



Volume XLV
Number V

DORDT DIAMOND



November 15, 2001

Inside Your Dordt Diamond

News-1,2,3
Opinion-4
Features-5
Arts and Entertainment-6
Sports-7
World-8

Page 2 Read a Diamond investigative story on the Board's decision concerning CRC faculty membership



Page 4-Read letter from a Dordt student who is concerned about the faculty's lack of care for the students



Page 5-Read about a recent trip that some East Hall residents took to a local nursing home



Page 6-Read about the Dordt band "Scatterglass"



Page 7-Read all about the up and coming club volleyball team



Glass Menagerie coming soon



Matt Deppe

Junior Laura Groen, senior Danielle Vriend, and freshman Ethan Koerner rehearse a scene from "The Glass Menagerie."

Allison Schaap

News Assistant Editor

A play with symbolism, well-crafted characters and beautiful prose will be hitting the New World Theater November 29 through December 1.

"The Glass Menagerie," written by Tennessee Williams, is being student-directed by seniors Adam Smit and Eric Van Wyk. Smit focuses on the direction of the play, while Van Wyk centers on the technical aspects. Smit says that any revisions made concerning the play are discussed between the two directors.

Smit says "The Glass Menagerie" is essentially about a lower class family and the struggles and situations that they face. A young man, Tom (Ethan Koerner) struggles against the overbearing presence of his moth-

er, Amanda (Danielle Vriend), while trying to provide for his mom and his crippled sister, Laura (Laura Groen). A young gentleman named Jim (Paul Olsen) enters the picture, and the play's climax is found in the relationship between Laura and Jim.

Sophomore Mark Jansen is composing the music for the play, which may be recorded by Dordt musicians.

"This play will definitely be an experience," Smit said. "It's a highly technical show...and very symbolic. It's not like watching a movie on TV...it will be unlike any play or movie you have ever seen."

Smit encourages students to come. He hopes the play will serve the Dordt audience well. "There are many things that the characters are going through that we can all



Matt Deppe

Laura Groen and Ethan Koerner play siblings in this student-directed production.

relate to. And it engages the imagination in such a way that we are invited to try to understand what they are going through," Smit said. "If we do that, we have witnessed something very human and very

real, but also a mystery of how God has created us."

Tickets for "The Glass Menagerie" will go on sale November 15th.

Honors Program a possibility

Steve Kloosterman

Staff Writer

Dordt College is an institution of high standards, but even at Dordt there are students who find their classes too easy. For those students who thrive on challenge, Dordt is looking into starting an honors program. A study committee has been formed for this purpose.

The Honors Program Study Committee recently attended a

three-day conference hosted by the National Collegiate Honors Council, where they were able to examine the programs of other colleges and look through honor student projects.

"It allowed us to see what other colleges were doing," said committee member Professor Mary Denglar. "It was very helpful. I don't think [an honors program] would be a large step for Dordt. I feel very positive about the whole project."

Student Forum President Amy Vroom, a study committee member as well, says she also is pleased with the progress being made. "Student Forum had originally brain-stormed this, as well as other things, as a way to enhance the academic atmosphere at Dordt," she said.

The study committee will need to determine what style of honors program, if any, would best suit the college. Some colleges offer specific honors classes, while others

offer special sections of classes. A few colleges require honors students to do advanced projects or write extra papers.

The study committee will submit a proposal for an honors program to Rockne McCarthy, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, by December 1. After being reviewed and modified by McCarthy and several other committees, the proposal will eventually be brought before the faculty for their approval.



CRC membership policy debated

Laura Apol

Assistant Editor

The faculty policy has been the center of discussion for almost as many years as it has been enforced. Because the board has been adamant about not reopening the issue for discussion, it has become a hot topic among the faculty. These are the voices of professors of Dordt College that have also graduated from Dordt.

Ethan Brue, Associate Professor of Engineering, feels the policy is under scrutiny for several reasons. "But one that seems to surface both among faculty and students is that some feel the policy creates a narrow-minded, close-minded community with a reformed arrogance," Brue said. "Personally, however, I have a hard time believing that the policy is the problem. I'd suggest that it is a problem of pedagogy." Brue feels that the faculty needs to communicate more effectively. "What could be more open-minded than teaching from a reformed perspective? A reformational worldview frees one to drink, taste, chew and inhale all the richness of God's world in light of Scripture and to explore the boundless diversity of created reality."

Paul Otto, Associate Professor of History, says, "Another concern that people have with the policy is that if it's designed to maintain the mission of the college, and supposedly it is, to maintain the college's identity as a reformed institution, then it may not succeed because there are questions about how reformed the Christian Reformed Church is." He used as a reference to that fact a survey done by Calvin College last spring on the members of the Christian Reformed Church. "I don't remember the figures, but there was a pretty sizeable number that didn't even define themselves as reformed." Otto continued, "So if the college is saying that faculty need to be members of a Christian Reformed Church to make sure they are supporting the mission of the college, that doesn't necessarily follow."

Professor of Communication, Charles Veenstra says, "There are some good reasons why the college, I think, has this policy. And that is to make sure that we have the same creedal or same confessions, that we hold up the same confessions." He also says, "If I say I believe in the Heidelberg Catechism, I accept the Belgic Confession, and so on, the Canons of Dort, that gives a pretty clear view of where my theology is and where my theology or belief system certainly influences the rest of what I do."

There are professors that feel the policy is affecting the amount of people filling out applications to

work at Dordt.

Syd Hielema, Assistant Professor of Theology, is one of those professors. "I know the college believes that central to keeping its vision is who it hires to teach. And I agree with that," he says. "And a concern I have is that a policy may place limits on who can be hired. For example, that someone may turn down a position here because of the requirement, I'm a little worried about that, that the college may be limiting its pool of potential candidates by having that policy."

"A reformational worldview frees one to drink, taste, chew and inhale all the richness of God's world in light of Scripture..."

-Ethan Brue

Associate Professor of Agriculture, Robb De Han, brought up the factor of God's calling. "I'm not sure it's wise because what you're doing is, from a philosophical point of view, people are called to teach at Dordt. They are simultaneously called to be a member of a Christian Reformed Church in this community. They aren't called to be a part of any other denomination or church in the community?" he asked. "I think that, philosophically, in terms of calling, you have a very difficult time making that connection and saying it has to be that way. I don't think it does." He used this example, "Or they also really felt called to be a part of the Evangelical Free church in town. They thought they could use their gifts there. There was a need for them, so there's a dilemma, right?" he asked. "So what you're doing is saying, 'Well, if you're called to Dordt, you're not called to a whole bunch of other possible church memberships in the area.' So they're kind of exclusive in that way."

Brue puts it this way, "Clearly, one's membership in the CRC does not ensure that a person will teach in harmony with the educational task and framework of Dordt. However, let me suggest that if one is 'thoroughly reformed' two things will be true. First, the 'thoroughly reformed' person will maintain a Kuyperian vision (reformation in every corner of the cosmos), a vision that will take precedence over denominational differences. Such a person will recognize that 'reformational living' crosses denominational boundaries." The second point is, "the 'thoroughly reformed' person will embrace the dynamic motif of the reformational worldview; to be reformed is to be always reforming." He then says, "I feel that those who are reformed in this sense will have no problem joining the CRC, even if they are from a different church background. We need divergent viewpoints in our

pews. Within the context of a loving dialogue, it is an essential ingredient for a healthy church body."

"...it's possible to be reformed without being part of the CRC."

-Ken Petersen

"There are more and more faculty coming to this institution, not just faculty, but probably administrative staff too that don't necessarily have a history in the CRC, but which do have a commitment to what we call a reformed perspective," says Professor of Environmental Studies Ken Petersen. "In other words, it's possible to be reformed without being part of the CRC. And I think we're seeing that a lot of people view the policy that requires membership in the CRC as too narrow and restrictive and confining for the college and feel that the college would be better served by saying that we are reformed." Petersen continues, "We have a rich history in the CRC, which we are proud of and want to celebrate. But we also recognize that we can bring godly, committed people here that are and can be thoroughly reformed but don't necessarily belong to the CRC. I think that would be healthy for the institution."

Even though the board decided not to reopen the policy for discussion, some professors feel that is the appropriate course of action.

Otto says, "I don't think any rash decisions ought to be made to change it. But I think there ought to be a very free and frank discussion within the Dordt community, staff, faculty, board, about the policy. To evaluate its pros and cons, how it has developed, whether it is doing what it should do today, maybe even deciding what it should do. I really think if nothing else there ought to be a discussion."

Policy Timeline

1955-Dordt College is founded with strong support from the Christian Reformed Church

1969-The board of trustees passes a policy on church membership for faculty.

The policy-The board of trustees has determined that all full-time salaried faculty members are expected to demonstrate their commitment to the mission of the college by affiliating with one of the Christian Reformed congregations which actively supports the mission of Dordt College."

Faculty Stats - unavailable

Board of Trustees Stats (2001)

-30 members

-3 members non-CRC from the Reformed Church of the United States, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the United Reformed Church.

Student Stats (2001)

-68.1% (950) of students are from the Christian Reformed Church

-17.5% (244) of students are from a reformed background

-14.5% (202) of students are from a non-reformed background

Board Review of the Policy

(Information taken from a letter written by Ronald Schaap to the faculty and staff of Dordt College.)

-Ronald Schaap, chair of the board, appointed an Ad Hoc committee. He gave the committee a mandate to discern whether sufficient reasons exist to reexamine Dordt College's policy regarding whether it would be prudent to reopen the discussion regarding church membership for faculty and staff.

-Input was solicited from the entire college community. Written responses were received from seven trustees and 25 college employees. Interviews were also held with the faculty officers and selected administrators.

-A study of all written responses and interviews and a summary of both pros and cons of the issue was completed.

-The committee reviewed information on church membership standards of other Christian colleges.

-The committee reviewed articles and books which addressed the question of the relationship between a college and a church and the long-term importance of these relationships.

-The Ad Hoc committee recommended to the board that they not reexamine the policy.

-After a lengthy discussion, which included both sides of the issue, the board voted to go along with the recommendation of the Ad Hoc committee to not reexamine the policy. It was felt that the current policy has served and continues to serve Dordt College well in its educational mission and its relationship with its supporting faith community.

Diamond Staff

Editor

Mitch Beaumont

Assistant Editor

Laura Apol

News Editor

Tricia Van Ee

Assistant News Editor

Allison Schaap

Opinion Editor

Denae Wittmeier

Features and World Editors

Kristi Mulder

Sarah Den Boer

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Phil Postma

Sports Editor

Jocelyn Van Beek

Assistant Sports Editor

Jacque Scoby

Photographers

John Hansen

Lori Panchot

Mikala Poll

Matt Deppe

Computer Graphics Consultant

Mark Haan

Layout Editors

Janelle Van Bockel

Rachel Sturing

Janna Van Swol

Copy Editors

Jen Berkompas

Joe Eggebeen

Lisa Eekhoff

Staff

Josh Bower

Peter Anderson

Ben Groenewold

Bethany Fopma

Jen Hoogveen

Steve Kloosterman

Kim Lucier

Jason Mulder

Rachelle Vander Werff

The *Diamond* is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond. Any letters, comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be received before 5:00 p.m. the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue. Send contributions to:

Diamond

Dordt College

Sioux Center, IA

51250

diamond@dordt.edu

Opinions expressed are not necessarily the view of the *Diamond* or of Dordt College, but represent the views of individual writers. The *Diamond* reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.



NATS a learning experience

Phil Postma

A&E Page Editor

Twelve Dordt vocalists, six accompanists and two vocal instructors traveled to Cedar Rapids, Iowa on the first weekend in November to participate in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition. The trip was a beneficial experience for all the participants, especially seniors Tricia Van Ee and Rochelle (Van Ry) Senti, who received second place and an honorable mention in their division, respectively.

The yearly competition was different this year for two reasons. First, it was a regional competition, which includes students from surrounding states in addition to students from Iowa.

Second, the NATS association brought in an expert vocal coach to

conduct a master class at which students could learn some unique, insightful tips on technique and interpretation. This demonstration enhanced the learning atmosphere of the event.

Mrs. Deb Vogel, who teaches voice at Dordt, says this year, as always, the trip was a valuable experience for the students. "The beneficial thing is that [the students] see what is going on in the entire state," she said. The exposure provided them with a "quick indoctrination into the world of singing."

In the competition, all participants sing in the first round of their division, which is determined by gender and academic year. About half those students advance to a second round, and only three students in each division sing in the final round, after which first, second and third places are

announced.

Van Ee had the opportunity to sing before hundreds of musicians and instructors, a task that made her nervous but did not overwhelm her. "I'd gotten where I wanted to be," she said. "Making finals was my goal for my senior year." However, that confidence did not get the best of her. "At the same time, I realized there were going to be a lot of great singers there," she said.

Senti's experience was much the same, according to Van Ee. "We both felt good about our second round," Van Ee said.

Vogel said that this year's successes at NATS were a booster for individual students as well as the department in general. "Even though we are a small college," she explained, "it doesn't mean we can't compete with the bigger schools."

Postma to give recital

Tricia Van Ee

News Page Editor

Senior Phil Postma will present a half hour voice recital Friday, November 30, at 7:30 pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Postma, a tenor from Sanborn, Iowa, will sing French and English songs, a German aria, as well as a short scene from one of Mozart's early operas.

Postma has been planning and working on the music for his recital since last spring. Although he is an English major with a Literature emphasis, he has taken six semesters of voice lessons from Mrs. Pam De Haan.

"I enjoy singing, particularly classical vocal literature," said Postma. "I thought this recital would be a good, tangible goal for

my senior year. Plus, I think it will be fun."

The recital is divided into four sets. The first set is comprised of three pieces with lyrics by British poets. This aspect of the program is something that Postma drew from his studies as an English major. Junior Gabriel Florit will provide accompaniment for one of these pieces on classical guitar. Postma's favorite song on the recital is the first of this set, "Silent Noon," by composer Ralph Vaughn Williams; the lyrics are by poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

The second set on the program is the aria "Ach, so fromm," from the opera "Martha" by Frederick von Flotow. A set of French songs will follow.

"I like the challenge of singing such a difficult language," Postma

said about the French songs. These pieces have a rich, flowing accompaniment. Pianist Erika Van Den Hul, a senior, "does a great job on the piano with them," said Postma.

The final set on the program is an aria, duet, and recitative from "Bastien and Bastienna," an operetta Mozart composed when he was 12 years old. Senior Rochelle Senti, a soprano, joins Postma on this lighthearted, humorous scene about two shepherders who fall in love.

Postma says he is nervous as the day creeps nearer, but he feels more confident with Mrs. De Haan's support and advice, as well as the other performers' talent.

"In my experience, being nervous is an indicator that there is a good performance on the way," said Postma.

PLIA getting underway

Jennifer Berkompas

Staff Writer

The PLIA club will be holding its first mass meeting on Monday, November 19, at 10 p.m. in C160. Anyone who is interested in doing or leading a spring break service project should attend.

For the past 20 years, Dordt students involved with PLIA have used their spring breaks to travel to different areas of the United States and serve their Christian brothers and sisters. The first mission team went to Cary, Mississippi in 1982.

Now PLIA takes Dordt students all over the United States. There are PLIA service sites in California, Colorado, Mississippi, New York, Georgia, Alabama, New Mexico, Tennessee, Kentucky, New Jersey, Ohio and Illinois. The cultures that PLIA teams work with include inner city, Southern African-American, Native American and Latino. Teams usually perform minor construction, plumbing, painting and house repair besides tutoring underprivileged kids and serving

people in homeless shelters.

The PLIA planning committee has 18 sites from last year. "We are hoping to have enough support this year to bring the total number of sites up to 19 or 20," says committee co-chair Anthony Drost.

Students who go on PLIA service projects go to serve other people, but they often come back feeling that they have been served. The challenge, according to PLIA's mission statement, is to grow as servants through cross-cultural communities while they are being encouraged to put love into action.

"Do something with your Spring Break that can make a difference," said Pastor Draayer. "You have an opportunity to use 10 days to get to know some other people, to see a different culture perhaps. You have a chance to grow. If you're not ready for that, don't go. If you want a challenge, I dare you."

For more information, visit PLIA's website at <http://homepages.dordt.edu/~plia/> or email PLIA at plia@dordt.edu.

Serving and Learning in Hungary / Ukraine

[Gen. 272]

A Three-Week Cross-Cultural Course in Budapest and Western Ukraine

- * Live in dorms at Hungarian Reformed Schools
- * Learn some Hungarian language, history, and folk culture
- * Explore the intersection of the Reformed and Orthodox religious traditions
- * Work with students at Hungarian Reformed Schools
- * Get involved by teaching English and Agriculture to students and adults
- * Learn about culture and contemporary life in an Eastern European country
- * Visit Geographic Center of Europe

Tentative Dates: May 21 - June 13, 2002



Instructor:
Dr. Ron Vos
Director of Off-Campus Programs:
Dr. Ken Bussema

The Diamond is on the web!
Check out our brand new website at:

<http://homepages.dordt.edu/~diamond>

You will find staff biographies, a link to our Blackboard discussion board, and a welcome from the editor.



Are Dordt Profs Failing Us?

Dear Editor,

Right now I am in the final stages of my "preparatory period." After college, I will be making my own life decisions; I will be out in a work-world living my Christian calling. The really frightening thing is how little my college career right now is preparing me to do that. A collective gasp goes through the Dordt crowd. Believe it; Dordt College is failing us every day, 8 out of 10 credit hours.

Dordt's mission statement includes showing us how to live as Christians in every aspect of life. I hear connections made every day-- "This subject can model Christianity this way...take your calling captive to your faith..." Excuse me, but blah, blah, blah. Talk is cheap. Come find me when you live it.

The professors simply don't care enough to show me what it means to be an active Christian. Do our professors want to be teaching? Because if they don't, it's time they quit. I want to tell them every day, "You need to quit telling me

that 'students don't want to learn or be challenged.' Quit telling me that you're trying to guard against half-hearted study. Quit telling me that you've set up your grading system with those variables in mind and 'that's just the way it is.'" I am not most students. I'm not afraid to be challenged. I am not half-hearted, and I AM NOT LEARNING FROM YOU.

Of course, that would put me in the wrong, wouldn't it? Then I would be disrespectful, right? But they are being disrespectful to me as an image-bearer and a student every day, and what protection do I have against that?

"Every student deserves to feel like every faculty member at Dordt cares very deeply for their growth as an image-bearer and a student."

Almost every prof tells me that he/she wants me to evaluate what I know and expand my horizons, but what they really mean is that they intend to present me with a lot of information that I may not agree with, and I need to be able to spit it

back on poorly written exams because they don't want to put the time in to evaluate or rewrite the testing apparatus. Honestly, if you (professors) don't intend to give me an opportunity to evaluate my learning and growth, don't put it on your syllabus.

If you don't love teaching, if you don't love me, quit now because you will not teach anybody anything, and you will present a very bad model of a Christian in the professional world.

Now, are the profs really trying to sabotage my learning experience on purpose? More than likely not, but they aren't trying to make my learning experience the best that it can possibly be. I am "every student." If even one other student suffers, it is enough to make me speak. I don't want professors to merely change the way they deal with me; I want more.

Every student deserves to feel like every faculty member at Dordt cares very deeply for their growth as an image-bearer and a student. I am so hurt, so disillusioned by the way I see professors and other faculty in this college behaving: gossiping, wasting time and money,

paying little or no attention to the students that they have vowed to serve.

"Dordt is so much better than the way it is behaving. Christianity is so much more alive and active in 'the everyday' than Dordt is allowing it to be."

Am I misguided? Was all the talk really only intended for Dordt's image in the first place? Don't you (professors) care about the student anymore? Did you ever? Am I, as a student, gaining as much from this college experience as I'm paying?

The Dordt I see is a very pompous little school. I didn't know that Christianity meant pomp; I thought it meant humility and love, and I thought, at the very least, the faculty of a Christian college would be that. The only thing that Dordt really has to offer over other colleges is a solid Christian model, which I KNOW it is capable of showing. Dordt is letting that ideal fall away in favor of...I'm not sure what.

Dordt is so much better than the way it is behaving. Christianity is so much more alive and active in "the everyday" than Dordt is allowing it to be. Real Christian professors love their students so much more fully than Dordt is letting us know they do, and they care so much more than lumping all students into a pile like carbon copies.

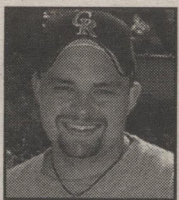
I refuse to abandon ship and say that Dordt can't possibly change; I believe that with God all things are possible. The problem is that Dordt needs to re-evaluate who their God is and what that means for faculty behavior.

End of semester evaluations aren't good enough anymore because obviously the bad teachers are still here. Dordt needs to put an ear to the ground, talk to the students that have something to say, and listen when they say something. Dordt can be better, it's just a matter to getting our hands dirty, getting over our ruined proverbial manicures, and loving God with our whole lives.

I am every student, and I want to learn.

Take a break from technology

Mitch Beaumont



Editor

Every morning when I wake up, I stumble out of bed and turn off my alarm clock. Then I wander through the

kitchen of my apartment and walk to the bathroom to put my contacts in. After being able to see again, I go back to the kitchen to make a pot of coffee to start my day. As the coffee is brewing, I pull on my clothes and pack my bag for the day and soon I head out the door to wherever I have to go that day.

That's a normal routine for me and millions of other Americans. What is significant about it, though, is the relationship between all things I use in order to get from the bed to the sidewalk each morning. The alarm clock, my contact lenses, the coffee pot and even the coffee grounds, the clothes I put on, and the backpack I sling over my shoulder all have something in

common: they were constructed and function because of technology. Even more so, though, these forms of technology function in my life and yours because of certain qualities that are inherent in technology.

Essentially those qualities come down to this: technology has a governing force on society, no matter who you are or what position you are in. That governing force can impact you in a variety of different ways depending on your lifestyle and on the extent to which you let technology decide what exactly your day consists of. Inherent in technology and the gadgets associated with it is a productive force. That is, when technology changes, develops or advances in any way, shape, or form, society changes too.

This productive force has certain historical significance both in the past and the future. When machines were introduced into the workplace in the years after the Industrial Revolution, employees with thirty years of experience and an almost complete pension plan

were laid off because their employers found more a more efficient way by using a machine to do the employee's job. When the Internet became popular and computers with internet access became more available, people started turning from human, face-to-face communication and towards the new virtual communication which they could find through Instant Messaging.

"Technology has a governing force on society, no matter who you are or what position you are in."

Granted, the relationships between TV and lack of family discourse and the Internet and lack of face-to-face communication are not necessarily causal, but any communication expert can tell that each technological development has played a part in the change from one communication climate to the next.

I'm going to graduate from college in six months as will more than four hundred other Dordt students. In the next four years, nearly

2,000 Dordt College students will transition from living in dorms and working on assignments almost whenever they want, to having to get up early every morning and get to work on time and get their work done in an orderly fashion. Because of this fact, Dordt students have to be aware of two things. The first is that technology does impact your life and has a productive force on society, the society in to which each of us will enter soon.

The second is that we cannot let technology rule our lives. As simple-minded as it may sound, it is actually not that easy. Think back to the example I gave of how I start each day. My alarm clock, put together by an automated machine in Japan or China, my clothes, which were also put together somewhere in Japan or China, and just about everything else is the result of technological developments. The computer you use each night to talk to a friend long distance instead of doing your homework or talking to that friend face-to-face is preventing you from doing those things effectively.

What I'm proposing is simple and does not even have to happen all day or even more than a day at a time. Live without as many technological developments as you can. Except for the essentials, like an alarm clock, etc., walk to class instead of riding your bike, write a letter instead of an e-mail, even if it costs you 34 cents instead of nothing to send it.

"When technology changes, develops or advances in any way, shape, or form, society changes too."

I encourage you to do this not because technology is inherently bad, because it is not. Rather I want to see our campus become a communicatively competent campus in which the students, faculty and staff talk instead of e-mail each other and write notes of appreciation instead of sending an impersonal e-card.

Do you want a place to discuss real issues on campus with other students?

Join the discussion board on Dordt's Campus at <http://courses.dordt.edu>

If you are not a current user, use the LOGIN: diamond PASSWORD: diamond

If you would like to become a current user, email Mitch Beaumont at mtchbmnt@dordt.edu



Schaap hosts book signings

Ben Groenewold

Staff Writer

James Schaap, Dordt's inveterate author, has just published two more books and has a third coming out shortly. On top of that, Schaap will be doing two book signings, one in the Sioux Center Mall at 7:30 pm on Nov. 17 and one right here in the SUB at 8:30 pm on

Nov. 19 where he'll be reading from one of the new books.

"I write best about what is closest to home," Schaap said of *Paternity*. And so it is: while focusing on familiar, almost everyday situations, these works deal in subtle power with the quiet and not so quiet frictions of life in the family. *Every Bit of Who I Am* also comes from topics close to home. Several

different circumstances, including a back surgery, tutoring a high school student on the Heidelberg Catechism, and being cornered in an elevator by an enthusiastic fan, all came together to almost inspire him to write the devotional.

There was a deeper motive as well, though. Especially after September 11, as we are seeing the tremendous power emotional commitment can give, there is a growing tendency to neglect a serious thoughtfulness toward what we believe and simply focus on feel-

ing God's presence. Schaap seeks to combat this trend by leading teens back to the deeply meaningful Heidelberg Catechism.

Schaap also deals with similar dangers in an upcoming book called *Things Hoped For, Things Not Seen*. It is a new sort of work for Schaap, and he is more than a little enthused about it. "I like to try different things," he reflects, and if a historical novel about the Ghost Dancers to be published serially (starting January) in the *Banner* doesn't fill that description, nothing will.

The Ghost Dance phenomenon swept much of the South Dakotan tribal population in the 1890s and brought about healings, trances, visions from God and, perhaps, a massacre.

Despite the more exotic setting, the issues Schaap explores in the story still cut close to home. Do we allow the same sort of emotionalism to rule our own lives? And where do we draw the line between enough and too much? Schaap's stories and devotionals provoke us to once again question and explore what's closest to home of all: our own lives.



East Hall visits nursing home

Jen Hoogeveen

Staff Writer

Approximately twenty East Hall women visited residents of the Sioux Center Community Hospital and Health Center Nursing Facility on Saturday, November 2.

Andrea Pausma, Community Advisor of East Hall, says that the purpose of the service trip, "[was] to provide an opportunity for people on campus to get into the community." The women spent time playing checkers, talking and playing piano with the residents. Pausma said that most of the elderly people appreciated having youthful faces around and spending time with the group. But they weren't the only ones that were rewarded. "[The girls] all walked

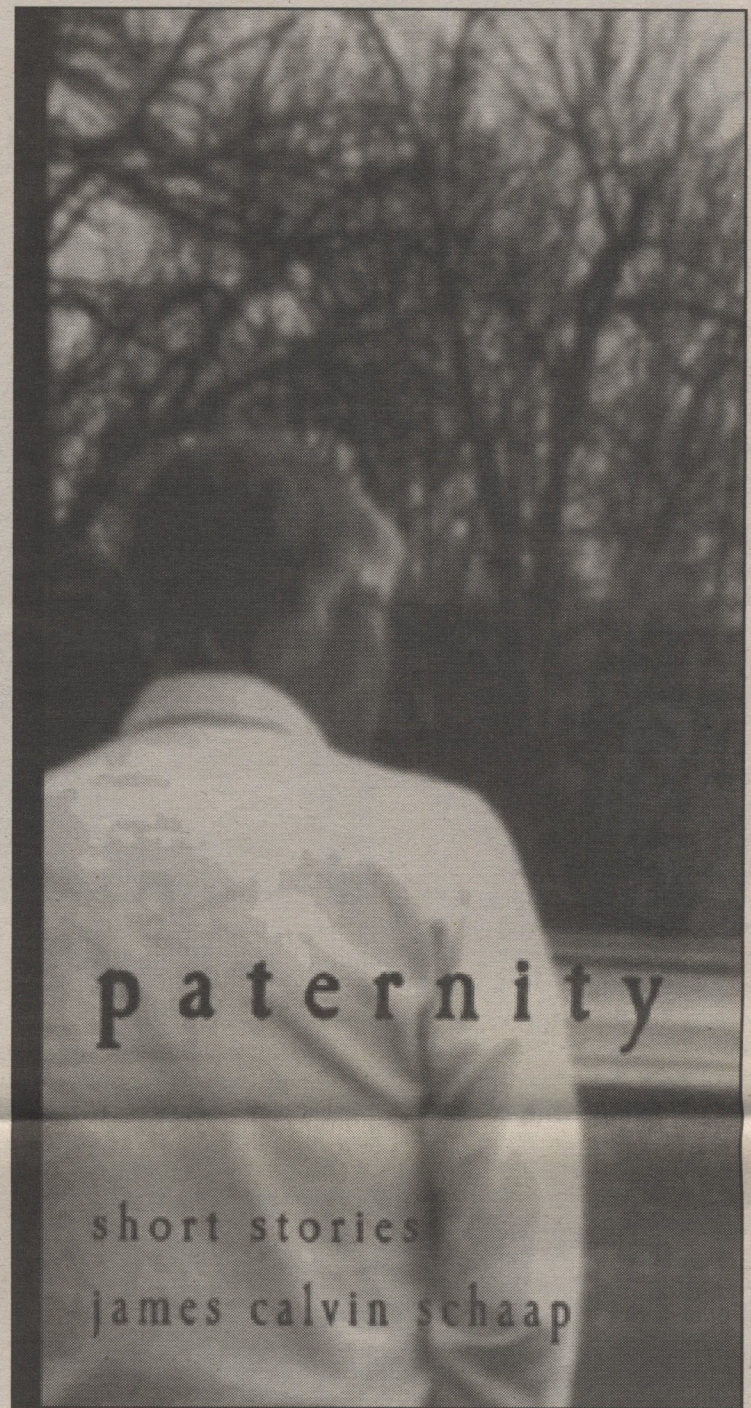
away with a different perspective on that generation. I think they enjoyed going," Pausma said.

Kerri Ovinge was among the group of students that went on the outing. Besides getting a break from campus, Ovinge decided to participate because she likes visiting with older people. She helped an elderly woman beginning to go blind make some phone calls and then played Rummikub with a group of elderly ladies. "It makes them so happy to talk with people," she says.

Diana Hoogerhyde also participated. She was excited to get away from the self-centeredness that studies and college life can bring at times. "I felt I needed to concentrate on others' needs." Hoogerhyde also played

Rummikub and talked with an elderly couple. She was glad she got a chance "to be able to brighten someone's day. It can be pretty monotonous in nursing homes. The people need a break from their normal routines."

Although there are Dordt students that sing at this nursing home on Sundays, this is the first time East Hall has visited a nursing home. Pausma hopes to do this again. She also noted that this activity is going to be open to any students on campus. If anyone is interested in visiting the nursing home call the activity coordinator of the Sioux Center Community Hospital and Health Center Nursing Facility at 722-1271.



Life and Culture of Venezuela

Gen 273 - 3 credits



Experience the
Color of the Tropics
in the
Cool of the Andes

May 16 - June 8, 2002
(tentative dates)

- Live with a Venezuelan family or student
- Serve as an English conversation partner
- Partner with university students in cultural study
- Ride the world's longest tram up to the tundra



Contact:

Dr. Lorna Van Gilst
E-mail: lgilst@dordt.edu
(712) 722-6252 or
Dr. Ken Bussema,
Dir. of Off-Campus Program





Shrek shines at the box office

Josh Bowar
Staff Writer

It has the ingredients for the classic love and adventure story: a princess, a villain, a hero and his trusty "steed." Mix them together, and you have an epic. But "Shrek" doesn't quite fit the mold of what you would expect an animated story to be. This one takes the cake. It has even been characterized as the greatest story never told.

The film starts by depicting the harsh and crass green monster named Shrek, who lives in a swamp all by himself. But when Lord Farquaad decides that all the fantasy creatures of the land must be captured and sent to Shrek's abode, he is no longer in solitude, and this angers the ogre.

He goes on a quest to Lord Farquaad's castle to reclaim his home and is joined by a hilarious, sharp-witted donkey aptly named Donkey. Upon his arrival, he finds himself in the middle of a competition of sorts. He succeeds against his competitors only to find that the event was held to see who would have the "privilege" of rescuing Princess Fiona from her dragon-protected holding place.

Shrek must go on the journey and rescue the princess in order to regain control of his swamp. With



the help of Donkey, he sets out to fulfill the task. Hilarious happenings and sharp, witty dialogue are the hallmarks of this film.

During the movie, Shrek goes through a transformation, one in which he becomes a gentler, more kind and more considerate ogre. He finds someone he loves and almost changes his view on life. Even Donkey finds someone to love, a being that definitely "fuels his fire."

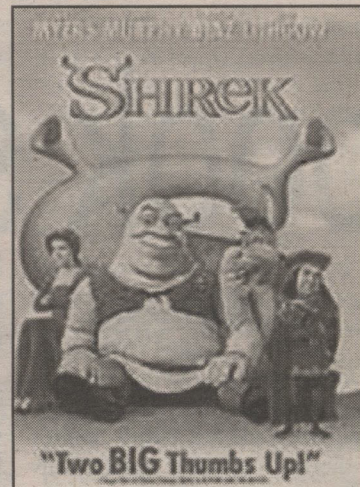
But will Shrek stay with his

loved one? Will he rescue the princess and regain his swamp? I suggest watching the film to find out.

The film has an appropriate PG

rating, and besides, much of the humor in the film is geared toward an older crowd.

So if you are looking for a movie that is light, will make you



laugh and put you in a good mood, "Shrek" will definitely fit the bill. Be prepared for the unexpected and the humor that plays on old nursery rhymes and clichés.

Grab a bag of popcorn, invite some friends and experience the latest phenomenon in the cartoon world, ninety-three minutes of adventure, comedy and romance sure to please even those with the most highbrow sense of humor.

Scatter glass rocks

Rose Vander Wal

Guest Writer

Joining a long list of Dordt musical talent is the band Scatterglass with members Matt Van Rys, Eric Haan, Josh Vander Plaats and the Krygsman brothers, Brian and Paul.

This talented local group started right here in Sioux Center about five years ago when the Krygsman brothers got drum and guitar sets. Before long Van Rys and Haan joined them and for several years the quartet taught themselves the basics in the Krygsman's basement. But they were missing one thing—a singer. Two years ago, the group invited Vander Plaats to sing with them.

The group has found that deciding on a name for their band has been one of the most difficult tasks. They have changed names several times and expect that they might change again in the future. Van Rys commented, "Try to remember the people in the band, not our name, because it may change again. Our search goes on to find a name with guts and meaning that we can all agree on."

Whatever their name, the five members will continue playing their music with Brian Krygsman on drums and Paul Krygsman and Haan on electric guitar. Vander Plaats takes care of vocals, and Van Rys plays bass. Paul Krygsman writes most of the group's songs, but the other band members contribute too.

Van Rys and Haan both agree



Photo submitted

Band members Paul and Brian Krygsman, Matt Van Rys, Eric Haan and Josh Vander Plaats (front).

that their music could be classified as rock, even heavy metal. The group loves what they do and do not attempt to put a particular message within their music. "I don't think that we have any overt message to portray. We just love to create and play music. If the fans like it, that's great too," said Van Rys.

According to Haan, the group's purpose is to offer rock music to the masses. "Rock has been given a really bad rap because of bands that take their lack of morals on stage. We are Christians who are in a band, but not a Christian band," Haan explained.

Some bands that have really influenced Scatterglass are Creed, Deftones, Metallica and Tool. Haan commented that he has been influenced by the now extinct group Reality Check.

The group has performed several times locally in the past few

years. They appeared at their high school (Unity Christian in Orange City) as well as at Dordt's freshman talent show. Last year they participated in Pizza Ranch's first Battle of the Bands and in Dordt's Cornstalk.

This year they appeared with fellow Dordt band Different at the West Hall Mess Hall event. The members of the band would like to thank Different for appearing with them. "They are a great bunch of guys and a great band to play with," Van Rys said.

The group plans to continue playing locally at future Battle of the Bands and Cornstalk events, and they are looking into recording a CD in the future. Scatterglass continues to write and practice their music as well as search for the perfect name. They encourage people at Dordt to watch for them as they continue their journey.

Spring in

CYPRUS

Late May/Early June, 2002

Learn about Orthodox Christian and Moslem culture

Learn about the history of conflict in Cyprus

Opportunity to visit Israel and Egypt

See Dr. Ken Bussema, Director of Off-campus Programs, for details



Club Volleyball takes off

Jocelyn Van Beek

Sports Editor

Dordt's men's club volleyball team is climbing in popularity as senior Kevin Kingma is striving to bring it to life once again. The club has been in existence for many years, but has never been a presence... until this year.

Dordt's club team this year consists of up to eighteen men. The team even has their own uniforms this year—black T-shirts with each player's name and number, and "Dordt College Club Volleyball" around a volleyball on the front. There are seven or more seniors that play, depending on the night, with many more underclassmen, mostly juniors and sophomores.

The team usually practices once a week, and twice the week before a tournament. Twelve to eighteen men of various skills attend the practices.

The team played a few games last year, one at Northwestern and one on home turf, also against Northwestern. They won on Northwestern's home court, but

Northwestern triumphed on Dordt ground.

The tournament at the University of Iowa consisted of two games of pool play and one game in tournament play, with a two game loss to Iowa State's club team of 21-25 and 23-25, respectively. Brian Koelewyn said, "We had times where we played well, but since we hadn't practiced together as much as the other teams, we just weren't quite as good as them."

The team continues to practice and is planning on playing more games next semester at various tournaments, one of which is hopefully at Dordt.

Nick Hoekman says, "We have improved a lot since last year. We are much better because there are a lot more people playing this year, and there are a lot of younger players that can take over when we seniors graduate."

Be on the lookout for the men's club volleyball team, as they grow in strength and number, looking to dominate the court!



Lori Panchot

Above: Brian Koelewyn of the club volleyball team spikes as teammate Nick Hoekman looks on.

Dordt teams end seasons with honor S

Jason Mulder

Staff Writer

Dordt men's soccer finished the season with an overall record of 10-9-0 (GPAC: 3-5-0), improving from last year's 2-14 overall record.

Six players were accorded Great Plains Athletic Conference honors. John Hansel, a senior midfielder, was named to the first team after leading the Defenders with 15 assists. Junior Travis Burgers and senior Ben Bieri earned second team honors. Burgers, led in goals scored for the Defenders with 18, while Bieri scored 16 goals for the Defenders. Beau Bosma, Eric Segaar and Nick Wissink all were given honorable mention honors.

Women's soccer finished 10-10-0 overall (GPAC: 6-3-0).

Five ladies were accorded GPAC honors. Heading the hon-

orees from Dordt was junior Meghan Graham. Graham led the Lady Defenders in goals and assists with 15 and 11, respectively. Joining Graham on the first team was Julie Van Der Kooi, a junior midfielder, responsible for 6 goals and 5 assists. Sophomore Janna Brink, and seniors Liz Dykstra and Karen Vreeman were all named to the second team. Brink was honored after scoring 9 goals and co-leading in assists with 11. Liz Dykstra contributed 12 goals and 6 assists while Karen Vreeman, a defensive player, added 3 goals and 2 assists.

The Defenders were eliminated in the semifinal round of the GPAC post season tournament by eventual champion, Dana.

Men's and women's cross country concluded their season at the regional finals, with the men placing 7th and the women 8th out of 21 teams.

Blades welcome new coach

Jacque Scoby

Assistant Sports Editor

The 2001-02 Dordt Blades are sporting several new faces this year, but one face really stands out. Herm Van Niejenhuis has joined the team as the head coach. "Well, they call me the coach," he said. "I just try and help out."

Van Niejenhuis, who is also pastor of Covenant Christian Reformed Church here in Sioux Center, took the position after a few members of the team approached him about it during the summer. Originally from Ontario, Canada, Van Niejenhuis feels he has a good grasp of the game. "I've been playing hockey all my

life," he says. Before college, he played in church leagues, and while attending Dordt he played for the Blades. After school, Van Niejenhuis continued to play in pick-up games around his community.

Van Niejenhuis moved to Sioux Center from Toronto a year and a half ago to take the pastor's position at Covenant. "It was a big change," he said, "but I was attracted to a college town. I felt it was an opportunity to get a bigger world in a smaller town."

As for his duties as a coach, Van Niejenhuis loves them. "I enjoy the game, I know the game, and I love the free spirit of the players," he says. "I love hanging

out with the players. But ultimately I bring in the idea that it ought to be fun. It is still just a game."

The Blades opened the season 4-2 prior to last weekend's home games. Van Niejenhuis attributes this team's success mainly to improved defense, both in front of and around the goal. "We have a very good goal tender and solid defense, which frees up our forwards," he says. "It's a good balance." Van Niejenhuis also points to a high level of confidence as a helpful factor.

The Blades close out the semester with two road series against SDSU and Iowa State sandwiched around one more home stand.

Statistics

BASKETBALL

MENS (2-1)

11/2/01 S. Dak. Tech.
W (90-82)
Shawn De Stigter (20)
Evan Biemers (15)
Eric Maas (15)
Kyle Van Arendonk (13)

11/3/01 Black Hills St.
L (73-81)
Kyle Van Arendonk (15)
Jeff Ver Steeg (12)
Ryan Dooyma (11)

Tyler Schelhaas (11)

11/8/01 Dak. State
W (96-87)
Kyle Van Arendonk (18)
Eric Maas (17)
Evan Biemers (15)
Shawn De Stigter (12)

WOMENS (0-1)

11/7/01 Dak. State
L (90-50)
Serena Van Beek (15)

MENS SOCCER

(10-9, 3-5 GPAC)
11/1/01 Hastings L (3-6)

Goals: Ben Bieri
Kyle Van Andel
Travis Burgers

HOCKEY

11/02/01 Northern St. Univ.
W (6-3)
11/03/01 Northern St. Univ.
L (2-6)

VOLLEYBALL

(Record 33-3; GPAC 10-0)
10/31/01 Briar Cliff Univ.
W (3-0)
11/03/01 Dana College
GPAC Quarterfinals
W (3-0)

11/07/01 Doane
GPAC Semifinals 11/10/01
W (3-1)

Northwestern
GPAC Finals
W (3-1)

CROSS COUNTRY

11/3/01 Regional Finals

MEN:
7th of 10 Dordt 127
Individual:
30. Tim Ives 28:28
32. Dan Van Engen 28:35
35. Stefan Petersen 28:41

47. Richard Laninga 29:06
50. Jon Dekkers 29:24
71. Travis Patten 30:06

WOMEN:

8th of 10 Dordt 213
Individual:
42. Kate Reinsma 21:04
46. Rachelle Kroll 21:10
50. Tanya Holtrop 21:18
51. Becky Demarest 21:20
52. Emily Kauk 21:20
57. Katie Hoekstra 21:37



NEWS BRIEFS



Kristi Mulder

World and Features Co-Editor

Afghanistan--Backed by U.S. bombing, opposition forces have made sweeping gains across northern Afghanistan, advancing to within four miles of the capital, Kabul, and reportedly taking control of the key western city of Herat. Dozens of Taliban tanks and armored vehicles have been seen leaving Kabul while U.S. forces carry out further bombing raids on the capital. The BBC's John Simpson, travelling with the Northern Alliance, says the offensive has turned into a complete rout of the Taliban.

Germany--Up to 20,000 German police officers are trying to protect a train carrying nuclear waste from northern France to a special site in Germany. At least 100 anti-nuclear protesters have been detained by police. On the French-German border, dozens of people were reportedly trying to get onto the tracks, but the train crossed into Germany without incident early Monday afternoon.

Algeria--The Algerian authorities have been accused of aggravating disastrous floods in the capital Algiers which have killed nearly 600 people. The Algiers newspaper Le Soir said the official policy launched four years ago of sealing off drains to stop their use as hiding places by armed militants had prevented floodwater from draining away. The lack of drainage resulted in floodwaters and mudslides sweeping through residential areas and causing massive destruction. There is also mounting public anger at the government and local authorities for allegedly failing to ease the impact of the floods despite weather warnings and failing to give adequate help to rescue workers.

Brazil--Workers at Volkswagen in Brazil have voted to go on strike following the company's decision to cut 3,000 jobs. The German car company announced the decision to cut jobs last week after it failed to agree on cost-cutting measures with unions. VW says the jobs cuts were needed because of falling demand and the introduction of new technology.

Vietnam--Typhoon Lingling hit the central coast of Vietnam on Monday after leaving a trail of death and destruction in the Philippines. State media reported that at least 10 people have died so far, as winds of up to 75mph uprooted trees and knocked down many houses.

Kuwait--Reports were confirmed on Monday morning that Iraq had fired a mortar across its border into Kuwait on Sunday morning. No one was injured and the Kuwaiti patrol police did not return fire, but a spokesman said the incident was serious and required thorough investigation. There has been no comment from the Kuwaiti government yet, but an unnamed Kuwaiti official said his country had already filed a complaint with the UN. There have been a few such incidents in the demilitarized zone over the past 10 years, but Sunday's incident has brought renewed concern to the small Emirate.

Earth Watch

Melissa West

Guest Writer

When you think of environmentalists, likely extremist "tree-huggers" come to mind--people who would urge a starving nation to become vegetarian so that the chickens might run free.

Give yourself over to the cause and you too may find yourself plastered with a banner that reads, "Human beings, as a species, have no more value than slugs," (quote from John Davis, editor of Earth First!)

And yet both slugs and humans were created by God. I would argue that both have a value far exceeding that implied by our editor friend.

Each person is created in the image of God. We have worth because we are loved by God. How do we know He loves us? "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

But what about the lowly slug? How do we know God cares about him? We know from Genesis that God was pleased when He created that little guy for He doesn't proclaim, "It is good, except for that darned slug. I really made a mistake when I made him."

This, of course, can be applied to all of creation. Why should we care about slugs or trees or birds or bees or anything else "environ-

mental"? Because these things are created and loved by God, and to neglect them not only offends Him but stifles a beautiful song: "Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy; they will sing before the Lord, for he comes..." (Psalm 96:11-13)

You find extremists in every group; they are often vocal about their opinions. But don't define a group by their extremes. Perhaps an environmentalist is simply someone who hears the music creation sings. Perhaps you are an environmentalist too.

Contemporary political opinion

Peter Anderson

Staff Writer

This past Sunday was Veteran's Day. November 11, 1919 marked the end of World War I. Veteran's Day was originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the treaty that ended the war. When former President Eisenhower made Veteran's Day a national holiday in 1954, he set it aside as a day "to honor veterans...a day dedicated to world peace." America is now involved in yet another war. How quickly we forget.

There is an oft-repeated saying that those who don't remember the past are doomed to repeat it. This is readily evident in today's culture and time. Recently the History Channel interviewed people on the street for a show about Adolf Hitler. They asked people if the events of Nazi Germany would or could ever be repeated. An American, a Frenchman, and an Englishman all said this was impossible in their respective countries. Could a repeat of the genocide that took place in Nazi Germany or Stalinist Russia be

possible? The answer is yes.

Austrian economist Ludwig von Mises writes that the political program of Nazi Germany is not much different than the political programs of socialism and nationalism which are prevalent in today's society. He writes that Nazism was the fusion of these two ideologies. Von Mises said the Nazis wanted to control their economy through socialism and forcibly expand their borders and way of life through nationalism.

Both of these ideologies are found in different aspects of American political thought. Socialism is alive and well in America. When Bill Clinton came to the Presidency he fought to nationalize healthcare. There have been calls to renationalize the airlines. Government controls retirement and unemployment in the forms of social security and welfare respectively. There has also been a rise in nationalism. When terrorists struck America, it wasn't good enough to just call for the capture of Osama bin Laden and bring him to justice; America was also to replace the Afghan govern-

ment with one more to their liking. Former President Bush tried this same tactic in Somalia.

We can see that there are more than just seeds of nationalism and socialism in America as well as many other countries. Ludwig von Mises warns, "as long as the ideology of socialism and nationalism is supreme in the world's public opinion, the Germans or other peoples will try again to succeed by aggression and conquest..." If the past is to be avoided it must begin with the individual's rejection of such destructive ideologies as socialism and nationalism.

Therefore we must never forget the lessons of our past. The war to end all wars, as World War I was referred to, didn't. Less than 20 years after the Armistice had been signed, Germany invaded Poland, marking the beginning of World War II. We must always remember where we came from and how we got to where we are. If we want to avoid the mistakes of the past we must know why the mistakes of the past happened. Veteran's Day and Memorial Day will mean nothing if we forget.

RECYCLE YOUR DIAMOND
WHEN YOU ARE DONE
READING IT.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED
READING. IF YOU HAVE
THOUGHTS, OPINIONS, NEWS
IDEAS OR ANYTHING ELSE TO
SHARE WITH US, E-MAIL THE
DIAMOND AT:

DIAMOND@DORDT.EDU



-Renae's-

Hair & Tanning Salon

Stylists: Renae Visscher,
Paula Oostenink, Missy Driesen,
Alissa Roetman, Carmen Mulder,
Gwen Van Roekel

Hours:

Mon-Thur: 9-9
Fri-Sat: 9-5

722-0008

Call for an appointment today.
Centre Mall, 251N Main St. 208
renaes@mtcnet.net

Wycliffe translators visit campus

David and Cindy Lux from Wycliffe Bible Translators visited campus on November 5-7 for Hug-a-Linguist Days. The Luxes lectured about a variety of topics including literacy work and computer technology which are both applied in many ways. Also involved in the three-day event was Wycliffe translator Jim Leamer.

Picture by John Hansen

