Northwestern students Chris Anderson, Sarah Kennedy, Steve Hydine and Leah Elder act out the life of AIDS victim Scott Zylstra.

"When Scott Comes Home"

by Laura Apol
Features Page Editor

The controversial play, "When Scott Comes Home" was presented in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on Sunday, April 1.

On the Thursday before the play was shown, protestors handed out pamphlets full of information attacking the play. There was also an insert asking students to contact President Zylstra to have the play canceled. Zylstra had one request from a student to have the play canceled and two requests asking that it not be canceled. Zylstra said he appreciated all responses.

Paul Dor, director of Rescue the Perishing ministry, handed out the pamphlets on the previous Thursday morning. The pamphlet stated that the play "ridicules church officers, implicitly denies the doctrine of sanctification, makes Christians out to be hypocrites, makes victims out of unrepentant homosexuals," and many other statements.

The overall message of the play was compassion towards our brothers and sisters in Christ, no matter their sin. It tells us that we cannot turn our backs on them, because we are no better than they.

The play raises many issues that need to be discussed among ourselves so that when we are challenged to defend our views, we know where we stand.

Dordt hosts leadership forum

by Rose Ann Vander Wal
Staff Writer

Dordt will soon host its first leadership forum. The forum is being planned by Dordt's director of student life, Sandi Altena, and student Rochelle Van Ry. The speaker for the initial forum is Justin Vande Water from Colorado, who Van Ry says "really has a heart for training college-aged students."

This initial meeting of the leadership forum will also include a time of worship and will be open to anyone who is involved in leadership or would like to know how to be a better leader. Van Ry and Altena hope the mass meeting will encourage all those who are leaders on campus and refresh them for the rest of the year and inspire them for next year.

Another purpose of this forum will be to introduce a plan for future forums. The plan for next year is for each group or organization to send delegates to the meetings. The purpose of these meetings will be fourfold according to Van Ry: first, they will train students to be stronger, more godly leaders; second, they will give the groups a chance to be better informed about what is going on across campus; third, the meetings will provide students an opportunity to learn from each other; and last they will be used to raise issues of the campus that could be addressed by the larger body of organizations.

The initial meeting will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 on April 25. Anyone with questions should contact Rochelle Van Ry.
Students perform Shakespeare on tour

by Mikala Poll
Staff Writer

As the end of the semester approaches, a group of about 20 theater students from the Repertory Theatre class is preparing to tour Colorado and Alberta with Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The class is intended to prepare students for touring theater and to help them master this particular classical style of theater. The two-week tour in May will bring the play into high schools and will offer workshops for interested students and teachers at the schools. Touring theater is different in many ways from a typical staged play, because sets, costumes and stages are limited and change at every location. "I think it is important for any one who is interested in acting to take a show on the road. Each performance is a totally different experience," said junior Emily Deutchman.

Each performance will require the involvement of a few high school students, who will take on specific roles within the play. "My goal is to go into the schools and support their theater and literature programs by offering their students the opportunity to act with college age students in a production," said Professor Simon duToit.

This class is interesting because we have to try to remember what it was like to be in high school and then try to excite high schoolers with what excites us," said junior Adam Elam. "The nice thing about this production is how much it will crack you up if you give it a chance. If you just give a little extra effort to understand the 'heightened language,' it will be extremely easy to catch the humor and appreciate what can be done with Shakespeare."

Junior Aaron Risman said, "I am really beginning to like Shakespearean theater."

So far, the class has spent a lot of time learning Shakespearean performance skills. "I have really been enjoying the process that we have been going through for this production," said Deutchman. "This production is different because we have been given a chance to work on an acting style rather than just focusing on our specific text." Students are required to memorize text, watch videos on Shakespearean acting, and apply the lessons they learn to their part in the play. The academic content of the course has made this production much different to teach than a typical play, duToit said.

The group is planning a performance at Dordt before the end of the year.

SAC plans medieval Spring Banquet

by Rachelle Vander Werff
Staff Writer

Coming to Dordt on April 21, 2001 is the annual Spring Fling, also known as the Spring Banquet. This year's banquet will be slightly different from previous years. It will include a number of new ideas, as well as some of the traditional events.

At this time, no one is certain what the title of the banquet is going to be, but it is definitely going to have a medieval theme and will resemble a masquerade ball. It will also include a scene with a king and queen as well as court jesters. As far as the food is concerned, Student Activities is looking into roasting a pig. There will also be a fountain punch bowl and fruit in the middle of the tables.

For anyone interested in dressing in medieval costumes, there will be a best costume award. However, for everyone who does not want to look medieval, dress is formal.

The banquet will be held in the gym and will begin with punch at 6:30 p.m. Specific entertainment has not determined at this time, but there will probably be some type of music for halftime dancing.

As has been offered in previous years, there will be dance lessons available some time before the banquet for anyone who is interested, and there will also be an additional medieval activity. Anyone who plans to go to the Spring Fling will be invited to make medieval themed masks ahead of time.

Tickets for the banquet are $6 and will be on sale in the SUB from April 18-20. Co-chair of SAC Lori Van Driessen said, "For a medieval atmosphere, good food, and great entertainment come to the spring banquet."

The next meeting of the Forum, on April 3rd, was focused on the plans for the All Seasons Center as it pertains to Dordt Students and to Sioux Center. Dave Asmus, project consultant, and Willis Alberda, project council member, spoke to the Forum about the work that has been done and the fund-raising ventures in progress. The Sioux Center community will be voting on this project soon, and the leaders are calling for the awareness and financial support of Dordt students.

"The Sioux Center community is very supportive of Dordt; our contribution is an important token of our appreciation," said Brandie Ochsner.

Students Forum update

by Wade Helma
Student Forum Press Secretary

During the last two meetings of Student Forum, the members discussed two main issues: accountability and ways that growth in that area can be encouraged. The Forum also researched books available on accountability in a community setting for insight.

Along the same lines, the Forum looked at re-wording policies in the Defender in order to take emphasis off rules and setting standards for behavior. The Forum learned that North Hall R.A. Brad Dykstra has also been researching accountability as well, and they look forward to discussing the issue with him as well.

"We want to promote holiness and raise the bar for ourselves," said Matt Nuiver.

The March 27th meeting was focused on the fund-raising ventures in progress. The Sioux Center community will be voting on this project soon, and the leaders are calling for the awareness and financial support of Dordt students.

NORTHWEST IOWA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

closes its 2000-2001 Season with a Gala Concert

Tuesday, April 24, 2001 @ 7:30 PM
Bj Haan Auditorium, Sioux Center

Featured Guests
Seo Kyung-Suk, soprano,
Kwang Sung-Sup, tenor -from Korea
The entire orchestra will perform a masterwork
by Antonio Vivaldi, 1703
Symphony No. 8 in G Major
A 200 member chorus consisting of the Northwestern Heritage Singers,
the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus,
Dordt College Concert Choir and Chorale
will be added for the
Final Chorus from ATurandol@l1y Puccini
Dordt sweeps Model Arab League

by Jacque Scoby
Staff Writer

Three more awards were recently added to the list of accomplishments of Dordt College students, only these awards came not in the area of sports or music but from the Model Arab League, which was held March 29-31 at Northwestern College in Orange City.

The Model Arab League, an annual event organized by the National Council for U.S.-Arab Relations, provides high school and college students a chance to play the part of diplomats from Arab countries in a mock council. The goal is to encourage students to think about different situations and issues that arise in the Arab world and also to develop leadership skills. Students also have to understand what the different countries believe and why they hold those beliefs. The event is based on the 22 actual Arab States. "Sometimes students have to separate their own personal beliefs from that of the country they are representing," said Adam Zylstra, a Dordt senior who served as the Secretary General for this year's event. "Dordt students are usually very well prepared to argue positions, even if they are not in agreement with those positions. There are a lot of Islamic issues also that the students must deal with."

The Dordt students who participated earned all three of the outstanding delegation awards and the majority of the outstanding delegate awards. In addition, Mark Van Wingerson was named as Secretary General for next year, and Amy Vroom was named as one of two assistants to the Secretary General.

Kwags join NISO for final concert

by Tricia Van Ee
News Page Editor

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra will close its concert season with "An International Connection to Korea" on Tuesday, April 24. They will be joined by two opera singers from Korea as well as a huge chorus made up of local singers.

NISO will open the evening with the student Symphony No. 8 by Dvorak. Dr. Henry Duitman, conductor of NISO, says that the work is very upbeat and cheerful, and also very tuneful. "It is perfect for our orchestra," he said.

Guest artists Seo Kyoung-Suk, soprano, and her husband Kwag Sung-sup, tenor, will be the featured guests for the second half of this final concert of the 2000-2001 season. Trained in Italy, the Kwags have both sung leading roles for many opera companies in Europe and now teach vocal music at universities in Korea. Kwag Sung-Sup also received acclaim as a finalist in the 1995 Luciano Pavarotti competition.

The Kwags will sing arias and duets form "The Marriage of Figaro" by Mozart, "La Traviata" and "Il Trovatore" by Verdi, and "La Boheme", "Tosca", and "Turandot" by Puccini.

In addition to NISO, the Kwags will be joined by a more than 200 member chorus consisting of the Northwestern Heritage Singers, the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus and the Dordt College Concert Choir and Chorale.

The Kwags will also give a recital at Dordt on Thursday, April 26, at 7:30 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This recital and the performance with NISO are part of a short tour in North America which also includes performances in New York City and a few stops in Canada.

The Kwags connection to Dordt and northwest Iowa goes back several years. Dr. Kim, a professor at Dordt a few years ago, is now the academic dean of Dordt's sister school, Kosin University, in Pusan, Korea. Kosin University and Dordt have participated in a few professor exchanges in the past few years, most recently being a trip to the University by Dordt music chair Karen De Mol, who spoke at the school's convocation. While in Korea, De Mol heard the Kwags sing and talked to Dr. Kim, who arranged the Kwags' present tour.

The NISO concert will take place at 7:30 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on Thursday, April 26.
A generation without a cause

by Sarah Eekhoff

Editor

In the April issue of Atlantic Monthly, David Brooks makes an observation about today’s youth. “The young men and women of America’s future elite work their laptops to the bone, rarely question authority, and happily accept their positions at the top of the heap as part of the natural order of life,” he says. Brooks spends some time at Princeton University, and observed there that the elite of our generation are generally busy and happy but have a lack of depth. They can’t comprehend virtue, evil, or sin. The problem with this, says Brooks, “is that this idea [sin] is not...
Sioux Center to build All Seasons Center

by Blake Walburg
Staff Writer

In the midst of all the activity and anticipation surrounding the construction of the new Student Life Center at Dordt, there is another major project making its way down the road toward completion. In a joint effort between Dordt, community schools, and the city of Sioux Center, plans are being made for the All Seasons Center, a $9.8 million recreation complex, to be built across 7th Street from Dordt, where the community swimming pool is currently located. The center would serve as a place for community gatherings and activities by offering a variety of recreational opportunities.

History

The idea for the project has been in the works for a long time. It really began in earnest about five years ago when it was realized that the current indoor pool was in dire need of either renovation or replacement. Professor Willis Alberda, a member of both the city council and the recreation and arts council, says that the need is so bad that the pool keepers are using “bubble gum and poker chips” to plug up corrosion leaks in the pool.

Originally the plan was just to take care of this need and possibly also add an outdoor swimming pool. However, as time progressed, it became clear through consultants and community surveys that it would be desirable to have both indoor and outdoor swimming facilities. Alberda says that through further “postcard and phone interviews,” it was found that the community and the college also had a significant interest in including an ice rink.

Purposes

What will be included in the proposed All Seasons Center? First of all, there will be both an indoor and outdoor aquatic center that will have a total of more than 8000 square feet of water surface. This will be divided up into several different pools. There will be both indoor and outdoor general recreation pools, each of which will have its own 140 foot water slide. In the indoor facility, there will also be a diving well with a 6 lane lap pool, and a therapy pool.

Another major function of the new activities center will be to house an indoor multipurpose arena. The new arena will be used as an ice rink during the winter months for activities such as open skating, community hockey and figure skating programs, and Dordt Blades hockey team practices and games. During the rest of the year, the arena could be converted to also serve as a gathering place for community events like concerts, trade shows, livestock shows, revivals and other special occasions.

Finally, the All Seasons Center would be the home of a senior center, a two-level facility that would help serve as a hub of activity for the senior citizens in the community. Alberda stresses that the name “All Seasons” means more than just an activity center for all seasons of the year but also a place for people from all “seasons of life.”

Here, older members of the community would have a place to socialize, play games, be with other family members and participate in educational programs.

Cost and Timeline

Funding for the project is divided up into three categories. $3.5 million is to be generated by the city, community schools, and Dordt. Another $3.3 million is to be brought in by means of a state grant. The remaining $3 million will be raised through the private contributions of individuals and businesses in the city. So far, the funding is coming along quite nicely. The state of Iowa has committed to contributing about $3 million as a grant and another $250,000 in the form of a loan. Private donations are already approaching the $2.5 million mark. The last big hurdle to completing a school bond election will be held on May 1st, from which an additional $2.3 million could be raised.

The fund-raising period of the All Seasons Center is almost complete. Next, the project will move into the design and construction documentation stages, scheduled to completed by November of 2001. Then the city will request bids at the beginning of 2002, and construction will be started as soon as possible thereafter. As of yet, there is no completion date set, but it is estimated that the complex will take about 18 months to complete once construction begins.

How does this affect students?

by Laura Apol
Features Page Editor

Dordt has a part to pay in the All Seasons Center. The local cost of $3.5 million is being split three ways: between the city, the public school and Dordt College. Arian Nederhoff says a similar arrangement allows Dordt’s use of the pool, Tepskie Theater and Open Space Park.

Dordt students will have to cover some of this cost. It is undecided whether there will be an impact on tuition or on the activity fee. The final dollar amount has not been determined, but Nederhoff says the estimates are in the range of $75 to $100 per year.

It has not been decided how Dordt students will have access to the building. “I would like to see a system similar to the Rec Center,” but I doubt Dordt would have that much access to the facility,” Nederhoff said.

But with all the new facilities to use, it will be an asset to Dordt students. Professor Scott Quatro says, “I think that the benefits to students are significant - chief among them increased recreational activities and truly ‘home’hockey games!”
Semisonic disappoints

by Mark Brink
Staff Writer

I don’t know about you, but I tend to be artist loyal. Don’t quite understand? Well, if I find a music group or artist that I like I usually follow them wherever they may go. Sometimes it feels like a relationship is formed: they tell me about themselves (through song), I get to know them and a bond is created. The thrill of something is spoken and the presence of the saints is only talked about. The temple in the Old Testament and the catacombs of the New Testament were root embedded within the play. The issues of ceremony were weaved in and out and the yellow and black tubas on the rocks: Terrence Visser and Karsten Finseth in Artesia, California.

Semisonic first came to my attention about the same time they may have come into your eyes: with the hit song “Closing Time.” I liked that song and decided to pick up the album, Feeling Strangely Fine, and was quite impressed with the simplistic yet catchy guitar/drums/piano mix and captured by the witty and revealing lyrics. The sincerity and honest self-examination of the song themes and words was something that I was quickly drawn to. The thrill of “Secret Smile,” the hope of “She’s Got It All Worked Out,” the accepted desperation of “Gone to the Movies,” all these elements make this album a must have for those who enjoy honest music.

I wanted to know more about this new friend, so I picked up their first album: The Great Divide. A good listen, but another now like the same depth as their second album. I saw this as a good sign: they have gained depth as they have experienced life. This left me very encouraged and excited by the prospect of a new album, and I eagerly awaited the chance to see where my friends were now.

Then came Semisonic’s third album: All About Chemistry. Wow, what a disappointment. The musicians had placed in high esteem for their compassionate lyrics has degenerated to shallow garbage: “I know we could be the sweetest friends but if that’s where it ends I’ve got to find someone else to bed.” This album is filled with other thinly veiled references to cheap sex, masturbation, intentional deceit, and other despicable subjects.

I don’t know anything about the musicians personally, but I am disappointed with their latest artistic statement. The music is still of the utmost quality and certainly shows a maturation and growth in their sound as they attempt to incorporate keyboards and other electronic elements.

I am happy to see Semisonic able to push their sonic growth and to develop further in their artistic expression, but I am frustrated with where that change has taken them. Maybe I’ll catch up with them again in a few years, but right now I feel like we have parted ways. It’s always hard to lose a friend.

Spring Tour brings laughs, memories

by Andrea Voogt
Staff Writer

The Band/Orchestra Spring Tour reminded me of why I love college life. Since I’m in my last semester at Dordt, I’ve developed the common case of senioritis. Looking forward to life after college and being busier than ever tends to make one forget how much she enjoys life as it is. Although I would have enjoyed using my Spring Break to go to PLIA or go home, Band/Orchestra Tour was a great opportunity to get to know a lot of different people and have a lot of fun and wacky experiences.

On Thursday, March 15, 71 students, one director, one official Dordt representative, and three bus drivers embarked on a 4,000-mile, 12-day journey which took us through Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, California, Arizona, and New Mexico. We played for six school assemblies and seven concerts while on tour. The tour culminated in a home concert on March 30 in the hockey arena. "What did you think of the day?" we asked each other and a professional recording session of our favorite pieces the next day.

Despite a number of vehicular "incidents," including a gas pump leak on one of the buses, a broken fan belt on one of the buses, a tire blowout on the trailer and an accident with the van, by God’s grace everyone and all the instruments were kept safe. While in Escondido, CA, the Dordt van was in an accident that broke a tie rod and bent the frame. Although the buses had to leave the next morning to get to Phoenix, AZ, on time for our concert, the van was not drivable. An act of providence made possible for the van to be fixed and driven out to Phoenix the following day, and Mark Butyen became the hero of the day for staying behind in Escondido, driving a U-Haul and still getting to the Phoenix concert on time. We also experienced God’s providence in the lack of illness while on tour. Usually, putting 75 people together on a bus for 12 days results in a lot of illness being passed around, but we were all kept quite healthy.

The sovereignty of God was also seen as Karsten Finseth and Lani Van Someren saw God dealing with them together; they realized that they share a few lifelong dreams and goals. Their "developing relationship" was a blessing.

Other "tour fun" was provided by the Bus Fun Committee, which consisted of Karsten Finseth, Mark Hoogwerf, Zach Vreeman, Steve Bruin, Josh Christoffels, and Carolyne Langley. This wacky group did a great job of helping the long bus rides to pass by organizing Rock tournaments, holding Trivial Pursuit contests, interviewing people, telling "instrument of the month," which was our official tour joke. Crocheting was the official fad of the Band/Orchestra Spring tour. Several crocheting masters determined to teach as many people as possible how to crochet. This pastime helped people pass bus time as well as make some nice scarfs, purses, and hats.

Jump to "Spring Break tour"
Ron Kingma: running over the competition

by Jason Mulder  
Staff Writer

When talking about men’s track here at Dordt, the name Ron Kingma almost always comes up. Ron has played a key part in the success of the team for the past four years.

A graduate of Illiana Christian High School, he participated in cross-country in high school and two years at Dordt in addition to track and field. He qualified for the state meet all four years of high school but was recruited by Dordt as a discuss thrower. Initially, Coach Altena wasn’t very interested in his abilities as a runner.

This soon changed and Ron was an All-American in the 3200m Relay (outdoor) his freshman year. His sophomore year he did the same. Last year, Ron had his best race, finishing third in the nation in the 800m (indoor).

This year, he is an All-American in the 800m (indoors) and led the All-American 3200m Relay (indoor) team as well. Coach Altena described Ron as “the most elite athlete in track and field Dordt has had for the past 18 years that I have been coaching. Ron makes his teammates All-Americans.”

Ron was the Most Valuable Conference Athlete runner-up this year in indoor, winning the 800m, placing second in the 400m, and leading his team to fourth in the 1600m Relay at the conference meet.

Ron has not only led the team in awards the last few years but has also been the guy everyone looks up to. He communicates between the team and the coach, always trying to motivate his teammates and make it fun.

There is more that makes Ron such a great leader, however. As a Chemistry major hoping to go to Montana State University next year for his master’s degree, Ron helps out in other areas. He is a teacher’s aid for Professor Pictorie, helping students who are struggling.

He hopes to eventually get a job in industry, possibly as a technician, but doesn’t care as long as he has a job he enjoys. Ron also plays the guitar and enjoys cooking.

Baseball seniors look to the future

John Hansen
Staff Writer

Ryan Lefever and Tim Covey are the two seniors on this year’s baseball team. Lefever is majoring in Accounting and Business Administration. He is from Orange City, where he played baseball in little league and high school at Unity Christian. Lefever plays pitcher and first base and has been on the baseball team all four years at Dordt.

Tim Covey is a Psychology major from Hill, Iowa. He plays center field, and this is his first year playing for Dordt because of transfer rules. Covey was team manager last year and had the privilege of travelling with the team to Florida over spring break. Both Lefever and Covey say this trip was one of their best memories of Dordt baseball.

Baseball has been an important part of Lefever’s four years at Dordt. “Baseball has taught me to enjoy life and enjoy the time you have with your friends,” he said. Head coach Tom Visker says Lefever shows a lot of positive leadership and always encouraging the team. “He is a good hitter and a pleasure to have on the team,” said Visker.

Baseball has also taught Covey important lessons. “Baseball has definitely taught me what commitment and discipline involve,” said Covey. “I’ve learned many things about teamwork and三角形s through the many good friendships I’ve established with my teammates. Visker says Covey is a good defensive outfielder and has good speed.

Both of the guys have high hopes for the team and would like to see more people come out for the games. “It would really be nice to see more people come out and support the baseball team,” said Lefever.

The past couple of weeks we have played some very tight games with some of the best teams in the conference,” said Covey.

Covey plans to attend graduate school at the University of Northern Iowa next year where he will pursue an Education Specialist degree which will allow him to be a licensed school psychologist. Covey is also getting his coaching endorsement here at Dordt. “It would love to coach at some level after I graduate UNI,” he said.

Lefever also plans to be involved in baseball after he graduates. Lefever says he would also enjoy coaching little league, and perhaps working his way up to college someday. He will begin working after he graduates this spring. This summer he will be getting married to Amanda Poppema, a junior here at Dordt.

“Both of these players have a great Christian character,” said Visker. “They are a positive influence both on and off the diamond.”

Statistics

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<td>Goals: Matt Nuiver (7)</td>
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<td>Dave Slemp (1)</td>
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<td>Saves: David Vander Tuin (13)</td>
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Saves: David Vander Tuin (5-2) |

Goals: Matt Nuiver (3) |
| Paul LeMahieu (1) |
| Paul LeMahieu (1) |

Saves: David Vander Tuin (8) |

Total: UNL W (8-0) |

Goals: Matt Nuiver (3) |
| Dave Slomp (2) |
| Aaron Oberloh (1) |
| Greg Le Mahieu (1) |
| Paul Le Mahieu (1) |

Total: David Vander Tuin (3)
April 12, 2001 - Page 8

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**CHINA**—The United States air crew detained in China is to be released "promptly," following US expressions of regret for the loss of the Chinese fighter pilot involved in the accident that brought the plane down. On Wednesday, President Bush said the American people joined him in "sorrow for the loss of the Chinese pilot". Mr Bush did not apologize for the accident itself or admit US responsibility for it. The 24 crew members have been detained since their plane and a Chinese fighter jet collided 11 days ago.

**TURKEY**—More than 200 people have been injured in clashes in Ankara between Turkish police and over 70,000 anti-government demonstrators angered by the country's two-month old economic crisis. The demonstrators - mainly shopkeepers and tradesmen - are protesting against the government's acceptance of an austerity International Monetary Fund recovery program. In other protests on Wednesday, at least 40,000 people took to the street in the port of Izmir and 20,000 people marched against the government in the city of Konya.

**SOUTH AFRICA**—South Africa has become the first country in the world to approve a product which can be used as an alternative to human blood in transfusions, thus eliminating the risk of patients being treated with diseased blood. The product, Hemopure, was developed by a US-based biotechnology company, Biopure, and it is made from cow's hemoglobin. However, some researchers have raised fears that it has made breakthroughs in政府采购 of new diseases to people.

**ISRAEL**—In the first such operation since conflicts began six months ago, Israeli tanks and bulldozers have entered a Palestinian refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and destroyed a number of buildings. This sparked fierce fighting in which two Palestinians have been killed and at least 50 wounded, and casts doubt on US efforts to convene a meeting of Israeli and Palestinian security officials. Palestinians responded to the attack by firing mortars on a Jewish settlement.

**SRI LANKA**—To mark the Sinhala and Hindu new year, the Sri Lankan government has announced a four-day ceasefire and the release of 10 detainees it says are Tamil Tiger rebels. The release of rebel detainees comes as a surprise but the government wants to be seen as encouraging the peace process, despite apparent setbacks recently. A brief truce had been expected but despite the ability of free speech and the first Amendment, that it has been made headlines of organizations ranging from the NRA to the ACLU.

The other event that exemplifies where bi-partisanship can take us, is the recent outbreak of fighting in the former Yugoslavia. The people that American troops were sent to protect, ethnic Albanians and their military wing the KLA, have now started attacking neighboring Macedonia. The attacks come under the guise of independence fighting for the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and Macedonia. However, the March 26, 2001 issue of Newsweek says that the fighting has erupted to promote instability in the region. If instability reigns, a profitable black market controlled by the ethnic Albanian guerrillas can flourish. Once stability comes back, an actual economy will be in order and there will no longer be a black market. So why does this situation reek of American political cooperation? Because the Republicans allowed it to. Former President Clinton sent American troops to this region with an executive order, thus bypassing the consent of Congress. However, Clinton still needed Congressional funding for this, which the Republican controlled House and Senate supplied. Thus American troops are now put in the ironic situation of having to protect people from those they were sent to protect.

If these two aforementioned events are where bi-partisanship takes us, we can be assured of less rights and more foreign entanglements. If President Bush is to prove his worth, it may very well be by his ability not to compromise. This is because by example we are left to feel that partisanship has not been the problem but rather the gradual amalgamation of the two parties.

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**Spring Break Tour continued from page six**

Rook and Mafia were definitely the games of choice on tour. In addition to the Rook tournament, one group of people decided to play a game of Rook to 10,000. (They finished it, too - on the last day of tour!) Large games of Mafia were also popular. Some people, like Tanya Visser, really got into it ("I'm a-townie!"). When Terence Visser was voted out, he coined a new phrase: "You're all fish!" Some of the students were hosted by a group of people in Ontario, CA, who played a huge, 30-person game of Mafia.

Host families were definitely one of the highlights of tour. Each morning on the bus we would swap stories about our host families of the night before. One group of girls had a host family that decided to "culture" them by taking them out to hear a live mariachi band. Another group was taken to Hollywood. One girl got to see the Pacific Ocean for the first time. Ken Elgersma and James Grossmann were brought to the church in Amsterdam in a beautiful 1930 Model A. Hot tubs and hot air were also highlights at many of the host family's homes.

Other tour highlights included a ride down the Las Vegas Strip in a power failure in Ripe that threatened to cancel our concert, and the free day in Phoenix. Although all the meals prepared for us were excellent, we especially enjoyed the California delicacy known as Tri-tip, which is a special breed of beef. Another highlight was the Mexican fiesta prepared for us in Escondido, which is very close to the US-Mexico border. The people of Escondido went south of the border and picked up a number of trinkets and souvenirs by answering questions about Mexico. Laura Vos and Carissa Neerhof each won a green foam lizard, which they named Pato and Pollo and used to torture Dr. Driehman.

In spite of all the fun we had, we still got a little wacky near the end of tour. Someone took the analogy of a music group being a team a little too far, and we began engaging in "pre-game huddles," chanting of a particular "word of the day," and calling Dr. Driehman "Coach D." Laura Vos developed a friendly rivalry with "Coach D." involving water fights and her lizard. Kate Reimensch ordered a gummi bear to her forehead, and Brandy Ochsner bet her a meal that she couldn't keep it there through the concert at Rehoboth. (Kate won.)

Although we enjoyed the warm weather, the wonderful food, the great music, and the fun we had together, most of us were happy to get off the bus for good on March 26. We performed our music for a live audience for the last time on March 30 at the home concert, and on March 31 we had a few pieces professionally recorded. These pieces will be included on the next Dork CD, which will probably come out this summer.

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