Weekend retreat challenges women

by Mikala Poll
Staff Writer

"So are you a total package now?" The question has been asked repeatedly since last weekend's "Total Package" Women's Retreat.

A small committee lead by Brandie Oschner and Lindsay Carlson had been planning the retreat since December, anticipating a great weekend of fun, fellowship, and challenging spiritual growth. Thanks to the planning committee, over 125 participants, speaker Sandi Altena, and God's work, the retreat was a huge success.

The first thing the women found when they walked into First Reformed Church's gymnasium Friday night was a bunch of girls standing around talking, playing foosball and jumping into the huge pile of bean bags in the middle of the gym floor.

The retreat soon began with some singing led by a praise team, followed by a talk from Sandi Altena about "Knowing Yourself." She addressed the "Total Package" theme by focusing on the wholeness that can be found by knowing oneself, knowing others, and knowing God.

Altena challenged the women to be honest with themselves, a topic which many of them later said they do not hear very often. "This is quite common sense stuff, but it was a really good reminder for me and something I really needed to hear," said sophomore Pam Oschner.

After each of the three sessions, everyone broke up into small groups to share thoughts on the topic and make it personal. "I thought it was really good to be challenged to dig into ourselves deeper," said sophomore Erin Temple.

"It was so great to have tose women together," Altena said. "They had great attitudes, joyful spirits, and listening hearts. These girls are so beautiful!"

Friday night's second session consisted of an open forum where anyone could answer a question led by Altena and education instructor Barb Hoekstra. The time allowed everyone to seek questions about friendships that are not often addressed.

"It was a very encouraging weekend," said committee member Teresa Gorter. "Everyone that came really wanted to be there, and it showed."

Staley Lecture tradition ends at Dordt

by Allison Schaap
News Page Assistant Editor

The Staley lectures have been held on Dordt's campus for the past twenty years, and this week, on February 7 and 8 will be the last time that they will be held on our campus.

"This is the last of the Staley lectures because they have switched their focus," said Dr. Rick Faber, a member of the curricular committee. According to Dr. Paul Otto, who was the chairman of the Staley lectures from 1998-2000, Dordt is no longer having Staley lecturers because the Staley Foundation changed their funding for speakers.

Staley was a medical doctor who left a large sum of money to have academic speakers promote and address students from a Christian perspective. Otto said that they chose speakers who can relate to Dordt students, and can help elaborate on the subject of their lectures. "The Staley lectures have been very valuable...and they put their lectures in a context to make [the subject of their lectures] more real for students," Otto
goesto say, "It's not only important for the students, but for the faculty too. It quickens the intellectual atmosphere."

Some of Chaplin's lectures included: "Beyond Words: The Voice of Art in a Deafening World," at 1:30 p.m. and "Fascination or Sensation? Post-modern Art and the Shock of the Old" at 7:30.

On Thursday, February 8, Chaplin will speak in chapel on "Waiting in Pain: the Art of Redemptive Longing," at 7:30 that evening, she will give a lecture on "Dada, Doodles and Design: The Wonderful World of Artistic Imagination." The lectures will all be held in C-160.

All of the community is invited to attend. The lectures are free of charge.

Andrew Moody
Dr. Andrienne Dengerink Chaplin spoke yesterday in C-160.
Engineering students travel to Omaha

by Rose Ann Vander Waal
Staff Writer

Thirty-six engineering and computer science students and two professors, Nolan Van Gaalen and Dorothy Dougs drove south for the annual spring engineering internship trip on Friday, February 2. The trip was sponsored by ASME and the engineering department with the purpose of introducing students the wide variety of job opportunities open to engineers. The first stop was at Fort Calhoun, the main source of power for the Omaha power District, where the group viewed the nuclear power facility and toured an exact replica of the control room. At Ayava Communications in Omaha, they observed communication and data cable produc- tion. Junior Matt Holsenberg said he “enjoyed seeing the wire made on modern machines as well as on working 1950’s equipment.”

The students then split into two groups; one group journeyed to Square D Manufacturers in Lincoln and the other group stayed in Omaha to visit the consulting firm HDR. The entire group also visited the University of Nebraska graduate school facilities with Dordt alumni Dr. Kelly Homan and Tyler Schemper. Junior Brian Matherly said that this visit was helpful because it was “a glimpse of what grad school is really like.”

Before heading back to Dordt on Saturday morning, the group visited the Omaha branch of Catpiller-Blank to look at the company’s new line of combines. Junior Howard Gorter said that he is glad he had the opportunity to take this trip. “It gave all of us a good idea of the many different opportuni- ties open for engineers and others with similar majors.”

Shamar joins IJM to promote Equal Exchange

by Dan Perkins
Guest Writer

If you drink two cups of coffee per day, you will drink 34 gal- lions of coffee this year. That will require 511 pounds of fertilizer and 1,022 square feet of land. Coffee consump- tion does make an impact. Shamar and Dordt’s new club, International Justice Mission, are teaming up this semester to offer the chance for students and faculty to link their lifestyles with the global economy in a just and practical way, simply by slight- ly changing the way they buy coffee.

A majority of North American coffee comes from Latin America, Africa, and Asia and is the third highest import right behind oil and steel. Coffee is the leading source of foreign exchange in Latin America and is a crucial element in the world market. Coffee beans come either from wealthy land owners who grow their beans on large plantations or from small farms.

Picture this: a small-time farmer in El Salvador is growing coffee for a living and resides in an isolated community. In order to get the beans to market, he must rely on what price, regardless of how low the commodity market falls. Second, Equal Exchange buys all its beans from small farmer cooperatives that are run by the farmers themselves. Third, they buy directly from the co-ops, eliminating coyotes and middlemen, ensur- ing that profits go directly to the families and local communities. Fourth, Equal Exchange purchases certified organic coffee and shade grown coffee. Shade grown coffee and organic coffee allow for sustainable farming practices that preserve native wildlife habitats and also allow a farmer to grow his or her own food. Conventional practices have made coffee production the third most pesti- cide-laden crop in the world, after cotton and tobacco. In 1994, Columbian coffee farmers used 880 million pounds of chemical fertilizer, more than half a pound for every pound of coffee produced.

If you are interested in purchasing Equal exchange coffee for your room, your family, yourself or your church, e-mail Shamar@dict.edu. For more information on Equal Exchange, visit their website at www.equalexchange.com.

Student Forum seeks proactive approach

by Wade Halma
Guest Writer

This past semester, the Student Forum has discussed both new and resurrected issues. Zombie issues of open hours for dormitories, freshmen curfew, computer/network topics, commu- nity meal plans, smoking on campus, and holding classes on Good Friday all seem to creep onto the Forum’s agenda at some point during the school year.

As hackneyed as these topics can become, the Forum still tries to challenge Dordt College with a fresh perspective each year from our new Student Forum members, transfers, and the freshman class. A re-evaluation is important to the Student Forum in order to stand behind their decision to uphold standards or make changes in light of new circumstances. Dordt grows and adapts with time to remain effectively serving the Lord as a higher Christian education institution. The forum links the faculty and staff to the students as they grow.
What do you think about Valentine’s Day?

“I think Valentine’s Day is another holiday, among others, where women get showered with gifts and men get the shaft.”

Ben Addink FR
Abbotsford, BC

“I think Valentine’s Day is the best. I get to tell all of my friends how much I love them without having them look at me weird.”

Katie Augspurger SO
Chenoa, IL

“I think Valentine’s Day is another holiday, among others, where women get showered with gifts and men get the shaft.”

Dan De Vries JR
Ontario, CA

“I think Valentine’s Day can be one of the most memorable or depressing days of the year. I say, keep it simple; show your friends you care.”

Pam Saarlos SR
Renton, WA

DDL, SAC sponsor Valentine activities

“Valentine’s Day is rapidly approaching, and the Dordt Defenders of Life (DDL) and the Student Activities Committee (SAC) are planning ways to help students celebrate. SAC will be hosting a coffeehouse on February 10 from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. in the New World Theatre. There will be ‘mood’ lighting, candles and poetry reading to create the atmosphere, and everyone has the chance to participate through poetry reading. Anyone who is interested in reading poetry can contact with Heidi Kooiman.”

At 10:30 pm, Dordt alumnus Sean Covington will play mellow coffeehouse music for approximately an hour. As always, Common Grounds will be there, and SAC will provide dessert. Heidi Kooiman, co-chairperson of SAC, is excited about this event. She said, “We are not promoting this event only to the lovebird couple on campus for Valentine’s Day. But love will probably be in the air, so bring everyone you love-your friends, family, and/or significant other.”

Also in honor of Valentine’s Day, DDL hosts carnation sales, their biggest event of the year. Carnations will be available for purchasing February 12-15 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm in the SUB. Delivery of carnations will take place Saturday, February 17. There will be red, pink, and white carnations available. “They’re cheaper than roses, and last longer too,” says co-president Amy Fopma. “By buying a carnation for someone you care for, your funds will be given to the Alpha Center of Sioux Falls, which cares for the lives of mothers and their unborn children.”

2001 Homecoming Activities

Friday:
3:00 pm--B.J Haan Auditorium
Music Departmental Recital

5:00 pm--Chapel
Mezanie Art Gallery
Artist Reception

6:30 pm--West Commons Alumni Banquet

Saturday:
11:00 am-3:00 pm-- Rec. Center
Defender Gold Invitational Track Meet

12:00 pm-6:30 pm-- Rec. Center Multi-Purpose Room
Alumni Hospitality Room

2:00 pm-5:00 pm-- SUB Kids Carnival

1:00, 3:00-- DeWitt Gymnasium
Women’s and Men’s Basketball vs. Concordia

5:00 pm-- DeWitt Gymnasium
JV Basketball vs. Alumni

7:00 pm-- BJ Haan Auditorium
Music and Magic Alumnus Arthur Atsma

8:30 pm-- SUB Ice Cream Social

9:00 pm-- New World Theater-Classroom Building Coffee House
Opinion

Grade inflation: what does your A mean?

by Sarah Eekhoff
Editor

Grade inflation has been leaking into the academic world for the past three decades. Today it is a phenomenon that can hardly be ignored. In Levine and Cureton’s new book, When Hope and Fear Collide, GPAs are ranked by undergraduate freshmen in their three different years: 1976, 1989, and 1993. The percentage of Cs and As students received reversed from 1969 to 1993. In 1969, 79% of all students received grades of A or A-. Higher. By 1993, this proportion had risen to 26%. In contrast, grades of C or less moved from 25% in 1969 to 9% in 1993. Here at Dordt, we are not immune to the trend. According to Dr. Jasper Lesage, Dean of the Social Sciences Department, there is indeed “a sense that grades have gone up considerably.”

Narratives are so attractive because we can identify with them. This past Christmas I saw Finding Forrester. The film is about a legendary, reclusive writer who ends up becoming a mentor for a teenaged writer prodigy. I don’t think I moved at all during the more than two hours I sat watching the movie. I identified with the plot. I wanted to be a writer someday. I wanted to inspire someone to reach for new heights, as Forrester did. I went home that night and I think I could have written a best-seller in one sitting. I was flying so high.

But stories exist in our world for more than just making us feel good. Stories should be used to challenge us to think differently. They should make us uncomfortable from time to time; stories should cause us to rethink our standing on issues of life.

Two weeks ago Sunday, two of my good friends, Denae and Galen, gave their testimonies at GIFT. Galen was my roommate last year and Denae is a fellow journalism major, so we see a lot of each other. Because I know Galen and Denae fairly well, I had a pretty good idea of what they were going to say. They said pretty much what I thought they would, but throughout the whole service I felt God burdening new convictions on my heart as a result of hearing their stories again.

Denae’s testimony convinced me that I was settling for less than I deserve in many areas of my life. Now when I’m tempted to skip out on a morning workout, for instance, I hop out of bed anyway because I don’t want to sell myself short. Galen’s message taught me that I had sold him short last year. He’s been working on memorizing Scripture since last fall and he asked me numerous times last year to help him with it; and I often did, although reluctantly. When I heard him reciting verse after verse in the midst of telling his testimony I was convinced that some things have to change in my life. Through the telling of those two testimonies, which are really stories about humans struggling to live for God, I was able to connect with Denae and Galen on a deeper level and most importantly to deal with things in my relationship with God.

It’s really none of your business what I’m “dealing with,” but it’s my job to tell you that I reached that point by hearing two stories about two humans who were struggling to live every day for their Lord and Savior.

According to Dr. Wilson, the Executive Director of National Association of Scholars, “Grade inflation deviates the curriculum in a student’s life. When faculty don’t care about academic achievement, students will focus on extracurricular modes of distinguishing themselves; and as all grades begin to look alike, test scores and extracurricular activities will be all that employers and grad schools will be able to go on.”

I want my A to mean something. If I don’t deserve one, then I don’t want one. Grades should motivate us to learn, but if I don’t have to put forth my best effort to get an A, I probably won’t learn. That isn’t beneficial anyone. Shouldn’t an intelligent, hard-working student be rewarded with the same grade as someone who doesn’t accomplish the work?

I believe I go to an excellent institution. I believe that my professors have a right to demand excellent work from me. But I also believe that I deserve an honest grade from them, not based on my need for encouragement, or my need to get into grad school, but based on the truth, on the quality of my work.

Learning through narratives

by Mitch Beaumont
Assistant Editor

Narratives are all around us—in everything we do, and in everything we see. The news uses narratives to tell you how a little girl was abandoned by her parents. The film industry uses a story line to sell movies and make money. Publishers seek out the most dynamic plot they can find and then sell it for profit. But can’t stories be used in other ways? Don’t they serve another purpose than to make money? I love to read, especially novels. Last summer I read more than 30 of them. When I would pick up a new one I couldn’t wait to see if and dive into what kind of adventure I would be on this time. I was compelled by the stories told by the authors. Sometimes I found myself almost glued to my seat when I reached the climax of the book—I couldn’t put it down.

Why are narratives so compelling and attractive? What purpose do they serve? It seems obvious to me that narratives are so attractive to humans because often they are narratives are about humans. The very beginning of life started with a story: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Just like, “Once upon a time.”

Narratives are so attractive because we can identify with them. This past Christmas I saw Finding Forrester. The film is about a legendary, reclusive writer who ends up becoming a mentor for a teenaged writer prodigy. I don’t think I moved at all during the more than two hours I sat watching the movie. I identified with the plot. I wanted to be a writer someday. I wanted to inspire someone to reach for new heights, as Forrester did. I went home that night and I think I could have written a best-seller in one sitting. I was flying so high.

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History of politics lacks integrity

by Prof. Dave Schelhaas
Letter to the Editor

Part of growing up is coming to recognize that neither good nor evil, integrity or cupidity, can be confined to a particular time in the past can be called the age of integrity. Anderson holds up President Andrew Jackson as a model of integrity, but according to a book titled The Petrocoat Affair: Mannings, Morning and Sex in Andrew Jackson’s White House, Jackson married a woman who was still married to another man and whose husband did not divorce her until two years after her marriage to Jackson.

I would prefer to hold up a more contemporary Democrat, President Jimmy Carter, as a model of integrity, for even though he admitted in his famous Playboy interview that he was guilty of lust, I believe he was and is a man of integrity.

Anderson denounces a number of contemporary Democrats in his article—Clinton, Conyers, Jesse Jackson—but somehow passes over Republican President Richard Nixon whose Watergate involvement set the standard for corruption and lack of integrity. President Ronald Reagan’s lies about the Iran-Contra affair also merit at least a sentence.

Actually, Mr. Anderson is like a lot of young people in his belief that the old days were “good” old days. I suppose older people, like me, must bear the blame for this. We tend to speak of the old days as if they were good. Of course they weren’t. Leaders with integrity have always been rare. Part of growing up is coming to recognize that neither good nor evil, integrity or cupidity, can be confined to a particular time period. Jefferson had his mistress, Grant his graft, Nixon his stonewalling lies, and Clinton his Monica.

Alas, we are conceived and born in sin.
Olmsted enjoys semester in China

Laura Apol
Features Page Editor

Shari Olmsted spent last semester studying in Beijing, China. Not only was she studying, she was enjoying the history of the country. “I loved being able to see history happening,” said Olmsted. There were daily Falun Gong protests in Tiananmen Square, and she had the opportunity to speak with people deeply involved in Chinese affairs, including feminists, economists, and American Embassy members. “It was incredible,” she said.

Olmsted stayed in an international student dorm on the campus of the Beijing Institute of Technology. She had no complaints except for the lack of a shower curtain for the first month.

Classes were “much more focused” than those here at Dordt, Olmsted said. She took three history classes over the course of the semester; Chinese was the only constant. The Chinese language requires a lot of memorizing, and Olmsted found that to be true of the other classes as well. “The only thing that was really difficult was the no heating policy. They didn’t turn on the heat in the dorm or classroom building until November. It proved to be hard to learn when you are freezing.”

Olmsted enjoyed the interaction she had with the Chinese people. She had two tutors teaching her Chinese, and she had the opportunity to do a Bible study with a new Christian. Because her teachers were close to her age, she also got to know them personally.

Every Thursday, the school put on a program called English Corner, where Chinese students would gather to practice speaking English. Olmsted found it provided some great insights into the Chinese people, and she had fun participating. “Each of us would be surrounded by 20 students all asking questions and listening to our answers. Anything from religion, to politics, American society, and our feelings toward the Chinese and other Asians were up for discussion,” she said.

“I totally enjoyed the different culture. It’s amazing and rich and intriguing and complex,” Olmsted said.

Oxford program challenges McCarthy

by Mitch Beaumont
Assistant Editor

England is one of the most attractive places for Americans to visit. With its majestic, yet mysterious backdrop, many generations of Americans have immersed themselves in the similar, yet different, culture and history of the English. Maygan McCarthy, a junior, is living in the midst of this history and culture this semester as a part of the Oxford Honors Program.

The Oxford Program is sponsored by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), and is one of the many off-campus programs offered to Dordt students each semester. McCarthy is the only student from Dordt studying in England right now, but is one of over 40 studying abroad this semester.

Students taking part in the Oxford Program live in a dorm with about 50 other American students. “The dorm is in the middle of downtown Oxford, so we are very close to anything we could ever want, like grocery stores and delis,” says McCarthy.

The city of Oxford is located about two hours northwest of London. There are no mountains in the area, but according to McCarthy there are plenty of things to do. “I have been to a concert or play almost every weekend so far.”

The weather in Oxford isn’t the typical sunny skies that we see more often than not in the States. McCarthy says, “It’s been really rainy lately, which is usual from what I gather.”

While McCarthy is earning credits toward her English major, she is studying in many different ways than we do in the States. She says that the classes are much different in England, but that she prefers their style.

“My classes are very different than Dordt’s. I have two private tutorials with Oxford dons (professors) every week. We meet for an hour each week where I present the paper I have prepared and we discuss it. I am also in a seminar which meets for one and a half hours each week. There are five other students in the seminar, and we informally discuss amongst ourselves,” says McCarthy. “I like this system because I really feel in control of my own learning. I choose which direction my tutorials go in and my tutor is there to aid me.”

The Honors Programme requires more of students than a typical American undergraduate program. McCarthy has to write two six to eight page essays each week, and by the end of the semester she has to write a paper that, according to her, “should be up to par with graduate school level research and writing.”

Right now McCarthy is taking two tutorials. One is on Romanticism and the other on Historical Romanticism and the other on nineteenth century fiction. “I meet with them [the professors] once a week and they give me a list of books I should read and a question to answer in my paper. For instance I just had to write a paper on the question ‘How does Wordsworth respond spiritually to nature around him?’” says McCarthy. “Then I have to write a six to eight page paper on that topic.”

The seminar McCarthy is taking is on Milton. “There is a professor that serves as a guide for us, but it is basically us discussing things we have learned,” she says.

McCarthy is enjoying the British lifestyle, although she says it’s not terribly different than American life. “I’m an English major, so it’s just a thrill to be in a country with such a rich literary background,” says McCarthy.
Atsma provides homecoming magic

by Andrea Voogt
Staff Writer

"Memories and Magic" is the theme for Dordt's Homecoming 2001. Alumnus Arthur Atsma, a professional magician, will provide the "magic" for this year's homecoming festivities.

Atsma has been performing magic for over 15 years. A music major while at Dordt, he likes to combine his musical talents with his magical performance. He enjoys building a close rapport with his audience while running a fast-moving show. His tricks include everything from slight-of-hand tricks to fire eating. Atsma's mix of magic, music, and comedy make his show enjoyable for people of all ages.

Indeed, Atsma has performed for audiences of all ages. He has performed at private parties for Gerald Ford, Gene Siskel, Peter Jennings, and the United States Olympic Committee, but he also enjoys performing at local libraries for children. Atsma has also performed his magic for state and county fairs, rodeos, and corporate parties. His favorite place to perform, however, is the local hospital. Several times a week Atsma helps people forget about their pain for a little while as he performs his magic show at the Silverton Hospital in Silverton, Oregon. Atsma calls these visits the most rewarding hours of his life.

Atsma lives in Oregon with his wife, Beverly, and their five children.

Arthur Atsma's magic show will be in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at 7:00 pm on Saturday, February 10. The cost is $5 for adults, and children get in free with their parents. High school and college students get in for $1.00. For more information, call 722-6022.

NISO Concert

Angela Blankespoor played her violin at the NISO concert on February 3rd in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The concert featured the Siouxland Boys Choir.

Napster: what next?

by Mark Brink
Staff Writer

Napster. Just the mention of the word causes an instant reaction from anyone who knows what it is. There is very little middle ground; either you love it or you hate it. But now what's happened to it?

For those of you who don't know what Napster is, let me explain. Napster is a downloadable program that, when connected online, allows the user to search through the music files of all the other people who are logged on (which averages about 10,000 people at a time). The files downloaded are called MP3 format. MP3's can be easily changed to WAV format, which is the format that can be read by your average CD player. What does that mean? Well, that means that anyone with a CD burner can now get any music they want on CD for free.

Needless to say this has the music industry pretty infuriated. Many musicians and all music companies have stood up against this type of file swapping, the most vocal being Metallica. On the other hand, some musicians have really endorsed the free format, claiming that it gets their music out to more listeners.

But anyway, what does this have to do with the Dordt community? Well, the group of people who use Napster the most are college students, and here at Dordt we're no exception. Well, we were no exception until about a month ago when the speed of downloading decreased greatly. Files on Napster have lately been downloading at around 1-2 k/sec. before break a typical download would fly by at about 40-90 k/sec. The difference? It takes two hours per song now, as opposed to a minute and a half per song before break.

A lot of people have asked me why this is, and I've also talked with a lot of students who use Napster regularly. What I've come to find out is that not everyone is plagued by the problem of a slow Napster connection, so the difficulty is spotty. When asked about this problem, Brian Van Donselaar of Dordt's Computer Services said that they haven't put any restrictions on the student use of Napster on the network. He stated that, on the record, Dordt has not prohibited usage or interfered with the traffic students have been creating through downloading music.

Van Donselaar does not promise that this policy will stay as is. He says that Computer Services has been tossing around ideas as to how to deal with the heavy traffic and network bandwidth that has been eaten up by Napster usage. If you are a free music lover who frequents Napster, or if you are a copyright lover who feels Napster should be shut down, then let your voice be heard and drop Computer Services an e-mail or phone call and let them know what they should do about Napster. This is an opportunity to speak out and let your voice be heard on a topic that may soon be restricted by Dordt policy.

If you don't like what may happen or if you have any questions, feel free to call Computer Services.

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Basketball seniors set examples

By Jason Mulder
Staff Writer

Third year varsity player and senior co-captain Matt Van Essen sets an excellent example for underclassmen as a college student-athlete, both on the court and in the classroom. A 6'3" guard from Sioux Center, Matt is one of the basketball team's best defenders and tends to draw the opponent's best offensive player.

Matt has scored nine points four different times coming off the bench with a season high eleven points and four steals against McRendie. Matt was an NAIA Academic All American last year and will be again this year.

As an accounting major, Matt keeps very busy both interning for a CPA firm in Sioux City and studying for his CPA exam. He is not sure of his plans next year, saying that they depended on where his wife Angie (Oostenink) Van Essen is able to get a job.

She is an education major.

Fellow senior Brent Tapper has also been a great contributor off the bench this year. He is a first year varsity player, coming back from two serious knee injuries.

After transferring from SDSU four years ago, he was burned out and had no interest in playing basketball. Now, in his first year back, Brent is the team's leading shot blocker, with ten points and four rebounds against Northwestern and Mount Marty. Coach Greg Van Soelen commented that they "would have liked to have had him for more than one year!"

Pursuing an Ag Business major, Brent has hopes of working in sales or ag-lending at a bank. Brent is an intimidating force both on the court and off, standing at 6'8" and demonstrating strong senior leadership.

Lacrosse Club to face USD

by Jocelyn Van Beek
Sports Page Editor

The Lacrosse team, started by senior Matt Nuiver at the beginning of last semester, has been practicing in the hopes of facing some opponents later this year.

The first game is projected for the middle of March against USD Vermillion. A home game is also tentatively scheduled for sometime in April. Nuiver feels that, "the game should be a pretty good match up, as their [Vermillion's] program has only been around for a couple years."

The team is continuing to grow and prepare as more people join. They will soon have new shoulder pads to use, provided by the club funding. There are currently 11 members to watch at various positions. Brent Sichmiller, Aaron Oehlech, and Justin Elgersma are at defense, Paul Le Mahieu, Greg Le Mahieu, Micah Ivanson, and Greg Van Dyke play middle, Doug Driessen, Heath Verstrate, and Craig Kooistra are defense, and Team Captain and Club President Matt Nuiver will be starting at goal.

Lacrosse club is all about as the game works and how they begin their season; see how they do as a team. There will be lacrosse t-shirts available soon, so be prepared to support Dordt's newest club team.

Coach Rhoda steps down

By Jacque Scoby
Staff Writer

After 21 years with the women's basketball program, Dr. Len Rhoda plans to step down as the head coach, effective at the conclusion of the current season.

Rhoda, a professor in the HPER department at Dordt College, has spent the last 21 seasons at the helm of the women's team. Prior to taking over the women's program, Rhoda had been an assistant coach at Dordt College, has spent the last 21 years with the women's basketball program, Dr. Len Rhoda plans to step down as the head coach, effective at the conclusion of the current season.

"Bouma's a great move Rhoda applauds. "Bouma" says he is excited about this new perspective. Bouma also tips his hat to Rhoda and his accomplishments. "He has given himself to the program and has done an excellent job," he says. "We're going to miss a gentleman like Dr. Rhoda in the program."

Stats

Indoor Track
Jan. 27 Dordt Invitational
National Qualifiers:
4x800 Relay - 9:49.29
Lisa Cammeyer, Rebecca Demarest, Emily Kauk, Jessica Rienstra
800 Meter Run - Ron Kingma 1:57.07
High Jump - Susan Schaap 5'3"
Other placings:
1st - Triple Jump - Erica Tonn 34'7"
1st - 200 Meter Low Hurdles - Jackie Eckhoff 31.31
3rd - Shot Put - Amanda Te Kroon 39'5"
4th - 55 Meter High Hurdles - Tony Rienstra 7'90"

Hockey
Jan. 26-27 vs. Univ. of Minn, Minneapolis
L (2-1), L (4-1-1)
Feb. 2-3 vs. SDSU
W (1-10) Goal: James Bentum
L(3-12) Goals: Ryan de Lange (2), Mike Debbink (1)

Women's Basketball
Jan. 24 Dakota Wesleyan L (83-72)
Leading Scorers:
Serena Van Beek (18), Alexis Smith (16)
men's Basketball
Jan. 27 Sioux Falls L (75-66)
Leading Scorers:
Kathy Van Grouw (8)
Feb. 3 Doane College W (66-65)
Leading Scorers:
Heather Brookhuis (19)
Serena van Beek (16)

Men's Basketball
Jan. 29 Dakota Wesleyan W (46-40)
Leading Scorers:
Evan Beimers (10)
Jan. 27 Sioux Falls L (92-76)
Feb. 3 Doane College W (79-69)
Leading Scorers:
Kyle Van Arendonk (13)
Evan Beimers (13)

Other placings:
1st: 200 Meter Low Hurdles - Jackie Eckhoff 31.31
3rd: Shot Put - Amanda Te Kroon 39'5"
4th: 55 Meter High Hurdles - Tony Rienstra 7'90"

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Don't hesitate to come out to watch the Lacrosse team in action, as they play against USD. Come and see what the Lacrosse club is all about as they begin their season; see how the game works and how they do as a team. There will be lacrosse t-shirts available soon, so be prepared to support Dordt's newest club team.
Indonesia-- Indonesian police fired warning shots and tear gas as an estimated 50,000 supporters of President Wahid threatened with impeachment for alleged corruption since he became Indonesia's first democratically-elected leader 15 months ago.

Israel-- Israeli Prime Minister-elect, Ariel Sharon, is beginning work on forming a new government, the day after his sweeping victory over Ehud Barak, Sharon has pledged to restore the security of Israel's citizens and to achieve "real peace" and stability in the region.

India-- In the days after a devastating flood in western India, Hindu priests have marked the end of the traditional mourning period for the 30,000+ victims of the disaster. Meanwhile, aid agencies are scrambling to provide food, shelter and water for more than a million people who are homeless. Most of the survivors are temporarily living in tents and cars, trying to deal with both the physical and mental injuries of their ordeal. While efforts to find survivors have been halted, hundreds of bodies are still to be removed from the rubble.

Haiti-- Jean-Bertrand Aristide has been sworn in for a second term as President of Haiti amid an ongoing power struggle in which the opposition party continues to refuse to recognize him as President. Aristide became Haiti's first democratically elected President in 1990, but was deposed by a military coup in 1991. He was restored to power with US military backing, but stepped down, barred by the Constitution from serving more than one consecutive term, when his term elapsed in 1996. Compounding these recent political problems, Haiti is also the poorest country in the western hemisphere.

Guinea, Africa-- The United Nations refugee agency is still unable to reach some 170,000 refugees trapped by the on-going fighting along the volatile southern border of Guinea. The refugees have not received food rations for months and aid agencies cannot get access to them because of the clashes between the Guinean army and rebels from Sierra Leone and Liberia.

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