by Kristen Westerhof

The multi-talented Darlene Koldenhoven returned to Dordt's campus as the selected speaker in the annual Staley Lecture Series on February 17. The series is intended to bring "dedicated, conservative, scholarly" speakers to small Christian college campuses. After Junior Mitch Menning read an impressive list of credentials, Koldenhoven began her lecture, her chosen topic, "Lambs in the Lion's Den," describing the role of the Christian in Hollywood.

She gave her statement of purpose, one of the requirements of all Staley lecturers. Her main objectives in giving these lectures were to clear up any myths held by Hollywood outsiders about Hollywood life and to recruit more "entertainment missionaries," young Christian performers interested in infiltrating the ranks of Hollywood. Koldenhoven shared a summary of her background with the fifty-plus member crowd. She grew up in a suburb of Chicago in a strict, religious home. She discovered her love for music young, but was discouraged from improvising or creating on her own. After graduating from high school, she attended the Chicago Conservatory for music. She moved out to California to get into the entertainment industry.

She discovered that churches tended to ostracize members of the entertainment industry and decided to stop attending church. She kept her faith and returned to the church after a fifteen-year absence. She is now an active member of Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Sun Valley, CA.

She encourages Christians to become informed about the truths of the industry. She claims that Christians tend to cocoon into their own subculture, which deters our witness. When well-meaning Christians lend their support to censorship efforts, they draw attention to things that may not merit the publicity, so the effort backfires. She admonishes Christians to change things from the inside out by becoming involved in different aspects of the industry. Christians can also exert their influence by writing letters to production companies and publishers and giving their support to things they see as positive.

Within Hollywood, Christian artists have established support groups to encourage each other. Koldenhoven extends the invitation for all budding actors, dancers and singers to tap into Hollywood life bit by bit, making connections with directors, producers and other performers. Networking, she said, is the key to getting regular work. She said that see KOLDENHOVEN, p. 12

Koldenhoven returns for lectures

Spring Department Lectures broaden cultural awareness

by Sonya Jongema

A Lakota flute prelude, flags of four sacred colors, a star quilt representing "God's eye," and the burning of sweet-smelling grass were all a part of Tuesday's chapel service.

The two speakers were Rev. Dr. Martin Brokkenleg and Father Stanislaus Maudlin. They were on campus Tuesday, February 22, for the Spring Department Lectures sponsored by the Dordt College Social Sciences Division.

Brokkenleg is an associate professor of Native American Studies and Wellness Center Counselor at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and a minister in the Episcopal Church. He has served on many important national committees including the National Endowment for the Humanities and has been published in several journals.

Maudlin is a Benedictine Monk at the Blue Cloud Abbey which he helped to found. He has helped set up mission centers to provide education for Native American children at their tribes' invitation. He has been adopted into 5 different tribes and can speak their languages. Maudlin is the executive director of the American Indian Cultural Research Center at the Blue Cloud Abbey. The center's main goals are to support Indian leaders and educators in rebuilding their culture and to educate the public in the culture, history, and philosophies of the Native Americans.

The two men were joined by two Dordt Alumni who also attended sessions and met with students. Dr. David Mulder is a physician at the Indian Health Service Indian Hospital on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Karen Augood from Volga, South Dakota, is a former fifth grade teacher with the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the American Horse School.

The lecture series was called "Northern Plains Indians—Their History, Culture, and Worldview."

In chapel on Tuesday, Maudlin and Brokkenleg conducted a special service in their style of worship. While Maudlin burned sweet grasses, he see INDIAN CULTURE, p. 12
"Quiet in the Land" depicts early 20th century Amish life

by Katie Dekker

The "Quiet People" is a name often given to the Amish, and "Quiet in the Land" is their story, will be performed by the Drama department March 3, 4, and 5, with an Amish dinner taking place before the play on opening night.

Tickets went on sale this past Mon., and they are $3 to $5 for the general public and $1 for Dordt students. Tickets for the dinner and play on March 3 are $12, $9 for Dordt students.

The story opens in 1917 during World War I in a small Canadian community near Kitchener, Ontario. The Canadian government tells the Amish living there that they must register for conscription into the military, but the Amish, who are pacifists, refuse, and are eventually excused.

Jacob "Yock" Bauman (played by John Comant) is a young Amish man (about 19 years old) who doesn't get along very well with his father, Christy (Rod Hoekstra). The two have a huge public argument, after which Christy beats his son. Yock then decides to run off and join the army, knowing he is doing something strictly forbidden by Amish law. Yock leaves behind his "love interest" Katie (played by Rebekah Sanford), who is only marrying him because she wants to have children. She still really loves Yock.

During the wedding scene, word comes that Yock has been made a war hero for killing the enemy. While the rest of the world is very proud of him, the Amish are upset because he has gone against their law. Hannah Bauman (Rebekah Sanford), Yock's grandmother, is so heartbroken over it that she dies.

Meanwhile, Christy has been elected bishop of the church. He and Menno fight over how worship should be conducted, Christy excommunicates Menno, and the church splits.

The play...is about "the struggle between orthodoxy and individual freedom."

Yock eventually comes back, asks for and receives his father's forgiveness, and realizes that he can no longer be part of the Amish community because the war has changed him so much. Before he leaves, he says goodbye to Katie, who goes back to living her life with Menno.

In the end, Christy realizes he may have been too hard on people, especially when Zepp Brubacher (Simon Vander Woude), Katie's dad, talks to Christy about having him replaced as bishop.

Also in the play are Katie's mom, Lydie Brubacher (Sheila Rasmussen); Katie's sisters, Martha and Nancy.

Brubacher (Colleen Kuiper and Christi Anne Holland); Menno's parents, Levi and Esther Miller (John Van Dijk and Ann Dykstra); Bishop Frey (John Michael Dykstra); Mr. O'Rourke (Juanito Moore) and his son Paddy (Frank Bulle) who are not Amish but live nearby, and the recruitment officer from the Canadian government (Eugene Laarman).

"I think that this play will make [the audience] laugh and cry, and I think that's what a good play ought to do," director Simon du Toit said. He also said that the play, which he thought was "perfectly cast," is about "the struggle between orthodoxy and individual freedom."

In designing the set, set director and technical advisor John Hofland looked for that dualism of individuality versus community, as well as others. The set has two houses separated by a fence, symbolizing not only the split between the outside world and the Amish, but also the splits within the Amish community.

Hofland and du Toit also decided to extend the stage into the theater lobby. "It's a big, broad landscape and to push the action of the play closer to the audience. Both were excited about the stage addition," and du Toit said he hopes to use it in other productions.

The extension, along with real grass and corn stalks (harvested locally last December), add to the feeling of the open, rural land that the Amish community. It's always with the very realist view of the world.

The costumes follow the spirit of community and fashion. The Amish dress very limits (like Yock), and Matheis says the play will be able to relate to the rest of the world. "The spirit of community is stressed among the Amish," actress Chris Ornee (Katie) said. "I think a lot of the characters are very real, and the audience will be able to relate to them."

Du Toit stated that he thinks the play is coming along "tremendously well. The cast is forming a wonderful ensemble. We've been praying together, we're talking. I think it's going to be a fine show. I really do."

Concert sweetens evening

by Rob Byker

Many Dordt students and professors descended on Centre Mall Saturday the 19th for a special night of sweet music and well, sweet sweets.

SWEETS, p. 12
Library implements new policy on behavior

On March 29, the library will implement a new "Disruptive Activities Policy" in the interest of students and staff who complain the library is "too noisy." It is an attempt to provide a fair and reasonable alternative to the frustration felt by many library users. This policy replaces the earlier "Noise Policy."

The new policy is as follows:

PREFACE:
While the library is intended to be a place which promotes the free exchange of ideas and information, it is also necessary to maintain an environment in which quiet studying and research may occur. For this reason the library staff will enforce the Disruptive Activities Policy as outlined below.

DEFINITION:
Disruptive activity is defined as any behavior which is determined by the library staff to disrupt the library from study. This includes, but is not limited to, talking loudly, laughing, throwing objects, running, sitting on railings, climbing on furniture, etc.

If an individual is involved in a disruptive activity, the following measures will be taken:

STEP 1: INDIVIDUAL IS CONFRONTED AND GIVEN FIRST WARNING WHICH IS RECORDED IN THE DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES LOG

The individual will be confronted by a library staff member and specifically informed as to the nature of her/his offense. This will be the first and only warning given and the individual's name and disruptive behavior will be written in the Disruptive Activities Log. The individual will be told that if s/he is confronted again the same day, by any staff member, for any disruptive activity, s/he will be asked to leave the library for the remainder of the day.

STEP 2: INDIVIDUAL IS CONFRONTED A SECOND TIME AND ASKED TO LEAVE THE LIBRARY

If an individual who has already been given a warning is again exhibiting disruptive behavior, s/he will be confronted a second time and asked to leave the library for the remainder of the day. Her/his name and disruptive behavior will be recorded in the log a second time.

NON-COMPLIANCE: If an individual refuses to provide her/his name to a library staff member, refuses to leave the library when so instructed, or treats any library staff member in a mocking or disparaging manner, s/he will be referred to Student Services for disciplinary action.

NOTE: Any individual who is repeatedly involved in disruptive activities in the library at any level (step 1 or step 2), will be referred to Student Services for a higher level of discipline.

Let prayer change your life

by Michelle Kulper

Does your spiritual life need more zip? Do you often feel guilty because you don't make time to pray? Then come to Becky Tirabassi's prayer workshop this Thursday (tonight) in the chapel.

The workshop, entitled "Experience the Power of Prayer," will help you make your prayers more effective: Through humor and inspiring stories, Becky will share exciting ways to spend more time with God. While often moving her audience from tears to laughter, she will give sound advice on how to develop a regular, yet exciting pattern of prayer.

Learn how "prayer can fuel your faith and unleash a true and lasting love for God." Becky is the founder of My Partner Ministries - a national motivational speaking and writing ministry. She has written many inspirational books and speaks regularly on national television and radio.

Her suggestions are based on her book Let Prayer Change Your Life.

Sherrill De Hoef, who has read the book, said, "It really inspired and challenged me. When I was finished with it, I made sure my roommate read it. It was incredible how pray- er changed her life when she was discour-aged, I would encourage everyone to go to her workshop."

The workshop will last from 7:00 - 10:00, with an intermission where coffee, juice, and cookies will be served. Her workshop will cover the actual chapters entitled "Discover Prayer," "Decide To Pray," "Have a Design For Prayer," "Delights, Desires, Dreams," and "A Deeper Walk."

Becky's workshop is very inspiring and will truly change your spiritual life. Karl Meyer, who has been working for months to organize this workshop says, "I am really excited about this workshop, and I think it will have a great impact on the Dordt community."

Inspirational speaker Becky Tirabassi will give a prayer workshop tonight in the chapel. Students are heartily invited.

Club discusses variety of topics

by Sonya Jongama

The Worldview Club is one of the many clubs students can join on campus. However, this club is not like any other. Students from a wide variety of disciplines, including history, computer science, psychology, political science, art, engineering, and English, come regularly to the group's discussions.

Two juniors, Jeff DeBoer and Tim Sheridan, felt that a forum where students could speak their minds in a non-threatening setting was a good basis for the beginnings of a worldview club. With the help of Dr. John Rok, they were able to start such a club. "We want to take seriously our responsibility to develop a Biblical, Christian worldview."

They want to take seriously our responsibility to develop a Biblical, Christian worldview. The club takes on serious issues and explores their different angles, evaluating choices in the light of a Christian worldview. Some of the topics dealt with this year have been the entertainment industry, legalization of drugs, and Clinton's health care plan.

Every two weeks on Thursday night, the Worldview Club meets in the SUB at 8:30. A topic is selected for each meeting, and one student presents a short introduction to start the discussion.

Ten to twenty students usually attend these meetings, along with two or three faculty members. However, this is not a classroom atmosphere: students and professors talk together, sharing their opinions. They don't often reach any definite conclusions, but becoming more aware of the complexity of an issue is a main focus.

The goal of the discussions is for students to learn to formulate a contemporary Christian response to issues in our culture that affect us in our daily lives.

The club will be meeting tonight and extends an invitation to all interested.
Nobody asked you

We do a lot of talking about ourselves. When we call home we update Mom and Dad on the latest exciting news in our lives, our friends, our classes, our accomplishments. When we bump into friends on campus that we don't see as often as we used to. we fill that brief five or ten minutes with a "What's been up with me: report. When we get together with our closer friends, we whine and moan about our problems, our busy schedules, our lack of sleep. What else is there to talk about? The most obvious answer is "other people."

If I have to put a name on certain people, I would have to say that the kind of people I dislike the most are those who gossip. They pick someone out who is unable to defend herself, pick apart her clothes, her attitudes, her beliefs, her boyfriends, her weekend practices. Then they judge her, put her down, build themselves up until the group has reached a consensus and set the conversation aside for future reference. They say things like "I can't believe he asked such a dumb question in that class," and "He thinks he is so cool," and "You know, those people, they had to get married. What a mistake." They speak out of ignorance.

I would also have to say that the reason gossip and back-stabbing infuriate me so much is because I know it is a fault of my own. Examining my own conversations, I figure I waste about 1/2 of other people's time talking about myself; invest 1/4 of my time inquiring about the other person; and spend the remaining time talking about those not present. I'd like to say that I say mostly good and encouraging things about others, but I'd also like to say that the reason gossip and back-stabbing infuriate me so much is because I know it is a fault of my own.

Exercising my own conversations, I figure I waste about 1/2 of other people's time talking about myself; invest 1/4 of my time inquiring about the other person; and spend the remaining time talking about those not present. I'd like to say that I say mostly good and encouraging things about others, but I'd also like to say that Sioux Center isn't going to accumulate any more snow. You and I talk out of ignorance, even about the people we love. Think about the reasons we should avoid these conversations. A more selfish reason is because the more we do it, the more bitter and cynical and judgmental we become, and then people won't like us, and soon we will be the ones gossiped about.

A reason that might be a little more worthy is that what we say is heard by a lot of people, especially on this campus. Our words have a good chance of making the rounds and ending up heard by the person we talk about. Either that person won't care (which only proves our flapping tongues are meaningless), or he will be hurt and we will feel sheepish.

The biggest reason we have to avoid gossip is because nobody asked you. Nobody made you the authority on how other people should dress, conduct themselves or maintain hygiene. It's none of your business. If something bothers you about someone, get over it. If it is a serious problem, talk to that person, not to someone who is probably going to lose respect toward you because of your mouth. The people I respect the most are those about whom I hear people say "Y'know, he never says a bad word about anybody." It's sad that a remarkable characteristic has to involve something that a person is not. He's not a gossiper, ergo he's a good guy. It only shows how rare it is to know humble and quietly self-confident people.

If you are a person who initiates the gossip, think about what makes you so much better than the person you are cutting down. If you recognize yourself as one who gets easily caught up in these conversations, try to defend that person, change the subject, or walk away. If you sit there and let your friends break down the reputation of another, then you are consenting.

Before letting light-hearted conversation degenerate into a "She's such a wench" party, think about someone you really like and admire and start building them up for your friends who don't know about that person. You might actually initiate a new friendship.

You owe it to your brother or sister to build them up; you owe it to your friends to hold them accountable for their words; and you owe it to yourself to keep a tight hold on your tongue.

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

Address contributions to...

The Diamond welcomes any opinion pieces, movie, album, or book reviews sent to Diamond, Box 595.

Diamond Staff
**Overheard...**

compiled by staff

"It's just not the same."
— Eric Kool when Kendall Vermillion offered him some of her laundry detergent

"Genetics!" people gasp when they hear this. "But...you're an English major!"

"What they don't realize is in the long run, genetics actually does help me with my study of English." —Lisa De Vries, talking about one of her courses

"I always hate to hear other people having fun while we're suffering." —Prof. Pasma as he shut the door to keep out the noise during his Business Law II class

"I love it when people get violent with inanimate objects!" —Jon DeHaan, watching a hapless freshman beat violently on the lobby's vending machine

"Tests are really fun! They're so exciting! Aren't they?" —Dr. Schaap trying to convince his English 200 class

"The Commons is like Disneyland. You stand in line for eternity and then puke when you're done." —Dave Peterson

"Isn't a fallout shelter for when a kid falls out of a window so they don't fall into a crevasse?" —Sandra De Jong

"Looking through light microscopes is so anti-social." —Another profound statement during Zoo. lab by Jon DeHaan

"I don't mind one strategically placed tattoo." —Christina Breems

"You ought to try that sometime." —Dr. Fennema in Ed. Psych, talking about smoking 20 cigarettes at one time

"How come people like that can get married and I can't even get a guy to buy me a pizza?" —Amy Isenor on someone walking into history class late

"What do you get when you have a teeny teeny tiny over a teeny teeny teeny tiny?" —Dr. Jongsmar in Multivariable Calculus, trying to explain limits of multivariable functions

"Why am I raising my hand?" —Prof. Timmer, trying to figure out why his hand was raised during a technology and society lecture

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**Varied Voices**

Why bother?

by Michelle Knipper

The statistics are frightening. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says that if current labor trends continue, “30% of college graduates entering the workforce between now and the year 2005 will be unemployed or will find employment in jobs for which they are overqualified.”

So why bother?

Why spend four years and forty thousand dollars on a college degree when you may not even get a job?

Why do we go to college? It costs money to go to college. We go to college to get a job. We get a job so we can make more money. This rationale gets us nowhere. There has to be more to it than that.

Many of us make the all too common mistake of choosing a major and then confining our lives to that single area of study - all for the pursuit of a job. People are so worried about which classes will get them accepted into this or that graduate school, or which courses will look the best on their job resumes that they don't allow themselves to explore and expand other areas of interest.

I myself am an English major, but I do have many other interests. I find it boring to confine my learning only to English. One of my other interests happens to be biology, so this year I decided to take genetics.

"Genetics!" people gasp when they hear this. "But...you're an English major!"

What they don't realize is that in the long run, genetics actually does help me with my study of English. God created the world in such a way that all things have a relationship to each other and to Him. If we confine ourselves to only one aspect of this world, we are cheating ourselves out of a deeper understanding of God's creation.

As a matter of fact, genetics has already taught me a few terms which have added a fresh flavor to my list of descriptive adjectives. For those of you who have taken "chiasmatic" parallelisms and refer to a run-on sentence as a "nondisjunction."

So if you happen to be an accounting major who has a hidden desire to try your hand at painting, indulge yourself. If you've always wanted to learn Russian, but never knew what good it would ever do, go ahead and do it anyway. It is allowed. Take advantage of the opportunities you have at college to expand your horizons and to discover what God has hidden in His exciting creation.

College isn't about getting good grades or preparing for a job. It's about having the opportunity to learn and to prepare for life.
The year’s best brings

Rebekah Sanford’s “Big Spender” dance was a definite departure from most of the other acts and received Most Original. Jason Alons was the Big Spender in question.

Third was won by
Eric Netjes
Dave VanEssen,
Chris Hull,
Chad Nibbelink, and
Mike Plasier, accompanied by Nicole Nibbelink and Rob Antonides. Nibbelink’s original vocal number was again, as in the past two years, a big crowd-pleaser.

John Emshoff performed a dramatic interpretation of “Too Small a Price.”

Jana Smir serenaded Mike Van Wyk on his 21st birthday.

The first prize winner was Three Contant, Mike Vande Griend, and the Shade” and Vande Griend delivered with a single red rose.

photos by Juanita Moore; layout by Shelley W
Tom Van Soelen and Sandra DeJong, both 5th year seniors, were the charming emcees for the evening. They used humor, drama and music to tie the acts together.

Canucks and a Yank, consisting of Brian Tjeplma, John John Michael Dykstra. The quartet sang "Silhouettes on located "Earth Angel" to Jocelyn Heggers and presented

In a retro-flashback episode, Christian Godeke, Kristen Westerhof, Mike Stiensma, Katie Dekker, Cardell Baan Hotman, Cory Kent, Shelley Westerhof, and Dirk Zwart dramatized a typical day in the picture-perfect Brady world.

Andrew Wolgen, Sean Voogt, and Cory Kent took second with their version of "Moby Dick," a Led Zeppelin cover, bringing most of the audience to its feet.
Free Press

Metaphors and other deep stuff

What happened to mysticism? Before an afternoon class early this week, my friend explained his scholastic dilemma. Frustrated, he remarked, "Did you ever think that some of that stuff is just a big cookie cutter? I mean, you get this big cookie cutter, let's call it categories. Then you take a period of history or a section of biology, or a piece of literature. The only way you can talk about any of that stuff is if you break it down. So you put all of that stuff in these nice, neat categories and you press down hard so that somehow everything fits. If it doesn't fit then you throw it out because you couldn't squeeze it into your category, your cookie cutter mold.

"Yeah," I said, "but what you don't realize is that all of that stuff you are throwing out somehow fits. It's all part of the dough, we just can't categorize it." "That's messy.

John sat disturbed in Theology 101. For ten years, he had spoken of his second birthday as "January 13, 1977, when I was born again. I let Jesus into my heart." He thought he had experienced Jesus' love. Now he was not sure where Jesus was.

He saw the point. "If I ask Jesus into your heart and he stays there, he is no good to the world. I have made a prison instead of a fountain. Neat analogy."

But he also saw the flip-side. Since he had moved to the Midwest from the West coast, the CRC church across town had been just that: across town. That congregation had been unwilling to join in a community Reformation Day service because a woman was going to lead the assembly in a time of prayer. The kids from the church attending his Christian high school said they were happy to be at Christian High. They knew the problems in those "secular" schools, they knew how to use the Heidelberg Catechism in Religion class, and they also knew how to use "I...as a noun, verb, adjective, and participle."

The one time he had attended the church was at his friend's little sister's baptism. Walking in, he shook the clamor of greeters dressed in dark suits, and then walked the gauntlet of unfamiliar eyes to his seat. No one spoke. The organ moaned as the people stuffed their faces in their hymnals.

"I love to tell the story, 't will be my theme in glory, To understand, to worship, to know--that's my theme, to tell the old, old story." His friend chuckled. "And Good God Almighty, have mercy on our weary roots, longing to take hold of your divine soul. Lord in heaven, send your holy water to water this ground. Pour out your Spirit on our parched fields with your never-ending dewdrops."

Then it happened. John felt the water. It was something like a sweaty hand sweeping across the back of his neck. Like a splash from the lake, soaking his clothes. Like a big dog slobbering on his face. He could not explain it. He was not even sure if he felt it. A drop of reality splashed down from somewhere and for just a second, slopped into his soul. He felt ambiguously wet.

Later that day, over lunch, he tried to share this sensation with his friend. His friend chuckled, "Maybe you were just sweaty." Maybe, maybe not. Later he read his Bible.

Sitting in class, John felt the cookie-cutter pressing against his head. He saw that every head in class was scored with the marks of a different cookie cutter, and that everyone in class was looking around. They were all trying to understand each other's markings. They all tried to speak the same language.

But he also saw all of the stuff that just did not fit. It coozed out from inside of the marks. It was what he read between the lines, but could not explain. Instead of throwing his out, he tried to save some of the scraps for when he could make his cutter bigger; or for when it would be blown apart.

Tin on tin sparked a fire.

Tal Cardia

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Equal time

by Jeremy Vos

Seat belts save lives. That's pretty much common knowledge—everyone knows that you have a much better chance of surviving a car accident if you are belted in.

But, should the government be able to come into your car and tell you to wear them? I don't think so.

Now, I've been using seat belts regularly from the time I started driving. It has become a habit for me. When I sit down in the car, the first thing I do is fasten the seat belt. A seat belt saved me from serious injury in a car accident in high school.

However, the government has no business inside my car. The government can set up rules of the road in the interest of general safety, but they should not come into my car and instruct me to buckle up. If I cannot find out for myself that seat belts are a good idea, then maybe I need a good hard knock on the noggin.

Just take a look at the laws of physics. Seat belts keep us from flying around inside and outside of the car. This is not hard to grasp.

Does the government think that we are helpless, stupid, or just plain irresponsible? I would only hurt myself by not wearing a seat belt.

There are, I suppose, some ramifications with insurance and medical costs. If you are injured in an accident that was someone else's fault, whether you were or were not wearing a seat belt, the other person is responsible for medical costs.

If we must legislate, let's make the person without the seat belt responsible for their own medical costs. Now that would be incentive to wear the seat belt!

You know, you could catch a cold from going outside without a coat. A cold could develop into pneumonia and you could die. All because you didn't wear a coat outside. Maybe we should have the government tell us when to wear our coats.

Positive reinforcement is the best policy. The government is much better off letting people figure it out for themselves. Give information on the subject, give the suggestion, but keep your bills off my lap.

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Choir tours Pella area

by John Emahoff

One of the more enthusiastic spectators of the Talent Extravaganza chose the best seat in the house—practically in the middle of the action.

English Department to begin judging entries

by Dirk Zwart

The date that all Dordt campus awaits is coming closer. Yes, the day that we find out who has come out on top in the Martin Seven writing competition is almost here. The contest, as reported earlier in this great compilation of Dordt facts, called the Diamond, was started by Mr. Martin Seven who worked as a cataloging librarian at Dordt. Mr. Seven left a sum of money in his will to be used for prizes for a writing contest. From this time the contest has continued as a Dordt tradition and has been the English Department's expose for approximately the last twenty years.

This contest encompasses all writing that may take place on this campus: academic essays, freshman essays, poetry, and fiction writings. All these topics allow a wide variety of entries which could be either assignment or experience based. The contest offers motivation for writing wether it is academic or creative.

This years competition closed on February 15 and is now in the judging process. Each member of the English department is involved in the reading and judging of all the material. Professor Vanden Bosch says, "There are definitely more entries this year than last and an abundance of academic essays." He continued to express dissatisfaction that the movies are governed by the State of Iowa and therefore is deducted from a student's financial aid. "The prizes should be a reward for work well done and not solely for financial aid."

The judging is anticipated to be completed after March break and an awards ceremony to follow. This occasion will promise to be an exciting event and an enjoyment listening to a selection of the prize winners' entries.

Student Forum update

by Sonya Jongema

Due to the fact that many students at Dordt know very little about the activities and projects that the Student Forum is involved in, the Diamond will periodically carry reports of their activities. Because the purpose of the Student Forum is to represent the students and speak on their behalf, expressing their needs, concerns, and criticisms, they feel that it is important for students to know not only what they are doing, but that if students have any ideas or criticisms, they can bring them to the Student Forum or to any member of the Forum.

Student Forum meets every two weeks at 6:00 Thursday night. Dates of meetings for the rest of the year are March 3, March 31, April 14, and April 28. All meetings are held in the Commons Board Room and are open to all students who wish to bring their ideas for improving student life or who just want to see what the Student Forum is and does.

World news

by Kristen Westerhof

Norway- After the technical round, controversial figure skater Tonya Harding, now ranked tenth, has been mathematically eliminated from any chance at a medal. Nancy Kerrigan skated flawlessly and is now placed first. The skaters have yet to skate their long programs, scheduled for Friday night, Feb. 25. Speed skater Bonnie Blair has won the most gold medals of any American in the Winter Olympics with five medals total in three Olympics. Dan Jansen, also a speed skater, has finally won that elusive gold medal. By losing to Finland, the US hockey team has dropped out of medal contention. The U.S. now has 5 gold, 3 silver, and 1 bronze medal. Canada has 1 gold, 3 silver, and 3 bronze medals.

Bosnia- In response to a NATO ultimatum, Serb forces removed their heavy artillery from the perimeter of Sarajevo.

South Africa- A wall of a dam has broken, pouring mud over a housing complex. Twelve people were buried alive, and survivors suffered burns from cyanide which is used in nearby gold mines and had seeped into the mud.
Women prepare for Teikyo Westmar

by Derrick Vander Waal

Dordt continued to play well over the past couple weeks and have finished the regular season with a 11-14 record overall and a 3-3 record in Io-Kota conference play. Dordt is preparing for the playoffs which will begin at Teikyo Westmar on Friday.

Dordt will have to play an extremely well in all aspects if they are to have a chance at beating Teikyo Westmar at their place. Dordt has already lost to Westmar twice on the season by the scores 78-57 and 72-58.

"We feel that we really have to shoot well from outside (against Westmar) because they seem to be able to control the inside with their shot blocking. We have to open the inside with our outside shooting," Coach Len Rhoda said. "They have good outside three point shooters. We've played zone defense most of the year, but because of their good shooting, we're going to have to match-up man-to-man and try get them to play inside the three point line."

Although Dordt has lost to Westmar twice on the season, they are confident in their ability and will not be intimidated by Westmar.

"We're capable of beating them even though the game is over there [at Westmar]," Rhoda said. "They socked us twice, so we have a ways to go, but we know that we are as good as they are."

On Feb. 15, Dordt completed a sweep of Northwestern with a 51-48 win in Orange City. Dordt had more trouble this time with Northwestern than the first time when they handled them, 68-49. Dordt fell behind in this game and was down 26-21 at halftime. During the second half, Dordt battled back and came away with the two point victory. Karl Vanden Hoek led the way with 17 points as Anita Tinkinberg added 11 points and 12 rebounds.

"Our offense just wasn't clicking [against Westmar]," Rhoda said. "We hung in there, but still we were not able to play as well as we were hoping to play against them since it was at home."

Last Saturday, Dordt travelled to Central and were overwhelmed by the NCAA Div. III defending champions, 88-57. Dordt was never really in the game as Central took a 46-25 lead into halftime and added to that lead during the second half. Vanden Hoek scored 10 points to pace Dordt.

On Tuesday night, Dordt travelled to Dana and recorded a big 66-65 victory on the road. This was the second time Dordt narrowly escaped against Dana with a win. Earlier in the season they beat Dana, 58-57 at home. This was a tight game throughout, as neither team was able to really gain control. Dordt led 35-30 into halftime and held on for the win during the second half. Joy Veenstra led the way with 15 points while Tinkinberg and Van Essen followed with 10 points each. Tinkinberg also had 10 rebounds.

"We got things done on both ends against Dana," Rhoda said. "Defensively we played pretty decent, and offensively we started to work the ball a little better and drop some shots that we hadn't been for a couple weeks."

Don't miss the basketball playoffs tonight and Friday night!

MEN:
Thursday, Feb. 24 7:30 p.m. AT HOME against Mt. Marty

WOMEN:
Friday, Feb. 25 7:30 p.m. in Le Mars against Teikyo Westmar

Admission $2 (students)

The Blades lost a heart-breaker Friday as Carleton scored the winning goal as time expired in the game. They closed out their season with another loss against Carleton Saturday afternoon.
Dordt set to open playoffs against Mount Marty tonight

by Derrick Vander Waal

Dordt snapped a five-game losing streak, clinched the No. 1 seed in NAIA Midwest Independent Region's central area, and finished the season on a high note with an impressive 90-82 victory on the road against Teikyo Westmar. Dordt finished the season with a 7-18 record. The No. 1 seed guaranteed Dordt a bye for the opening round of the playoffs.

Mount Marty defeated Teikyo Westmar on Tuesday, so Dordt will take on Mount Marty tonight in Dordt's Gymnasium. During the regular season Dordt defeated Mount Marty three times by the scores 93-75, 67-65, and 90-70. Mount Marty, who has a 6-23 record on the season, has shown steady improvement over the year, so Coach Rick Vander Berg is certain his team will not overlook them.

"It is always tough to beat a team three times much less beat them four times. Last time we played Mount Marty, they did not play very well. The second time we played them, we were fortunate to beat them," Vander Berg said. "We know they're a very improved team because they have some different players than they had from the first semester.... They're playing very good right now, and I think we realize that."

Over the past couple weeks, Dordt has shown some improvement and has played quite well against some top-notch teams. On Feb. 12, after nearly upsetting 7th ranked Sioux Falls earlier in the week, Dordt played well against Nebraska Wesleyan, ranked ninth in NCAA Div. III Western Area. Although Dordt lost 86-78, they proved that they could play with excellent competition.

Dordt kept the game close against Nebraska Wesleyan for much of the first half, but several turnovers resulted in a 44-33 deficit for Dordt as half neared a close. Dordt chipped into the margin a little bit as Troy Stahl's long-range three pointer cut Wesleyan's lead to seven at halftime, 48-41.

Dordt bolted out of the gate during the second half running off the first six points of the half to pull with one point, 48-47. After Dordt was unable to grab the lead, Nebraska Wesleyan ran off the next five points and controlled the game the rest of the way. Dordt was able to pull close several times, but they were unable to make a play with three minutes left. Dordt trailed by only three points and had chances to cut the deficit further, but again Wesleyan took control of the game.

Although Dordt shot well in this game, 48 percent, and out-rebounded Nebraska Wesleyan 35-24, they were unable to overcome Wesleyan's sizzling shooting, 62 percent. Dordt was led by a superb performance from Van Essen who poured in 27 points and pulled down seven boards. Kyle Van Zee and Mickey Visser were also key contributors as they scored 15 and 11 points respectively.

On Feb. 12, Dordt dropped a tough loss, 74-73, in overtime against Dakota Wesleyan in Dordt's Gymnasium. After falling behind early 6-3, Dordt ran off eight consecutive points to take a 11-6 lead. Turnovers plagued Dordt as Wesleyan took control during the rest of the first half and took a 29-26 lead into the break.

The game remained close throughout the second half as neither team was able to gain control of the game. Near the end of regulation, after Dakota Wesleyan grabbed a 56-52 lead, Dave Van Essen sandwiched a basket and a three-point play around a Wesleyan free-throw to tie the game. Then, after Wesleyan hit two free-throws, Pat Krommendyk sank two free-throws with five seconds left to tie the game at 59 and send it into overtime.

Dakota Wesleyan hit three-pointer to grab the lead to open the overtime period. Both teams traded baskets from then on until Krommendyk and Tim Brunsting hit consecutive baskets to take a 73-72 lead in the closing minute before Wesleyan won the game 74-73.

Dordt shot well in this game, 49 percent, and out-rebounded Dakota Wesleyan, but their 20 turnovers cost them the game. Four Dordt players were in double figures. Stahl led the way with 16 points, Visser 14, Van Essen, 12, and Krommendyk, 11.

"It's been kind of the same story all year. We can't quite get over the hump in these games," Vander Berg said. "We get close, but we just can't seem to get enough punch to stick it over the top."

Dordt finished the season last Saturday night with an impressive 90-82 win at Teikyo Westmar. A couple weeks earlier, Dordt had lost a disappointing game against Westmar at Dordt, so this win with Westmar was important. Turnovers were again a problem for Dordt as Westmar took a 43-40 lead at halftime.

Dordt played sloppily during the opening minutes of the second half, but they remained close and righted themselves. Dordt took a 64-63 lead with nine minutes left and remained in control the rest of the way. Westmar stayed with Dordt, but key free-throw shooting by Dordt and a three-pointer by Stahl during the closing minutes clinched the game for Dordt.

Dordt shot extremely well in this game hitting 60 percent of their field goal attempts and 82 percent of their free-throws. Stahl paced four Dordt players in double figures with 22 points on four for eight shooting from three-point range. Van Essen added 19 points and 8 rebounds while Krommendyk and Van Zee chipped in 17 and 12 points respectively.

**SCOREBOARD**

**MEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Dakota State 87, Dordt 74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dana 96, Dordt 83</td>
<td>Graceland 96, Dordt 70</td>
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<td>Dordt 93, Mount Marty 75</td>
<td>Dordt 62, Briar Cliff 55</td>
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<td>Hope 86, Dordt 82</td>
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<td>Northwestern 92, Dordt 72</td>
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<td>Dordt 90, Mount Marty 70</td>
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<td>Dakota Wesleyan 68</td>
<td>Teikyo Westmar 74, Dordt 67</td>
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**WOMEN**

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<td>Grand View 67, Dordt 59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dordt 51, Northwestern 49</td>
<td>Dordt 51, Northwestern 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teikyo Westmar 72, Dordt 58</td>
<td>Teikyo Westmar 72, Dordt 58</td>
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<td>Central 88, Dordt 57</td>
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Snow sculpture contest planned

by Marie Vander Steit

An upcoming activity has been planned in an effort to promote some new fun and creativity for Dordt. The only materials needed are a team of ten people, and SNOW. That's right, it's a snow sculpture contest!

This activity is open to all who wish to participate. The only thing that isn't decided is when it will be held, because snow comes and goes. The plan is to proceed with a contest when the time is right and the snow is here. Some afternoon in the future, a one-hour contest will occur. The judges will then look at all entries and choose a winner. The winning prize: a pizza party for the ten members of the lucky team!

When snow does return, signs will be posted on the day of the contest. In preparation for the big day, sign up with a team of ten people at the switchboard. So get some friends together and start making plans!

April 14:17

Jesus is a native person in the sense that he's always been here and that gives him a special status. In other words, Native Americans should be treated with greater respect by the white man.

Professor Helmstetter of the Sociology Department introduced the afternoon lecture by explaining that all cultures have a worldview and the lectures were an attempt to help us understand the history and culture of the Northern Plains Indians as it intersects with and influences ours.

Brokenleg spoke about the culture, worldview, and history of the Native Americans. We often react to people on the basis of appearance, stressed Brokenleg. Cultural differences are a big problem in American society, he continued. People in one culture often have a real problem appreciating, respecting, and understanding other cultures.

According to Brokenleg, whites are "culturally deprived" because they have only one set of parents. Native American Children have biological and social parents (Brokenleg has over 30 parents) and some children don't know who their real parents are for several years. "Families" are made up of four or five generations, including all relatives. Brokenleg cited a "lollipop study" to illustrate cultural differences. When offered a lollipop when they already had one in their mouths, white children kept the second one for late while the Native Americans shared theirs with a member of their family.

The United States is culturally a monarchy, explained Brokenleg, while in the Lakota tribe there is a hierarchy of family heads. They have absolute democracy and no one has the right to tell anyone else what to do. This multiplicity is evident in their religion also, where there is a strong tradition of Christianity and cultural tradition. People who have problems will sometimes go to the medicine man and sometimes turn to the church, said Brokenleg. He defended their synthesis by saying that Native American Christians are not the same thing, mixing their own ideas (like the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus) in with their religious beliefs.

The history recounted by Brokenleg was not very positive. The Native Americans were often treated unfairly. They were an attempt to help us understand our own culture.

People in one culture often have a real problem understanding other cultures.

Deepl...