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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 85,000 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 build-



John Hansen

Groundbreakers (from left) Dale Den Herder, Sioux Center mayor; Robert Poppema, of Poppema-Sikma Construction; Arlan Nederhoff, vice president for business affairs; Ken Boersma, vice president for student services, Rockne McCarthy, vice president for academic affairs, Brandie Ochsner, student body president, and Carl Zylstra, president, shovel dirt at the site of the coming Campus Center.

ing "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 C-160. Refreshments will be served and all are invited.

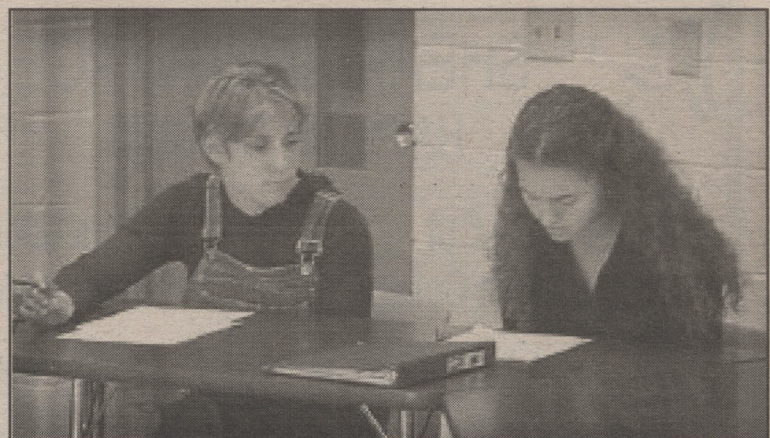
Joining the class will be students who have recently had pieces published in *Lyrical Iowa*, an annual anthology of poetry. The reading is an English 303 class requirement, and students look forward to it with mixed feelings.

"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



John Hansen

Rose Ann Vander Wal listens as Allison De Jong reads her poetry aloud in class. Students submit their poems to their classmates for evaluation.

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.



Andrew Moody

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 Beek, Val Kallemeyn, Jackie Eekhoff 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 one of her speeches with a three-legged stool. The first dimension is providing

relief for the poor by sending money. The second dimension is training people in poverty to become more sufficient. The third dimension is to advocate social change in the political arena. 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 this semester, and one of the things that she took part in was 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 theatre is coming to Dordt College. The Repertory Theatre of America will perform The 1939 Nightclub Murders on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7:00 p.m. in DeWit 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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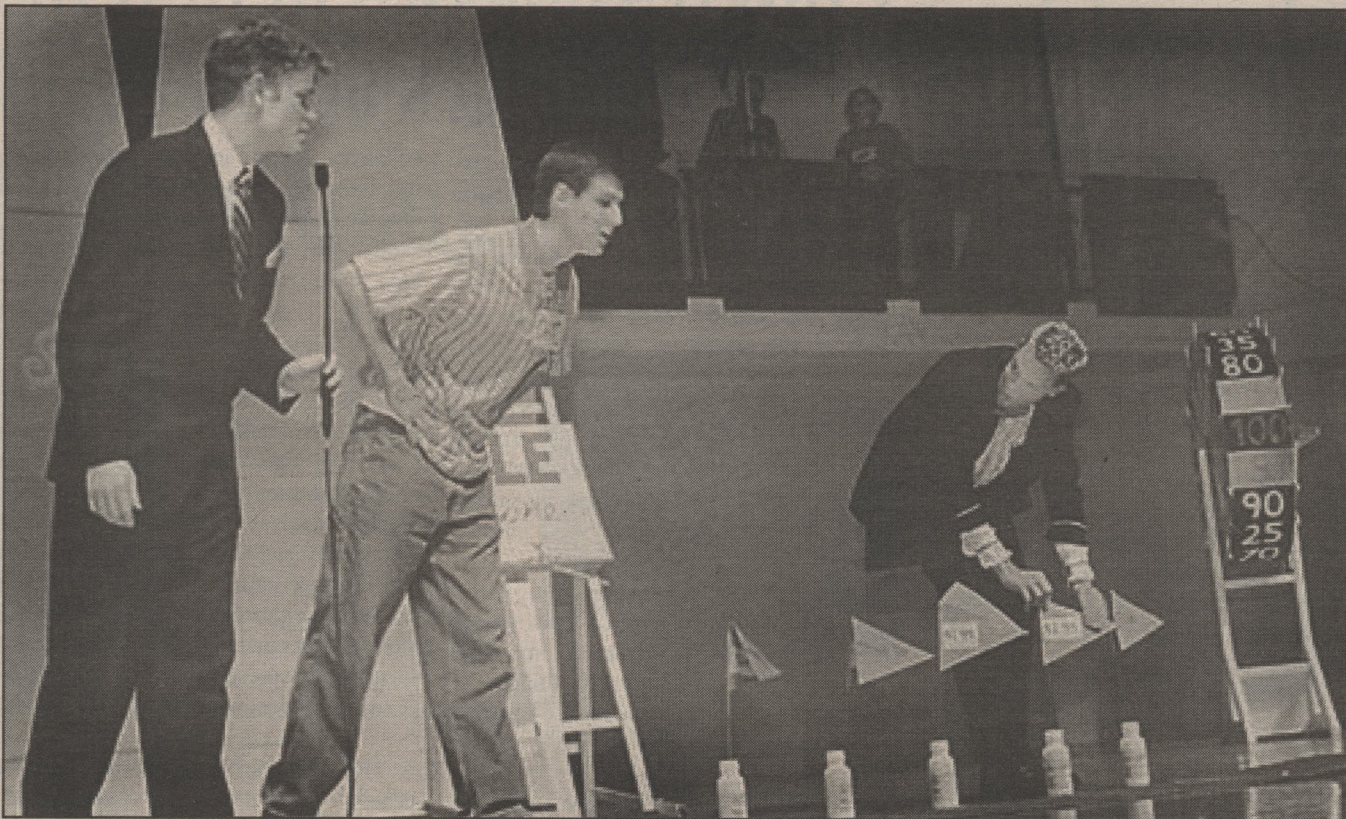
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Andrea Voogt

Blake Walburg

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Diamond
Dordt College
Sioux Center, IA
51250
diamond@dordt.edu

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John Hansen

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 freshman 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.

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 the Diamond, but Professor Danny Hitchcock, the sponsor of the experiment, shared a few things. "This annual event's purpose is for the students to see that the methods used are very valid. Doing it with rats is a way to see the process in action," said Professor Hitchcock. "The students try to motivate the rats with food rewards to



John Hansen

Ace the rat, who belongs to Shannon Schneider and Jen Hoogeveen, is a potential champion in the long jump.

get them to perform. Once they're trained well, I encourage the students to get them to perform on cue."

Trainer Nicole Noteboom said her rat was really learning the events. "At first he

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?"

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.

The film is a passionate exploration of common questions about health, disease, suffering, care 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.

Kooiman says the committee follows written guideline principles that reflect the beliefs and values of Dordt College. "We watch films...to experience, enjoy, and redeem the creative work that is around us," say the guidelines. "Thus, when we watch a film, we know that not only is the content important, but the style and craft of the creative work is important as well."

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."

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
Editor



The other day in my English class, we were assigned to read a story about homosexuality, written by a secular author. While portraying the relationship as unnatural, he did not specifically tell us it was wrong or condemn homosexuality.

Several of my classmates raised objections: should we be reading this material which is not uplifting us, not instructing us to be better Christians, and possibly even causing us to stumble? Homosexuality is obviously a product of our broken world, an unnatural relationship that God himself condemns. How can we justify filling our minds with images of sin?

As I struggled with this, during and after our class discussion where the objections were raised, I realized the issue was much larger than a story about homosexuality. It encompasses all of the sin in our world and our studies of it. Should we be required to study anything, be it racy literature, nude art, or secular theories in any subject, that does not glorify God or show us his truth? We are at a Christian college. Where do we draw our line between acceptable "Christian" studies and information that hinders our spiritual walks?

In order to find answers, we must go back to the themes of structure and direction. Structure refers to the fact that everything is created by God, and thereby has a particular nature or created norm. Direction is the reality that creation is misdirected because of the fall, or redirected to serve God through the redemption of God's people in Christ. There are several ways we can understand direction. One is to embrace all literature openly, appreciating the structure so much that we lose the ability to discern the direction it is taking.

Another option is to go in the opposite direction, rejecting all stories that are not specifically Christian. We do not look critically at the quality of books but instead blindly accept anything and everything with an evangelical message.

There are several serious problems with this approach. The first danger is basing our judgment on the author's intention. If

we base a work's Christian-ness on its author's theology, we would be ignoring the effects of sin on even the most godly mind. Obviously no one is perfect, and even the best intentions can be skewed by sin.

A second problem lies in the fact that we are cutting out a wide range of culture. If we only focus on the Christian, we are shutting out billions of legitimate ideas and discovered truths from the secular world. We are also underestimating the power of God to teach us through all of his creation. God frequently speaks through even broken humans who may not realize he is using them. We cannot limit God to work only in authors who are saved. If a book is well-written and shows the author has obvious gifts, we have to acknowledge that talent is from God. If the secular author searches for and exposes truth, which comes only from God, then we had better pay attention.

Secular literature, even in its occasional grotesqueness, reveals to us something substantial about humanity, the very people we are supposed to reach with the gospel. It can be a clear reflection of society, our society. By struggling with the world through unchristian eyes, we will be much better equipped to face its challenges after graduation. If we study only clearly Christian literature, we will not get any practice at digging into the messiness of life and discerning God's will and truth in it.

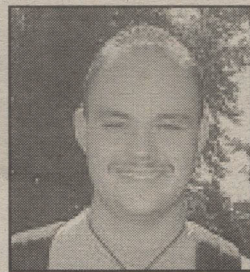
I have specifically addressed literature here, but the same observations hold for art, music, and philosophical theories. In fact, all areas of study run against a wall of non-Christian ideas. We need to be open to those ideas, to realize that God gave intelligent minds to the secular world as well as to the Christian sphere. We need to take a careful look at the truths those people have discovered, and be able to bring our own knowledge of truth to our examinations.

Obviously, we should not open our minds arbitrarily to everything that comes our way, but neither should we clap our hands over our ears at the first word of literature that is not Christian. We need to learn from our culture, take hold of what God wants to show us, reach out of the safe and protective incubator of Christian schools, home, and church. We need to be discerning and establish a standard of truth. God is waiting to show us a rich world of ideas and truths through sources we never would have imagined.

Congress passes debt relief legislation: It's about time!

by Mitch Beaumont
Assistant Editor

One month ago I wrote an editorial for the *Diamond* about the fact that world hunger is a solvable problem. I told you about a book I was reading for a class,



Grace at the Table. I told you 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 forgiveness of debt for the poorest countries around the world.

Last week Tammy Walhof, 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 disturbed me.

Walhof 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 payments, let alone the principle.

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 voting power on the board of executive governors, and it takes an 85% majority in order to pass a resolution on that board—thus it is impossible to pass a resolution without the support of the United States.

Here is what truly ruffled my feathers: Walhof informed us that virtually there is only one man standing in the way of total US support of Jubilee 2000—Phil Gramm, a Congressman from Texas. Gramm is making it more and more difficult for countries to qualify for debt cancellation by making them "jump through a various amount of hoops," said Walhof.

The purpose of Gramm's "various hoops" is to make debt cancellation look much like the structural adjustment programs that are the main source of debt for the countries that are applying for debt can-

cellation. Sounds counterproductive doesn't it? Not only is Gramm being counterproductive, but he is also endangering thousands of lives in each of the countries that area waiting debt cancellation approval.

Much of what Bread for the World has achieved toward solving world hunger has been accomplished by lobbying Congress to pass so-called "hunger legislation." This legislation is aimed at alleviating and/or cancelling the overwhelming debt in developing countries. Every year Bread for the World organizes an Offering of Letters in which they encourage members of churches, college campuses and many other Christian organizations to write letters to their Congressperson in an attempt to influence those representatives to vote in favor of any hunger legislation that is on the docket.

This fall, legislation before the House and Senate proposed the cancellation of debt in over 40 developing countries around the world. Phil Gramm was standing in the way of this legislation, but on Wednesday of last week, the very day that Walhof 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 excited by the fact that the IMF, 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

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

by Andrew Moody
Guest Writer

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 backwards places to fulfill our "Christian obligations." I don't think my thoughts as a child were much different from others in similar situations. This is typically how we think as Americans.

But the more I learn about our "global village" and our country's effect on it, the more I become 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 Saddam Hussein was murdering and oppressing. After it was all said and done, we left Iraq with Hussein still in power. 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 keep them from murdering innocent people, we did it to protect our access to cheap oil! It was all about money. The government had just found a clever way to sell Operation Desert Storm to the American public.

Last week I had the privilege of listening to Tammy Walhof from Bread for the World. She spoke in two of my classes about how the United States has been oppressing much of the Third World for

decades through the World Bank. We lent large sums of money to Third World countries who, for various reasons (including America tripling their interest rates in the '80's) are unable to pay the money back. In fact, many of these countries have already paid back as much as twice the amount they had borrowed, but are still unable to make even the principle payment on their loan.

Continued on page 8

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) De-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 it 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 bureaucracy, a Buchanan Administration will introduce a sensible, incentive-driven plan for community-based stewardship that is pro-growth, pro-people and pro environment. We will:

- 1) Promote local responsibility and accountability by abolishing the Bureau of Land Management and giving the 500 million acres of BLM lands back to the states.
- 2) Give states flexibility to pursue alternatives for promoting green space, preserving historic sites, minimizing congestion, protecting water quality and cleaning up hazardous waste.
- 3) Require Congress to vote on every endangered species and compensate property owners when their land is seized and converted into protected habitat. We want to see the bald eagle and grizzly bear survive, but unelected bureaucrats must not be allowed to violate property rights in the process.

Education

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) Support local solutions: tuition vouchers that can be redeemed at all schools--public and private, secular and religious--but have no government strings attached.
- 4) Take back our public schools by passing a constitutional amendment to allow voluntary prayer.
- 5) Reject "multicultural" curricula that denigrate our history and teach our children to identify themselves as hyphenated Americans rather than as citizens of one nation under God.
- 6) Protect the rights of homeschooling parents to educate their children.
- 7) Support tax-free education savings accounts.
- 8) Oppose national testing and teaching standards as intrusions on the rights of parents and the primacy of local communities.



**NADER,
RALPH
(GREEN PARTY)**

Abortion

For American women, the right to a safe, affordable and legal abortion is a legal right.

"I don't think government has the proper role

in forcing a woman to have a child or forcing a woman not to have a child. This is something that should be privately decided with the family."

Campaign Finance

Campaign finance reform should include:

- 1) A ban on soft-money contributions to political parties. Soft-money contributions exploit a loophole that allows contributions for "party-building activities."
- 2) A well-promoted voluntary system of public financing for all federal elections. Qualified candidates who agreed not to raise or spend private money would receive public financing for their campaigns, including limited amounts of matching funds if their opponents spent excessively.
- 3) Free radio and television air time for ballot-qualified candidates who participate in the voluntary system. Broadcast stations should be required to provide this air time as a condition of their licenses.
- 4) Better enforcement of laws regulating campaign contributions and expenditures. Campaign finance reform is a key to reclaiming our democracy and our economy from powerful corporate interests.

Environment

Global warming, a clear and present danger, demands that the United States take immediate action to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases, foster a rapid switch to much more efficient technologies, dramatically step up investments in public transit and launch a program to finally harness the plentiful supply of solar energy.

The United States must ratify the Kyoto Protocol and then go beyond its minimal standards. Among key measures required: We must move rapidly to a zero-emissions standard for cars, even as we commit to creating a satisfactory public transit system. It is time to end the use of nuclear power in the United States. Nuclear energy is too dangerous, too inefficient, too costly and poses too many long-term hazards.

Corporate Welfare

It is now past time to end corporate welfare as we know it.

- 1) The first step is to eliminate the corporate tax loopholes. Any meritorious corporate tax exemptions can be reenacted by Congress.
- 2) All corporate welfare programs should be periodically sunsetted. If they deserve to continue, they can be reauthorized.
- 3) Where the government decides to give welfare benefits to corporations, it must exact reciprocal obligations.
- 4) We need a new framework for analyzing corporate welfare. We need to ask whether a corporate welfare program advances genuine public interests, whether the government has a proper role in a particular subsidizing sphere, whether there are democratic procedures in place for public participation, whether the government should charge market rates for services or assets it is providing corporations.

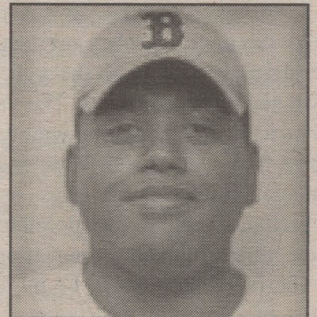
Picture Poll

What political issue will be the deciding factor for your vote during this election?



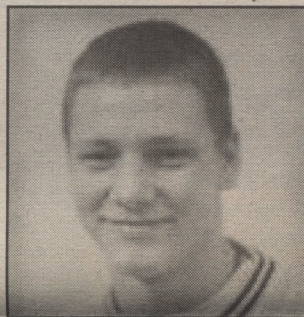
"Tax reform: It's is something I really considered when I sent in my ballot."

Helena DeGraaf JR
Ferrisburg, VT



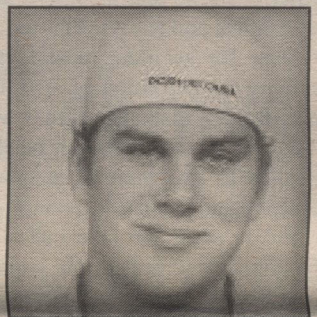
"Education: What their views on school vouchers are and private schools in general."

Matthew Thomas JR
Bahrain



"Military Spending: The military is not-up to par."

Josh De Boer FR
Zillah, Washington



"Economic Plan: Because of our family buisness and how we are effected by the tax cuts or the application of a tax increase."

Tom DeGroot JR
Melba, Idaho

INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Looking beyond the surface...



ICS is a Christian graduate school seeking to honour Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of life and the Renewer of thought and learning. We offer programs in the areas of philosophy, aesthetics, education, history of philosophy, political theory, systematic theology, hermeneutics, biblical studies, and worldview studies. We're affiliated with the Toronto School of Theology at University of Toronto.

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Unsure of who to vote for?

On November 2nd, you will have a chance to hear the views of the presidential candidates debated by a panel of professors.

Representing:

Ralph Nader--Professor Don King

Al Gore-- Professor Dick Hodgson and Professor Dave Schelhaas

George W. Bush-- Professor Tim Rylaarsdam and Nick Lantinga

Come to C160 tonight at 8:00. Cookies and punch will be served!

Truth? The art of Redlin, Kinkade, and Moss

by Eric Van Wyk
Staff Writer

As the dentist probes my teeth and gums I stare forward 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 specialist of scenes of past country life and images of nature. Redlin's art decorates far more than just dentist 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 by many to be the artwork of today, the 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 generation 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 to be done here on earth, and art is one avenue that we as Christians walk in response to God. Christian philosopher Calvin Serveld says that "culture, in the sense of imagination and style, is crucial to a truly human existence and something which pleases the Lord."

Therefore God calls not only all human beings to be imaginative and creative, but also for artists to respond to the God's creation. They must depict meaningfully and richly the deep fabric of God's community here on earth. Art is a metaphoric dialogue within the community of believers as well as non-believers. It should engage the viewer mentally and spiritually as well as challenge and question him. Art can also be a creative moment of joy—of catching a full moment of daily life or simply depicting in a deep manner the wonder of creation.

However, this does not mean that artwork has to be abstract and provocative. The realistic depiction of creation and human activity can also be very meaningful. This realism is different from the glossy realism of Kinkade and Redlin in its rich interpretation and artistic insight.

So, then, where does the work of Redlin, Kinkade, and Moss stand? Basically, seeing art as "nice pictures" is ignoring God's call of creativity and meaningfulness in art. These pictures do not engage us fully; they leave us with nothing to think about. Their cheap emotionality is not true to the rich fabric of life, humanity and creation. The problem in this art is not what it is saying, but more importantly what it fails to say.

This is the crucial point for us as Christians to understand. We need to see art as a rich, engaging experience in which God calls us to discover our world, ourselves and our relationship to Him. Redlin, Kinkade and Moss deny us that experience.

I am not suggesting that we rip up every Redlin, Kinkade and Moss we find. I am saying that Christians should not limit themselves to nice pictures. This means buying reprints of past masters and contemporary artists, taking the time to view new artwork in galleries but also older work in museums, and, if the opportunity arises, buying a smaller piece of original art. Art is a personal choice that can bring richness and vitality to our lives. Without it our connection to God and life is minimized.

Oklahoma! successful



Andrew Moody

Justin Vande Kerk (Curly) and Rachel Personaire (Laurie) were part of Dordt's production of Oklahoma! the past two weeks. The all-student cast put on ten performances in the Te Paske theater at Sioux Center High School.

In This Case, Less is More

by Mark Brink
Staff Writer

This review is about the film that I have recently come to conclude is the best ever. It perfectly uses the tools of film making to portray depth and emotion. It explores many deep issues, comments on society and tells an amazing tale of hope and despair—all this in a matter of six minutes and seventeen seconds.

The short film "More," written and directed by Mark Osborne, is an example of what is to come: independent movie making for the internet. This film, made in 1998, was independently financed by Osborne using equipment borrowed from a production studio. After production ended it was accepted into and shown at the Sundance Film Festival. Sundance is a high profile independent film festival designed to showcase what's going on in the independent art world and to get some of the films purchased by major studios such as Fox and Universal. "More" was purchased by Flemington pictures, a small company that was unable to distribute it on a grand scale. So the avenue they took was the internet.

"More" is one of many short films that has now found a way to reach the masses without all the high costs of video or theatrical releases. It has been posted on ifilm, a website dedicated to independent short films. Another positive side effect for the audience of an internet release is that it's completely free. The quality isn't the best it could be, but that will undoubtedly change soon.

The film itself is a stop-motion film, a similar process to

Verhages join NISO

Andrea Voogt
Staff Writer

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra will perform its first concert of this season in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7. This season NISO will be featuring several international guests and pieces of international music. The theme for the upcoming concert will be "An International Connection to Holland!" and the featured guests are Elayna and Zeger Verhage.

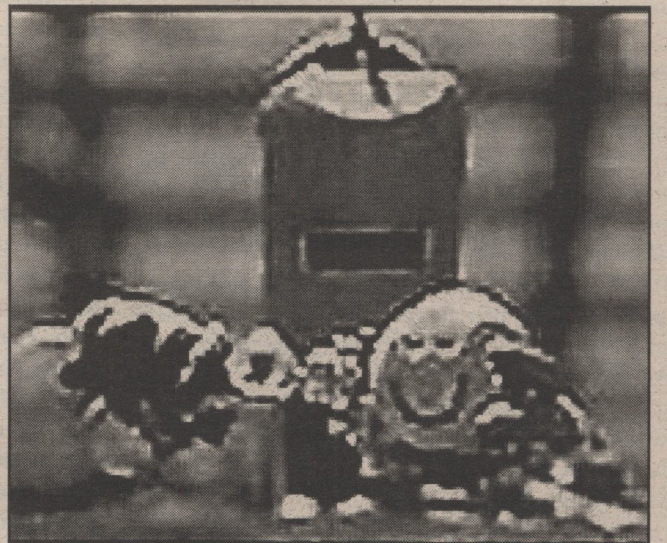
Elayna Verhage is a violinist and will be performing Violin Concerto in D by Sibelius. She is also NISO conductor Henry Duitman's daughter. She graduated from Orange City's Unity Christian High School and went on to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She has been a soloist with NISO in the past. Elayna is currently a member of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra and was recently married to Zeger Verhage.

Zeger Verhage is a clarinetist and pianist. He is a native of the Netherlands and met Elayna at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival in Germany in 1997. Zeger is currently a freelance clarinetist and teacher in The Hague and Rotterdam in the Netherlands. He will perform Mozart's glorious Concerto for Clarinet in A with the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

Of the featured soloists, Dr. Henry Duitman said, "What can I say without sounding totally biased? However, these two young artists would be at home soloing with almost any orchestra in the country, and we are delighted to have them with NISO."

NISO will also perform the exciting Roman Carnival Overture by Berlioz and Canzon Duodecimi Toni by Gabrieli, which features the brass section of the orchestra. Tickets for the concert can be ordered through the internet at www.dordt.edu/niso.

While in Sioux Center, Elayna and Zeger Verhage will also be leading a number of master classes for violin, piano, and clarinet. In addition they will be performing in a recital in the B.J. Haan Auditorium with Lisa Duitman on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 7:30 p.m., featuring music by Beethoven, Schumann, Hindemith, and Khachaturian.



"Nightmare Before Christmas." Some may dismiss it due to its animated style, but its stylistic claymation adds to the production in ways that could never be realized through live action. Throughout the six minutes there is no dialogue and little character interaction. The narration is left completely to the visuals and the music, a touching little melody by New Order.

We are treated to a small epic of one man's struggles with emptiness. A comment on innocence and consumerism, "More" digs deeper into the soul and ugliness more effectively in six short minutes than most movies even attempt to tackle in two hours.

I would encourage you to view this finely crafted little masterpiece. This is definitely one that you will need/want to watch a second time. Perhaps it will encourage you to examine its issues—and the same issues in your own life, or perhaps it will simply introduce you to the rich and varied world of short films found online. Either way, it's worth the scant six minutes to view this top-notch animated film.

Senior Blades anticipate good season

John Hansen
Staff Writer

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 traveling with the Blades on hockey tour each year.

Franklin Guillaume comes from Edmonton, Alberta, and is a business administration and accounting major. 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. "It's going to be a matter 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 web page.

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



Andrew Moody

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

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 is being able to watch the team grow (and earning the respect as a representative of Dordt College.)

Intramurals provide informal competition

Jason Mulder
Staff Writer

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 time, talent (or both), 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 Wassenaar, Greg Van Dyke, Fraser de Walle, Richard Laninga, Merry Van Heukelem, 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

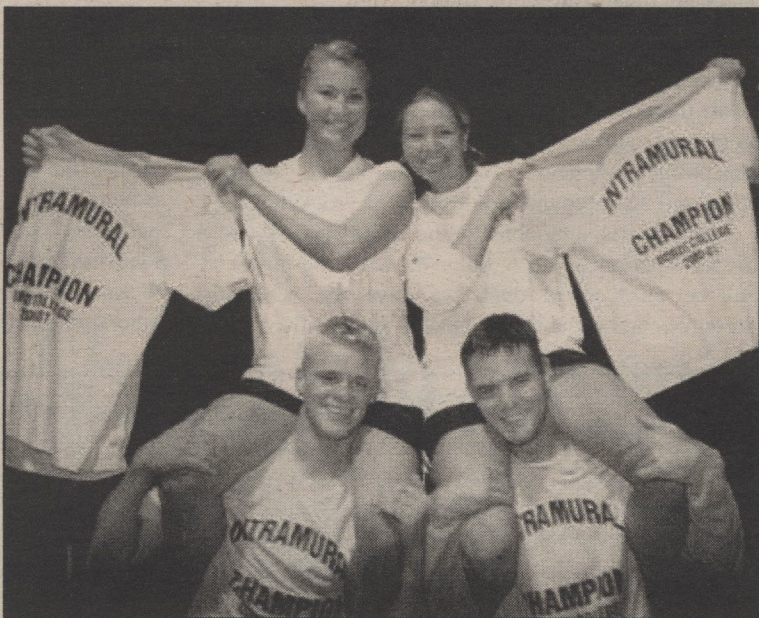


photo submitted

Ranae Vander Stelt, Carrie Ten Napel, Evan Beimers, and Dylan Haak (clockwise) won the intramural co-ed sand volleyball championship.

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 Kristin Kuipers the women's champion.

The Late Fall season is now in full swing with indoor volleyball as the featured sport. Thirty-eight 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.

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 begins 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 Patten 27:26.31
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 Reinsma 19:29.06
47. Becky Demarest 20:11.80
63. Jessica Rowenhorst 20:33.45
75. Emily Kauk 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
L 5-6 (OT)
October 27-28 Minn. State Univ. L 3-12
L 4-14

MEN'S SOCCER

Final Record 2-14 (2-6 GPAC)
Oct. 17 Sioux Falls L (4-2)
Goals: Beau Bosma
John Hansel
Oct. 21 Nat'l American University L (2-0)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Final Record 12-6 (6-2 GPAC)
Oct. 20 Bellevue W (6-0)
Goals: Kalie Gaskil
Julie Van Der Kooi
Sarah Vriend
Jana Brink
Oct. 21 Nat'l American University W (1-0)
Goal: Liz Dykstra
Oct. 26 Dana L (3-0)

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.

NEWS BRIEFS



compiled by Sarah Den Boer
World Page Editor

TAIWAN

Accident investigators have started examining possible causes of the Singapore Airlines crash in Taiwan in which at least 78 people are now known to have died. The Boeing 747 with 179 people on board was taking off for Los Angeles in a fierce storm when it apparently collided with an object on the runway and burst into flames.

ISRAEL

Two teenagers lost their lives at the flashpoint Karni crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel after violence erupted as thousands of angry mourners, some firing weapons in the air, buried four dead from Tuesday's unrest. The clashes came as former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres announced that he would meet Yasser Arafat on Wednesday night to try to end violence which has now claimed more than 160 lives, most of them Palestinian.

FRANCE

French President Jacques Chirac has called for tougher restrictions on ships carrying toxic materials following the sinking of an Italian chemical tanker in the English Channel. The Ievoli Sun sank on Tuesday near the Channel Island of Alderney with 6,000 tonnes of toxic chemicals on board.

RUSSIA

Divers working on the sunken Russian nuclear submarine Kursk are trying to reach a section that contains its control center and an escape capsule for the crew. A Russian navy spokesman denied that the divers had been told to search for secret documents, saying their only concern was to recover as many of the crew's bodies as possible. A letter discovered on one of the bodies last week revealed that 23 of the sailors had survived the initial blasts and taken shelter in a rear compartment.

CHINA

China is embarking on the world's biggest census as it attempts to count every man, woman and child in its colossal population. On Wednesday six million census officials will begin knocking on the doors of an estimated 350 million households. However, China's strict one-child policy is expected to distort the results of the survey. Those who have more children face punishments, ranging from stiff fines to forced sterilization.

UNITED STATES

Of all the polls conducted during Campaign 2000, a survey by a used car-buying website, Autotrader.com, produced one of the most telling insights. "If each candidate were a used car," asked pollsters, "what model would he be?" George W. Bush, the poll showed, was a racy Porsche 911, a powerful symbol of potent masculinity. Al Gore was a Volvo, the epitome of reliability, reassurance and safety. With one simple question, Autotrader.com had gone a long way towards explaining one of Campaign 2000's most powerful electoral dynamics: the gender gap. That is, a tendency amongst men to vote Republican and for women to vote Democrat.

Republicans and Democrats identical

by Peter Anderson
Staff Writer

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. Fair enough. For many past elections there have been campaigns to energize the American populace to vote. It came as no real surprise that teachers, 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 by voting for one of the beltway 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 into our thought process? It seems to be mainly tradition. I would have been an ardent Republican as recent as the Reagan administration, had I been able 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 nominee Ralph Nader said the Republicans do not want to be the party to overturn Roe versus Wade. The Democrats, former opponents 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 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 our 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 supported the exploitation of these countries 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. Dalida 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 their 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 relieve third world debt, we have the economic resources and influence to bolster South Africa's ail-

ing economy, and God has given us incredible resources that are capable of changing the conditions for suffering people all over the globe.

But we are greedy. We love money, and we would rather spend it on ourselves than give it away to someone else. We discuss whether our billions should go to better education, better health care, or national defense. What about those who have NO education, NO healthcare, and NO adequate police protection? Maybe we could learn to live without some of the nice things we have so that others will not starve. I wonder how much money we could put together if we all settled for generic clothes, a generic car, a smaller house, generic tennis shoes, or even no shoes at all.

What can I sacrifice for others? One thing we sometimes forget is when Cain said in Genesis 4:9, "I don't know, am I my brother's keeper?" The answer is yes! Cain killed his brother and tried to deny responsibility. We as a country have taken an active role in hurting our brother nations and continue to deny responsibility. Are we our brother's keeper? When the United States of America ceases to be a global police force and turns into a global servant, then it will be easier for me to say that I am proud to be an American. Until then, I pray and act for change.

Lookback

by Jen Hoogeveen

November 6, 1959

Did You Know . . .

that the jet age has been welcomed by European countries because it enables Americans to come across faster . . . ?

November 13, 1962

Commons Costs

\$600 is spent on milk and butter, \$300 on bakery goods, and \$620 on meat each month. This doesn't include groceries, lights, water, and salaries for six cooks. A glass of coffee or milk is 5 cents each.

November 12, 1963

Dordt's dorm phones are connected. The number to call campus is 722-0411.

November 2, 1964

Pep Club Renamed Delta Sigma Kappa

Dordt's Pep Club was renamed Delta Sigma Kappa, which are Greek letters that stand for

"Dordt Service Club."

IBM Machine

A new IBM processing machine has been added to the admissions office that will aid in saving time. It is a punch card system that processes class lists and semester grades.

November 9, 1964

Gun Club in Planning Process

Dordt students are thinking of forming a gun club to provide a proper outlet for trigger-happy youth. Members will be responsible and active. This club will sponsor target practice meets, discussion on gun laws, emphasize safety rules, teach people about guns, and increase the level of sportsmanship.

November 23, 1964

Opera Guild Created

November 2, 1967

Dordt College Cross-Country

The cross-country team just finished their first year as a team. There was a shortage of runners, but as a whole, the team competed well. October 17, the squad placed second with 33 points to Briar Cliff in a triangular meet in

Sioux City. The second meet, October 20th, was taken by Dana College, 32-23. The third meet was close. However, Dordt took second again to Westmar, 30-25.

November 14, 1969

Poll of 320 on Dancing

Square-skipping was recently permitted by Classis Sioux Center of the CRC. Here is a poll of 320 people on various aspects related to dancing. Responses around campus:

" . . . can be good Christian fun . . . "

" . . . first step toward the new attitude needed at Dordt."

"Modern dancing is suggestive and dirty."

"How long would it take for the lights to go out and the music to get faster?"

"Dordt is trying desperately to stay with the times. Square-dancing is slightly old fashioned."

"I think it's for squares so skip it."

November 4, 1971

Women's Intercollegiate Basketball Team Formed

November 20, 1975

Pro-life Club to be Formed

Be sure to recycle
your Diamond
when you have
finished reading
it!



Renae Visser, Owner/Stylist
Paula Oostenink, Stylist
Missy Driesen, Stylist
Alissa Roetman, Stylist
Carmen Mulder, Stylist
Gwen Van Roekel, Stylist

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