Endorphin prepares for CD release:

Like Any Other Man

by Jon Postma
Editor

Don't ask Endorphin what badgers, Subway stamps and spatulas have in common. They probably won't know. Their primary focus at the moment is aimed at this coming Friday night at 10:30.

On Friday, freshman Matt Breems, sophomore Evan Jasper and junior Bob Taylor take the stage at Dordt College's Student Union Building in celebration of their first album release, Like Any Other Man.

Endorphin's new album boasts eleven songs for its ten dollar price tag, a definite bargain for a CD professionally produced by people in charge of albums put out by Nirvana and Soul Asylum. After listening to a few tracks from the new CD, the improvements are astounding. The quality of sound far surpasses their tape release from last year, Just a Demo.

Endorphin is joined in their album project by Gary Haveman on the piano and organ and Sean Covington on the cello, as well as a few other musicians rounding out the mix. The music promises to be a variety from modern rock to ballads in a typical Endorphin style. "There is something for your grandma and something to dance to," says Jasper.

Endorphin promises that this will be one of their best shows at Dordt thus far. All the musicians from their new album except Matt Breems, will be on hand Friday night for the free, its almost too good to be true concert. "For someone who was walking through the SUB last year and wasn't impressed, we invite them back to give us a second chance. We have improved a lot," said Breems.

The reason for the improvement: "We took some time off this past summer due to conflicting work schedules. In the down time we practiced individually which allowed us to gain a new perspective on our music and our ministry." As a result, all three agree they are playing together better. Other Man.

Like Any Other Man

from your

For those who attend Friday night's concert can expect to hear some songs off the new album as well as, according to the band, two or three songs that are brand new. Endorphin estimates the show will last one and one half hours after which Like Any Other Man will go on sale for the first time ever. Just a word of caution: watch out for the badgers.

Interesting facts:

Bob Taylor's kitchen drawer is full of Subway coupons from Northwestern College students. He answers more questions. Write to Bob at bbtylav@dordt.edu. They especially want to hear from the freshman! Over Spring Break Endorphin is traveling to Nashville, TN to play some shows and talk to important people in the recording industry.

Endorphin hopes to pick up some tips from "Bleach," during their stay with them in Nashville.

Endorphin has about ten shows lined up in the next two months. Coming soon to a stage near you!

Upcoming plans:

Dordt receives donation of ICP spectrometer

by Andrea Voogt
Staff Reporter

Over Christmas break, Dordt received an ICP spectrometer. The $10,000 instrument, an analytical laboratory that does environmental testing, was donated by the Environmental Science Corporation of Nashville, Tennessee. The ESC bought a new spectrometer and donated the used one to Dordt because Dr. Edwin Geels, professor of chemistry, is related to one of their employees.

The ICP (Inductively Coupled Plasma) spectrometer works by injecting a sample of elements into an argon gas plasma. The plasma is at an extremely high temperature (about 7000°C), so the sample is atomized and the elements in the sample each give off a certain wavelength of light. The light is then analyzed by computer, which then stores, analyzes and displays the results.

It is anticipated that the spectrometer will be working by next semester. Professor Carl Fictorie says that initially, it will be used for Environmental Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis, but it may eventually be used for other classes as well. The instrument will allow students to analyze environmental contaminants such as mercury, lead, cadmium and radium.

The ICP spectrometer is similar to the spectrometers used in introductory chemistry courses, says Fictorie. However, it is more accurate, more sensitive, and therefore able to accomplish more tasks simultaneously.
Pastor Eddie speaks to PLIA crowd to challenge and encourage them by Lieschen Hoeksema Staff Reporter

"Shoulder to Shoulder", the theme for PLIA '98, was emphasized as PLIA goes prepared for Spring break at the PLIA retreat this past weekend. The annual retreat is typically held the last weekend of February, lasting Friday evening and Saturday morning. More than 170 students attended the retreat held at First CRC.

Pastor Eddie Robertson from Salama Ministries in Nashville was chosen to be this year's speaker. Robertson began Friday night by saying that he was at the retreat to challenge and encourage those going on PLIA. Then he spoke about our relationship with Christ.

Using the illustration of the cross, he said we must be right with God before we reach out to others. Saturday morning Robertson focused more intensely on the theme "Shoulder to Shoulder". He challenged PLIA groups with four things: pray together, plan together, go together and work together. He stressed that work done as a team is far more effective than one person.

Robertson also emphasized the power of prayer, how the PLIA groups must come before the Lord in prayer as a team, asking God to use them over Spring Break.

After speaking, Robertson said, "It is a privilege to be here and speak, and it is so incredible to see these students so eager to give up their Spring vacations and work for the Lord." At the retreat, PLIA groups got together for the first time. It was a chance to put names and faces together, yet one student pointed out that he didn't get to know everyone in his group very well because there wasn't enough time. Those who went on PLIA last year could easily assure him that after 24 hours in a van, he would get to know his group really well.

The groups learned more information about their individual sites, what type of work they would be doing, and how to prepare for the trip. Students also signed up for various committees which in charge of such things as food (menus etc.), devotions or tools within their groups.

Those who attended the retreat were challenged for and are now more excited for the trips that lie ahead. "I think the retreat was good preparation for us and it was fun getting to know our groups too," said freshmen Jill Van Voorst.
All applications for Peer Counselors, a.k.a. P.C.s, have been collected. The month of February has been a busy time for students applying for the position of "eyes and ears" to Director of Counseling Mark Christians. Serving groups of a dozen freshmen or more, teams of 25 to 30 upperclassmen will be selected as P.C.s for the coming school year. Next August, these people will be leading, helping and befriending the arriving freshmen through various orientation activities. They will also be qualified to challenge the freshmen to study, attend their classes and become better acquainted with their professors throughout the year. They will know how and when to intervene in problem cases such as poor motivation, lack of studying and dangerous social habits.

Recently, I sat down with Ron Rynders, the Director of Career Development, and Emily Buyse, a returning P.C., at the electronic roundtable (a.k.a. email) to discuss this issue:

What steps for application are taken by new and returning P.C.s?

Ron: I ask existing P.C.s to nominate good candidates. I ask the R.A.s as well because they know them in the halls, and I ask profs to nominate also, since I want to know their opinion from the academic side. I also advertise in the Today so that anyone else can get an application. They then ask someone [a prof, an RA, another P.C.] to write a letter of recommendation. Finally, they are interviewed here in the Placement office.

Emily: As a returning P.C. you do not need to go through the interviewing process or get another recommendation.

What are the qualifications and responsibilities for a P.C.?

Ron: I don't select students currently on probation, but I value students who have had to struggle a bit. I avoid students on behavioral probation or even those whose habits and choices indicate that they would be inconsistent when they counsel incoming freshmen. I look for people of integrity, Christian maturity and an exemplary lifestyle. I look for people whom I would treasure as a friend.

Emily: Basically, a P.C. helps/leads the freshmen throughout the many orientation activities during their first few days at Dordt. We try to keep them informed. After orientation week, we meet with them just to talk and let them know that they can come to us if they have any questions or concerns. A P.C. is a friend to a new freshman so that they know at least one upperclassman when they start classes here at Dordt.

What is happening now in the selection process?

Ron: I am collecting applications and letters of recommendation and when they are both in, I will notify the students to make appointments on March 5, 6 and 9. I want to interview them all in a short period to ensure objectivity. Because the R.A. process is not over until just before Spring Break, I will likely not announce my decision [for next year's P.C.s] until after they return.

How has your experience been as a P.C. so far?

Emily: I really enjoy being a P.C. Its fun to meet the freshmen class every year and see how each of them grows and develops here at Dordt. I enjoy helping them out and being there for them if they feel that they need someone to talk to. To me the most challenging part is to get them to listen to what you have to say without coming off like a know-it-all. You have to give them enough space to experience college on their own, yet let them know that you are there to help if they need you. Finding a balance is the most challenging part.

Ron: I will add a meeting or two into next fall since freshmen really don't believe what we say to them the first few days. They'll need to bump their noses first and then hear it again, stuff about time management and studying differently...

What advice do you have for the new candidates?

Emily: I guess it's just important to be honest and ready for a lot of responsibilities. A P.C. should be excited about taking on a leadership role here at Dordt. I guess you can't expect to have a great group that likes to talk, but usually whether or not they talk the freshmen still appreciate knowing that someone is thinking about and praying for them as they start a new step in their lives!

Conductor, hymn writer and prolific author Carl Schalk visited Dordt College this past week to direct the Dordt College Chorale in a hymn festival of his own compositions and to give two lectures.

Choir director Ben Kornelis said Schalk's visit was a good experience for the Chorale members, who were able to sing ten of Schalk's hymns. "Dr. Schalk's visit provides an opportunity for the chorale to be immersed in the music of the conductor," he said. "It brings a different perspective to the chorale experience."

Chorale member Colin Brue said, "I felt it was a privilege to have the composer direct the chorale. He stressed the importance of understanding the uniqueness of congregational singing and the writing of hymn tunes accordingly. A composer needs to remember that a hymn tune should not be simplistic and undistinguished with function as its only purpose, but at the same time art songs and choral works are also inappropriate for congregational singing. Congregations consist of mostly untrained voices, but still need to be challenged with good music. "A good hymn will stretch a congregation's boundaries," Schalk said.

He also said that hymns need to be liturgically congregational. Much of Christian Contemporary Music is written to be sung as solos and is then brought into the church service. The hymn festival was accompanied by the pipe organ, hand bells and brass instruments.

Schalk writes tunes for new and existing hymns. He also writes new tunes for hymns with appropriate text for congregational singing that are rarely sung for lack of the right tune.

"I notice how well he writes music for words," Kornelis said. "He captures the flow of the text and gives it a lyrical quality. His arrangements are creative and exciting; he brings new life into pieces that are older and often taken for granted."


Schalk received an advanced degree in music from Eastman School of Music and a Master of Art degree in religion from Concordia Seminary. He has written over a dozen books on hymnody, and he has hymns in the "Paalgr Hymnal," "Presbyterian Hymnal" and the "Lutheran Book of Worship."

Schalk now teaches graduate courses in church music at Concordia University in River Forest, Illinois, where he is Distinguished Professor of Music Emeritus.
Returning the G.I.F.T.

Dear Editor:

After months of consideration, we have decided that we need to withdraw from offering the G.I.F.T. services. Our intent in writing is not to cause controversy, but to provoke discussion, and encourage others to respond both in agreement and dissent. That being said, we have serious concerns about the G.I.F.T.

What is the purpose of the G.I.F.T.? Is the way students are attending the G.I.F.T. in accordance with that purpose? As things are now, students are using the G.I.F.T. to attend church. We are concerned about this because we believe in the importance of gathering to worship with the larger body of believers—thus, the G.I.F.T. fails to do this because the G.I.F.T. is not church.

For a considerable amount of time, students have been concerned with the limited variety of worship styles available within the community. Students have also commented about the failure of the local churches to meet their needs, if this is the case, is the G.I.F.T. the right approach to these students' concerns? We do not think that the G.I.F.T. is fulfilling these needs. It is drawing from institutions, be they political, or communal, or ecclesiastical, and perhaps, the Church community. As students, we tend to withdraw from institutions, be they political, or communal, or ecclesiastical, and perhaps, the Church community.

We, as students, are using the G.I.F.T. to replace worship with the greater body of believers—the G.I.F.T. fails to do this because the G.I.F.T. is not church.

A question: "The SHAMAR People?"

Lately members of SHAMAR have been referred to as "the SHAMAR people." I do not know if it is meant to be derogatory or not, but it is taken that way sometimes. It is believed that the phrase has tended to be used to compartmentalize SHAMAR's mission from the rest of Dordt's mission. It seems that many of Dordt's students and faculty may agree with the "earth-keeping" SHAMAR promotes, but some of these people seem to be leaving their faith behind when they identify as SHAMAR. Most important, how can we accomplish this. Dordt's campus must understand that such a dispassionate attitude is incorrect and is not living out a full Christian life.

As Paul says to the Romans in Chapter 12: 4-5: "Just as each of us has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's diverse grace."

SHAMAR is to lead by example so that others might learn and be informed on how to live their Christian lives more willingly than we follow Christ. We go through the same motions week after week because that's what our parents did, and their parents before them. It isn't that we have to go through traditional motions, but that we are not following Christ. What does God want us to do? He wants us to obey him, like Jesus, instead of our traditions and laws, no matter what the cost.

Jesus was persecuted, laughed at, blindsided and beaten, spit on, rejected, deserted, hated and killed. Yet he still remained obedient to God; he still loved us. Jesus loved us so much that he did tell us the truth, even though we gave him every reason not to. He loved us so much that he eventually loved us to his death. Jesus suffered to give us the absolute truth. When we deny its existence, we sacrifice the truth that Jesus died to give us.

Jesus said, "no one comes to the Father but by me." When we believe truth is relative, we believe that statement is relative. While this statement may be true for us, it is not necessarily true for the unbelievers down the street. We are afraid to confront someone with the truth that only Jesus saves because they might laugh at us.

We can make excuses for not sharing truth with unbelievers; they might not listen to us, they might laugh it off, they might try to convert us, or we may not want to waste the time arguing with people of another religion. These excuses may be accurate; they may happen, but at the same time, they are not happening to people who are struggling with the existence of God, or questioning the validity of their religion. We should be the people who are struggling with the existence of God, or questioning the validity of their religion. We should be the people who are struggling with the existence of God, or questioning the validity of their religion.
Opinion

The power of words

Have we ever stopped to think about the power that words have over people? They can be used to edify someone or tear someone down. Words can heal a broken heart one minute and break that same heart the next. Sometimes we don’t think of the effect that our words may have on someone until it is too late. I am talking about words as little swords that destroy. Those little swords can be found in the fire of anger, jealousy, bitterness, hatred, and one that is not thought of often, joking. We may not see the little swords go in and do the damage, but that doesn’t mean it isn’t happening. As found many times in Proverbs, a careless, thoughtless, cruel or “just joking” word can hurt a heart. No matter how much we don’t mean it, when we say things that are teasing, it still hurts the other person. On the other hand, a kind word builds up and can heal. One simple little hello to someone on the sidewalk can make that person’s day. Stopping to talk to someone who looks sad and offering words of encouragement help out. Kind, loving words are like a soothing balm on the soul. I have heard many stories about people who were going to commit suicide, but didn’t because someone took the time to talk love and hope with them. What words will we speak that will affect someone in this way? Will we offer hope and love through our words, or will we hand out pain and hidden grief? Let your words be like diamonds and pearls and fragrant flowers to those around you—don’t let them be like fiery darts or blazing swords that destroy. What we say today can either make or break someone for tomorrow.

Proverbs 26:18-19—“Like a madman shooting firebrands or deadliness is a liar, and one that is not thinking of the effect that his words may have on someone until it is too late.”

Proverbs 12:18—“Reckless words pierce a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

A man’s best friend is . . .

Sometimes I miss home. I lie in my bed at night, trying to fall asleep, and think about all the things I miss about home. I think about my favorite coffee shop, all of my friends from high school that I’ve tried to keep contact with via e-mail, and my dog. I think a lot about my dog.

I realize it seems very silly to people who have never had a real pet, but pets are mood altering. By mood altering, I mean that they have the ability to make a person more joyful, happier to be alive and a more productive person all around. Oh, and when I say real pet, I mean something with personality. Personality goes a long way, how can we say that truth is relative, even if it is out of fear?

My dog had a great personality. He was always there when I needed him. His ear was always willing to listen to all my problems. He just sort of understood my worries and concerns. He was just a very pretty stupid—me talking to my dog—but it was rather therapeutic. Our little one-sided talks helped relieve a lot of stress. I wish I could have taken him with me to Dordt, but no pets are allowed.

Why?

Well, most guys in North Hall have difficulty taking care of themselves, so one could imagine the chaos that would ensue if pets were allowed. The smell would probably become overwhelming after about a week. So the only pets allowed are fish. Fish. Where’s the fun involved with fish? Most fish are very boring.

Now, I’m not going to suggest that we allow any kind of animal in residence hall rooms. I would like to suggest, however, that small animals, such as small birds, be allowed in rooms. I also think hamsters would be okay. Of course I realize that the handbook would need to be quite specific as to what pets would be allowed, but I think it’s worth it. Look how happy my dog made me. I think pets are needed in a college community, a community where the effects of stress are poignantly evident.

I suppose I could understand if the authority figures on campus don’t like this idea too much, but then at least consider the possibility of building pets. North, East and West halls could have a big bird cage located in the lounge or something. I just think pets would be a valuable asset to college life.

A Closer Look

It’s more than doctrine

This past Tuesday through Sunday, I had the opportunity to go to the Stone Lectures, via road trip, with seven other Dordt students. We traveled for 24 hours straight, arriving early for the first of five Stone Lectures to be given by Nicholas Woltersdorff. Interspersed between these lectures were five panel discussions where we heard twenty more prominent speakers.

Out of the two hundred people attending the conference, there were about twenty five students present. This was slight culture shock after growing accustomed to the ratio we have at Dordt, and being in the minority contributed to the tone during the whole conference. In later conversations, some of us agreed that attending the conference was like being thrown into a giant pot of wisdom. Sometimes we were honored to be at a place where so many great minds had gathered, where wisdom was abundant.

While being impressed, it did not escape my attention that the general atmosphere was rather pompous. I was struck with the fact that I was at a gathering of Christians, yet each person merely seemed to be pushing their own findings and views. The speakers were introduced to us by their accomplishments—nothing new of course, but all of the sudden, it seemed wrong. There was no discussion of each person’s heartfelt commitment to Christ. If we could tell by their speeches that they were Christians, that was great, but it wasn’t explicit. There was a huge emphasis on having the right ideas, as if that was all that was important.

I was disturbed with the attitude of, “As long as we have the right doctrine the right words, that’s all that matters.” In class, I have learned that this attitude is called doctrinalism. The way we live our lives is still called to be in line with Scripture, not just our thoughts. Our thoughts cannot save us.

The only thing that can save us is Christ, and although that may cause us to eat an extra large serving of humble pie, it is the truth. I would agree that it is important to have the right doctrine, the Apostle Paul even tells us this in his letters, but in some instances, we forget how equally important it is to live our lives in accordance with God’s will. Not only do our minds need to be transformed, but our lives also.

At the Stone Lectures this past week, I learned that:

• We have much to learn in comparison to the many scholars present, but also that we need to acknowledge that God is the beginning of all wisdom. As Job so eloquently states, “The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.” Job 28:28

TRUTH continued from page 4

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may even plant a seed of doubt in their minds about their religion. If this is the case, we would be holding the key to their salvation.

How can we say that truth is relative, even if it is out of fear? Why don’t we understand that even with this statement of Christ’s—with this truth he has given us—there is no compromise? Don’t we understand that truth is not something that should be taken lightly? Unbelievers that we let by—people who believe in a false religion, who hear the truth but don’t get any help to understand it, and/or who believe that truth is relative—are in a life and death situation. If we Christians who know the truth don’t share it with unbelievers, we are guilty of helping seal their eternal damnation. We let them go to Hell, while we get to spend the rest of the ages with Christ.

Absolute truth is a gift to us from God; it is something we cannot ignore. When we make absolute truth relative, we call Jesus a liar. We all know Jesus can’t lie. No matter how much we run from our fear by making truth relative, Jesus and God still exist, and they are the very definition of truth. No one can deny that.

Mikal Lanlnga
The Great Job Hunt

Theatre Students Act Out the "Drama of Their Lives" as They Search for Jobs

By Grant Elgersma Staff Reporter

As the Dordt student actors end the theatre production, the final scene of the one-act play of "The Lost Room of Deeds," they are singing a song of farewell to the audience. That is why we take our leave," are the final words returning to the students' thoughts as the final set of theatre students realize that stepping out into the world of work may be just as daunting as stepping out into a void.

Many students who have chosen to pursue non-professional careers in fields such as theatre arts fear that society does not value their major field of interest. Jason Van Der Veen wants to fulfill his calling in the theatre but admits that "there's a bigger job market for social workers, business majors, and computer science majors than there are for artists, history, and theatre," major Jason Van Der Veen says. "When people think of arts, they think of arts. But theatre," he had previously studied with an emphasis on acting in theatre. Therefore, if you can do theatre, it's about talent and performance.

Although it may take more time outside of class to establish the skills and performance that are necessary for success, the extra work seems well worth it for both of these students. "I know I have a calling from God," Josh says. "I don't want to wake up one day in a regular job and say I never took the chance to become what I've always dreamed of being," Jason also senses a calling from God in his dream to be a theatre. "I feel like I've been called to the ministry," Jason says. "But I found out that my ministry is not going to be through the church, but through the theatre.

One of the possibilities for me, reaching those dreams? "I'll have to get a job as a writer," jokes Jason. "You know," he continues. "A wise man once said, 'Never have anything in your back pocket.'"

PREPARING FOR AN INTERVIEW

1. Research the company
2. Know the time and place of the interview
3. Think of possible questions
4. Always dress professionally
5. Know what is expected of you
6. Learn as much as possible about the interviewer
7. Have all needed items with you--recommendations, resumes, transcripts, etc.

Seniors Struggle to Find Time for Job Hunting

By Shawn Gregg Staff Reporter

There are a lot of buzzed about job hunting, with the majority of the SSB students. These people are seniors who have been in the room before. At least one of them, Andy, had actually started writing letters. She also had written more than one resume. Andy has had four versions of her resume, the latest of which is a community college major with an emphasis in radio broadcasting. She has accompanied this with a major in theatre. She is taking this co-op course for two reasons: to help her because "she is important in both of these areas," and because she is planning on developing alternative choices than she would if she only had the communication major.

Koning said she is not really sure what she wants to do and she is concerned about the recession. She is "more worried about the location." She is not sure that she will be able to find a job in northwest Iowa. Koning does not know if she wants to pull up her roots and plant somewhere else. She does not want to find a place to live and transportation.

Van Hulzen would rather stay in northwest Iowa where she knows people and people know her. "I was really excited," said Van Hulzen. Van Hulzen is not too worried about finding a job either. However, his wife Alecia is. "There are too many jobs," he said. Van Hulzen said he has told her to just find a job because people have talked to have said that it might take two to three years to find a job in his area.

Van Hulzen would prefer not to live in northwest Iowa. His first choice is Denver, Colorado. "I'm not sure that that idea is going to work." Right now, he is looking in Des Moines as well. He is going to go to some interviews during the upcoming co-op trip. He is interested in some of the companies, including the Des Moines Register and the Public Accounting exam soon as well. He said about the top fifty percent of accounting students who are taking his test this semester are "everywhere those pass." He is looking forward to taking the test and to paying for it.

Senior Josh Vander Top is an engineering major. He too is looking for a job. "It sucks" with all he said. "I am working on a senior design project for engineering." Koning is involved in many activities, including the orchestra, theatre production along with choir and voice classes. She also writes for the school newspaper, the "Pine Tree," for three acts in the talent show.

Common complaint among seniors is that they just don't have time to look for work. "I'm working on a job in some kind of technology. I can't see how it helps that these seniors not go anywhere. It is simply one more thing they have to do.

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By: Jessica Vanderweit
Staff Reporter

By the time students reach their senior year at Dordt, some things should be clear: where to search for jobs, how to search for jobs, and what weaknesses and strengths they have to offer when looking for a job.

Students often begin preparing for graduation and finding a job early in their senior year. Although graduation is an important event, two common questions of a college senior are "What have you been studying?" and "What do you plan on doing with that particular degree?"

According to Jo Faber, the Placement Office helps instruct students on putting together a resume and on steps to take toward getting a job. They also assist students by scheduling campus interviews for recruiting companies. Through the Placement Office, files of student credentials are put together and sent to employers at the requested students. Fortunately for Dordt students, these files are kept indefinitely.

Andy Laaman, a senior electrical engineering major, contacted the Dordt Placement Office in the first weeks of the first semester of his senior year. So far, Andy has had one interview set up through the Placement Office but he says, "It's not to Placement Office's responsibility to find a job for you."

Andy has also contacted four companies on his own and is waiting for a response.

Graduate school is another option seniors are considering. For these students, the Placement Office provided research information on graduate schools in a variety of disciplines.

The Placement Office helped senior mechanical engineering major Dan Adkins organize his letters of recommendation for graduate school. However, Adkins says "applying for graduate study is a time-consuming and painstaking process of which the Placement Office is unable to much help."

Dordt has a reputation of very good placement for students within their major. According to Jo Faber, "Ninety-seven to ninety-eight percent of students within their majors are within six months of graduation. Eighty-five to eighty-seven percent of these are within the students' majors."

But what about a senior who isn't sure what type of career he or she wants?

The Placement Report compiled by Faber shows that this is particularly a problem for those studying theater arts or art who don't want to teach. It is also very difficult for social work and psychology majors who are not interested in graduate school to know what career opportunities are available.

In 1997, only 60 percent of theater arts majors were placed in jobs within their major. 25 percent of art majors (of which there were four graduates), and 66.7 percent of social work and psychology majors.

However, these students should not lose hope. The sixth page of the college course handbook includes a paragraph describing the education received at Dordt College: "A core curriculum of various academic disciplines, such as language, natural sciences, and social sciences, make up the foundation of every student's education at Dordt College. The education received at Dordt College is a liberal arts education, therefore every student has been provided with a basis to develop effective analytical and communication skills, as a result of the study of theology, philosophy, and the arts. Together, these round out the B.A. degree in a specific area. Whether or not a student finds a job through Dordt College or elsewhere, he or she can be assured that the whole education process was valuable. A Dordt College education is available in looking for a career and providing an education with a strong knowledge base."

"Don't call us... we'll call you."

www.findingajobonline.com

If you look up the word "job" on the internet, you'll get over 2,065,445 job-related sites. For those of you who don't know where to begin, here's a list compiled by Job Choices magazine that should help you get started.

- JobWeb: (http://www.jobweb.org) is the home page of the National Association of Colleges and Employers. Among other services, you will find an employer directory of career and internship opportunities, job postings that can be searched by keyword, job search information and guidance, and information on the current job market.
- Career Path: (http://www.careerpath.com) provides classified ads from the Boston Globe, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Washington Post, and the San Jose Mercury.
- Dunn & Bradstreet: (http://dbsna.com/dbus/jobs/vjobhunt.htm) provides job search tips.
- Monster Board: (http://www.monster.com) offers a variety of hypertext links to job search resources and connections to job listings.
- Online Career Center: (http://www.occ.com/occ/) is a job search home page sponsored by employer organizations and includes info on companies and job listings.
- E-SPAN: (http://www.espan.com/) offers employer and job search information, and job listings.
Dordt men lose in SDIC playoff finals to Black Hills State

by Craig Broek
Sports Reporter

It all came down to the last week of the season for Dordt. Win one--have a shot at the playoffs. The men did win and made the South Dakota-Iowa Conference playoffs for the third straight year.

The Defenders began the week on the road at the top team in the conference, Mount Marty. Dordt lost the previous meeting between the two teams by one point in overtime. This game wasn't quite as close, as the men lost on the road, 88-79, forcing a must-win situation at home on Saturday, February 21, for the Homecoming game. Dordt played well most of the day against the Tigers, nearly faltering down the stretch, but pulling away for the victory, 75-71.

Later that night the Defenders got some help as Mount Marty beat Sioux Falls. That allowed Dordt to slip into the fourth playoff spot, forcing a rematch from the previous week.

Dordt 69, Mount Marty 66

Last Saturday the Defenders traveled to Yankton, South Dakota, to take on the Mount Marty Lancers in the first round of SDIC tournament play. Mount Marty, having won the regular season conference title, was the heavy favorite, also having beaten Dordt twice in the year.

The game was back and forth early, as Dordt stayed within five points for most of the first half. Mount Marty opened the second half and their lead ballooned to as much as 13 points, but Dordt still hung around.

With about two minutes to play, Dordt took their first lead of the second half on a three pointer by Brad Veenstra. The Mount got the ball back, took it down court and wound the shot clock down. A pass was made, but Veenstra tipped and recovered it, raced down to the other end and dunked the ball and got fouled. Veenstra hit the free throw, giving Dordt a four point lead with less than a minute to play.

The Dordt faithful was on its collective feet as it seemed like the game was in the bag. However, the Defenders failed to connect on two front ends of the one and one bonus, giving the Lancers three chances to cut the lead. After the second miss, Mount Marty took the ball down and made a shot and was fouled, giving them a three point play to pull within one point.

With :10 seconds left Ross Bouma was fouled and sent to the line for two free throws. He made them both, giving Dordt a three point lead. Mount Marty called time out to set up their final play. The inbound pass was tipped out of bounds by Mike Fransman, and the Lancers had to reload with about seven seconds left. This time they got the ball inbounds, and got an open three point shot, but it wouldn't go down and Dordt came away with the huge upset win.

Veenstra came to play as he scored 25 points, nine in the last two minutes.

Editor's Note:
Black Hills State 89, Dordt 69

The win over Mount Marty put Dordt in the SDIC championship game Tuesday night for a chance at the national tournament. The Defenders were one the road again, this time in Spearfish, South Dakota. But the men couldn't overcome the hostile environment, dropping a tough 89-69 decision.

Dordt came out strong, jumping to an 11-21 lead just four minutes into the game. But the Yellow Jackets scored the next eight to pull within one, 11-10. The Defenders then set to work and rebuilding their cushion, working to 29-21 by half time through the midway. The second half was characterized by Dordt trying to break back into the game and the Yellow Jackets hitting the shots to keep the Defenders out. Dordt pilled to within seven midway through the period, 60-53. But the Jackets had the answer. Their defense kept Dordt cool for much of the game. They couldn't overcome the hostile environment, dropping a tough 89-69 decision.

On the Road - Nationals and Washington

by Karen den Boer
Sports Reporter

Last weekend, February 27 and 28, five Dordt men set two school records at the National Indoor Track and Field Championships in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Out of 31 teams from across the nation, Jeff Summerhays, Ron Kingma, Jassen De Weerd, and Scott De Weerd placed 18th in the 3200 meter relay with a time of 7:55.71.

In the distance medley relay, Steve Holwerda, Summerhays, Kingma and De Weerd, came in 15th out of 33 teams with a time of 10:23.45.

The times were an improvement over practice times, but the men had hoped to become All-Americans by making it to the top six. So although they had cause to be pleased, they were also slightly disappointed.

Prior to the national meet, there was the South Dakota-Iowa Conference Meet on February 21 for both the men and women. Cathy Palmer won the 400 meter event and Kingma won the 800 meter event.

Right on the horizon for the team is the spring break trip to Washington. Thirty-two of the forty-three team members are going with four adults accompanying them.

The team will travel to Washington state and compete in 12 meets there. Practicing will occupy part of their time, while they will also get in some sight-seeing in the milder climate. Also on the agenda is a service project, working with Habitat for Humanity on a house in the area. The team will stay at homes in Tacoma, Lynden and Mount Vernon, where quite a few team members live.

Best wishes to the team members in their meets and service project during spring break.

DORDT MEN continued on page 12
Lady Defenders make SDIC playoffs

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

The Blades closed out their 1997-98 campaign 12 days ago, after a pair of lopsided games against Mankato State. Friday night the team looked tight, and fell behind 5-0 after the first. Although things improved after that, they lost 8-2.

Mark Bekkering was their strongest player that night, hitting everything that moved and working hard all night long.

Saturday was a total difference. The team came out strong, scoring five goals in the opening period and holding on for a 9-5 win. Everyone played really well, and goalie Tim Hoogland made some big saves. Hoogland gave way to new back-up goalie John Buzeman near the end of the second period, and Buzeman used his Hasek-like style to rob Mankato a number of times. He was on a serious roll when he pulled an inner thigh muscle dropping off the bench to convert a three point play with 1:20 remaining to put the Lady Defenders up 9-5.

The women closed out their scoring with four free throws to clinch the win, 63-58. The victory put Dordt in control of playoff hopes.

Lisa Roos finished with a team high 13 points and 12 rebounds. Cherylyn Dykstra also hit a double double with ten points and ten boards. Two other women hit double doubles in scoring. Lori Roos scored 12 points and Carla Geleynse added 11.

The Lady Defenders shot 44% for the game and held Mount Marty to 30%. Dordt also out-rebounded the Lady Lancers, 49-32.

Dordt 72, Dakota Wesleyan 52

The women hosted the Lady Tigers as part of Homecoming activities and didn’t disappoint the home crowd. Dordt pulled out to an 18-4 advantage and never looked back. Dakota Wesleyan never got back within in single digits as Dordt coasted to the 20-point win, clinching a playoff spot.

“We did a lot of things right, and that results in a win,” said Coach Len Rhoda.

Lisa Roos led the way again with 18 points and 12 rebounds. Geleynse led the team in boards with 15 and added ten assists. Senior Lynette Roos hit for 12 counters in her final home game for Dordt.

The Lady Defenders shot 44% for the game, including hitting a couple of three pointers. The defense was again solid, holding Dakota Wesleyan to 33%. Dordt finished with a whopping 24 assists and out-rebounded the Lady Tigers 52-39.

South Dakota Tech 63, Dordt 59

Dordt moved into the playoffs and played on the road last Saturday against the top team in the SDIC and the sixth-ranked team in the nation. The Lady Defenders lost in overtime to South Dakota Tech in Rapid City, South Dakota, in January but lost by 19 at home just three weeks ago. The Lady Defenders stepped it up on the road again this time, leading most of the game before slipping to a four-point loss.

A quick start was the key for Dordt, as the women jumped out 11-6. With 7:12 remaining in the half, Lisa Roos converted her second three point play to put the Lady Defenders up 23-16. The points also pushed Roos over the 1,000 point mark in her junior year at Dordt.

The Lady Hardrockers scored the next six points to pull within one but the Lady Defenders still kept the lead. Minutes later, however, Tech scored four straight for its first lead of the game, 31-30. But Dykstra hit a bucket shot with 1:20 left to seal the win, 59-52.

Leeuwen could often be found guassing up his hours, finding recruits and updating team statistics. Brent Smeenk assisted Jeff Vandermeer in running the practices. Jason Visser led the team through pre-season conditioning drills. Jeremy Huygen has been around longer than anyone affiliated with the team, and it would be fitting for him to have the last word. Unfortunately, I can’t find him, and I’m running out of time. So maybe I’ll just have to sum it up for him. He might not be the most skilled player on the team, and he won’t likely win the MVP award, but in spite of that, in the eyes of the casual fan, he might be the most recognizable Blade. And a note of thanks must also go out to him for the work he did with the team these last three years; one as a coach and two as a player and a coach.

Lastly, I would like to officially announce my retirement as the hockey guy. It’s been a great three years covering the team, and I would do it again in a secod! But there’s a new generation of Blades coming in next year, and it’s fitting that there will be a new hockey guy covering them. So for the last time, this is the hockey guy. Goodbye from ice level. Take care, eh.
Ideas to Combat Weekend Monotony
by Jessica Vanderwerff
Staff Writer

Are you at a loss for something to do this weekend? Try something different, like baking or knitting. Take a trip to the City of the Week, Sioux Falls. South Dakota. Here's some advice for a weekend that will have you good time and experience.

- Entree price at Spezia is $10.00 and attire is dressy-casual. If you like pasta... Joen Moss
- The Good Person of Setzuan, which is based on a Chinese folk-tale. The lead woman in the production (played by Joanne Kim) portrayed both the role of a virtuous woman (Shen Te) and the part of a man (Shui Ta) in the dog-eat-dog world. According to the production notes, "Brecht wanted to use this play to challenge our ideas of social and economic justice." The play consisted of thirty-one actors whose acting and singing made it a great production. Of the people I talked to, almost all of them said that they thoroughly enjoyed the play. Some said that it was over their heads, but that didn't mean that they didn't enjoy the great costumes (especially the three gods) and the excellent acting. A few, however, thought that it was not right to portray gods and whores in a play by Bertolt Brecht.

Good Person thought provoking
by Sara Treick
Staff Writer

Last week Friday was the opening of Bertolt Brecht's play, "The Good Person of Setzuan," which is based on a Chinese folk-tale. The lead woman in the production (played by Joanne Kim) portrayed both the role of a virtuous woman (Shen Te) and the part of a man (Shui Ta) in the dog-eat-dog world. According to the production notes, "Brecht wanted to use this play to challenge our ideas of social and economic justice." The play consisted of thirty-one actors whose acting and singing made it a great production. Of the people I talked to, almost all of them said that they thoroughly enjoyed the play. Some said that it was over their heads, but that didn't mean that they didn't enjoy the great costumes (especially the three gods) and the excellent acting. A few, however, thought that it was not right to portray gods and whores in a play by Bertolt Brecht.

The articles above and to the right show that opinions are varied.

- Was the Good Person worth watching?
- Is it appropriate to use pagan theology to reveal a truth about society?

E-mail diamond@dordt.edu

Letter to the Community

Good Person not so good

Dear Community,

We live in a world today that is inundated with the effects of other religions. Most religions have a positive nature to them. They push for a world that is good and perfect. They claim we live in a world where good and evil are two equal and opposite forces. The Yen and Yang symbol for example, suggests that good and evil are not only equal and opposite, but there is also a little bad in all good and a little good in all bad. This is the thinking that pervades our society.

Buddhism is a fast growing religion in our country. It is gaining new converts even from Christian society. Most converts think that Christianity is too narrow-minded, and we need to accept other possibilities. I am happy that I had the opportunity to attend a college where we knew better. As Christians, we know that God is all-powerful and that He is perfectly good. We know that He is the one and only true God and that His son Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. That is why I was saddened to see a large write up in my local newspaper on how my college was doing a play that had three Chinese gods as its main characters. In Isaiah 46:9 God says, "I am God, and there is none like me." We, as Christians, shouldn't even play with the idea that there are other gods. We know better and to do so can only help these Buddhist and other religions recruit our Christian youth.

I know that the play made some good points about living a good life in a bad world. But, the mean to the end was hurtful to the audience. It suggested that an evil character can help make everything good. It helps to perpetuate that notion that evil is necessary in our society and that we need to expand our thinking. I would like to know, is it necessary to use bad theology to make a good point, especially in a Christian college? I hope that in the future, my college can help spread Christ's message instead of the world's.

Yours in Christ,

Randy Boer,
Class of '92
Boogie Nights: Art and pornography
by Grant Eigersma
Art Critic

These days the dividing line between art and pornography is about as thin as the average Calvin Klein model.

Recently released films such as The People vs. Larry Flynt, Lost Highway, and Boogie Nights contribute to the blurred line of division as filmmakers use the world of pornography as a setting for their art. Packaged within the world of eroticism and sexual fantasy, serious and profound issues such as the right to free speech, male fears and fantasies, and the human search for identity are easier to swallow, even more powerfully expressed.

By setting his latest film, Boogie Nights, at the center of the pornography industry, writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson is able to discuss one of the biggest issues in political discourse today: family values. Granted, the values this makeshift family of porn stars adhere to may not meet the approval of Dr. Dobson, but the humanity of their individual searches for identity is still very real.

We are introduced to the pornography world of the late 1970’s when 17 year-old Eddie Adams (Mark Wahlberg) leaves his home and a violently disapproving mother in search of people who will accept him for the “bright and shining star” he knows himself to be. Jack Horner (Burt Reynolds), director of adult films, recognizes Eddie’s “hidden talent” for making porno pictures and accepts him into the fold.

Throughout the film, we meet several intriguing characters who have found acceptance and a sense of importance in the pornography business. They are the misfits in society, people whose behavior and special gifts are not appreciated anywhere else but in a family of pornographers. What they would be doing on the street for barely any money they can do within the confines of the porn industry for thousands of dollars.

And fame. One of the most telling and humorous scenes in the movie shows Eddie Adams, now Dirk Diggler, accepting an award at the adult films’ award ceremony. Experiencing a truly great moment for the rising star, Eddie makes a speech about his aspirations for the adult film industry. He urges those present to keep striving to make porn films better and better. Thestaggers audience with an up-front display of how porn is made as if the task they are engaged in were on par with saving the world.

What gives this scene even more potency is the way it calls to mind the various award ceremonies of like-minded industries, particularly that of Hollywood’s Academy Awards. Here is where the line of division between art and pornography becomes a line of common ground instead. The newest rash of motion pictures dealing with pornographic subject matter so vividly that if the task they are engaged in were on par with saving the world.

What gives this scene even more potency is the way it calls to mind the various award ceremonies of like-minded industries, particularly that of Hollywood’s Academy Awards. Here is where the line of division between art and pornography becomes a line of common ground instead. The newest rash of motion pictures dealing with pornographic subject matter is not so abnormal. For as long as there have been motion pictures, the task of movies has been to titillate the viewer. However, when a film asks the viewer (in a nuanace way) to question what it is to be human in this world, it becomes more than just film pornography.

Hollywood’s growing ability to identify with the struggles and aspirations of the pornography business is great for the pornographic subject matter. The movie is a commentary on the selflessness of the American people and the implications it has on the preconceptions of future generations. Also, one of Plumb’s interesting takes on relationships is “West Point.”

Boogie Nights focuses even more on relationships in the most recent album entitled Ten Cent Wings. Although this is a solo album, many of the same vocalists and musicians are involved, and, like the other three albums, it was produced by Alaine Mallett. Though one of the best albums musically, the lyrical genius is not quite as pervasive as ten cent wings. In focusing on romantic relationships so much, Boogie provides some of the most profound observations. The movie has made on other subjects. Despite its inability to stand up to The Angel in the House (which is, if you haven’t noticed, the standard by which all others are judged), Ten Cent Wings is still a great album and can definitely stand on its own. With its interesting rhythm and smooth, easy vocals, “Because I Told You So” is one song that stands out.

Although you’re most likely to find The Angel in the House or Broke’s albums in a big record store that carries everything, it’s not necessary to pay $17 or $18 dollars for them (even though they’re more expensive). I’ve found that at record shops or in their albums in second-hand CD stores, you can keep your eyes open, you can probably get a great album for only a couple bucks. Like the Rhine’s style, the sound appealed to you. The movie probably won’t disappoint you.

Tomorrow Never Dies dies halfway through
by James Van Dyk
Art Critic

Over Christmas break I decided to take in a movie that I had not done in a long time. I must admit that my companions and I had our hearts set on seeing Titanic. I really wanted to see all those computer generated people go flying. When we arrived at the theatre, however, the line for Titanic was so long that in encircled the mall twice. For those of you who are unfamiliar with my local mall that roughly the equivalent of a line from the B building to the T building in east campus and back again. So we opted for the new 007 flick.

Not that I am a hater of James Bond, far from it, but who will ever replace Sean Connery? Plus I had also found Goldenege to be a big disappointment. So I must admit that I was surprised to find myself liking the opening of the movie. It had a nice pace and there were some excellent action sequences and camera shots. The movie kept this up for about 45 minutes and then it crashed and burned. The end was so pathetic and poorly written that I kept checking my watch to see how much more I had to sit through. The bulk of the problem was the villain who was played by an actor whom I had never seen before. This was probably because he is a horrible actor. On the up side Tomorrow is light years better than Goldenege, but only for the first 45 minutes.
Dordt men finish 15-13

by taller Tigers after this blocked shot.

DORDT MEN continued from page 8

over four minutes and keyed a 13-4 streak which rebuilt the lead to 73-57 with 5:39 to go.

The Defenders scored the next five to get back within 11 points, but that was as close as the men would get. Black Hills State scored the next six to lead 79-62 with two minutes to play. Then it was showboat time for the Yellow Jackets as they took the airplay to the rim for a couple of dunks. With the buzzer ending the year for the Defenders, Black Hills State advanced with the 89-69 win.

Bouma led the Defenders in scoring in last game in a Dordt uniform. The senior netted 17 points and finished with 1,004 points in his career. Veenstra totaled 12 points in his Dordt finale. Oostra had a team high five rebounds and five assists. Mike Elenbaas had four steals.

Dordt shot 44% from the floor including a solid 7-18 from outside. But Black Hills State hit on 62% of its shots including 11-23 from three point land. Travis Traphagen did the major damage with a game high 25 points and seven treys.

"We knew they (Yellow Jackets) were capable of having games like that," said Coach Greg Van Soelen. "The final outcome is disappointing because we've been a better team than that the last few weeks."

The Defenders were out-rebounded 25-18.

Dordt graduates three seniors from this year's 15-13 team-Ross Bouma, Brad Veenstra and Troy Van Essen.

"It's never easy for the seniors," said Coach Van Soelen. "But they'll move on. They're quality kids-good Christian young men."

DORDT WOMEN continued from page 9

before halftime to put Dordt back on top at the break, 32-31.

"We had them on their heels," said Coach Rhoda. "We came out in a man-to-man. The switch (from zone) gave them problems."

South Dakota Tech scored first in the second half, but the Lady Defenders answered with a 9-2 run to take a 40-35 lead. After the teams traded buckets, Dordt cashed in a three pointer to take its biggest lead of the second half, 45-39 with just over ten minutes left.

But the women then went cold from the floor. The Hardrockers weren't hitting many shots either, but scored the next six points to tie the game at 45-45 with about seven minutes left to play.

With cool shooting continuing for both teams, Tech pushed to a 53-51 lead when Dordt called a timeout with 1:59 remaining. The Lady Defenders came out and scored on a pair of free throws to tie the game.

The teams then traded two points all the way to a 59-59 tie. Tech came back on offense and pounded the ball down low and got a bucket with .04 seconds left.

Dordt called a timeout and looked to get the ball to half court to set up a better play. But the pass to Lisa Roos was tipped loose and picked up by the Hardrockers' Kori Hoff. She was quickly fouled with :02 to go, but the All-American hit both free throws to ice the game.

The Lady Defenders came back with a half court shot which missed, and suffered the season-ending 63-59 loss.

"The key really was that six minute stretch where we couldn't get a basket," said Rhoda. "It allowed them (South Dakota Tech) to get back into the game."

Geleynse led the team with 16 points. Lisa Roos added 14 counts, 11 caroms and three blocks. With the points, Roos finishes with 1,010 points after just three years as a Lady Defender. Heather Broekhuis dished out seven assists.

Dordt did a good job of handling Tech's tough defense, committed only 14 turnovers. But the women shot only 34% from the floor. The Hardrockers were 1-19 from three point range, but hit 50% from inside the arc.

The difference in the game was at the free throw line. Dordt made only ten trips, going 8-10. Tech hit on 20 of 26 attempts.

"It was a loss that's disappointing," said Rhoda, "because we played so well. But it was a great year for us."

The Lady Defenders close out the season with a 15-13 regular season and 8-6 regular season SDIC mark. Dordt will lose only two seniors, Cherlyn Dykstra and Lynette Roos.

Ready for the diamond sports?
That's right. Baseball, softball, tennis and outdoor track are right around the corner.
Previews and spring break coverage are coming in the next issue of the Diamond.