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VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 5

DORDT COLLEGE, SIOUX CENTER, IOWA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1991

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Coming next
issue . . .

♦ ZIRCON!

The famous (or infamous?) *Zircon*! Catch this special 4-page *Zircon* for spoofs on just about everything on campus, from current issues to the faculty.

♦ We will deal with the issues of alcohol on campus.

♦ The speedbump has become a BIG problem. Find out just how big in the upcoming *Zircon*.

Yes, we will still have a regular *Diamond*, with the *Zircon* as a 4 page pull-out.

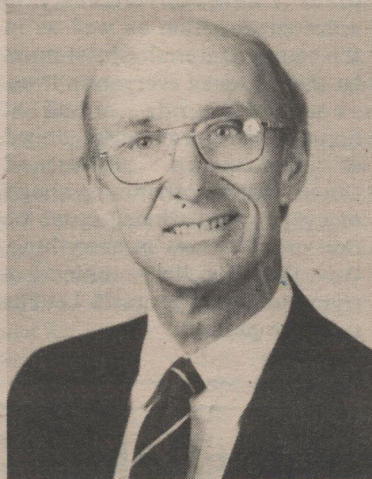
Look for this and more in the December 5 issue of the *Zircon/Diamond*!

Holmes selected to speak

by Lynn Verhoef

One glance at Dr. Arthur F. Holmes' credentials would astound the average, run-of-the-mill philosopher, not to mention the average college student. Not only is he currently philosophy professor and chairman of the Department of Philosophy at Wheaton College, but he is a widely published author of works including such books as *The Idea of a Christian College* and *All Truth Is God's Truth*. He was also National Coordinator of the Ethics Across the Curriculum project of the Christian College Coalition in 1985-1988.

But does this qualify him as this year's Staley Lecturer? Perhaps. But an even more convincing qualification is the number of Teacher of the Year awards that he has received in past years. In 1988 he was recognized as Illinois Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and has twice received the Teacher of the Year Award from Wheaton College. As Jim De Young, Director of Alumni and Public Relations, said, "He is not just a brainy individual with a lot of books to his name." He has proven himself not only a



Dr. Holmes was named Illinois Professor of the Year in 1988.

scholarly individual, but an able communicator to students as well.

Dr. Holmes is this year's speaker sponsored by the Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Program, a program which provides scholarly evangelical speakers for religious emphasis at small Christian colleges such as Dordt. The program has been in existence since 1967 and is based on the conviction that "...it is important that the most dedicated minds who have the ability to effectively communi-

cate be placed in contact with college students."

Dordt has its own Staley Lecture Series Committee composed of students and faculty members who work to bring one speaker to Dordt's campus every year. While students, faculty members and community members profit by these yearly lectures, the purpose is, according to De Young, "to speak to students. They are the primary audience, not the faculty, not the community."

Besides speaking at today's chapel on the topic, "Looking For A Job? A Biblical View of Work," Dr. Holmes spoke this afternoon at 3:30 on "How Can These Pagans Know So Much?" and will follow up on that subject tonight at 7:30 p.m. in C160 with a lecture entitled, "How Can These Christians Know So Little?"

Committee member John Howerzyl predicted that, "In regards to his second speech, Dr. Holmes will say that we as Christians know so little because we refuse to accept and acknowledge the truth found by non-Christians."

Dr. John Kok, philosophy professor, echoed this prediction when he said, "[Dr. Holmes] wants to encourage Christians to

work with greater conviction and competence in their various disciplines. They're often afraid to tackle the unknown, and we really shouldn't be afraid because all truth is God's truth, wherever it can be found."

The *Diamond* has, of late, sponsored a variety of editorials and columns dealing with the defense of the reformed faith. Students may find attending Dr. Holmes' lecture tonight an exercise in the analysis and defense of their beliefs.

When asked why students should take the opportunity to attend Howerzyl said, "I challenge the students to go hear Dr. Holmes primarily because he is a brother in Christ. Ninety percent of what Dr. Holmes will say we will be able to agree with wholeheartedly. But, there will be times when we may disagree with Dr. Holmes, and it is for that reason that I challenge Dordt students to go hear him. It will be easy to say, 'I disagree with that particular statement he made,' but I challenge you to take it a step further and ask yourself why you disagree, what are the implications and what is it that I do believe on that particular subject."

Recycling plan set in motion

by Shelley Westerhof

Because of the response to the student petition, Dordt has started a recycling plan to begin immediately.

There is already a blue recycling dumpster to the west of the Commons. "We are asking all students on the campus to bring

materials over there," said Bernie DeWit, head of the Business Office.

Materials that are acceptable include: **plastics**—milk jugs, liquid soap containers, antifreeze containers, and things of that nature, **glass**—clear glass containers, **paper**—newsprint and

computer paper, and **corrugated cardboard**. Things that are not acceptable include styrofoam, plastic bags, and milk jug caps, glossy paper, colored or window glass.

Besides the recycling bins, there are also boxes for computer paper next to the computers.

We have no definite plans for it yet, but there is a possible place that may take it. "We really encourage students to cooperate with this," DeWit said.

"We're doing quite a bit for recycling already," DeWit commented. There is a pellet burner on campus for cardboard and paper.

Dordt appears to be in fine shape for its accreditation renewal.

page 5



Winter . . .

It comes whether we are ready for it or not. Find out Dordt students' reactions.

pages 6-7



Racism at Dordt

Dear Editor,

In the past few weeks, I have become increasingly dissatisfied with the atmosphere at Dordt College. There have been several incidents that do not reflect a Christian attitude. For example, my former R.A., Thomas Rogers, was given a hard time during his time as an R.A. He related to me that he was being discriminated against that people were upset that a black student could be in such a position of power as an R.A. I understand also that there was an apology for the behavior against him. However, it still bothers me that the situation ever came up. I am happy that the problem has been resolved, but there will always be a memory of this experience both in my mind and in the minds of those who were involved.

Dordt College is a Christian institution with Christian stu-

dents. As Christians, we are not permitted to be racist, to discriminate against our neighbors. I realize that there is no law in the Bible that says "Thou shalt not hate black people (who are R.A.'s)." However, Christ tells us that all the law can be summed up in two laws: Love the Lord with all your heart and mind (and also your actions), and love your neighbor as yourself. Your neighbor is not only the white man who lives down the road, but also the black R.A. who lives on your campus. Loving your neighbors means that you do not discriminate against them, you do not do anything to hurt them, and you try to do what is best for them, before what is best for you. I believe that Christ did not want to have a legalistic community based upon petty little laws. Instead, he wanted a system where people acted

out of love. **RACISM IS NOT LOVING.**

I believe that it is high time that Dordt, a Christian institution, begins to act in a Christian manner. The problem is both institutional and social. Dordt students must learn to love and be less self-centered, greedy and uncaring. This calls for a drastic change, but a change that is necessary. Dordt must become a place where Christianity is reflected in action as well as in the course material. Christ must be the center of everyone's lives, ahead of friends, ahead of finances, ahead of marks, ahead of Christian Reformed Conservative Calvinism, ahead of everything! Christ must be first and foremost in everything. Give God the glory, instead of trying to glorify yourself. Let His name be praised.

—Phil Jongejan

Blades receive short end of the stick

Dear Editor:

The following comments are a result of the events that occurred on the opening weekend of the regular season for the Dordt Blades Hockey team. This reaction is a call for consistency—consistency among athletic teams!

But first, we would like to express our appreciation to the college for the increased financial support during the past seasons. This has saved us from much personal expense and frustration. The support adds credibility and competitiveness to the hockey program, for which we are thankful.

Unfortunately, support goes a little further than just the monetary aspect. Last weekend, we barely arrived 20 minutes before game time in Des Moines. That certainly wasn't much time to get dressed, to discuss the game plan and to warm up. The problem wasn't that we failed to leave early enough, but it was that we were stranded on the highway trying to bleed air from the diesel bus' fuel line for nearly an hour. It turned out that work-study personnel never filled up the tank the last time the bus was returned. Maintenance had also had a good month to get the broken fuel gauge fixed, but it

never got done. It becomes hard to be competitive when we're angry, cold and tired and the game has yet to start.

Secondly, the Blades broke rule 2 under section A, entitled Club Membership, of the CSCHL regulations. "The hockey club must have an official faculty advisor who is in the employment of the institution as a full time faculty/staff member." Through several meetings and discussions with various faculty members, we tried our best to get an advisor, but after that the responsibility fell on Dordt to comply to that rule. It's hard to have a winning record when teams could win by default since we've broken rules before we've left campus.

Upon being cut by a high stick in the opening game, we opened our medical box to use the supplies that the P.E. department so generously gave us. But our player was forced to play the rest of the game with an open gash on his chin because the four or five-year-old bandages had no stick to them. The rest of the medical supplies also looked several years old and the throwbacks from the other teams. Again it is difficult to play with improper supplies and precautions.

Rename North Hall?

To the editor:

Regarding the recent decision that it will be permitted to name buildings on campus after certain benefactors, I would like to make a proposal. There is a

man here of the administration whose willingness to help students and whose availability to talk to them has endeared him to us. His assistance in the matters of finance has been

Another question that entered many players' minds was why the student services staff, who were in Des Moines, could make it to the soccer game, but not to our game a couple hours later. Why not show up for part of the game and at least show some interest to Dordt's most active club. Some of the best support is the attendance of fans at a road game.

Overall, there seems to be an inconsistency between athletic programs. Just because we're a club doesn't mean that we have lesser needs. Would any varsity team leave for road trips with insufficient medical supplies? Would the volleyball team be given poorly maintained vehicles, as faculty and students prevent maintenance from doing their job? Would the college break any rules that a varsity team must comply with? Has there ever been a varsity game with not one faculty/staff personnel in attendance? We think not for all these scenarios! Maybe it's coincidence, yet this is our first weekend and past experiences prove otherwise. Let's be consistent, for the credibility and competitiveness of the hockey team and the rest of Dordt College!

—The Dordt Blades

invaluable to many of us and for this reason I humbly suggest that the guy's dorm be renamed Howard Hall.

—Sam J. Gesch

F words on campus

Dear Editor,

I've been here for three years now and have found out quite a bit about reformed theology. Among one of the most interesting facts is that we accept the "f word" in movies, plays, music and literature but will not accept the other "f word," that is fundamentalism. Why do we tolerate one thing, f—, which is not very Christian, and denounce the other, fundamentalism, which is obviously Christian?

I heard a joke several years ago that has kept on coming to mind this past year. A man goes to Heaven. St. Peter gives him the complimentary tour and at one point cautions the man to be quiet as they pass a closed door. The man asks why and St. Peter responds, "It's the (fill in the blank with the denomination). They think they're the only ones here." No one here has ever said that our brothers the fundamentalists are not going to Heaven, but the idea has certainly been given that they are inferior Christians and may not be as well off in Heaven as the Reformed Christians will be.

This attitude is un-Christlike, unbiblical, unchristian, and reeks of prejudice and elitism. Dare I paraphrase the apostle Paul to say, "In Christ there is no Reformed or Fundamentalist. We seem to be working on the 'Scythian of barbarian' black, white, inter-racial aspect on campus. But when we slash other Christians, we've missed the whole point of Christ's love. The only people Christ denounced during his stay on earth were hypocrites and maybe a few sinners. If we are to follow in His footsteps, we are to love our brothers in the Lord, whether they are reformed or not. Love does not include denigrating brothers for a different interpretation of scripture. If it does, then let's forget the heathens (they're under common grace) and instead send missionaries to our poor, deluded, fundamentalist brethren who have the truth but fail to see it.

In Christian love for Christians of all denominations, and in hopes of keeping the Church unified,

—Sam J. Gesch

Fallen Magic

Dear editor,

The game of basketball is losing one of its greatest players, possibly one of the best of all time. For this reason I sorrow. But Magic Johnson is not out of the game because of an accident. He is out because he was irresponsible. So why the intense amount of media attention?

This case points out a few things wrong in our society. First is that the life of a sports superstar is somehow more valuable or precious than that of a junkie. The fact that Magic Johnson has the HIV virus should matter-of-factly show that beyond natural charisma and athletic talent, Magic Johnson is human. Instead, contracting the virus has changed his status from near superhuman athlete to martyr-to-be. His near divinity hasn't been altered, it has merely changed genre. And this brings me to my second point. Instead of pointing out that he has this virus because he acted wrongly, the Media has por-

trayed him as a helpless victim to an evil disease. I believe Magic Johnson has this disease because he engaged in promiscuous sex.

Magic says that he has voluntarily left the Lakers to become a spokesman for AIDS awareness. Fine. We have a long way to go toward educating people about AIDS and eliminating the hate and bigotry that is so often associated with the disease. But Magic's approach is wrong. The way to avoid AIDS is not to practice safe sex, it is to remain abstinent until marriage and monogamous thereafter. Until that message is brought out, AIDS will remain a killer.

AIDS is a lifestyle disease. We teach that the way to avoid other lifestyle diseases, such as heart disease, is to avoid the things that cause it: smoking, fatty foods, cholesterol, and lack of exercise. Let's recognize AIDS for what it is and begin to deal with it as such.

—Paul Dalen

More to apologetics

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on my last letter to the *Diamond* on the topic of apologetics. Apologetics is the defense of the faith. Most everyone knows that. I would, however, like to point out that it is not simply the rational or logical defense of the faith. Apologetics is also a lifestyle which in itself defends and fights

for the faith. There had been some concern expressed to me concerning the rational element of apologetics, (which is the reason for this missive) so I would also like to say that the Holy Spirit is the key to apologetics. He is the guide and it is He who will move in the non-Christian's heart to bring him to salvation.

—Sam J. Gesch

FROM THE EDITOR

Racism and You

You would find it difficult even to *begin* an editorial on racism at Dordt College. First, you would expect students to understand what racism is and to have an understanding of the horrors by which it manifests itself. But most evidently, as an editor, you would decline from writing any elementary lines about how destructive and senseless racism is. Believe me, the last thing you want to do is insult the students' intelligence.

So, you might ask, what's up with an editorial on racism?

Apparently, there is a fair share of racism on the campus. This is the reason why we, as an

editorial board, have included a number of opinion pieces reflecting student concern on the topic. A number of recent incidents have thrown the issue of racism into the Dordt spotlight. The Dordt spotlight, like any spotlight, is as indifferent as a summer night's thunderstorm. However, there are always certain powers who have the ability to block or direct the light. One of those powers, I suppose, is the *Diamond*. After a lot of talk, we decided to go forward and print the letters and articles which addressed the issue.

What bothers students is the malicious action which has sprung forth in the freshman

dorms. No offense to anyone, but life in North and East Halls is usually cheap and carefree. (I remember my freshman year and what cable TV did to our outlook on women, studying and life in general). But when stories break of dorm residents burning cigarette boxes shaped as crosses outside the dormitory *for every passing person to see* in order to chide non-white residents, you know something's the matter. And when residents openly call African-American residents "Nigger," you know what's been twisted enough has just been twisted some more.

Racist students aren't necessarily stupid stu-

dents. The damage they do to the non-white students quite often starts in closed circles. And this means, of course, that what is said in those circles stays in the circles. Who knows what's been said? Although there are plenty of people who would openly air their racism on TV or in public, the majority of those "small incidents" take place in closed environments. At Dordt College, the "closed circle" scenario seems to be the most common.

Of course, this limits witnesses to few and allows for both creative license and bias when it comes time for the stories to start floating. At times, there is nothing more dangerous than

creative license and personal bias. Nonetheless, the number of stories and personal testimonies, blown up or not, have prompted this student newspaper to investigate the issue in order that the issue might be dealt with . . . well . . . "for liberty and justice for all."

We appreciate your contribution to the *Diamond*. However, concerning this issue, we ask that you do more than just read.

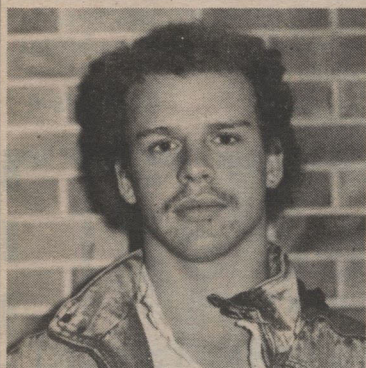
Contemplate. Discuss. Ask questions. Talk about the issue to your friends and enemies.

Please respond to a truth we would like to believe does not exist.

—Dirk Schouten with Jeff Kopaska

STUDENTS SAY...

Discuss your feelings about Dordt's reformation viewpoint in one area of campus



Frank Schippers
SO, communications

Dordt teaches us to become as competent and broadminded as possible. However, if Dordt is as reformational as it claims, why isn't there a general course offered in pop music history, which is what we listen to? Why won't the music department deal with this?



Julie Scheffer
FR, ag. business

Dordt seems reformational to me because it encourages students to be closer to God and keep Him in mind in all areas of life. For ag. Business, this means taking the best care of the land.



Todd Bartels
JR, Buad.

Dordt does help us develop a Christian worldview. But one area of concern is the [Dordt] farm. It is so high tech, almost so that it's inefficient. And yet only a few students ever go there.

DIAMOND STAFF

The *Diamond* is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond it. Any letters, comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions to the *Diamond* must be signed and received by the Monday before publication.

Address contributions to:

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Abstain from "reformed"

Dear editor,

Congratulations on another thought-provoking issue of the *Diamond*. My thinking has been provoked on so many fronts, I had a tough time limiting my response to a single writer. But I did.

David McReynolds' article reinforces my belief that we would do well to stop using the term *Reformed* around here.

That doesn't mean that I agree entirely with you, David. You suggest that Dordt is in the business of promoting blind acceptance. My experience of Dordt many years ago (ten or so) is that

my professors worked hard at making me think critically about my, their, and society's ideas, mores, and values. They did, however, attempt to give me what their faith, worldview, and experience told them were the best possible tools with which to be critical: the elements of a Reformed perspective.

Now I've gone and trespassed on my own prohibition. It is terribly difficult to stop using the "R" word.

Before I stumble over it again, let me propose an alternative: *reformational*. The problem with *Reformed* (or, if you prefer,

reformed) is illustrated by David's article. David talks about a Christian Reformed philosophy. I submit that there is no such thing. There are a number of "philosophies" to which Christian Reformed people adhere, either systematically or implicitly. Some of those philosophies couldn't even be called Christian, much less Reformed (oops).

Around here we use the term *Reformed* philosophy more narrowly, most often to mean something like *Kuyperian/Doojweerdian* philosophy. The trouble is "that *Reformed* is also part of the name of a denomination (or four) that

people around here belong to. So when we say "be Reformed," some people hear us saying "be Christian Reformed." They don't realize, maybe we don't realize, that to be philosophically Reformed is not, necessarily, to be Christian Reformed or Protestant Reformed or Reformed Church (U.S.). . .

Maybe a simple semantic change would help matters. Next time you want to say "Reformed," say "reformational" instead. It not only carries less denominational baggage, it also has more of the desirable *semper reformanda* connotations.

That doesn't answer David's concern that at Dordt "a Christian Reformed philosophy is presented as the only alternative for Christians." I don't believe that statement to be true, by the way, even if you substitute *reformational* for *Christian Reformed*. A reformational philosophy is probably presented as the *best* alternative for Christians. Why it ought to be is the subject for another letter and, I hope, another writer.

Sincerely and unofficially,
Jim De Young

Film lacks critical viewing

Dear Editor,

This article is the result of a student-faculty discussion concerning the role of film at Dordt College. Due to the demise of the Film Committee and the film section of General Arts 200, Dordt College is taking no direction toward the understanding of film, especially how film can be "redeemed."

The medium of film is affecting the majority of Dordt students on a regular basis. Many students go to Le Mars, Sioux City, and Sioux Falls every weekend for the purpose of viewing newly released films. The wide availability of video taped movies in town also provides ample opportunity for students to view films. Many students, in fact, view up to ten films per week by the use of video tapes.

Many Dordt students think that when watching a film you can just "veg out" and take in only the sugar coating of action, sex, or violence. This could be compared to reading a Schaap essay and analyzing only the sentence structure but not catching the meaning of the story, or

listening to a Grotenhuis song and hearing only the music, but not the message of the text. Films cannot be approached in such a non-caring way, it does justice to no one involved.

Dordt students are making an issue of the need for Dordt to address film as it relates to students. This is evidenced by the two articles relating to the issue in the October 17, 1991 *Diamond*. One discusses the reasons as to why the film committee disbanded, and the other talks about the efforts that faculty members Don King and Robert De Smith are putting forth to start a film club to view and discuss films. Dordt students have also started a video club for the purpose of film production, signaling more interest in film.

The wide appeal of films and their prevalent role in the lives of Dordt students and faculty creates a need for Dordt to address film as part of its curricula. I believe that the students of Dordt College should have the opportunity to learn to view film in a distinctly reformed fashion. The college should provide a means

for students to view films in a classroom situation, then discuss them with a thetical-critical method in reference to the form and function of the film.

The special topics course in the English department, Film and Novel (ENG 241), is a start toward this goal. There are two problems with this course, though. First, the class is only a special topics course, which means it cannot be taught on a regular basis. Second, since the course is Film and Novel, the discussion of film is too narrow and the course may not be accessible to a student without a strong literature background.

Dordt takes strong leadership roles to guide students in their relationships with God, other people, academics, and the popular culture. This direction-giving needs to be extended to how we view films. There are many films, and there are many viewers, but the process of critical viewing is lost between our reformed vision and prevalent humanism. Dordt College, what is your response?

Jeff Kopaksa

"Beef about concert" considered rude, inappropriate, irresponsible criticism

Dear editor:

Although I felt the editorial submitted concerning the Fall Festival choral and band concert, "Beef About Concert," October 31 issue was appropriately printed, I feel the attitude and presentation of the letter by Frank Schippers was inappropriate, tactless, and disrespectful. Granted, everyone will have a different opinion concerning an artistic presentation such as the Fall Festival, but criticism of such an event should be done in a constructive manner. To say

the music was "depressing" without explaining which songs were particularly so, and then to berate the soloist without discerning what about her performance was so detracting from the piece was irresponsible criticism, not to mention outright rude.

The central issue that concerned me, however, was how a college student could have the audacity and gall to tell a college professor to "get into the nineties." As Schippers would have found out, if he had

approached the appropriate persons with his grievance, the microphone was for the organist accompanying the combined concert choir and chorale during the finale. Due to no fault of Mr. Grotenhuis, the microphone was not turned on, which was realized during the final song. I have hope that such future articles concerning criticism of presentations of the arts at Dordt will be presented in a more responsible manner.

Shelbi Anderson
Dordt College Chorale Member

Schizophrenia associated with poor parenting in "The Boys Next Door"

Dear editor,

I found the recent play "The Boys Next Door" disturbing. What disturbed me was the variety of myths and mis-information the play portrayed about persons with disabilities and the people who attempt to assist them. The most distressing aspect to me was the association the play made between the disease of schizophrenia and poor parenting. Frequently in the early part of the play the character Barry, labeled as suffering from schizophrenia, spoke about his troubled childhood, his neglectful parents and his delusions of the "good" father he never had—as if this was important to know about him in order to understand his problems. If the viewer doubted this connection, the scene wherein his drunken father verbally and physically abused him left no doubt as to what caused his difficulties.

The fact is there is no relationship between poor parenting and schizophrenia. Schizophrenia

clearly has a biological/genetic etiology. I have spent ten years as a social worker working with persons who suffer from schizophrenia and their families. The burdens these families experience and the guilt that they feel by being blamed for their relative's illness is enormous. Much of my doctoral education was focused on developing programs for family members, helping to disabuse them of the notion (myth) that their inadequacies as parents contributed to their son or daughter's illness. To see such mis-information so graphically and powerfully displayed was very painful. It further pains me to think that when your viewers encounter families where a person suffers from schizophrenia, that this image of parental abuse is what they will remember. For all the positive things this play may have intended to do in building bridges, there were in my opinion, as many painful chasms dug.

Beryl Hugen

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Dordt's future safe and sound

by Juli Kelderman

Both the North Central Association accreditation team and Dr. Ribbens, chairman of Dordt's NCA committee appear pretty confident that Dordt will remain an accredited college. During the team's visit November 4-6, they expressed great optimism about Dordt's status, and as Dr. Ribbens stated, "I don't anticipate anything but a favorable outcome."

Dordt has been an accredited four-year college since 1969, as far as Dr. Ribbens knows. Usually, an accreditation team visits a college every ten years to re-confirm its standing, although Dordt's last visit was eleven years ago.

The North Central Association for Colleges and Schools is a Chicago-based organization which sends out accreditation teams to review small, private, colleges like Dordt in a large midwestern area. One of its rules is that a team cannot be from the same state as the school it visits. Therefore, the four team members who came to Dordt were from Ohio, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Indiana.

Accreditation is the "criteria other schools use to measure us," Dr. Ribbens explained. In

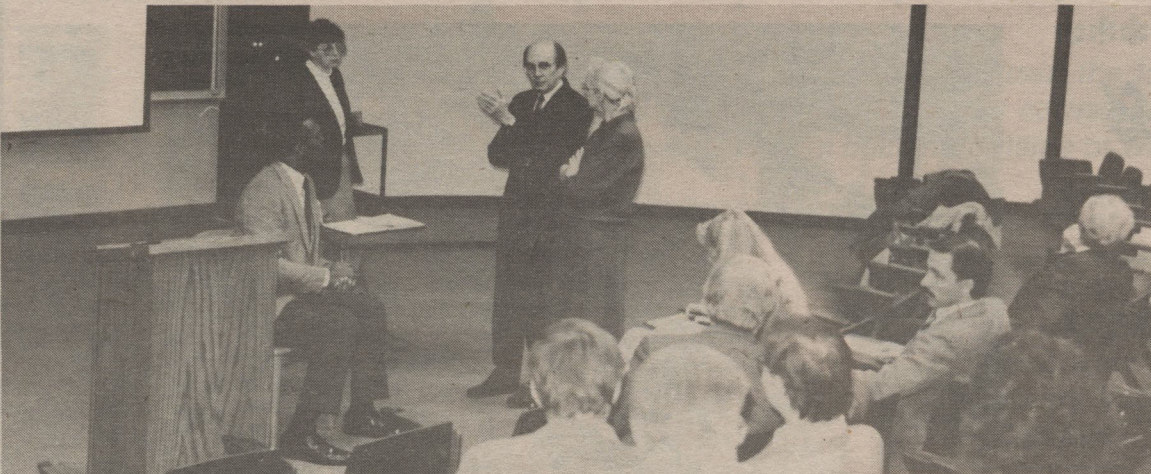


photo by Jeff DeBoer

Members of the re-accreditation committee met with Dordt's faculty Nov. 4-6

other words, accreditation says something about a school's quality to other colleges, but also to the public. To prospective students and parents, accreditation says that the institution is likely to exist in the future. In addition, without accreditation, one's credits would not transfer if he or she were to change schools. Ribbens said, "We take this very seriously."

The largest part of the accreditation process occurred long before the team arrived on campus. For eighteen months, a steering committee of several

faculty and staff members worked on a self-study report which included virtually every aspect of Dordt College. In fact, Dr. Ribbens' job for the past year, as chairman of the committee, was largely work on the self study. When finished, this 200-page "book" was sent to the members of the accreditation team, along with many other materials, for them to read.

After receiving and reading the self study report, the team then visited campus, "to see first-hand what they saw on paper." To do so, they toured campus for three

days, interacting with faculty, administrators, trustees, and students. All the observations were made within the context of Dordt's stated mission, since the team members came from a variety of religious backgrounds, and could not base their judgments on their own personal beliefs. Things apparently looked good, as Pam Moehring from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee commented that she saw "a very strong concurrence between what I read and what I found."

In about a month, the team will send an official report regarding

Dordt's re-accreditation. This report may also contain suggestions for improvement.

While here, the team held two special open forums—one for students, and the other for faculty. Their purpose was to get further insight into the correlation between Dordt's self-analysis and actuality. They started off both meetings by asking "What's the best and worst thing about Dordt College?" The students mentioned location as the worst aspect, while Professor Koekkoek shared the sentiments of most faculty members when he proclaimed, "the size of my office!" Neither group could nail down one specific "best" aspect, but Dirk Schouten summed it all up by saying, "It's a fantastic college!"

Although it is possible for a college to lose its accreditation, Dr. Ribbens assures us that such cases are "very seldom" and that Dordt is in good shape. The upcoming report may also raise questions for our own benefit; as the team members mentioned, they were "rather impressed" with how much Dordt has tried to use the advice given in the last report. Overall, they "found it to be a rather exciting and rather distinct place."

Entertainment slated for International Day

By Jennifer Dyke

In order to enjoy the cultural experiences offered, the Foreign Language Department will present their annual International Day.

On Nov. 18, at 6:30 p.m., Dr. John Struyk, along with the various advanced foreign language classes will present to students a variety of entertainment.

There will be group singing in different languages including French, Dutch, Spanish and German. Students will participate in a game of scavenger hunt

and the conversation classes will entertain students with skits. These skits include a German rendition of Little Red Riding Hood, called "Rot kappehen" and a Dutch performance of "Drie Schuimtomboers."

The purpose for having International Day is to draw attention to foreign language within the student body, and to encourage study abroad.

The activity will include refreshments and should last until 8:00 p.m. in C160.

News shorts

by Sandra DeJong

4 Live Bones Perform Tuesday

The 4 Live Bones will bring the Dordt College chapel to life when they perform in concert on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

The 4 Live Bones, a trombone quartet featuring Chuck De Groat, Lyle Van Ravenswaay, Steve Vander Berg, and Scott Van Wyk take pride in their chosen name, a pun on the instruments and a deliberate contrast to the rock group 2 Live Crew. They take their theme from Ezekiel 37:5, referring to God's renewal of a valley of dry bones.

The concert, which is sponsored by the Dordt College music department, will feature a repertoire of classical, country, jazz and rock music. They will also play a musical arrangement by Van Ravenswaay, quartet member and music major.

The 4 Live Bones have previously played for various banquets, birthday surprises and school assemblies. They plan to

record an album "Bach to the Beatles" this fall and are hoping to go on tour during Christmas break with stops in Pella, Des Moines, and Chicago. A freewill offering will be taken during the concert to help with the expense of the tour.

Renowned musician to perform at Dordt

The Dordt College Music Department will welcome guest tenor Carl Kaiser in a recital on Sunday, Nov. 17, at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel.

Kaiser, who is associate professor of music at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., received his master of music degree in vocal performance from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Kaiser also studied in Germany for two years and then began a 15-year career as principal lyric tenor in the opera houses of Lubeck, Bremerhaven and Krefeld-Monchengladbach. He has appeared in more than 30 opera houses in Europe and was listed in *Who's Who in Opera* 1976.

Kaiser returned to the United States in 1977 to join the Calvin College faculty as associate professor of music. Currently he also serves as adjunct professor of voice at Indiana University in South Bend and sings with the Calvin College Oratorio Society, the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra and several other ensembles.

The recital is free and open to the public.

Van Wyk's works displayed

Jacob Van Wyk, a member of Dordt College faculty, will have his works on display in the college art gallery, Nov. 18 through Dec. 20.

The art exhibit will contain retrospective drawings, lithographic prints and ceramic work including porcelain and stoneware.

The art gallery is located on the second level of the chapel and is open weekdays from 9-5 as well as evenings when activities are held in the chapel. There is no admission charge.

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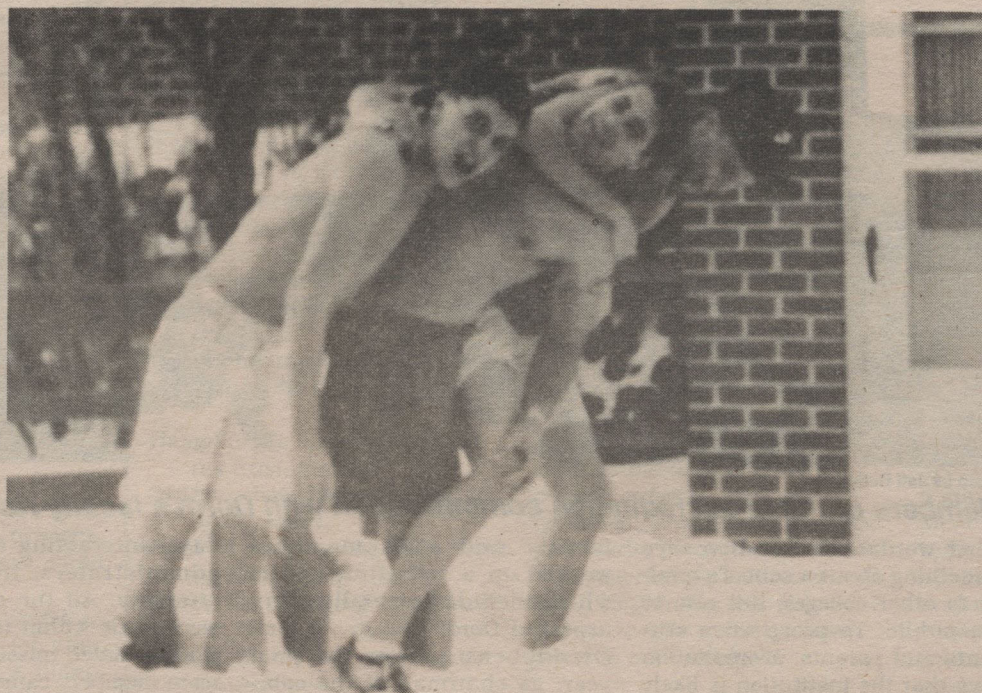
Winter's

Wonders

First snow of the season hits campus

photos by Julie DeBoer

Tomfoolery runs rampant. Brent Fedders, Chris Brouwer and Brian Van Beek bare it all.



Some people are better equipped than others for the frigid winter weather. Gloves and snow go hand in hand.



Maintenance finally finishes clearing the remaining ice off the sidewalks.

by Julie DeBoer

'Tis the season. The first flakes (of the snow variety) have fallen early this year, putting a sudden end to any hopes of a long Indian summer, or even a warm fall. Dordt students must pull out their sweaters, dig to the backs of their closets for warm jackets and winter coats, and write home to mom for forgotten gloves and scarves, hoping she won't throw in that ugly wool snow cap that "got lost" last year.

Winter is one of the most difficult transitions to be made in the year. Though the vestiges of summertime tans fade less quickly than the tree leaves depart from their branches, even the California dreamers must trade in their shorts for pants (if not the dreaded long underwear) to survive the biting Iowa winter wind. Other than signalling a wardrobe change, winter holds a special meaning for students. It seems that the

first snow brings with it an increase in our study workload. Everything is due at the same time; no single test is scheduled on a specific day, rather, there are two or three a day or at least one every day for a minimum of two days. In general the pace picks up, the beat doubles, and suddenly the tune of the academic world calls for dancing like Standish De Vries!

Yet, winter also holds hope for relief. Snow signals vacation. Thanksgiving break is upon us, and shortly after that we will be home for the Christmas holidays. The key is survival of finals and the stress they bring.

So, depart from the usual. Take a little time out, sit down (in a comfortable chair for once, not at the desk), and lighten up for just a little while. Just for fun (don't look up a definition for that word), stop to smile and enjoy the different ways some students

have bundled up or frozen to death, as the case may be. Also, read on to discover some local favorites in the area of winter clothing and possibly find common grins or gripes concerning the snow!

We haven't seen any snowmen yet, but occasionally campus residents have been spotted in pretty snow-covered states. Victims of the abominable snowman? Or just victim to

a love of a cold, white, wet substance frequently associated with the midwest during the months of November, December, January and February?

Students respond to winter

Kim Dykstra: "I like winter because of winter sports, cozy nights by the fire and hot cocoa."

Stacie Tiedeman: "I like winter because it brings new activities with it, like

sledding and snowball fights."

Dan De Boom: "I think it's very cold right now, but I like it because I haven't been experiencing it for too long."

Paul DeBoer: "Winter's nice 'cause it's fun to bundle up."

Sharon Vander Kruk: "Winter makes me want to jump in a big, huge snow-drift."

Beth Hollander: "I like win-



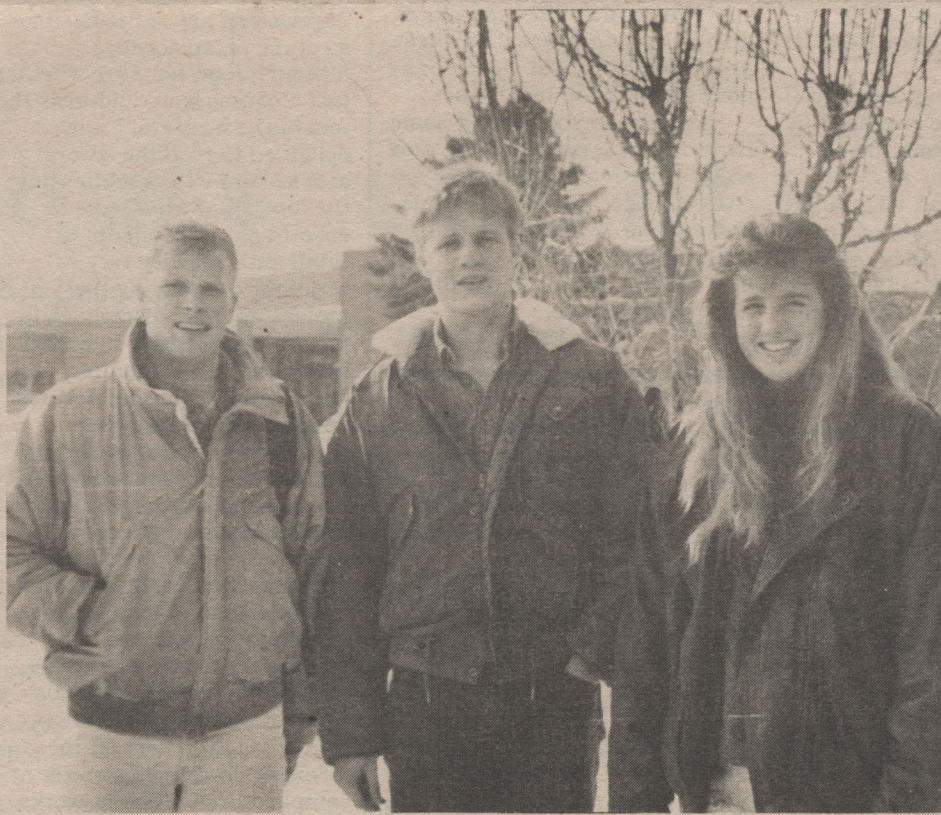


Seth Hofman cautiously slides down the lower portion of Dordt's own "million dollar corner" just north-east of the classroom building outside of West Hall.



South of the border style keeps Sam Gesch, left, encllothed in warmth for the long walk from the library back to East Campus.

Below, three students display the various types of the favored outer wear on campus. From left to right: a ski jacket, a lined jean jacket and a leather jacket.



my car won't start."
Amir Andrawis: "Winter would be nice for one day."
Tanja Yarboro: "I don't like cold weather, but if it's a vacation or holiday I like it because it encourages indoor activities."
Renee Storteboom: "No snow's good unless you can ski on it."
Hilde Kievit: "Winter here is too long. I love ice skating and skiing; that's good about winter."
Mike Kooi: "I like winter back home but not here."
Mark Huyer: "If there were some ski hills around here I wouldn't mind it."
Lynn Verhoef: "[I don't like winter]; not here, it's too cold."
What have you been anxiously waiting to pull out of the closet once the snow fell? Do you have a favorite piece of winter clothing?
Jeanne Giddings: "My sweaters and my flannel sheets."
Valerie Schiebout: "Jeanne's sweaters."
Joylene Guillaume: "I like my red gloves and scarf."
Rick Dykstra: "I don't wear anything different than I do in summer."
Paul DeBoer: "Turtlenecks."

Standish De Vries: "Wool sweaters."
Sharon Vander Kruk: "Long johns and big, thick, work socks."
Matt Biemers: "Dordt College sweatshirts."
Bruce Medema: "Trenchcoat."
Tanja Yarboro: "A big wooly sweater."
Renee Storteboom: "My green earmuffs."
Chuck De Groat: "I like to be clothed with the armor of God year round."
Mike Kooi: "Long underwear here. My swim suit at home

ter because it is cozy in your room when you're in your room and it's snowing [and you have] hot chocolate. I like that."
Mike Wynia: "I [like the snow] because I've had it all my life."
Calvin Westervelt: "I'm used to it."
Matt Biemers: "Winter means summer's coming."
Bruce Medema: "As an artist I appreciate the aesthetic qualities of the winter

wonderland."
Chuck De Groat: "Winter's nice 'cause it's white and it snows."
Julie Bergsma: "I love the snow because I've never lived much in snow."
Jill Van Hofwegen: "I like winter 'because we don't have snow where I live (Riverside, CA), and I've never seen snow fall before."
Jeanne Giddings: "I like winter, but I hate a really low wind chill."

Valerie Schiebout: "I like looking out the window at winter but I don't like the cold."
Rick Dykstra: "I don't like snow. I never see it [at home]."
Bill Vander Haar: "I hate walking to class in the windy cold weather."
Laurie Hekman: "I hate winter 'cause I'm from California, and it's warm out there and cold here. I'm a very negative person about

winter. I hate wearing jackets most."
Standish De Vries: "Thinks winter is 'cold and colorless."
Joel Keen: "It's not my favorite season. I like spring 'cause it's warm and it's green."
Nikki Van Wyngaarden: "Says that she doesn't like winter in Iowa." "In Iowa, no. It's too cold."
Kalvin Parman: "Doesn't like winter 'too much because

(Florida)."
Mark Huyer: "Work overalls."
Lynn Verhoef: "My boots."
Jill Van Hofwegen: "My scarf because I've never had one before."
Stacie Tiedeman: "My leather jacket."
Kim Dykstra: "My sweaters or my flannel P.J.'s."

Guilt, coffee, and DDT

I've been feeling really guilty lately. I went to *The Boys Next Door* and felt guilty for not being a social worker. I saw the movie *Romero* and felt guilty for not doing something about the situation in Latin America. We just had World Hunger Week in the CRC and I felt guilty about my own eating habits and for not giving more for the hungry. Then Rev. Weidenaar's morning sermon struck me like a leftover Latin American tortilla. His point was that it is not my responsibility to solve the all the world's problems.

Solving the world's problems is beyond the scope of any single human being, with the possible exception of Dirk Schouten. In other words, no one person can tackle all the problems. When people try, they get burned out and end up working at travel agencies.

This doesn't mean we're to ignore the problems and live yippy-skippy lives in quiet, problem-free places.

My suggestion is this: decide on one problem area and stick with it. Decide that in your few years here on earth you're going to make a difference with the situation of the homeless. Or the sick. Or those in prison. (Sound familiar?)

You'll get nothing done if you allow yourself to be swamped by the scope of problems the world has. You could get a group of friends together and sit around for days, drinking coffee laced with DDT (studies show 50% of our imported coffee is, since it's not illegal to make DDT and sell it to other countries), picked by

workers for three cents an hour, and bemoaning the state of the world and end up with nothing more than a sour taste in our mouths and a dull feeling of hopelessness.

The solution is to make a difference in your area of talent and/or interest. If you can write, there are many in prison who have nobody with which to correspond, and await your letter. Senators and elected people await your letter about the Latin America situation. If you can ladle soup and live or will live in a city, there are many who await your help. You could get a group of friends together and sit around for days, drinking freshly squeezed orange juice with pulp from organically grown oranges, and thinking up ways you could help.

At Dordt there are excellent ways to develop skills for your chosen way of making a difference. AMOR (A Missions Outreach) sends students to do volunteer work in Mexico or the Dominican Republic. The Community Outreach Program supplies diverse opportunities to volunteer. PLIA (Putting Love Into Action) sends students to help out in five different places during spring break. All these programs are right here, right now. All you have to do is act.

I challenge you: spend some time in serious thought and come up with a problem that you can change. Set some goals. Write some letters. Pray. Think of the differences you can make in a lifetime. Think of the difference we can make.

—John K. VanDyk

Observations

with Paulus Vander Kreek

*From all my lame defeats and
oh! much more
From all the victories that I
seemed to score
From cleverness shot forth on
Thy behalf
At which, while angels weep,
the audience laugh;
From all my proofs of Thy
divinity,
Thou, who wouldst give no sign,
deliver me.*

*Thoughts are but coins. Let me
not trust, instead
Of Thee, their thin-worm image
of Thy head.
From all my thoughts, even from
my thoughts of Thee,
O thou fair Silence, fall, and set
me free.
Lord of the narrow gate and the
needle's eye,
Take from me all my trumpery
lest I die.*

—The Apologist's Evening Prayer

Apologetics

In the last issue of the *Diamond* there were some discussions about the need for a course on apologetics. Although I am not sure whether just a course would address the root of the problem, I was delighted to read the several articles and letters addressing the topic, and would like to encourage our students to think and consider very seriously challenging the professors in all disciplines to integrate the debate in each individual subject matter, and also through informal debates, and club meetings (where education happens at its best—for the better or for the worse—in an open environment, free from grades and grieves). If we are not given an opportunity to question what we believe, than agnosticism and indifference may take over. And in connection with apologetics I would like to make a humble contribution to the debate by asking you to reflect on the following challenging words compiled from different works by C.S. Lewis:

Not many years ago when I was an atheist, if anyone had asked me, "Why do you not believe in God?" my reply would have run something like this: "Look at the universe we live in. By far the greatest part of it consists of empty space, completely dark and unimaginably cold. The bodies which move in space are so few

and small in comparison with the space itself that even if every one of them were known to be crowded as full as it could hold with perfect creatures, it would still be difficult to believe that life and happiness were more than a byproduct to the power that made the universe.

What do we see if we look right at our world? We see an astonishing cataract of bears, babies, and bananas; this immoderate deluge of atoms, orchids, oranges, cancers, canaries, fleas, gases, tornados and toads. What sort of attitude is appropriate for a human being confronting this situation? We are to offer nature neither worship nor contempt.

At all times, then, an inference from the course of events in this world to the goodness and wisdom of the Creator would have been equally preposterous; and it was never made. Religion [and faith] has a different origin.

But what about Romans 1:20 ("For the invisible things of Him from creation of the world are clearly seen...") We will consider the big picture next time. But one last word by Lewis before I leave the subject of apologetics:

I have found that nothing is more dangerous to one's faith than the work of an apologist. No doctrine of Faith seems to me so unreal as the one that I have just successfully defended in public debate. For a moment, you see, it has seemed to rest on oneself: as a result, when you go away from that debate, it seems no stronger than that weak pillar. That is why we apologists take our lives in our hands and can be saved only by falling back continually from the web of our arguments, as from our intellectual encounters, into the Reality—from Christian apologetics into Christ Himself. That is why we need one another's continual help—oremuus pro invicem. (See the Apologist's Evening Prayer.)

Reformational soccer

And moving from apologetics to sports, I am preparing a dictionary of reformational soccer. Among the terms I have so far been able to define are: serviceable inside (not off-side), integrated

offense, intertwined dribbling, and perspectival throw-in. A reformational goal is scored when the ball becomes enkaptd by the intertwined net. It is so easy to speak complicated, isn't it? Let us simplify our language. (We must translate every bit of our theology into the vernacular.)

Stab of the pen

Now I would like to remind us all of the incidents at the University of Iowa a fortnight ago. One does not kill only with a gun, but also with a pen. Most instructors survive deadly bullets every semester. Others are not so lucky. When you evaluate an instructor remember that you, too, are responsible for the educational process. Instruction does not occur only during the 45-minute acting performances. Have the integrity to talk to your instructor face to face about your difficulties and not just wait to the last day of classes to stab in the back. We are here to learn together. Next time I will address the grading system and what can be done to help the development of a healthier educational environment.

And talking about college students, my congratulations to the *Diamond*. The paper has really improved. But remember when writing to be careful to express your mind with respect and proper words. Here another advice from Lewis: "Smart little writers pick up words briskly; but only as a jackdaw picks up beads and glass."

Greatest enemy in the West

I promise I will not use the "D-word" anymore. I just want to say, once for all, that I am convinced that Christianity's greatest enemy in the affluent West is not any other distorted transcendental worldview, but secularism, expressed by our lifestyle. And to back up my suspicions, Lewis again:

Christ says, "Give Me All." I don't want so much of your time and so much of your work: I want You. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and there, I want the whole tree down...hand over the natural self...the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself; my own will shall become yours.

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The Free Press



Boldly Going Where Men Have Gone Before

Readers of my last article may have finished the column with some slight bewilderment. Nonetheless, the point of the column was entirely clear. This paper shall also continue the reformation from its corner of God's diverse world with my help (the Lord willing).

The paper's fearless leader (or editor) was recently plagued by dreams of hit men on horseback coming to get him for what he recently wrote. It is obvious that boldness has its price—not just in dreams, but through out one's life. However, as Christians, we must pay these prices because, simply put, we must work boldly for a positive change within our community.

This positive change can be brought about with conviction either forcefully or unforcefully. Please notice that there may be conviction within both, but it is only conviction through forcefulness that truly strives forward or with a slight ellipse, depending on your view of history.

Does this mean that the *Diamond* staff will lead an armed revolt following its editor? No. (Personally, I wouldn't trust Dirk with a gun.) Is this reformation going to be violent? Yes, it is violent. Not in the sense of blood and carnage but of violent thoughts that challenge those in our church/community/college who have become "fat cats." Violent reformational ideas that challenge those who have become "middle aged" in their beliefs. This is bold stuff. This is stuff that gets leaders and followers angry. This is the stuff that makes "luke-warm" individuals cry.

We must remember that it is positive. We're not here to put people down. (Need I say more?)

We, as a college of God's children, must ask ourselves repeatedly (good Calvinistic doctrine alert!) at what rate is the Reformation going and is it the proper rate? We all too often take our time, allowing our sharp reformational knife to become dull. We become afraid to challenge ourselves under the grounds that we might insult the factions within our community/college. Example: Do we only do "cream puff" theatre? Do we only play a certain type of music on our radio station ("Christian")? Do we write only moralistic stories? Do we paint only "Solo Deo Gloria" pictures? Do we only learn creation theory? All valuable questions daily check ourselves. But the biggest question still is: do we have enough guts to do it?

I leave you with this. I once talked with a cynical old man who said this, "You Reformed Christians no longer have it. Instead of nailing theses to the church door, you'd tape them because you hate those unsightly nail holes. You wouldn't nail them on the door you would put them nicely on the bulletin board along with the other suggestions so as not to stop anyone to read them in front of the door. They wouldn't be theses; they would be 95 suggestions to do when you got the time. That's what you Reformed Christians are all about."

Are we?

— Brad Weidenaar

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Overheard...

compiled by Alida van Dijk

"Wilt Chamberlain claimed he slept with 20,000 women. Kind of brings new meaning to the phrase 'Big League.'"

♦Dr. Schaap, to his American Literature class.

"I'm not lost, I just don't know exactly where I am right now."

♦Glen Nydam, taking a different route back to Dordt after a weekend at home.

"It's not my fault I'm not Dutch."

♦Shelbi Anderson

"If you had six legs and lost one, you'd probably be attached to it, too."

♦Prof. Mahaffy, explaining how insects sometimes lose legs when they molt.

"Mid-America Reformed Cemetery."

♦Christopher Shupe, referring to Mid-

America Reformed Seminary.

"When I'm old I'll be like Grumpy Old Man [from *Saturday Night Live*] even though I'm a woman."

♦Chrissy Struyk, on aging.

"I was sitting in the middle of a cup of coffee when..."

♦Prof. Dekkenga, a bit disoriented during an eight o'clock class.

"My favorite color is raisin bran."

♦Shelbi Anderson, mixing two of her lines during rehearsal for a one-act play.

"She's 84 years old and she walks like a chicken."

♦Dr. Vander Stelt, describing his mother's youthful attitude to his Gen 300 class.

"Our purpose here is to destroy."

♦Mrs. Alberda.

"I would like to

see the mammoth again."

♦Dr. Hodgson, making one wonder how old he really is anyway.

"There's nothing wrong with doing that if that's all you're good at."

♦Carol Slomp, on the subject of girls getting married and having kids immediately after high school.

"If you ever feel guilty about procrastinating, just go talk to Anthony Roorda. He'll make you feel better."

♦An anonymous student, trying to get his homework done.

"It's not as fun talking to guys on the phone."

♦Matt Beimers, trying to order pizza on *Diamond* publication night.

"You press, I press, we must press together."

♦Dr. Vander Stelt, in Calvin's Institutes class.

"If you'll print out the bottom of page 11 I'll give you Sioux Center"

♦Matt Beimers, to David Mahaffy at 2:45 a.m. on PUB night.

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Thanks for your contributions to the **Overheard** column. Send your quotes to the *Diamond Overheard* DC 595.

The *Diamond* reserves editing rights.

Tough road finished for women

by Matthew Beimers

"Friendship," said Coach De Stigter, "makes it all worth it."

What De Stigter is talking about is how the women's volleyball team has transformed their off-court friendships into a successful on-court community of players. The friendships that are formed, according to De Stigter, "make it that much more special for the girls."

Going into the season, De Stigter knew she would have a tough year because all the freshmen would have to adjust to college ball. The women's coach, finishing her third year with the team, noted that she gave out seven first year awards this year. The team's 17-14 NAIA record (17-18 overall) showed De Stigter that the team came a long way this season. "If you would have asked me if we would have finished at .500 (winning percentage) I wouldn't have been so sure," said De Stigter.

Sophomore Laura Vander Zee also attributes the team's success to the play of the freshmen. "They didn't even play like freshmen," she said, in reference to how the first-year players developed as the year went on.

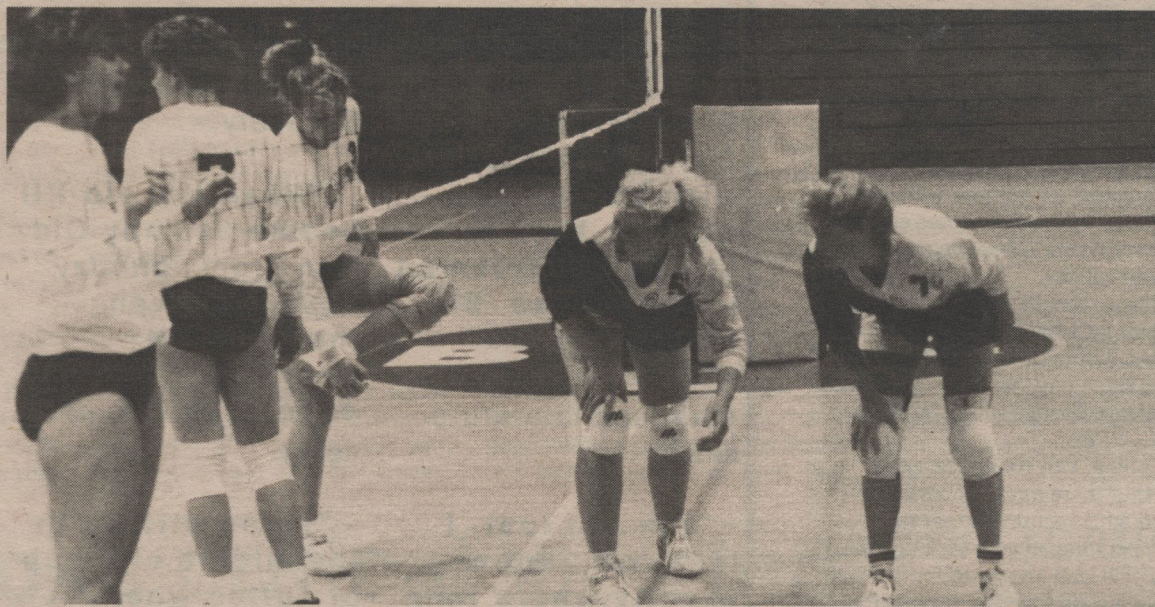


photo by Dan Mennega

Wendy Shiebout and Laura VanderZee prepare for Briar Cliff during the playoffs

De Stigter said it was tough for the team, with all the injuries that came at the same time as the tough competition, but she contributes those early season matches against tough teams as one reason why the team found success on the court. "We played Augustana, Southwest State, Moorehead State, all top 20

teams, and it really helped us improve."

Annetta de Jong says those early road trips and tough competition helped out a lot more than just strong play. "You live so close to your team, you do things with them, the friendships really made it easier," said de Jong.

Although the team had trouble getting out of the blocks, many of the players look to one point in the season where they proved that they could play with anybody. "Briar Cliff really showed us we could play together," said Vander Zee.

Coach De Stigter also saw the Marycrest Tourney as a time

when the team played some of their best ball of the season. "That tournament was the first one Dordt has won in three years," said De Stigter, "and it really was the high point of the season."

When De Stigter looked back at the individual achievements over the past season it was easy to pick out the team's dominant players. "Stephanie Bleyenburgh," she noted without hesitation, "had a great season. She really had a strong season all around. Christie Kramer was the biggest surprise, and Laura Vander Zee had to be strong because we play the middle a lot and that requires more precision from our setter. Joeli Kooima probably played the best ball of her career. She hit harder than I have ever seen her hit before."

De Stigter was also happy with the play of the freshmen. The thing that impressed her the most about the young players was the fact that they "came with great fundamentals."

The Lady Defenders, who finished off their season last weekend against Briar Cliff, have a solid foundation on which to build for next year.

Blades seek new edge Basketball on the way

by Matthew Beimers

The Dordt Blades knew they were in for a long weekend when the bus they took to Des Moines ran out of gas. It was just the beginning of what proved to be, as senior Greg Vander Top said, "a learning experience for the whole team."

The Drake Bulldogs are the Blades' oldest rivals. The 'Dogs have won the majority of the contests by commanding scores. This past weekend's series showed that the Blades have a lot of work to do in order to defeat their oldest nemesis.

In Friday night's contest the Blades were defeated soundly by a score of 12-2. The Bulldogs, having played five games this season, came out hitting hard and capitalized on Dordt's small size. They continually beat Dordt to the corners and outmuscled them to the puck. The team's youth could be seen in their ineffective passing and awkward positioning.

Assistant captain Roger Ewald said, "It was our first game of the season and along with the fact we were missing some key players, we were having difficulty putting a consistent passing game together."

Player-coach Ed Minderhoud was more open as to reasons for

the weekend's loss. "Basically, I made the mistake of assuming that the players who made the team knew what they were doing and where they were playing." Minderhoud pointed out that his team rarely put three passes together without being knocked down or having the puck stolen from right under their sticks.

On Saturday afternoon the Blades came out to play—for one period. The team skated with the Bulldogs for the opening period but couldn't keep up the pace in the last two. After being down 2-1 after the first period, Drake caught fire and romped to a 13-4 victory. Andy Dykstra and Minderhoud together netted five of the six goals scored in the weekend series.

Returning sophomores Ron Verbeek and Ernie Termorshuizen are cautiously optimistic for the team's upcoming South Dakota game. "If there was a bright spot to the weekend it's the fact that at least our team has now gained experience. We'll be able to use that in our next game," Verbeek noted. Vander Top said the South Dakota team "is a lot closer to our level of play, and it's always fun playing them because it's so rough."

The two teams will square off on November 22 and 23.

by Pam De Boer

The Lady Defenders have not even played a game yet this season but are already ranked #20 in the NAIA Division II. This pre-season poll reflects the opinions of the coaches from around the nation. Is this a sign of great things to come? Coach Rhoda and the basketball team hope so.

"I don't feel any real pressure," Coach Rhoda replied when asked about the national ranking. "It's nice recognition for women's athletics here at Dordt, but I'm afraid it doesn't put any points on the scoreboard for us." The ranking is based primarily on the success of last year's 20-win season. This year's team has three seniors and four sophomores back from last year, but still must prove itself as a winning team.

"It's an incentive to play the best we can," said four-year veteran Jill Bousema. "But we have to make sure the national ranking doesn't go to our heads and still play tough one game at a time."

The team has been practicing for four weeks already. Two weeks ago Dordt scrimmaged Teikyo-Westmar at home and

last Friday night met Sioux Falls College, also at home. Coach Rhoda saw a marked improvement from the first scrimmage to the second. Defensive play improved and unofficial stats showed Dordt with 25 offensive rebounds after two 20-minute periods.

On Monday five volleyball players joined the nine women already out for the team. By Wednesday the coaching staff hoped to have the 13-member roster finalized.

This Saturday the Lady Defenders will meet their first opponents of the season in Des Moines. Grandview could be a very tough opener. They made the District 15 play-offs last year and this year elected to be an NAIA Division I team. This means they have more monies for athletic scholarships and theoretically higher-quality players. Dordt hopes to prove that theory wrong in their afternoon contest.

"People are expecting us to be a successful team this year," commented senior Lou Ann Bolkema, reflecting the feelings of the whole team. "I hope we can live up to those expectations."

SCOREBOARD

Soccer:

Dordt 2 Marycrest 1
Grandview 4 Dordt 0

Volleyball:

Dordt 3 Teikyo-Westmar 0
Wayne State 3 Dordt 1
Briar Cliff 3 Dordt 0

Hockey:

Drake 12 Dordt 2
Drake 13 Dordt 4

UPCOMING

Men's Basketball:

Sat., Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
home vs. Northwestern
Tues., Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.
home vs. Grandview

Sat., Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.
away vs. Central
Sat., Nov. 30, 6:00 p.m.
away vs. Wartburg

Tues., Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.
away vs. Dakota State

Women's Basketball:

Sat., Nov. 16, 2:00 p.m.
away vs. Grandview
Sat., Nov. 23, 3:00 p.m.
away vs. Dakota Wesleyan
Tues., Nov. 26, 7:00 p.m.
home vs. Dakota Wesleyan
Fri., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.
home vs. Grandview

Sat., Nov. 30, 6:00 p.m.
away vs. Wartburg
Wed., Dec. 4, 7:00 p.m.
home vs. Buena Vista

Hockey

Fri., Nov. 22 & 23, 7:00 p.m.
away vs. SDSU

Soccer dream season ends at 17-2

by Sharon VanderKruk

The Dordt soccer team finished their season this past weekend. Last Thursday the Defenders headed to Des Moines for district finals. They woke up Friday to a soccer field covered in five inches of snow but were determined to play hard despite rough conditions. At 2:00 p.m. Friday the Dordt soccer squad faced Marycrest.

During the first half the team played hard and fought to keep the ball in control. They had numerous opportunities but couldn't score.

In the second half, Steve Walhof passed the ball back to goalie John VanderWal who slipped on the ice. The ball rolled into the goal, and Marycrest took a 1-0 lead. With only twenty-six seconds left in the second half, Doug Brouwer drilled a shot from the eighteen yard line and scored, tying the game.

The teams then battled out two scoreless fifteen minute halves before sudden death play. Finally, in the second sudden death section, Chris Hull took a crisp pass from Dave Vander Ploeg and scored to give Dordt a 2-1 victory. The game ended up to be two hours and forty minutes long. Along with players and fans, Coach Van Essen was ecstatic. "They dug deep in conditions that really tired them out, and they never gave up for a second," he said.

On Saturday, Dordt played its old nemesis, Grandview College. Although sore and tired from the previous game, the team played with determination. In the first half of the game Grandview pulled ahead with one goal. With the snow melting, conditions were worse than Friday's below zero game. Puddles of ice and slush made it hard for players to control the ball, and this

affected the team's usually strong passing game. Grandview scored three in the second half. Despite a continued effort, Dordt's soccer season came to an end.

Defense Jim Dirkse, a fourth year player, said, "Yeah, it was a disappointing way to end the season, but we can't just look at our last game. The whole season was lots of fun, and we played good quality soccer. With the new freshmen added to a very similar team from last year, we improved a lot."

The team appreciated Coach Van Essen's hard work, and loved the fan support, especially this weekend in Des Moines. "The fans helped the team keep motivated—it gave them that little extra push," said Van Essen.

The soccer team accomplished a lot this season. Their 17-2 win-loss record is something the college can be proud of.

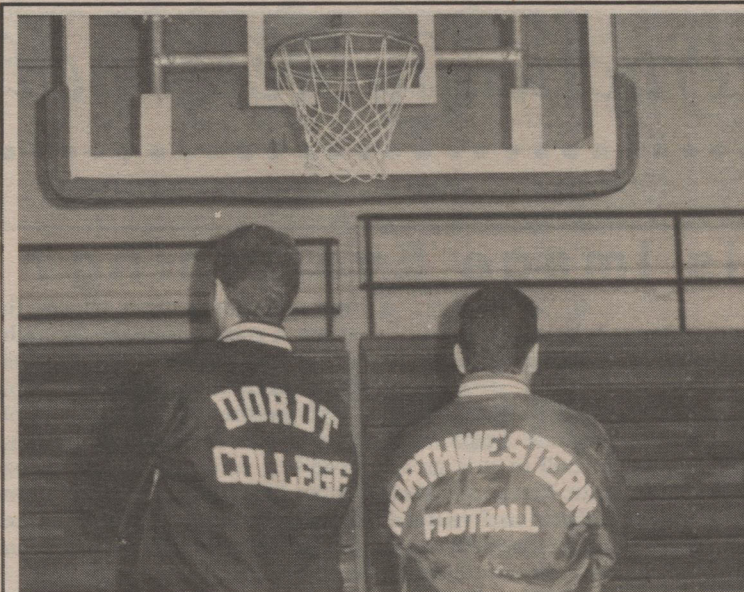


photo by Jeff DeBoer

Dordt and Northwestern square off in Saturday's season opener (In basketball, of course).

Dordt vs. Northwestern is here

by Joel Faber

There are sporting rivalries across the nation that bring out record crowds—Duke vs. North Carolina in basketball, Michigan vs. Michigan State in football, and the Minnesota Vikings vs. the Chicago Bears. And this Saturday night, an old rivalry in northwest Iowa will continue. Dordt College men's basketball team is hosting the Northwestern Red Raiders.

In the 1980's people would stand in line for hours just to get a good seat. For some games, a fan had to be in the gym before 5:30 p.m. to avoid standing. These games proved their worth. Along with the excellent basketball and intense competition, these contests were usually won or lost by no more than ten points.

In the last few years, seats have been a little easier to come by. But if you planned on grabbing a decent seat, you still had to show up around 5:00 p.m.

The last half dozen years saw the Defenders slump while the Red Raiders enjoyed victory. This year both teams are putting talented and experienced players on the court. A tough, intense game is expected

by both the players and the coaches.

Rick Vander Berg, in his eleventh season as the Defenders head coach, recalls his most memorable victory against the Red Raiders. "It was the home game in 1989," he said, "that was probably the sweetest victory over NW. We really were not expected to win but we came out hard and beat them pretty good."

When asked about the rivalry, senior forward Brian Driesen said, "I've only been able to play two out of the six games against NW (since his freshman year). I'm just looking forward to playing in the game." Driesen was hindered by a knee injury his freshman and junior years.

Freshman Dave Van Essen commented on the legacy. "I don't really know how big the rivalry is. I went to all those past games, but I think you don't realize how big they are until you actually play in a game."

On Saturday night the men's varsity team opens their regular season against the Northwestern Red Raiders. The first varsity game starts at 5:30 and the varsity game starts at 7:00 p.m.

Sports Comment

by Matt Beimers

"Hollander passes to Wubben, she goes up for two and scores, the crowd is going crazy..." Although putting the ball in the hoop is going to happen often for the Lady Defenders basketball team, the crowd going crazy just doesn't happen. Being ranked 20th in the nation (Yes! in the

nation!) one would expect that they would gain some support.

Being an ignorant Canadian and having absolutely no idea how big basketball was in Northwest Iowa, I was quite surprised to show up to watch Dordt's only winning basketball team only to find that I was one of maybe...oh, 25 people watching. Never mind that the women won 20 games last season (dream on, Vanderberg) or that they have the potential to go to nationals; the bottom line is that this community and school, which prides itself on being basketball lovers, comes out to

watch a men's team win 40% of their games and completely ignores a team that consistently puts a winning combination on the court.

We all want both the men's and women's teams to do well. Everyone likes a winner, but in Sioux Center not everyone supports a winner. I don't want to slam the men's program (well, a little) at the expense of the women, but the fact is that the women have a winning team and should by no means be ignored just because...well, because their women. They're just as good.

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Hey, be a *real* fan—don't be dull. Buy the new **Blades** jerseys on sale starting Monday, Nov. 18. Home or away available. With number, \$35; name & number, \$38.



Practically Reformed

by Chuck DeGroat

Is Image Everything?

"Image is Everything"
- Andre Agassi

O.K., so I didn't start off saying "Life is religion!" But let me throw a curve ball in this great game Abraham Kuyper called "the contest of faith" and venture an observation or two. Perhaps Agassi's quote is more descriptive of our mindset here at Dordt. Perhaps we'd rather "be like Mike" rather than being you and me. And just maybe, it's affecting us deep down inside, where only God can see.

I'm not a psychology major, but I know when people are hurting and struggling. And many of us are. Coming out of high school we thought the obsession with image and appearance would diminish—that we'd be able to be ourselves. But we still find ourselves being late to class for the same old reasons: I was blow drying my hair; the shower was taken; I wore that sweater last week; I didn't know whether to tuck in my shirt or leave it out; those pants didn't make my butt look good. We choose our appearance based on where we'll be and who we'll see.

This struggle with self image may not be clear to everyone—especially those confident with their image. But many of us seniors have experienced feelings of inadequacy and lack of confidence throughout the years we've been here. In fact, many of us have promoted this problem of image by choosing friends based on their looks and styles. The very reason we feel inadequate is because we know there is a tendency for people to judge us on appearance—because we've done it ourselves.

How has this problem manifested itself? A few years ago a survey done at Dordt revealed that around 3/4 of our female student body admitted eating disorders of some kind. Concerned with their self-image, many of our females chose to shed a few pounds in hopes of feeling better about themselves, and being accepted by others. It's still happening, and it's dangerous.

Guys, on the other hand, choose to compete for acceptance. The male ego manifests itself in many ways. Some of us choose to body-build, not just for tone, but for the Terminator look. This will impress the babes. Others of us choose to outwit our friends, developing the comedian image. I've tried

this one. Many of us choose to attain a good self-image through the clothes we wear. We impress the girls by shopping in the Gap. I've done this too. Still, others of us choose the athlete image, spending countless hours trying to "be like Mike". Deep down we sense our inadequacy and realize our acceptance will be based on how we look.

Of course, I would not want to say that these categories are specific to only guys or only girls. These are just a few examples of our obsession with appearance. We also realize that we are guilty of trying to drink our problems away at times. Our obsession with image seems to decrease when we are "a little happy." But, the point stands: we are struggling with problems of identity and self-image. What comes next?

It's easy to define a problem, but it's difficult to resolve it. Being a philosophy major, I plead ignorance to the wisdom conveyed in many of our upper level psychology courses. But sources close to me say they don't have all the answers either. I am left with one option. I'm going to try to cut this image thing. I'm going to try to accept people for who they are in hopes of being accepted myself. I'm not really unhappy with where I am. But I know others look at me and wonder why I try to convey an image, through the clothes I wear, or the jokes I try to crack, or the "Practically Reformed" articles I write. So this is where the rubber meets the road. I don't want to see a problem like this at my college. I don't want to see the girls I know struggle with eating problems. I don't want people to worry about what their butts look like in the mirror. So I'll do what I can—starting with me.

If you are struggling with self-image, put everything aside and deal with it. Share your problems with a friend. God knows I treasure a few special people for these things. It's a cliché to say we are in this together. But remember, the only ones who can put an end to Andre Agassi's madness are you and me.

Let's not let Dordt College be a place where we have to look good to be accepted. It's not only unbiblical, but it is senseless. It makes us more concerned about being clothed in the armor of NIKE, rather than the armor of the one who judges our hearts rather than our looks—Jesus Christ.

Nigger: at Dordt?

We at Dordt cannot keep hiding certain issues under the table. It is time we all realize there is a cancer in our community: racism.

Racism is foreign to me; it blows my mind. I am proud of being black, and being black does not make me inferior by any means. As an R.A., I had to go through a lot of unnecessary pressure just because I am not white. I was called "nigger" to my face. I was told that I am not Dr. Hulst, but that I am black, and that I therefore have no authority to assert discipline.

I heard that people were burning a cigarette box, symbolizing a cross, outside a residence hall the night I was in police custody. This was accompanied by racial remarks such as, "We've got the black man down at last" and "We are going to hang a black man."

Tell me folks, are these just jokes? You can get killed for calling a black man "nigger" in some cities. Racist attitudes do exist at Dordt College, and hiding them to make the campus look good is not going to help. People have to realize that God made us all racially equal, and racism has no place.

If I were racist, as some people claim, I would not have come to a dominantly white school; I would have gone to a black college. I accept everybody here; I

don't and will never have color problems. I think it is dumb.

Also, to accuse me of being reluctant to integrate is like looking at water, knowing it is water, and calling it fire. I have tried and I've gone far beyond the normal, "Hi!" The acceptance of minority students at Dordt is low, very low. It seems as if you have to be white and Dutch before you are fully accepted. In most cases we are accepted only at an arm's length.

Finally, concerning our Christian commitment, we all have a long way to go. Christianity is more than going to church. It is a way of life which includes full acceptance and love for your brother whether he is black, white, blue, or pink, and not looking down on him. We need to realize that racism is from hell and if it is manifested in your life in any shape or form you need to talk to God about it.

I believe it is time we leave this black and white crap for the birds. Let them fight over colors. We are all humans, so let's live and enjoy each other.

If we are Christians anticipating to spend eternity with God, we had better be ready for culture shock. Heaven is going to be a melting pot. Saints from every race will be there. This will show how dumb we've all been. Please don't get me wrong: not

everybody at Dordt is racist. But we do have a cancer in our community.

WE HOLD A COMMON
TRUTH
A TRUTH WE CAN'T
DENY
NO MATTER WHAT WE
HAVE BEEN TOLD
THIS TRUTH WE CAN'T
CHANGE
GOD MADE US ALL
EQUAL
AND WHETHER YOU
LIKE IT OR NOT, EVERY
MAN
HAS THE RIGHT TO
EXIST WITHOUT
ANYBODY'S APPROVAL
BECAUSE ON PLANET
EARTH, WE WERE ALL
BORN.
—T.R.

My special appreciation to my ex-wing mates in North Hall Third Floor West. You are a bunch of great guys. Thanks for loving and accepting me and to my friends who have been supportive. Love and God bless.

—Thomas Wova Rogers

Discrimination at Dordt?

Attempt at equality goes too far to create a "politically correct" faculty

by David Mahaffy

As I was paging through a recent issue of the *Banner*, I noticed an ad from Dordt College, advertising for several different staff positions. Out of curiosity, I skimmed the ad. At the bottom I noticed this short statement: "Dordt College strongly encourages applications from women, minorities, and disabled persons." As I reflected on this attempt at equality, I wondered if it wasn't really a step in the wrong direction.

Statements like the one above are often seen in job advertisements, and little or no fuss is raised about them. I wonder what would happen if the statement were changed to read, "Healthy, white males are encouraged to apply." My guess is many people would immediately cry, "sexist!" or, "racist!"

If encouraging healthy, white males to apply is discriminating against women, minorities, and the handicapped, then doesn't

encouraging women, minorities and the handicapped to apply discriminate against your average, white male?

A statement that would be much more fair to everyone involved could say something like, "Dordt College is an equal opportunity employer and encourages people to apply regardless of race, sex or disability."

I'm not trying to say that our society—or even Dordt College—is free of racist or sexist tendencies. Some problems still exist in these areas—I'm not denying that. While we have to work to resolve those problems, we have to avoid going too far in the other direction.

For example, when I was looking into obtaining scholarships and grants before coming to Dordt, I noticed that I could have applied for about twice as many had I been a female or a racial minority. Since I was just an average, white (Dutch, if you

will) male, many scholarships were closed to me—and closed to many other people like me. How can we call this equality? I think it would be much better to set the same standards for everyone, instead of granting a minority group special favors because it is a minority. Favoring a certain group over another, or treating one group as more "special" is wrong and is something to be avoided—whether that group is a minority or not.

But now, looking back at the wording of the advertisement, I wonder; does this mean that Dordt would hire someone belonging to these special categories even if that person was not the most qualified applicant? Do we as students want to be instructed by a faculty that has been chosen for its "politically correct" makeup or by a faculty that is the best Dordt can find, regardless of race, sex or handicaps?