Supreme Court be pro-life.
3) Educate the American people to the scientific truth that life begins at conception.
4) DÉ-fund the abortion industry from Planned Parenthood to UNFPA to fetal-tissue research.
5) Support an act of Congress conferring constitutional rights of personhood on unborn children.
6) Push for passage of a Human Life Amendment to protect all unborn children.

Campaign Finance
A Buchanan Administration will end this special interest subsidization of the Establishment parties by rewriting Federal law to:
1) Abolish soft money contributions, and outlaw use of union dues for political campaigns.
2) Require disclosure of all contributions within 48 hours via the Internet.
3) Increase individual donor limits to $3,000 and index to inflation.
4) Ballot Access—We will open access for third parties by backing federal standards to make ballot access simple, uniform and fair.

Environment
Rather than building more bureaucracies, a Buchanan Administration will introduce a sensible, incentive-driven plan for community-based stewardship that is pro-growth, pro-people and pro-environment:
1) Promote local responsibility and accountability by abolishing the Bureau of Land Management and giving the 50 million acres of BLM lands back to the states.
2) Give states flexibility to pursue alternatives for cleaning up hazardous waste.
3) Require disclosure of all contributions within 48 hours via the Internet.
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Election
As President, I will:
1) Abolish the Department of Education and return its functions and funding to state and local control.
2) Oppose leftist programs like Goals 2000 and School to Work that emphasize skills over true education and turn students into "human resources.
3) Educate the American people to the scientific truth that life begins at conception.
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Truth?
The art of Redlin, Kinkade, and Moss
by Eric Van Wyk
Staff Writer
As the dentist probes my teeth and gums I sit, back
ward at the picture on the wall. The colors are soft, warm and neatly arranged. The values of the artwork have a welcoming, inviting quality, as does the subject matter. The scene is nostalgic and happy, a return to contented times of yester-days. As I sit there staring at the picture I begin to question the role of this art. It is a nice image, but is there something wrong with it?
The piece happens to be by Terry Redlin, a spe-
iclized in scenes of past country life and images of
ture. Redlin's art decorates far more than just den-
tist offices; his work is now a standard picture hanging
on the walls of many homes, businesses and, of
course, most art galleries today. This is true of not only
Terry Redlin but also Thomas Kinkade, P. Buckley
Moss and numerous others of the same genre of art.
Their work is incredibly prevalent and is considered
to be as the artwork to the world, standard with which
to decorate one's house and business with. Its
popularity shows that the artists are giving the public
what it wants and enjoys. This art, however, is not just
the decor for an older, nostalgic generation, but is
becoming the definition of art for a younger genera-
tion as well. Is that a problem, I wonder?
As Christians and human beings in this world we
are called to live truthful, meaningful lives that are
interactive and in close relationship to God, our
neighbor, and the earth. We are called to work for God's
will and live truthfully meaningful lives that are
interactive and in close relationship to God, our
neighbor, and the earth. We are called to work for God's
will and live truthfully.
Senior Blades anticipate good season

John Hansen

There are five seniors on this season's Blades hockey roster: Mark Bentum, Franklin Guillaume, Josh Van de Kraats, Dave Vander Plaat and Aron Zuidhof. They all have high expectations for the team this season and are hopeful of making it to the playoffs.

Mark Bentum is a mechanical engineering major from Woodstock, Ontario. (He has played for the Blades every year he has attended Dordt and says that one of his most memorable experiences was, "winning the home opener this season against Iowa State." Bentum has also enjoyed travelling with the Blades on hockey tour each year.

Franklin Guillaume comes from Yankton, South Dakota. (He is the Blades' goaltender and has high hopes for this season. "We definitely have the ability to win a few more games this year," says Guillaume. "We've been a team of making individual sacrifices and putting in a full effort every minute we're on the ice that's going to determine whether we're going to get the job done or not." In addition to defending the Blades' goal, Guillaume is the creator of the team's website.)

Josh Van de Kraats is an agriculture major from Millet, Alberta. His most memorable moment playing for the Blades was scoring the first goal of his sophomore season "on a beautiful pass out of the corner from James Bentum." He hopes to make it to the playoffs this year. "We have seen a drastic improvement from last year. Coach Quatro has really brought the players together as a team," says Van de Kraats. "I expect a few more wins and say we have a good chance of making playoffs."

Dave Vander Plaat is the only American senior on this year's team. He is a mechanical engineering major from North Haledon, New Jersey. He has been playing roller hockey since he was eight years old and played organized ice hockey all through high school and every year since coming to Dordt. Vander Plaat also enjoyed hockey tours. "You get to know the guys a lot better," says Vander Plaat. "It's fun to see different parts of the world and meet everyone's families." He thinks that this year's team possesses the talent to win many games this season.

Aron Zuidhof is from Duncan, British Columbia and is a chemistry major. He has played pond hockey since he was three years old, and has played with the Blades every year he has been at Dordt. Zuidhof also has high hopes for the playoffs. "We have the potential to make the playoffs and a coach who can bring us together," says Zuidhof. "We just have to accept the two as a team and the playoffs will be a reality." His most memorable experience over the last four years, in being able to watch the team grow (and earning the respect as a representative of Dordt College.)

Intramurals provide informal competition

Jason Mulder

Intramurals are just as much a part of college life as homework for many students. For those of us who were not able to play on one of Dordt's organized sports teams due to lack of talent, time or simply inexperience, intramurals provide an opportunity for us to be involved in the sports we have come to love, or want to try. Experience is not necessary because the focus of this program is to have fun and meet new people. It is a great way to get away from homework for a while and just relax.

Professor Syne Altena, along with a council of students, organizes the different activities, leagues, game schedules, and tournaments. The seven students on this year's intramural council are: Liz Dykstra, Brian Wessenaar, Greg Van Dyke, Fraser de Waal, Richard Laninga, Merry Van Heukelum, and Theresa Vis. They have done a great job so far, and many students appreciate the work they have done.

The school year is divided up into four intramural seasons: Early Fall, Late Fall, Early Spring, and Late Spring. The Early Fall season has just recently drawn to a close, with tournaments held in each sport. Fifteen teams participated in co-ed soccer, and the Barking Spiders won the tournament. A men's slow-pitch softball tournament was held, with The Players being the best out of the nine participating teams. Sand volleyball was a big hit; thirty-eight teams signed up. But it was the Special Olympics that dominated the competition and won the championship. A golf tournament was also held with seventy-three students participating. Mike Ribbens was the men's champion and Kristi Kuipers the women's champion.

The Fall season is now in full swing with indoor volleyball getting the job done or not. All-inclusive teams are signed up for the co-ed league, fourteen in the women's league and six teams in the men's league.

The Early Spring season will be here before we know it, and we can look forward to co-ed indoor soccer, co-ed bowling, and men's, women's, and co-ed basketball. Co-ed floor hockey, co-ed slow-pitch softball, and a badminton tournament will conclude the year during the Late Spring season.

So for all of you who love sports, want to meet tons of new people, or just want to get away from your studies for a little while each week and get some exercise, just stop by the Rec Center and pick up some information and a sign up sheet.

Mike Debbiek and Josh Vande Kraats face off with the referee in the Blades' October 21 game at home.

Statistics

VOLLEYBALL

Overall Record: 27-6
GPAC Record: 9-1

October 18
Northwestern W(3-0)
October 21
Neb. Wesleyan W(3-0)
October 26
Saint Mary L(2-3)
October 28
Midland Lutheran W(3-0)

GPAC Post-Season

Championships begin Saturday, Nov. 4.
Dordt will play Hastings at home on Nov. 8 for their first game.

CROSS COUNTRY

October 21
Mount Marty Invite

MEN:
9th - Dordt College 286
Individual:
59. Travis Patten27:26.31
63. Matt Bosma 27:32.52
69. Tim Ives 27:46.73
74. Jon Dekkers 27:53.43
81. Greg Van Dyke 28:06.06

WOMEN:
7th - Dordt College 213
Individual:
10. Rachel Baber 18:59.88
20. Kate Reitme 19:29.06
47. Becky Densmore 20:11.80
62. Jessica Wolvenhorst 20:33.45
75. Emily Kast 20:54.96

The GPA Conference Meet is Saturday, Nov. 4, at Mount Marty College in Yankton, S.D. Start time is 10:30 am.

BLADES HOCKEY

October 20-21
Iowa State Univ. W 11-5
October 27-28
Miss. State Univ. L 1-3

GOLD DUCKS

October 21
Sioux Falls L (4-2)
Goals: Beau Bosma 1, John Hansel 1, Ben Bosma 1

National University L (2-0)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Final Record 12-6 (6-2 GPAC)
October 20
Bellevue W (6-0)
Goals: Katie Guskil 2, Julie Van Der Kooi 1, Sarah Friend 1
Jana Brink 1

October 21
National University W (1-0)
Goal: Liz Dykstra

The Women's Soccer Team lost their match on Thursday, Oct. 26. Due to the point system in their region, however, they might advance to regionals. The results will be known Friday, Nov. 3.
by Peter Anderson

My high school history teacher once told our class that it is our duty as citizens to vote, that one vote can make a difference. Fortunately, for many past elections there have been campaigns to energize the American populace to vote. It came as no real surprise that the media, the media, and many others were trying to prompt people to vote, saying that one vote does matter. However, my high school history teacher also informed the class that it is more or less a waste to cast a vote for a third party candidate.

Sure, this article is not about the ineptness that seems to pervade public school systems, though it easily could be. Rather, why are we told that our vote carries a great significance, with one major catch? We are told our vote only counts if we vote Republican or Democrat. The logic is that you’re voting for one of the two party candidates, we are playing a positive role in our political system; if we vote for a minor party it is a waste.

Why is this anathema of voting for a third party so ingrained in our thought process? It seems to be mainly tradition. I would have been an ardent Republican as recent as the Reagan administration; I had been I was told to vote. However, the Republican party no longer stands for the conservative ideals it gives lip service to, and neither do the Democrats. The Republicans and Democrats are masquerading as a two-party system, when in fact they are nearly identical. Green Party Presidential nomineie Ralph Nader said the Republicans do not want to be the party to overturn Roe versus Wade. The Democrats, former supporters of free trade, have sold out on that issue by signing bi- partisan global trade legislation with the Republicans that sent jobs overseas and increased our trade deficit. Both parties, in their scramble to the center of politics, have abandoned their key issues. We have held on to the idea that the Republicans are a bastion of conservatism and the Democrats the protectors of liberalism for far too long. Both parties are nothing but a reflection of the other.

This brings me back to my main point. What is wrong with voting on principle? If our one vote counts for a Republican or Democrat, then our one vote also counts even if cast for the Reform Party, Libertarians or the Green Party. It is a defeatist attitude to believe that a vote for Nader is a vote for Bush, or a vote for Buchanan is a vote for Gore. We must throw off the old prejudices towards how we perceive the major parties. Our vote does count, no matter what party it is cast for.

Proud to be American?

(continued from page 4)

The United States has an extremely large influence over the actions of the World Bank and the IMF. We have, because of the excesses of world powers for decades. Some countries are paying four times the amount they spend on health care or education to make a single loan payment. We supported economic sanctions against South Africa to end Apartheid, but now that Apartheid has been abolished we have turned our back on the South African people. Dajda Meyer, a Dordt student from South Africa, says that the situation in her country is far worse now than when under the Apartheid government. This is because powerful countries, including America, pulled their resources to show their disapproval of the injustices there; but have neglected to bring them back to show approval of the political changes. As a result, poverty, murder, rape and unemployment rates have skyrocketed.

America is undoubtedly the most powerful and wealthy nation in the world. We have the power to believe that we will have the economic resources and influence to bolster South Africa’s all-