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 previous years. In 1986 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 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 communicate 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 cardboard and paper.

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

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

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, the 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 students. 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, if God says it, it 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 should tell us that love and be less self-centered, greedy and uncaring. This calls for a drastic change, but 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 Jongejn

Blades receive short end of the stick

Dear Editor:

The following comments are a reaction to the events that occurred during 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 season. This has saved us from making 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 bus' diesel bus' fuel line for nearly an hour. It turned out that our work-study personnel never filled up the tank the last time we was returned to our residence for nearly an hour. And it was difficult to get the broken fuel gauge fixed, but it never got done. It becomes hard to be competitive when we are cold, tired, and rusty. If we 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 small school, Magic says that he has volunteered 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 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 of 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, a very proper man, which is obviously Christian? I heard a joke several years ago that has kept on coming to mind. It goes: "Magic Johnson is not out of Heaven. St. Peter gives him the complimentary tour and at one point cautions the man to be quite careful because there are only one rule. 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 there has certainly been given that they are inferior Christians and may not be as well off in Heaven as the Reformed Christians will be.

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? Toward educating people about AIDS and eliminating the hate and bigotry that is so often associated with the disease. But magic Johnson Is not out of the game because of an accident. Johnson has this disease and he has not done anything wrong. The only people Christ is not concerned with is 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

Rename North Hall?

To the editor:

Regarding the recent decision to change dorm names, buildings on campus after certain benefactors, I would like to make a proposal. There is a

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. 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 the non-Christian's heart to bring him to salvation.

- Sam J. Gesch
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, or residents openly calling African-American students "nigger," you know what's being twisted enough has just been twisted some more. Racist students aren't necessarily stupid students. 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
Abstain from "reformed"

Dear editor,

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

David McReynolds’ article rekindled in me an interest 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 they felt, worldview, and experience told them were the best possible tools with which to be critical: the elements of a Reformed conscience.

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 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/Dooyeweerdian 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 reformatio connotations.

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 as many as 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 Schiaparelli 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 injustice to no one involved.

Dordt students are making an issue of the need for Dordt to address film. This relates two different issues. This is evidenced by the two articles relating to the issue in the October 17, 1991 Diamond.

The first article 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 content of the film.

The special topics course in the English department, Film and Novel (ENG 241), is a start to this direction. 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, movies, and roles, 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 Kopaska

"Beef about concert" considered undue, 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 most appropriately printed, I feel the attitude and presentation of the letter by Frank Schippers was inappropriate, at least in my view. 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 detracted 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 personnel with his grievance, the microphone was for the organism accompanying the combined concert choir and chorale during the finale. Due to the fault of Mr. Grotenhuis, the microphone was not turned on, which was realized during the final song. I believe, however, that statements 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
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 between 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 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 correlations 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 behalf; 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.

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 Schuimboezem." 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.

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. 16 through Dec. 20.

The art exhibit will contain retrospective drawings, lithographs, etchings, and work including porcelain and stoneware.

The art gallery is located on the second floor 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.

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 Groot, 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 breaks 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, Bremen, and Krefeld-Monchengladbach. He has appeared in more than 30 opera houses in Europe and was listed in Who's Who in Opera 1976.

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Winter's Wonders

First snow of the season hits campus

Some people are better equipped than others for the frigid w i n t e r 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 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 snowdrift."

Beth Hollander: "I like win-
I have 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.
Observations

with Paulus Vander Kreek

From all my lame defeats and oh! much more From all the victories that I need to see
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, your sun-horn image of Thy head.
From all my thoughts, even from the depths 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 Dordt College Diamond the readers expressed 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 grievances). 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 on Theology Road I was asked, “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 unimaginable. 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 hyperdog to the power that made the universe.

What do we see if we look right of our world? We see an astonishing catacomb of bears, babies, and bananas: this indomitable deluge of atoms, our intellect encounters, canaries, fleas, gases, toadstools 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 God 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 apologists:

I have found that nothing is more dangerous than one’s faith than that of an apologist. No doctrine of Faith seems to me so sure 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 intellect encounters, into the Reality—from Christian apologistics into Christ Himself. It is why we need one another’s continual help—crennaus 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
- negative, intertwined dribbling, and perspective throw-in.

A reformational goal is scored when the ball becomes enwrapped 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 express, moral, or even with a pen. Most instructors survive deadly bullets every semester. Others are not so lucky. When you evaluate and instruct, as I remember that you, too, are responsible for the educational process.

I want to express my congratulations to the audiences that have attended the debates. They are worth mentioning and a source of constant inspiration to me. And I want to thank the audience for the warm reception that they have given me.

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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 bit 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 throughout 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 unconsciously. 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 this editor? No. (Personally, I wouldn’t trust Dick 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 “lure-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 knifes 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 creational theory? All valuable questions daily check ourselves. But the biggest question still is: do we have enough guts to do it?

Leave you with this. I once talked with a cynical old man who said this, “You Reformed Christians no longer have it. Instead of railing 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 get the time. That’s what you Reformed Christians are all about.”

Are we? — Brad Weidenaar

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Thanks for your contributions to the Overheard columns. Send your quotes to the Diamond columns. DC 505.
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 successfull 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 season went on.

Blades seek new edge

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 didn't even play like freshmen," she said, in reference to how the first-year players developed as the season went on.

photo by Dan Menninga

Wendy Shiebout and Laura Vander Zee 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 contributed those early season matches against tough teams as the reason why the team found success on the court. "We played Augustana, Southwest State, Moorhead State, all top 20 teams, and it really helped us improve."

Annetta de Jong says those early road trips and tough competition helped put 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 an incentive to play the weekend series. "It's an incentive to play the weekend series. "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 preseason 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.

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The two teams will square off on November 22 and 23.
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 six seconds left in the second half, Doug Brouwer drilled a shot from the eighty 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 Hoog and scored to give Dordt a 2-1 victory. The game ended up to be two hours and forty minutes long. Along with players, Coach Van Essen was ecstatic. "They dig 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 the 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 motivating—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.

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Sports Comment
by Matt Belmers

by Joel Faber

Dordt vs. Northwestern

Dordt College men's basketball team is hosting the Northwestern Red Raiders.

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."

Worried about the rivalry, senior forward Brian Driesen said,"I've only been able to play two out of the six games against the Northwestern Red Raiders. 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.

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 junior varsity game starts at 5:30 and the varsity game starts at 7:00 p.m.
Practically Reformed

Is Image Everything?
by Chuck DeGroet

In a recent article in the "Christianity Today" magazine, the author states that "image is everything." But what does this mean? Does it mean that we should focus on our appearance as a way to express our identity? Or does it mean that we should judge others based on their outward appearance?

We at Dordt cannot keep hiding certain issues under this 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 deal with some situations that I'm not sure how I handled properly. But I am white. I was not called "nigger" to my face. I was told that I am not the most talented, 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 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 equally, and racist attitudes do not help in this.

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 accepted by others before you are fully accepted. In most cases we are accepted only at an arm's length.

Discrimination at Dordt?

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

At Dordt College, diversity is the key to creating a "politically correct" faculty. Some students feel that the college is going too far in its efforts to include people from all backgrounds. As a student at Dordt, I noticed an ad from Dordt College, advertising for several different staff positions. Out of curiosity, I read the ad and was surprised by the bottom line, which read: "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 these problems, we have to avoid going too far in the other direction.

For example, when I was looking into obtaining scholarships and grants before I came 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. As you can see, the word "equality" means different things to different people.

We hold a common truth - we believe in the equality of all people. But we also recognize that this equality does not mean that everyone should be treated the same. We have to find a balance between being respectful of others' differences and ensuring that everyone has access to the same opportunities.

Let's not let Dordt College be a place where we have to look good to be accepted. It's not only un-Christian, but it is also unfair. Let's work together to make Dordt a place where everyone feels welcome and accepted.