Women's team takes title

by Amy Ruter
Sports Reporter

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Surprise! Clinton in for second term

by Kevin Mass
Staff Reporter

Despite the lowest voter turnout since 1924 and a disinterested general public, the 1996 elections still happened Tuesday. The 49% of the eligible voters that showed up at the voting booths were enough to elect President Clinton to a second term.

The Democratic incumbent won 31 states, capturing 379 electoral votes. His Republican challenger, Bob Dole, came out on top in 19 states with a total of 159 electoral votes.

The popular vote, which the American electoral system doesn't depend on, was 49.5% to 41.7% in favor of Clinton. Reform Party candidate Perot, considerably less popular than in 1992, received only 8.9% of all votes.

Things didn't change too radically in Congress either. The Republicans held onto the control they gained in 1994, and picked up two seats in the Senate. Although they lost nine seats in the House of Representatives, the Republicans still retain a 227-206 advantage.

Medallion muddle cleared up

by Sonya Jongma
and Marla Kamerman
Staff Reporters

After the appearance of a shiny presidential medallion so heavy that it took two administrators to put it on, gossip was rife. Abundant questions begged an equal number of speculations. Was it solid gold? Did tuition dollars pay for it? What was its purpose anyway?

The rumor circulated that the medallion was gold-plated. Student Forum members were under the impression that it was gold-plated, as was President Zylstra himself.

The president was not part of the decision to purchase the medallion. The only thing he could say with certainty was that the Board ordered it. He added, "I don't think it's solid gold. I would have to have an armed guard if it was." With all this confusion, the Diamond wanted to further investigate the metallic make-up of the medallion before publishing a retraction of its assertion that it is solid gold.

According to the minutes of a Board meeting, "After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve purchase of a five-inch, 10 karat gold medallion." So, the medallion is not pure gold (24 karat) but yes, it is solid.

According to Board of Trustees president Mark Sybesma, "It is solid gold." Sybesma said gift income to the college financed the medallion. "I know one thing for sure: it was not taken from the general fund or from students' tuition money," he said.

That still leaves the question of why the medallion was purchased. According to Sybesma, many colleges have some sort of medallion that the president "wears at official academic functions as a symbol of the trust placed in Dr. Zylstra and his office through the academic and special way," he said. "The medallion is a symbol of the authority of the office of president, of the trust placed in Dr. Zylstra and his office through God's people and from God. As such a symbol, the board felt it should be represented in a significant way."

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Students live and learn in Chicago

by Charity Lopes Staff Reporter

Spending three years on a small, isolated campus such as ours has a tendency to leave the average student yearning for variety. You can only spend so many weekends exploring Sioux Falls and Sioux City for thrift stores or cool coffee houses before you realize that predictability is inevitable.

Off-campus study programs start looking good to juniors and seniors who are ready for a change and a taste of the real world outside the city limits of Sioux Center. The Chicago Metropolitan Program is one possibility open to juniors and seniors who are looking for work experience in their major field, experience adapting to a new city and a taste—of how life after college will proceed.

The Chicago Met Program has been in existence for 18 years. The program holds the endorsement of Dordt and participation of other Christian colleges.

Under the Chicago Met Program, students are given opportunities to work in internship situations with organizations such as First Chicago National Bank, Austrian Airlines, Cook County Juvenile Court, and Shedd Aquarium. While working in Chicago, students are required to take a class through the Metropolitan Center which gives them a chance to associate with other students in the program and a chance to talk about their internships. Students live in the city with roommates and learn to use public transportation under the close eye of Chicago Met staff.

During the semester, students attend plays, concerts and museums together and participate in discussions of culture relating to their faith. Most of the Chicago Met Program in the past has it as the best semester of their college careers.

Students study abroad

Students intern in DC

by Sarah Bliss Staff Reporter

Ever wanted to rub elbows with Bill Clinton? Thought about working at the Smithsonian? Want to major, but I never thought I could work in Washington. Where can I learn more about this?

Well, you just need to stop by the political science offices, where you can pick up a brochure and an application.

Juniors to study in England

by Paula Treck Staff Reporter

"I wanted to study abroad, but I'm monolingual," says Stephanie Brown.

"Going to Europe has been my goal since birth, or close to it," admits Sarah Bliss.

Together the junior English majors, who also happen to be roommates and friends, are packing their allotted two suitcases and heading off to England in January for a stay of 4 1/2 months. No.

Dordt does not have an English studies program, but that did not deter these wild adventurers. The semester in Britain program is headed by that other college, Calvin, which has relations to Oak Hill College in London.

Marianne Walters, an English professor from Calvin, will be teaching two mandatory courses—Studies in British Culture and a Shakespearean literature class.

Oak Hill is actually a theological seminary, so Bliss and Brown will also have to take two theology classes. The class schedule is a bit different from the typical Dordt syllabus. There are no tests or quizzes until the end of the semester, when each class has a huge final.

Both agree that the most exciting part is their three-week spring break, during which they plan to tour Europe. "My goal is to buy a sweater from Scotland," Bliss said.

Although both say they will miss their friends and loving roommates, as well some birthdays and graduations, they are looking forward to visitors, as well as having their own rooms. Two phone lines for the weekend form a greater story, according to Brown.

Nevertheless, they have promised to keep in touch. God bless, Stephanie and Sarah! See you next fall!

Students intern in DC

by Charity Lopes Staff Reporter

"I'm not a political science major," you might protest.

"That's no excuse," I would promptly reply. "Any major is eligible for the American Studies Program. You need to apply early, though."

A total of 40 students per semester is accepted into the program from the entire Coalition for Christian Colleges. Approximately two students from Dordt go each semester. Because of the small numbers accepted, competition is high. Donald King, political science professor, recommends that his students turn in their applications for the spring semester as early as possible, even though the due date is October 15. Fortunately, most Dordt students who apply are accepted. Junior Nathaniel Zylstra is studying in D.C. this fall.

From working with a Dordt graduate turned lawyer to working at the Smithsonian or CNN, internships are everywhere in Washington, D.C. Besides working, interns also take two mini-courses that last five weeks each and cover both international and domestic current issues. Sometimes the entire group is even taken to State Department briefings. After learning about spotted owls, one group visited a Department of the Interior meeting.

"Wow!" you say. "This sounds cool. I'm an art major, but I never thought I could work in Washington. Where can I learn more about this?"

Well, you just need to stop by the political science offices, where you can pick up a brochure and an application.

Hands-on learning in Holland

by Charly Laatman Assistant Editor

The Netherland's SPICE program extends the campus which so many students complain lies sheltered in conservative Northwest Iowa. Students on the program are taught in the classrooms of Amsterdam's Free University but their learning takes place in a wide variety of other surroundings, too.

The initial four-week stay with host families gives a true taste of day-to-day Dutch life. Excursions to the Rijksmuseum, home of Rembrandt's famous Nightwatch, and the Van Gogh Museum are just two of the supplements to the course in Dutch art.

The history course comes alive with trips to a medieval castle, tours of centuries-old churches, a stop at a Rembrandt exhibit and a visit to the Van Gogh Museum.

Junior Lora Byker participated in last spring's program. For me, she says, "One of the best parts of Netherland's SPICE was to have hands-on learning where our classroom was actually the museums, the cities."

Changes in location, frequency, and administration have taken place since SPICE began in the early seventies as a Trinity College program, but its mission has remained the same. The program seeks to introduce students to the cultural heritage of the Netherlands and to the way the country operates in contemporary Europe.

Byker says that she learned about more than the Netherlands and its people during her semester there. In studying overseas, she said, "We got to see America through another culture's eyes."

Dr. Boot tries out the operating table of the Amsterdam replica in a museum.
Freshmen pleased with curfew change

by Kristin Sybesma
Staff Reporter

The freshman class has been freed from the confines of a curfew for a little over two weeks. Most East and North Hall residents seem very pleased by this fact. As one freshman stated, "I will be very, very, very, very sad if they bring curfew back."

Of course the freedom to do what you please is extremely nice, and an integral part of college life.

But most freshmen realize that there was some value in a curfew at the beginning of the year. Adjusting to the new responsibilities and distractions of college was much easier with a curfew to keep us inside.

One freshman girl said, "I think that they have found the perfect solution in having a curfew only in the first quarter."

By now, freshmen have settled into a routine, and during the week do not stay out drastically late.

Though security understandably gets a bit annoyed at having to let people into the dorms all night, they haven't noticed any major problems or abnormal vandalism.

"The biggest change is all the couples wandering around," said Lisa Johnson, the security guard who let me into East Hall last night. Most freshmen have kept their grades up as well.

As a freshman, I too will be very, very, very sad if curfew is reinstated. So let's keep it up, and keep curfew off!

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Grade Point Average

Are grades a good reflection of what you learn?

Jenny De Jongh
Freshman
Pipestone, MN

"Sometimes I feel like I try a lot harder than what my grades show. I often feel like my grades don't do justice to how much I've studied."

Heidi Peterson
Sophomore
New Brighton, MN

"A lot of people can cram right before a test, and then afterwards forget what they've learned. Learning comes with understanding. You can get an A and still not have truly learned."

Sean Gregg
Sophomore
Middletown, PA

"I think they're usually a pretty good reflection, but sometimes not. For example, in Comm 110, I'm getting a B, but my own public speaking process has improved greatly because of the class."

Karen Scholten
Senior
Ripon, CA

"I studied my butt off for my last accounting test, and I still got a 35 percent. Hello! What does that tell you?"
Praise and Worship, not Play and Goof Off

I love to go to Praise and Worship on Wednesday nights. (That time a few weeks back when we sang while the lightening flashed outside was truly awesome.) I love seeing my friends there, and I love taking a break to just think about nothing else but praising God.

And yet, somehow I always end up sitting by the few people whose first intent, it seems to be, is to goof off. I'm sorry, but you can't sincerely sing "Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God" and throw sofa cushions at the same time.

Now, I'm not saying that Praise and Worship has to be a formal church service-type event where hymns are good. But so is praising the Lord in an informal get-together with fellow students and friends. And while it doesn't have to be formal, it still should be respectful.

When we call God near to listen to our praises and saying to Him?

... Everybody now: K-BYE.

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**A Room With a View: D7 Speaks Out**

Paula: In response to the famed Y-Chromosome Naked Nude Nuts (ask around if you haven't heard), this week we cooked naked, ate naked, cleaned naked, and took a jog around the soccer field totally nude. Not to mention the communal showers.

Jo: And if you believe that, I've got some nice beachfront property in Arizona to sell ya. (Read in Western twang) It was high time for us fellers to set right down and have us a rollicking good time.

Charity: And so, we'd like to pass on our bit of wisdom.

Jo: We locked the door, threw off our restrictions, and while they wouldn't let us have us a rollicking good time.

Charity: Men, stop reading here.

Jo: I was hit by the sleeptruck.

Charity: I was hit by a Mack truck.

Jo: I was hit by the sleeptruck.

Charity: I was hit by a Mack truck.

Paula: You see, while Bouma was vacationing, we dedicated students discovered the best invention ever—the group reply e-mail option. It's a great alternative to post-it notes.

Bouma: When I came back I had 50 group reply messages to catch up on. It was better than having them all talk at once, I guess.

Jo: If you're feeling distant from your roommates, sending group notes is a great way to get the ball rolling again. It was refreshing to express our feelings—straight out—with no interruptions or sarcastic overtones. I fell in love with my roommates all over again.

Bouma: Kind of like cornflakes.

Blister: To put a cap on this... There is value in roommate bonding. Ask A3—they won $60 bucks. Aside from the fiscal benefits, your roommates could be great people—you never know!

Jo: Zzzzzzzz....

Charity: And so, we'd like to pass on our bit of wisdom and supply you with an extensive list of tried and true bonding techniques (may work best with females). Here goes:

- Paint your nails, braid hair, eat—calories you eat together don't count—raid closets, cry together, do critical analysis of masculine tendencies (male-bash), start a Time Capsule, decorate your room for the season, write a room column (ask Kate first). write each other checks for $50 million (does the term "insufficient funds" ring a bell?), call roommates' parents by their first names (Hey, Jo, Eric called for you), coin new words— (sleeptruck, setright-down, howruit), work a puzzle, work out, CLEAN, do facial masks, anything sitting spoon style is fun, dye your hair, stage teddy bear suicides (not your own bear), rent girl's movies—we wholeheartedly recommend *A Room With a View* based on novel by E.M. Forster), *Girls Just Wanna Have Fun*, *Circle of Friends*, *Reality Bites*—let us know if you can think of any others!

Jo: (stage instructions—Jo stretches and yawns) Hey, how's it goin'?

Everybody now: K-BYE.
EDITORIALS
PAGE 5
NOVEMBER 7, 1996

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

First of all, the War on Drugs (WOD) is a lost cause. Even William F. Buckley's conservative weekly, The National Review and CNN agree. CNN exposed the Drug War for what it really is... legal terrorism. This isn't a war on drugs. It's a war on people.

Christians don't have to approve of marijuana, but we must be realistic. The problems created by this plant are limited. Smoking pot harms no person but its user; therefore the son but its user; therefore the

thoughts, to be stewards.

Thinking of our relationship to God as slaves sheds new light on our role as stewards. We need to take care of the posses-
sions that our new master has given us rule over and enjoy-
money, cars, CDs, mountain bikes, the creation around us, gifts and abilities, and especially our bodies.

We as Christians, need to carefully examine our attitudes toward what we are in charge of.

Lord. everything I have is yours, all that I am, all that I own. Use me for the furthering of your Kingdom.

Free Press: Slaves to God
by Doug Hausken
Columnist

Nowadays Christians are almost as obsessed with money and possessions as everyone else is. Many Christians have forgotten what it means to be stewarded. I would like to offer a fresh biblical basis for being stewards in today's world.

All people are born into sin and we are slaves to that sin. People who are reborn in Christ are freed from the slavery of sin, because they are bought from that sin at a price (I Cor. 6:20).

At that time, Christians receive a new master, namely, God—or obedience or righteousness (Romans 6:18-23). This master has new requirements for obedience.

This concept of slavery refers to Old Testament times. In the book of Deuteronomy (15:16-17) the Jews are given specific instructions. If a slave worked for his master long enough to become free but desired to stay with his master because he loved him, then the master was to keep him as a slave. The slave was to wear an earring to show that he was now a willing slave.

We should follow this example—not necessarily the earring part—and become willing slaves to our new master, God. (Of course we are made a lot more than slaves, because we also become like sons and daughters of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus.)

The application of being like slaves is overwhelming. Slaves have no money and they own nothing—cars, homes, stereo, nothing. And so it is with us as Christians. Everything we think we own is not ours; it is our master's. Calvin wrote, "We ought to glory in nothing, because nothing is ours" (Institutes, II. 11. 9). God has only given us the right—and the command—to look over certain things, to be stewards.

I have a burden to share. It has struck me this year that Dordt is changing. We are growing. In fact, we are growing in such a way that the administration is wondering where we are going at all of the Dordt pop-

ulation. We have what promises at our disposal and dollars. Many users of marijuana receive it in a spirit of meditation, prayer, and thanksgiving to God.

For some, you are the first one in your family to ever go to college or university. You do not have a big sis that can tell you what courses to take and what professors to avoid. I would urge you to look at your course catalog, talk to Doug Eckardt, and drill your faculty advisor. You might come up with more options than you thought possible.

Turning your head upwards and exclaiming, "Where did all the time go?" is another mistake indicator. Yes, I've done this numerous times, leaving the academic skills people spinning while trying to figure out a personal schedule. If you're like this, go see them. Sure they look funny, but they can help.

I'm not trying to give you the quick and easy, but while you're paying lots of money for an education you might as well get it before your parents go bankrupt.

With a few months under your belt, you may have looked around and thought, "Hm, I think Dordt has made some mistakes."

If you have these unconscious notions I'd encourage you to properly voice them to people who can make things happen. Talk to Student Services or, best of all President Zylstra. Ideas for change are good. Reflecting on things you consider mistakes is part of a refining process for the administration. It helps programs to run more smoothly next time. Why do you think we fill out course evaluation forms at the end of each semester?

I could go off on all kinds of other areas we goof up on, like presidential re-elections, but I think you get the point. We are all dedicated to reformed education; part of that process is to be in continual reformation. When we finish up and answer for what we have done, it will be better to know we challenged and were challenged instead of burying our talent in the ground.

Mistakes have been made—but you can fix them.
Debating the merits of GPA: 

Grades: friend and foe

by Chris Ornee
Staff Writer

Grades. A touchy subject for some; not so touchy for others. We have all dealt with grades since kindergarten and, as long as we are in an academic setting, we will continue to be evaluated by some type of grading system.

In light of the fact that grades are here to stay, we have to deal with them. After all, they’re not all bad.

Grades can provide students with a sense of where they stand both personally and in regard to fellow classmates. Evaluation allows students to monitor their learning.

Grades also give graduate institutions an indication of a student’s academic standing. The fact of the matter is that grades do get looked at by other academic institutions and prospective employers.

The grading system places the responsibility of achievement on the student rather than on the faculty member, because students know what has to be done to earn certain grades.

However, along with the positive roles grades can play in an educational system, there are some problems that using a grading system either causes or contributes to.

First, what do grades really mean? There is no universal standard for grading. An essay that receives an “A” in one class may not necessarily be given that same grade in another class.

Although we all have the basic understanding that an “A” is “post-it-on-the-refrigerator” material while an “F” makes good kindling, grades remain an enigma.

Second, grades label students. When a student receives a low grade on a test, the likelihood that he/she will expect better on the next test is low. It becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Finally, grades can become a motivator. This one is a catch twenty-two. The fact that an assignment is going to be graded often motivates students to put effort into their work. This is the positive side. The negative side is that the focus can turn into “getting a good grade” rather than learning from and struggling with the material.

Grade point average and jobs:

by Jenni Vas
Staff Writer

As a freshman, John didn’t pay much attention to his studies. He was enthralled by the freedom of college and spent most of his time hanging out and making new friends.

Now, as a senior approaching the job market, John is worried that his low GPA will keep him from getting into the type of career he wants.

He is curious: just how much attention do employers pay to grades?

John is probably not alone. Seniors getting ready to enter the work force may also be wondering how important their grades are, as well as freshmen who want to know if their hard work to achieve good grades will be meaningful beyond graduation.

Without a doubt, grades are important to employers. Bryan Kooi, a member of the human resources department at Vogel Paint and Wax in Orange City says, “College GPA ranks between numbers five and seven in my top ten job qualifications.”

But he offers several factors that he weighs more heavily in determining whether to hire an applicant for a position. Kooi’s value of strong recommendation (positive interview. He tends to hire those who are optimistic about life and who love going to work.

When considering grades, Kooi’s value of strong recommendation is that the courses are related to the job.

Faltering on some of the general knowledge can be compensated for by excellent scores in the chosen area. Kooi sums up the relationship between grades and GPA by saying, “It is not as important, but don’t get too up about it.”

Other employers hold similar views.

“GPA is important, there’s no doing without it,” echoes Connie Vander Ploeg, the Resources Director at Groskopf’s, “but what’s more important is whether the courses are related to the job.”

When Vander Ploeg looks at a resume, the very first thing she checks is the applicant’s college course work, and prior work experiences are also high consideration.
How important are our grades?

By Sonya Jongma
Feature Editor

Although some Dordt students complain about grades they don’t feel are fair, and other students would prefer a system that takes pluses and minuses into account, Dordt College’s grading system isn’t too abnormal or controversial.

After all, it didn’t even receive a mention as a priority to be reevaluated on the paper gold medallions decorating trees, doorways, chapel balconies, etc. on Reformation Day.

History

From the beginning, Dordt’s grading system has been straight grades, A B C D F. No pluses or minuses to confuse things.

Abe Bos, Associate Academic Dean, says Dordt isn’t alone in using this system. In fact, he says part of the reason Dordt has stuck with the system is to give its students the same advantage that students from other colleges have.

“We decided to test it in the 1970s and use both systems. Like other institutions, we found that when we changed to pluses and minuses, more minuses were given,” he says.

According to Bos, adding pluses and minuses didn’t affect students in the B C and D groups adversely, but it did pull down the grades of students who had been earning A’s.

“In 1970 Dordt was making a transition from a teacher’s education school to trying to place students of many different majors in grad schools. We didn’t want A students to compete unfairly—we wanted them to have the same scale as the others.”

The majority of colleges and universities in the United States use the A B C D F system.

Other grading systems

“Anything you can think of in terms of grading systems has probably been tried, at some point, somewhere,” Bos says.

Some grading systems are number-based or rely solely on percentages. Other systems, more commonly used in Europe, use numbers from one to nine or one to thirteen to evaluate students’ work.

Most high schools use plus/minus systems, with grades from A to F. Grade schools use similar systems, with S’s and U’s (for Satisfactory and Unsatisfactory) in the lower grades.

The significance of grades

Grades mean different things to different students. Receiving a B or C will completely spoil one student’s day, while it makes another’s and doesn’t even leave an impression on another.

Regardless of the emphasis students attribute to them, grades are the most commonly accepted method of assessing students’ performance. They tell students where they stand in relation to others and give them an indicator of how they are measuring up to the professor’s expectations.

Grades are neither insignificant nor all-impor-

The new computer center in the library is often full of students working on papers.

Neil Graves

The computer center in the library is
Jars of Clay in Sioux Falls on October 31
by Sean Voogt
Art Critic

Yes I went. All skepticism and doubts about the band aside, I went. I mean it was a Dordt College who's who; how could I not go? So...there were about 15,000 Dordt students and alum there, but hey what are you gonna do on Halloween night?

Jars of Clay opened with the disc opener, "Liquid," and all even (yes!!) Jars of Clay have graduated to Big Band status) of them entered the stage area and ran around like giddy school boys for the next 90 minutes. Neato.

They covered their entire album including the radio friendly, "Puddin."
Dark I hate that song, "World's Apart" was done better and I wish they would sing—but I am not the greatest singer either so...Those harmonies—mmm-mmm.

I am not sure if the concert was worth the 3 hours worth of work-study money and the drive to Sioux Falls or not. I mean, I could have gone trick or treating, I would have had a little more to take home (in candy and loot and stuff) than the thought that I ended up taking home—Jars could have done more and could have done it better. Better than Ezra? I think not.

Students impressed by Meece's music
by Tami Vander Woude
Guest Writer

To say that one could have left the B.J. Haan Auditorium on October 26 having felt no more joy or encouragement in the Christian life would be impossible. For over two hours that night, contemporary Christian music artist David Meece entertained a near full house. His energetic songs, many of which are spin-offs from Meece's own favorite classical tunes, speak loud and clear without him having to elaborate on them.

"I was impressed to know that he wrote 'The Reason,'" junior Paul Buwalda said. "I've heard it many times before, but I never knew he wrote it. He was awesome!!"

Between his inspirational songs, Meece related his own walk and growth as a Christian. "It was interesting to know the history behind the songs," said Kevin Wassenaar, a Dordt graduate who returned to campus for the concert.

David Meece has been truly blessed with the ability to communicate verbally and especially musically a message that the world desperately needs to hear—that God is screaming our name to get us to come to him. All we have to do is give up control and run into his forever-open arms.

Germans, Suits, Bruises, and Plaid:
Concert Review
by D Spaceman
and Shirley T

While Clinton was winning the election, others were trying to win a spot at First Avenue's stage front.

For the first time in years opening bands really helped create an atmosphere. First a local band, playing a fast paced "Pumpkinsh" sound, lasted a forty minute set. Hepcat, a Los Angeles band, grooved out on stage next. Here's a band that deserves some serious checkin' out. Band leader Guy Lee, knows how to move and his band was putting out vibes that were getting some serious movement happening.

Then, on schedule, the Mighty Mighty Bosstones banner dropped from the sky and eight classy dressed guys hit the stage in full strength. The Bosstones "Ska" flavor is reinforced by their horn section. Leadman "Dicky," was non-stop energy and class all the way. Dickie is a man of the crowd, taking the occasional surf, looking off stage to the front, and urging fans to get on stage with the band. "We would like to have you up here with us, so when you fight through security, wave to us, wave to your friends, and then jump back in, but get some height when you jump because plowing into people is not kosher," Dickie said.

After all was said and done, we met Guy Lee, talked to other band members, and finally persuaded security to introduce us to Dickie himself. Those will be words to remember and autographed papers to be framed.

Bosstones' Concert Tips:
1. Wear a kit.
2. Pretend you're a German exchange student.
3. Use elbows.
4. Don't hold hands, vice grip an arm near you.
5. Keep your head protected.
6. When the music stops—there's always another encore.
8. Don't worry about keeping your hair done; the crown will do it for you.

We're not in Hollywood anymore
by James Van Dyk
Art Critic

With a few exceptions (Pulp Fiction and anything by George Lucas), American film is poor at best. Filmmakers have to rely on big budget special effects and copious amounts of violence to make money because they've never been taught anything else and that's what they grew up with. If you're a fan of big guns and poor acting, then by all means, indulge yourself. However, if you're looking for more in your entertainment, I recommend foreign films.

One of the best films I have ever seen is Cairo Diario, or Dear Diary. It was an Italian entry at the 1995 Cannes Film Festival where it won the Palme D'Or. It is basically two weeks in the life of a middle-aged Italian man broken up into three parts. In the first part the man and his girlfriend ride around Rome on scooters and look at old houses and apartments. Along the way they visit some shops and give some American tourists directions.

The second part tells the story of the man and his friend as they visit a small island off the coast Italy where they discuss the soap opera Another World on top of a mountain with more American tourists.

In the third and final part of Cairo Diario, the man goes to the beach to get some rest and a physical. He is then diagnosed with skin cancer and forced to visit six different specialists and take many, many drugs.

What makes this such an excellent film is its simplicity. Cairo Diario is about a regular guy who just moves along through life one day at a time. Nobody wants to throw him out of a plane or blow his head off. What a refreshing change.

Better Than Ezra Friction, Baby
by Sean Voogt
Art Critic

Well, as if their first album wasn't enough. Better Than Ezra are at it again. Since their debut Deluxe just wasn't "good" enough, BTE decided to add a sophomore album to their discography.

Same three chord rock and roll, same lead vox, same poor lyrics; not too much has changed except that the lead single, "Ring of New Orleans," is much better than anything off this one-hit-wonder's debut. Yes, even better than "Good." Well we all know that it is better than Ezra. Someone hit me now.

Anyway, there are some songs that are really pleasing to the ear. Let's call them ear candy. Yeah—let's. As mentioned, "Ring of New Orleans" is undoubtedly a great choice for the first single just as "Good" was, simply because it will carry the album to where it needs to go in order for them to release another...
Pedantic performs in Orange City

by Melissa Phaneuf
Staff Writer

De Koffie Boon got a lot of business Friday, November 1. Pedantic, starring Sean Voogt and Seth Bakker, gave the audience what they had come for—good tunes and a fun time. Sean and Seth started the show with a variety of songs from well-known groups. The music of Sarah McLachlan, Neil Young, Pearl Jam and U2 kept the listeners tapping their feet while they sipped espressos and iced mochas.

Seth's sweet harmony smoothly blended with Sean's rich, low voice, filling the room with a mellowing timbre. The atmosphere, relaxed and homey, gave each of us respite from a difficult week of tests, papers and eight o'clocks. Many people came to see Pedantic—around 75 people milled around, listening to the music and chatting with friends.

After the show, I got a chance to ask Seth, what he thought of the evening and he said, "Pretty cool—it was a joyful communal experience with everyone singing along and drinking coffee."

Seth was right—a lot of people did sing with the music, especially towards the end, when the guys played Alanis Morissette's song, "Hand in My Pocket" and 54-40's song, "She Lies to Me" and the Indigo Girls' "Hey Jesus."

Pedantic is compiling more songs together for another performance. Stay in tune—you don't want to miss this band.

Gym named after donor

by Brian Vos
Staff Reporter

Among the many changes and improvements made lately at Dordt you no doubt have seen the new signs which are being placed around campus. These signs give the building names and tell which departments or offices are in each complex. The signs are a much nicer design than the ancient iron poles and sheet metal. Now the question many people are asking concerns the name of the newest building on campus—The Dordt College Recreational Center/Gymnasium.

Wait a minute...what was that last name? The board of trustees has decided that that will be the name of the existing gym, whereas the complex in its totality will carry a more generic name, probably something like "The Dordt College Recreational Center."

The new recreation complex is supposed to be completed by the summer of 1997, and the formal adoption of the new name for the gym will take place at a later date.
Dordt Blades steamroll competition

by Martin Dam
Hockey Guy

The Dordt Blades are now 7-0-1. Notice especially the "0". That means undefeated. No losses. 7 wins. 1 tie. Add up all the scores, and the Blades are ahead 63-17 in goals for/against.

This is a serious winning streak, and there's no reason to think it can't continue. The team has been very solid in all areas, any of which is capable of scoring on any shift, five strong defencemen and exceptional goaltending, led by veteran Erick Janssens.

What makes these stats even more remarkable is that the team is entirely student-run. Play-coach Jeremy Huygen and Captain Jeff Vandermeer have provided great leadership by scheduling their season, running practices every Wednesday night and leading by example on the ice during games. And the entire team has played smart, disciplined hockey, averaging less than one penalty a period.

On the 25th and 26th, the University of Iowa travelled to Worthington. Friday night's game was fairly competetive, but the Blades dominated and won by a score of 2-1. The second game was another blowout, with the Blades scoring in the first 15 seconds.

Dordt's overall season record is now 7-0-1. Notice especially the 7-0-1 record.

Defenders to host National College at 1:00

by Jesse Groen
Sports Writer

Men's regular-season soccer is finished for yet another year at Dordt College. The team finished off the season last Friday with a match against Worthington on their home field.

On Saturday, October 26, the Defenders fell to Nebraska Wesleyan 1-0 in a game where the opposing defense dominated, allowing Dordt only three shots on goal. Defender Chris Muller had 15 saves in the loss.

Dordt made the most of the last game of the season, scoring against Worthington 7-1. The Defenders played the entire game a man down after senior Mark Memmelaar was given a red card for an alleged retaliation while shielding himself from the blows of a disgruntled opponent. Memmelaar went up for a head ball and got tangled with the Worthington player, where the two landed the Worthington player proceeded to swing at Memmelaar. Inadvertant contact to avoid these punches got Memmelaar the card.

Their superior depth and goal-tending, Janssens and rookie Tim Hoogland combined to stop 29 shots and Hendrickx popped in three goals and an assist, as Dordt won 6-1. Ben Saarloos, Travis Anderson and Izzy Huygen also scored for the guys.

Saturday things weren't as close, with the Blades scoring three in the first, five in the second, and three in the third.on the way to an 11-2 victory. Jeremy Huygen led the way with five assists. Mark Bekkering had two goals and three assists. Saarloos and Nate Grissors had four points apiece. Jay Visser had three and Hendrickx got two.

This past weekend, Northern Iowa provided the opposition. The Panthers made the playoffs last year, so we expected a close pair of games. But the superior skating and passing ability of Dordt soon became apparent. Friday night especially, the Blades dominated all areas of the game, winning 11-1. Janssens stopped 13 of 14 shots and Van Riessen also went up for the win.

On Saturday, the Panthers played a fair bit better, but the end result was another 11-1 win, thanks in large part to some key saves by Hoogland, who made his second start of the season. All but two Blades recorded points in this one (excluding goals). Hendrickx led the way with four. Wubs, Dykstra, J. Huygen and Dave Vanderplaats had three each, while I. Huygen, Grissors, deGier, Vandermeer and Von Mooy each recorded a pair.

The Lady Defenders' first regular season of play as a varsity team is over. The Defenders are standing in fourth place so they made it to the NAIA postseason. Therefore the women had to play Westmar in Le Mars. It promised to be a tough game for the Defenders who lost to Westmar earlier in the season 4-0. Dordt ended up suffering a 3-2 overtime loss, ending their year.

On October 25 the Defenders played an important game against Jamestown. Heather "Dutch" Williams claimed the two Defender goals. One of which was unassisted while the second was aided by Captain Krikke. The Defenders had an impressive 22 shots on the Jamestown keeper.

 Defender keeper Lisa Pool was only foud by one Jamestown shot, as Dordt won 2-1. Another positive note for the Lady Defenders is that Pool's hand no longer had to be in a brace. It was healing well from the dislocated finger she suffered a couple of weeks ago in practice and doesn't hinder her playing at all.

The next day the squad travelled to Nebraska Wesleyan, which was ranked 13th nationally. The extremely windy conditions didn't help matters either. The Defenders ended up taking a 4-0 loss. The women managed to get off only seven shots on Wesleyan's net.

On Wednesday, October 30, despite the bone-chilling, foot-numbing, face-freezing temperatures, the Defenders managed to squash Northwestern with 47 shots on net. Four of which cashed in.

Erin Staal started it off with an unassisted shot from the corner. Kelli Holwerda claimed the second with a penalty kick. Captain Krikke shot the last two assisted by Staal and Holwerda. Pool didn't have much to do to keep her warm with Northwestern's two shots, which she saved brilliantly.

The Northwestern game was the last of regular season play. Captains Tricia Feyer and Krista Krikke are pleased with how the season has gone and eagerly anticipated the playoffs.

"We're really tough" said Captain Feyer. "And if we put our feet together we can do it."

"The women played in Le Mars yesterday for their playoff game against Westmar. Dordt came together and nearly won a game. Finally losing in overtime."

Westmar scored two early goals bringing back thoughts of Westmar's win over Dordt earlier in the season.

The Defenders held strong, though. Erin Staal broke through for Dordt with about 15 minutes left in regulation. After Dutch was taken down in the box, Staal dumped in the penalty shot. Krikke scored the equalizer with four minutes left. She took a beautiful pass from Feyer and tipped it past the keeper for the goal.

The game slipped into overtime and Dordt's endurance was put to the test. Three minutes into the first overtime, Westmar tacked up a goal to rebuild its lead. The Lady Defenders were held from scoring through both overtime periods, as Dordt took the 3-2 loss.

The Lady Defenders end their first year as a varsity team with an 8-6 record.

Women finish successful year
Women to field young team

By Jesse Groen
Sports Writer

Believe it or not, basketball season is here once again. The women's team has been practicing for a couple weeks and their first game will take place Wednesday, November 20, as the team will travel to Sioux City to take on Briar Cliff.

Taking the floor against Briar Cliff will be a Defender team which is rather low on experience. Four starters, who played over 90 percent of the game each for Dordt, graduated last spring, leaving the leadership of the team up to the returning players. Amber Krosche, a 5'8" junior, and fellow junior Cheryllyn Dykstra, 6'0", will lead the young team in experience. Coach Len Rhoda, in his seventeenth year, as the helm of the Lady Defenders, is also looking to returning sophomores Alyssa Beckering, Lisa Roos and Angie Schiebout to use their experience to help shoulder the load of leading the team. Beckering and Roos are the only returning starters from last year's squad.

This year's team once again has an abundance of freshmen who hope to contribute to the team's season. Allison Vis, a 5'6" guard, and Erica DeKam, a 5'8" forward, both come to Dordt from Leota, Minn. Marlene Van Wingerden, a 5'6" guard, hails from Sunnyvale, Wash. Lynden, Wash., native Carla Gelysema, at 5'9", plans to play both guard and forward. Megan Swart, a 6'0" forward/center from Painsburg, Minnesota, rounds out the freshman men. The roster is filled out by transfer student Lynette Roos, from Ripon, Calif., who is coming off two seasons at Modesto Junior College.

The team looks to improve on last year's 9-16 finish using good balance and depth. When asked about strengths for the 1996-97 season, Coach Rhoda cited, "good balance." Junior guard, inside game and outside game and also depth at all positions." To make the playoffs, the team will have to finish in the top four teams of the conference, no easy task considering the schedule Dordt is facing which is full of "tough teams," according to Rhoda.

The weaknesses of the team include the lack of experience and also getting the freshmen into the groove of playing college basketball. Another downside is the transition that a couple of the girls will have to make from high school to college. Beckering and Swart both play volleyball and depending on how far the Lady Defenders volleyball team goes into the playoffs, will join the team as soon as possible. Coach Rhoda noted that, "the transition between sports takes time," and hopes to get them into "basketball mode" as soon as possible.

The team has set several goals that it hopes to fulfill this season. Most importantly the team wants to "glorify God." Another main theme the women will work at is to, "have fun and keep good attitudes". "Giving 100%, 100% of the time" is also a fundamental goal for the Lady Defenders.

The Lady Defenders will rock the Defender Dome Saturday, November 23, when Dr. Martin Luther comes to Sioux Center for Dordt's first home game.

Playoffs:

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

The volleyball team played only two games in the last 14 days, as they make preparations for this year's playoffs. The Lady Defenders played a pair of South Dakota Iowa Conference matches on the road and came home with a pair of wins.

Dordt 3, Westmar 0

The women made the journey to Le Mars last Thursday. The hosting Eagles proved little challenge for Dordt, as the Lady Defenders won in straight sets. Game scores were 15-5, 15-6 and 15-11.

Janna Bouma pounded out 17 kills to lead the team. Kristi Hofland added 10 kills, while Kim Van Kley racked up 44 assists in the three games. Alissa Beckering got her hands up at the net as she blocked six Westmar spikes.

The Lady Defenders landed seven serving aces, with Angie Daveila hitting four. Mindy Boogerd had teams highs with 21 digs and 28 serve receptions as well as adding four blocks.

Dordt 3, Huron 2

The women travelled to Huron Friday night and struggled. The Lady Tribe made a bid to hand Dordt its first ever SDIC loss, but fell 3-2 to the Lady Defenders.

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Happy Birthday:

“The Gift’s” first anniversary fell in October. The large outdoor sculpture, according to artist Jacob VanWyk, “represents people—people in general but Christians in particular—offering their gifts, whatever they may be, to God.”

Costume dance raises money for DDL

by Kendra Van Duyn
Staff Writer

With all of the publicity of the election going on in full swing, the Dordt Defenders of Life executive committee, consisting of Ann Olsen, Jeanine Kopaska, Annette Groen and advisor Ron Rynders, decided to set aside the last week of October for promoting voter awareness and the sanctity of life. From October 31—November 1, an informational table was set up in the SUB as a reminder for students to support life. The AGAPE Right to Life group in Sioux Center supplied the information. After much planning and soliciting for prizes, the annual DDL masquerade dance was held on November 1, as a finale to the pro-life awareness week. Olsen thought the dance went really well because the DJs got the crowd involved, it was well attended and it appeared as if everyone had fun. The event drew over 350 people and most participated by wearing costumes. Kopaska thought that overall, Benji Van Donge’s Hersey’s Kiss costume was the favorite. Others included Dan Droog as a mummy, and Brian Guiler as toilet bowl man. Many others had creative costumes as well, like the tornadoes from Twister and great period costumes from the 1800’s. Many others had creative costumes as well, like the tornadoes from Twister and great period costumes from the 1800’s.

New java shop in Sioux Center

by David Schaap
Staff Writer

If you’re really into coffee then you probably appreciate a good cappuccino, latte, or a decadent mocha with cinnamon, whipped cream and just a bit of caramel syrup. Are you in the mood for a nice hot beverage to warm yourself on a cold day? Well, you’re in luck because Sioux Center is the proud owner of a new coffee house. You now have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of your favorite hot drinks right downtown. The town and college expressed their desire for a place to call their own and the wish has been fulfilled. The new coffeehouse opened last Monday, catering to the town’s fine coffee connoisseurs and providing a pleasant smoke-free environment for its costumers. It is located on Main Street, across from the mall on the north end of the block, right next to Ahloos Chinese Restaurant.

Pizza & Pasta Buffet

Monday Nights
All-you-can-eat
Pizza, Pasta, Garlic Bread, and Salad
Free Pop

The Pizza Ranch