Bernbaum answers questions on off-campus study programs

by Renee Storteboom

John Bernbaum, director of the Christian College Coalition (CCC) visited with students and faculty November 5-8. Bernbaum had much of interest to share with the Dordt community because of his involvement with the CCC and his experiences in Russia.

In the time spent at Dordt, Bernbaum kept a busy itinerary. Students first had the opportunity to hear him speak at chapel on Thursday. Bernbaum also attended several classes on Thursday and Friday. He met with professors, and had a chance to talk with them more at a faculty forum. His schedule also included meeting with the Agriculture Department and touring Dordt’s Stewardship Center.

Bernbaum also met with students during lunch in East Commons on Friday to discuss and answer questions concerning off-campus study programs sponsored by the Coalition. These programs include the American Studies Program in Washington, D.C. and the Latin American Studies Program in Costa Rica. The CCC is currently working on a “Russian Initiative,” a plan for educational exchange with Russia. The new studies program would include time in Eastern Europe and Russia.

Bernbaum spoke at the Association for Public Justice’s annual membership meeting on Saturday evening. His speech was concerned with a “Russian parable.” Through stories about his experiences in Russia and with the people there, he talked about what Americans can learn from and offer to the people of the former communist USSR. He also told stories about the growing acceptance and yearning for knowledge of God and Christianity. He spoke of the great opportunity for Christians to be spreading the Gospel there and of the opportunities he had as well. Finally, in the U.S., he felt that in the political arena Christians should seek “politics of persuasion.” We shouldn’t seek to influence by force, violence or even through manipulation of the ballot box, but we should be making our case and presenting it.

Student radio station goes on line

by Jared Johnson

It was the beginning of a new ice age as K-ICE took to the airwaves Monday at 6 o’clock sharp. Members of the Radio Club, including DJ’s, advertising and promotions personnel celebrated as Frank Schippers and Jared Johnson aired their voices out of K-ICE’s production room in pirate radio fashion.

The station utilizes the power lines to North, East, and West Halls; it cannot be heard anywhere off campus or in the apartments. This allows K-ICE to play music more suited to students tastes. A second transmitter costing $1000 is planned for East Campus. The radio club will first need the help of student donations to raise the money so that the transmitter can be purchased.

K-ICE can be found at 650 on the AM dial. Adjusting the treble, bass or equalizer should help clear up any problems in receiving the signal. Anyone interested in participating in the Radio Club is welcome to join the meetings, Monday nights at 7 p.m. If you have the interest in participating. This is a student run station and we invite all comments or suggestions.

New Gen. Ed. course offered

by Rockne McCarthy

Dordt College is fortunate to have Dr. Fowler as a visiting professor in the Studies Institute for second semester. Among other responsibilities, he will teach a course entitled, “History of Modern Africa” (History 212). Dr. Fowler resides in Australia but spends much of his time lecturing and teaching in Africa. During the current semester he is a visiting professor at Scott Theological College, Machakos, Kenya; Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology; and Daystar University College, Nairobi, Kenya. Dr. Fowler and his wife Joy will arrive on campus in early January.

The major goal of Dr. Fowler’s course is to provide students with insight that will enhance their ability to act as persons and as citizens with practical wisdom and integrity in cross-cultural situations. It aims to place the history of modern Africa in its global context, showing its pivotal relationship to both the third world and the western world.

History 212 is one of the elective courses students can take to satisfy the history/philosophy/theology general education requirement. It is scheduled for second semester and will meet on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12:00 noon. Students who already have taken History 212 as “Africa and the Middle East” and who wish to enroll in “History of Modern Africa” should do so under History 347.

International Day declared a success

by Melissa Howard

The annual International Day put on by Dordt’s Foreign language department was a success this year.

Professor Struyk opened the program by reminding students that they live in a world that is rapidly growing smaller. He read Acts 2 as a reminder of the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit and of our role as Christians to go out and spread the gospel.

The program consisted of group singing and programs put on by the various conversation classes. Among the songs the group sang were the old favorites “Frere Jacques” and “O Tannenbaum.” The Dutch class put on an amusing interpretation of Cinderella, in which Cinderella went to the ball on a bicycle and danced to “Mountain Music.”

Other skits were put on by the French, Spanish, and German conversation classes. The highlight of the night was a special visit from Sinterklaas, the Dutch version of Santa Claus.
Is Dordt a Christian College?

by Shelby Anderson

I began this piece last July expecting to submit it to the Diamond, but in the course of events, it accumulated to my busy schedule and never was finished. However, due to this question coming up in a conversation among friends, I decided to finish my answer to the question, "Is Dordt a real Christian college?"

Amazingly enough, after seven years of Christian education, I still hung on to the idealistic vision of the Christian college as a place where students didn’t need to deal with the problems of mediocre Christianity and apathy. I soon enough learned differently. It would be safe to say that my freshman year was a year of revelation.

After trying to figure out why I was spending so much money to go to a college that to me wasn’t exactly a beacon of the transformed Christian life, I came to the conclusion that the question is not an easy one to answer because I also had to redefine what a Christian college is and not only what a Christian college does. I returned second semester with open eyes and a somewhat more open mind. I came to notice by the end of the semester that there is a gaping difference between the faculty and the students of this "Christian" institution. But I still hadn’t clearly defined what a Christian college’s nature should be, and I knew I would not be able to make a judgment about whether Dordt is serving its purpose until I knew what its purpose actually was.

All summer long I had countless discussions with my parents over just why I had decided to get an education. Four hours away I could have gone to Drake University, which is about a ten minute drive from my house. By June, I finally dug out my Gen 010 folder and decided to peruse the official statement of purpose for the college. Perusal soon became tedious and I deeply regret not having taken that hour sooner, so that document answered my question. Is Dordt a Christian college? Not entirely.

Through re-reading the statement, I realized that, as students, we are not merely the bottom of the bureaucratic heap that is Dordt College, nor are we the "clients" of this institution keeping the administration in line so that we get the most for our money. We are office-bearers with a mission. During our time here we basically control both the educational and spiritual climate of Dordt College. Without us, Dordt would simply be an expensive think tank of rotting ideologies and useless concepts. Are we intellectual sponges as students or are we thinking image-bearers questioning and cultivating our world? We can give this place long life by putting the ideas we are ingesting first to the test and secondly to practice.

We say we believe in a Sovereign God and yet so often live as if God is irrelevant. Besides, he understands we’re totally depraved and prone to making a few mistakes. Where is the quest for excellence? What a travesty to have such a living faith at our fingertips and leave it to collect dust in the recesses of our bookcases and in the corner of the Dordt library!

A common “witnessing” approach in my home church is to ask the question, "If you were to die today, would you be certain that you would spend eternity in heaven?" It seems as I learn more about what a powerful and relevant God we have, that question disturbs me more and more. What a moral faith indeed that sits on its spiritual behind waiting for deliverance through death! But we have a living, imminent faith that can turn that question into if “you were to live your life in total obedience to God, what difference would it make?”

Dordt is a college with Christian principles under the sovereign rule of God. So, then what is the difference? What makes us distinct as students and faculty under the Covenant? That question, dear reader, is up to you.

DDL attend conference

by Melanie Flesher

This past weekend, to learn more about what can be done to help save pre-born babies, 12 members of Dordt Defenders of Life attended the Iowa Right to Life convention held in Iowa City.

Some of the speakers included Iowa’s pro-life governor, Terry Branstad, Mildred Jefferson, the president of the Right to Life Crusades, and Dr. John C. Willie, the president of the Life Issues Institute and the International Right to Life Federation.

The convention also included three sessions of workshops. Some topics included Glanna Jenson’s personal story, Post Abortion syndrome, Religious and Philosophical Roots of Abortion, The Future of Pro-life Educational Efforts, and many others.

The issues addressed were mainly political. What pro-life groups have accomplished in the past 20 years can be wiped out in the next 12 months if things go according to President-elect Clinton’s plans. Clinton wants to pass the Freedom of Choice Act which means that women can have an abortion for any reason, as many times as they want, at virtually any stage of pregnancy in every state in the nation.

It also means no parental consent or notification for a minor, no informed consent by the women, that abortions can be taxpayer funded, and women can choose to have an abortion if they don’t like the sex of the child they’re having.

In response to the convention, DDL plans on having a letter writing session to the legislators in an effort to stop the Freedom of Choice Act.

A member of DDL that attended said she now realizes that “If we don’t take action now, we’re never going to win the battle of saving the lives of the pre-born.”

"If we don’t take action now, we’re never going to win the battle of saving the lives of the pre-born.”
**Student Forum Update**

**Student's Voices**

As we evaluate our goals for the school year, Open Forums, in which students and administration discuss topics, are unique ways for them to interact in a group setting. Topics in the past have been well received as well as informative. We are looking forward to a new year with new specific topics. We want to know who you want to hear for these forums.

**Administration**
- Mr. Abe Bos, Associate Academic Dean
- Mr. Bernie DeWit, Business Office
- Mr. Doug Eckardt, Registrar
- Mr. Mike Epema, Student Employment, Financial Aid
- Mr. Howard Hall, Director of Admissions
- Dr. J. B. Huls, President
- Dr. Joe MacDonald, Library
- Mr. Curtis Taylor, Director of Residence Life
- Dr. Nick Kroese, V.P. of Student Affairs

**Residence Hall Directors**
- Tom Van Soelen, Kirk Vander Pol
  - Brian and Melynda Van Zee

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**Registrar's Reflections**

**Open forums coming up:**

On Tuesday Nov. 17, there will be two open meetings held in the SUB Lounge. The first at 6:30 pm will seek the input of the Dordt Community about the construction of the new apartment complex in East Campus. If you have any questions about the new building or would just like to see and hear what is being proposed, join us.

The second forum, beginning at 7:30 pm, will discuss the Lilly Grant proposal. The purpose of this grant is "to improve campus climate in a concerted effort to attract and graduate more minority students." The Lilly committee has put together a working proposal and seeks both faculty and student input before the final proposal is drafted. A copy of the working proposal can be picked up Monday at the switchboard in the SUB.

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**No school on Good Friday**

**Dear Editor,**

I know it is a little early to be talking about Good Friday and Easter Sunday, right now. Christmas is in the air, with evergreens, gifts, and falling snow. Underneath it all is the day Christ was born into this world. This is an important day for a Christian. Good Friday and Easter Sunday are also important days for a Christian, if not more important than Christmas. On Good Friday, Christ died for the sins of humans, and on Easter Sunday, he arose, conquered death, and now lives forever. Because of this, we are saved from the clutches of death and can live eternally.

This is an awesome gift and we as Christians should be very thankful to Him. Right now, Dordt's policy does not allow us to be truly thankful. School is still held on Good Friday. Classes, homework, and meetings continue on this important day. It is like any other day. For students and those visiting the campus, there are no noticeable differences on Good Friday that separate our Christian college from other colleges. There is a chapel service set up in the afternoon, but most people are busy in labs or classes or other school-related activities, so very few people attend. An option is for people to skip the lab and go to chapel, but who would do that and miss all the important information?

The policy needs to be changed. We are a Christian school and should be set apart from other schools. Good Friday and Easter weekend should be set aside for days of prayer, the meditation of the Word, and glorification of our Lord. The excuse that students do not glorify God on that day anyway is not valid. Some students do, and others would like to but don't because of classes or other events. To some, the thought of glorifying God on that day has not even been introduced. Just because people do not recognize this as a day to be totally grateful to God is not a reason to disregard it. Also, some say that Good Friday is not important but Easter Sunday is. You cannot have one day without the other. Christ had to endure the terrors of hell for our sins. That is something to be thankful for. He arose again victorious, we might live. That too is something to be thankful for.

The two days go hand in hand.

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**CAMPUS VOICE 3**

**November 12, 1992**

**Laura Van Qen Top/ Sandra De Jong**
**Eric and Vanessa Bartels**

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**Pizza Hut**

**November 12, 1992**

**November 12, 1992**

**No school on Good Friday**

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Editor's Corner

Sex in the media and our responsibility

Two bodies smashed together, hair tousled, eyes drooping, lips slightly parted, and click, mom shuts off the T.V. “What are you kids watching?” “It’s just a movie Mom; don’t be such a prude.” It’s just a movie..., or is it?

Every weekend, we, students across campus, gather around the TV and VCR. We watch everything from romantic love stories, to intense mystery, to comedy, to gut-wrenching horror.

Regardless of what movie we watch, sexuality seems to enter in full force. It is no longer the innocent kiss of Clark Gable and Vivian Leigh in “Gone with the Wind.” Instead, sex has become a commodity used to foster society’s thirst for the perverse.

Movies are not the only media that cater to society’s growing appetite. Bands such as 2 Live Crew belt out lyrics that promote abusive behavior towards women. Mariel Hemingway of “Civil Wars” revealed everything on prime time TV except body parts hidden by a strategically placed belt. A recent Calvin Klein ad in the New Yorker pictured Marky Mark, a teenage idol, with a model’s bare breasts brushing against his arm.

Madonna’s recently released book, Sex, is Adults Only! Warning, sold 150,000 copies at $49.95 on the first day it hit the book stores. In a world where the threat of AIDS has made extra-marital sex dangerous, the media has compensated by bombarding us with its version of the sexual revolution. It seems to me that we have three options when dealing with this blitzkrieg of sexually promiscuous imagery.

The first option is to passively accept what the media throws at us. While we absorb the implicit immoral messages we can pretend that our entertainment has no effect on the rest of our lives. In absorbing, we accept the individualistic messages of people like Madonna who describes herself as a wondrous gift, we must respond with messages that I’m thinking about moving to Russia.

And we should not damn somebody or judge somebody because it’s different than yours.” (Newsweek, Nov. 2, 1992). To passively accept this philosophy distorts the beauty of sexuality within the covenantal bond God has created between a man and a woman.

Our second option is to retreat from society, denying that this sexual revolution is occurring. This approach only perpetuates our own ignorance and causes the Christian community to lose even more respect within the secular world because we refuse to deal with the world around us. In many ways those who choose to neglect the onslaught of sexual promiscuity in the media are as guilty as those who passively accept it. In ignoring, we deny two very important aspects in our society: the media and our sexuality. Consequently, we avoid God’s command to become involved in all areas of His creation, and instead become isolated societies estranged from reality.

Third, we can, as united saints, face the secular media. By our witness, and our word, we can demonstrate respect for the gift of sexuality. This means keeping sex within the bounds of the trothic relationship between a husband and a wife. It means objecting to the degradation of women and men to sell sex. It means understanding the difference between portraying extra-marital sex as sin (such as in the play Temptation), and sex used to sell sex (such as Madonna’s new book).

Ultimately, it implies that we stand up for what we profess. Yes, that demands work and conviction. When we see those “incredible” new jeans by Calvin Klein, we must resist the urge to buy them, even if they are the only ones that snug our hips just right. When prime time TV insists upon transmitting soft porn into our living rooms, we must turn off the TV set, and write the producers expressing our outrage. When the media bombards us with debasing images of what God intended as a wondrous gift, we must respond with messages of chastity and Christian morality.

- a.s.

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 5:00 the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue. Address contributions to Diamond, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250. Opinions expressed in the Diamond are not necessarily the views of the Diamond staff or Dordt College, but represent the views of the individual writers. The Diamond reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

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I think the results) are so bad that I'm thinking about moving to Russia.

Devin Le Mahieu
Sr, Wisconsin

"I feel sorry for all the people looking for jobs, ... I think our economy is going to be in bad shape."

Jeff Kopaska
Sr, Iowa

"I think they [the results] are so bad that I'm thinking about moving to Russia."

Kristi Terpstra
Sr, Minnesota

"I'm looking forward to an interesting four years and am curious to see what the results will be.

Erin Van Der Veen
Jr, Washington

"I think that America is going to hell in a hand basket."

How do you feel about the results of the elections?

by Will Alsum
Havel challenges audiences

by Jennifer Dyke and Shelley Westerhof

"Temptation," a play written by Czechoslovakian ex-president Vaclav Havel, challenges its audiences to examine their beliefs and ideas about society.

All of Havel's plays were banned in Czechoslovakia before the fall of communism. He was jailed several times because his plays, written as absurdist dramas, criticized the corrupt totalitarian system of government.

After the fall of the communist regime, Havel was made president in 1989. Since then he has resigned but continues to fight for morality in politics.

Dr. Henry Foustka (Standish de Vries) works in an institute which deals solely with scientific rational thought. He starts to dabble in occult practices and is one day visited by a foul-smelling sorcerer, Fistula (Michael Partridge), who offers himself as an object for study if Foustka will protect him when it becomes necessary.

Foustka doubts the power of the sorcerer until, at a company party, the lab secretary Marketa (Susan Jamot) falls in love with him because of his eloquence.

The exhibits at the Institute are all of Havel's plays, which deal with scientific rational thought. He starts to feel the distortion of their feelings toward each other. The Institution garden is simple and balanced, and the trees look almost as mechanical as the institution itself.

Over all, it is evident that the sets are well thought out and took a lot of work on the part of John Holland, set crew and cast members. The sets accurately portray the mood of each scene.

The sound and lights also add moving special effects which leave the audience stunned, especially during the dance at the end.

Although it is a challenge to understand, the play's message is powerful and socially relevant. It makes its audience seriously think about the evils of a technocratic society where there is no room for God.

Fire takes the stage as Kotryl re-introduces Foustka to the hellish Institute.
Sexuality and the student

A Gen 300 student survey on sexuality renders some revealing results

by George VanderBeek

Recently a group of students from the General Studies 300 (Gen. 300) class circulated a questionnaire around campus dealing with several issues of sexuality. This questionnaire was distributed by way of the campus mailboxes to the student body, roughly 1,075 persons. Of these 284 (26.4%) took the time to respond to the nine questions on the sheet.

Some of the results were surprising while others were what was expected; all indicate a need for further discussion.

Because the poll was conducted on a volunteer return basis it runs the risk of displaying a bias. Only those with strong opinions on the subject matter were likely to respond. Many respondents commented that they had difficulty with the wording of the questions and the generality which was open to interpretation. Nevertheless some striking patterns can be seen in the information compiled.

When asked in the first question whether they thought that the media was too sexually explicit and whether they were aware of this while viewing TV or movies 244 replied "Yes" to the first part and 190 to the second. This represents 85.9 and 66.9% of respondents respectively. If we see this as a fault of the media we should be aware of its presence and work to impact change in this area.

Do you think that loss of virginity is less or greater a sin as lying or stealing? Ten (3.5%) said less, 204 (72.3%) said same and 62 (22.2%) said it was a greater sin. Most comments stated that sin is sin but there was a difficulty with the distinction between two sins because of the varying consequences which were attached to them.

Uncertainty was also evident in the comments referring to the third question: Do you feel it is OK for an engaged couple to have sex? Although 236 (83.1%) responded negatively there appeared to be a general lack of understanding of the biblical perspectives on this issue.

In a recent Gallup Poll conducted in American Colleges and Universities students were asked if they thought it wrong for a man and a woman to have sexual relations before marriage. 68.8% replied No. Our views on campus contrast strongly with this "wordly" view, but is it strong enough?

Interestingly, 48 of the respondents to the Dordt poll were engaged, 10 were married and 223 were single. It is unclear whether this influenced the results of this question or not.

Sixty eight (24.1%) of those who replied said that they were no longer virgins. If this percentage is representative of the true percentage of the student body who are no longer virgins then it is an alarming number. As it is, we can not make such an assumption from the sample which this poll represents but there is still cause for concern. Many, when asked at what age they lost their virginity, said that it was between the ages of 18 and 22, representative of their college years. Answers fell within the range from 12 to 22 years old. Four cases were reported to be the result of rape.

A slight majority (52.1%) denied that Dordt has the right to regulate the sexual activity of students. Comments on this question ranged from those who adamantly stated that Dordt had no business interfering to those who said that students should be responsible enough to regulate themselves because of values learned at home.

One hundred and forty eight (52.8%) replied that it is an atmosphere of the student body in general does not correspond to biblical teachings on sexuality. Some commented that we have to increase dialogue about sexual issues and better counsel students on their responsibilities and choices.

The question arises who is responsible, in this age of AIDS and promiscuity, for the education and behavior of the students at Dordt as far as sexual conduct is concerned? Does it fall upon the home, church, college, individual or a combination of the above? Further, are we adding to the situation at this institution by focusing a fair amount of attention on dating "games", computer dating services and "set up your roommate weeks" rather than on our tasks and calling as students to seek first the Kingdom and our place in it?

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Christianity and the arts

Formula Viewing leads to Frustration

by John Holland

It was the best of plays. It was the worst of plays. Some said the play condemned the evils of the occult. Others said it celebrated the occult. Some did it for condemning rationalistic world views. Others condemned it for offering no hope. Some called it a powerful production. Some said it stunk. Few left without strong opinion. Hmm. Maybe it's true: maybe art is basically meaningless. I could read into a piece whatever she will. A tempting conclusion, but not one that is helpful. It doesn't explain why the responses to Temptation have been so black or white, so lacking in middle ground. Another approach is needed. Why did some people respond so positively, and others so negatively? The answer very likely is that different people used different formulas to read the play. Those who responded positively seem to have ignored the allusive nature of art, and to have used one of the following formulas:

Formula #1: A play is a sort of mathematical equation, an equal sign that signifies affirmation. People using this formula go to a play looking for a thesis means-that this equation. When they saw references to the occult, their formula told them, "This means that the occult is okay." When they saw abuse, their formula told them, "This means that abuse is okay." When they saw lying, they concluded, "This means that lying is okay." Of course, if one uses this formula, the remaining stagings can't be treated to the evidence. Some What was going on? First we any way support Hollanda's black magic by turning our backs on the production of Temptation in the same level as pornography, sex together without being shortened bed, black magic wrong in saying that the play was about. I can assure you that just as with the "sex" scenes with the shortened bed, black magic was not happening in the world and at Dordt. The homosexuality portrayed in this play did not in any way support homosexual behavior. The audience might find it offensive to see an actor playing a homosexual character that tries to seduce his fellow characters, but that doesn't mean it's not real. It is unrealistic to think that there are no men or women even here at Dordt with less than clear understanding of two very familiar but sometimes unsafe places—this world before us, and the nature of the human heart. Neither place is safe.

There are no crack houses in Sioux Center that I know of, and Dordt hasn't had a drive-by shooting in close to forty years. But Dordt isn't safe, not really, because the world isn't. And the world isn't because we aren't. There's rubbish all over, even here, on this campus, in this town, and in our hearts.

But if grace is to mean anything to our students, the grace extended to us and to this world, then it seems to me that nobody—including my daughter—ought to graduate from this place with less than clear understanding of two very familiar but sometimes unsafe places—this world before us, and the nature of the human heart. Neither place is safe.

There's darkness all around. The fact is, Temptation plays all year long at Dordt College, just as it does at Calvin or NYU or UNLV, even though the scripts may be edited a little differently.

But we recognize the brilliance of the light of the world only when we know the darkness all around, even here in a village full of churches. Every inch of this creation is mine, says the Lord—safe or not, it's mine.

That's what turns the darkness into light. That's what makes the world safe for God's people, even in Sioux Center, even Dordt College. That's why in two years I hope my daughter will come here.

I know what that mother means—but I've been around here long enough to say that I'm not so sure it's always safe.

Nor do I think it should be.
"I wish I could move my hips like that."
—Denny Doktor referring to Kevin Vander Wier doing the hula-hoop in the commons on fifties night

"Do you want to help me change my clothes?"
—Tanya Watts talking to some friends about putting her wash in the dryer

"I'm not obsessed with nudity, just naked people."
—Tony Crawford

"Understand me, Baby."
—Prof. Dekkenga, in oral interpretation class

"Just kill them, then!"
—Teresa Haro while discussing the dangers of keeping pet goldfish in the kitchen

"What is there to do around this place? If you don't study, there's nothing to do!"
—Chris Dekkers on a Monday night

"I played that game before and some guy licked my ear."
—Joel Keen, referring to a game discussed during the peer counselors meeting

A hearty thank you to all students who have submitted quotes to the Overheard column. Keep those quotes coming in!

Send quotes to:

Diamond Overheard
DC 595

The Diamond reserves the right to choose which quotes are suitable for publication.

Dear Dordt;

Dear people at Dordt College and specifically those involved in the arts,
I have been disturbed for some time now about the various "arts" that have been produced at Dordt College and by Dordt College students and faculty. It seems to me that your community has taken its first steps on the slippery slopes of secular humanism. You are, I believe, looking down the icy path to the hellish destruction of good art and unfortunately you don't seem to see this, or you refuse to, or you don't understand the consequences of your artistic choices for your community. Luckily your community has me, Mr. E. Greges Van Eredetector to set you people straight.

To begin with, you should be aware of the types of "art" that are being produced on your campus by your students and faculty. I have heard, not seen, of various pictures taken for a photography class of nude and partial nudes. I know for a fact that there have been other nude pictures—one of an abstract nature and others of the painted kind. Some of the other pieces of "art" have also had some reference to nudity of worse yet, sexuality—albeit subconsciously. It baffles me that this could happen on your campus—such a glorification of the naked human body and such blatant sexuality. It is not that I am opposed to nudity, I believe in nudity, but behind closed and locked doors, and between two married people and not not in a sculpture or on a canvas or a photograph where our young people can go and look at the opposite sex. Let them dig up old National Geographics if they want that horrible stuff. They shouldn't be seeing it at art exhibits.

A concerned person might possibly understand that these things occasionally get dealt with in the "art" department. Those artist type people are always tempted to "create" stuff like that, some say that it is in their nature. But I cannot possibly understand it when such noble departments as the English department start dabbling with stories, poems, and novels that deal with issues of sexuality, homosexuality, abortion, hate and things of that nature. I would only like to point them to such wonderful writers as John Benton, Helen Sierene-Rice, June Masters Bacher, Norman Vincent Peal, Frank Peretti, and Janet Oakley. These are writers who pursue Christian themes unlike some of the poems by students that I heard at a recent poetry reading. Some students actually wrote about such things as doubt, smoking and drinking. Dear friends, can you see how you have stepped on the wet rocks of the secular humanistic cliffs? Can you see how far down it is? Can you see that I am right?

Then of course, there is that theatre department, which already has one foot over to begin with. It has been brought to my attention that they are in the process of producing one act plays that deal with what we have been battling against all along. Rumor has it that one of the plays is about unwanted pregnancy, abortion and drinking. Another is about two homosexual men. These plays are directed by students. I would only like to know who allows these students to pick such filth, I've never read the plays but I won't need to to know that such plays are worthless.

Recently, the students have started a new radio station K.I.C.E. am 650 that they play secular ROCK tunes on. What was wrong with K.D.C.R. It is not only one of my favorite entertainment options, but also a very good one. They play wonderful music—not that ear shattering, bowing to the devil type noise. What kind of message are they sending to the community around them by playing this stuff?

After reviewing all these things that I've just written, it leads me to ask: Who is in charge over there?

I would only like to remind you people that you are working in this world for the Lord. Remember your wonderful statement of calling and purpose. How can you allow such manifestations of the world to infiltrate your quaint Northwest Iowa campus? I can only say that I hope you change your ways because the ways you're following now will lead you down.

Signed,
Your Concerned Friend
E. Greges Van Eredetector
ELECTION RESULTS

The 1992 elections have come and gone and it looks like a clear victory for Bill Clinton and the Democratic Party. Although the Democrats lost nine seats in the House, they gained one seat in the Senate control of the executive branch. In January, there will be 110 new faces in the House of Representatives, four new women in the Senate and twenty-two women in the House. Both blacks and Hispanics made significant gains as well, as the voice of minorities continues to gain strength.

WHAT'S NEXT...

Now that the election of 1992 is over, how should Christians continue to push for social justice? Despite the recent changes, our political system is still run by two major parties and a host of self-seeking special interest groups. In an increasingly pluralistic society, the current two-party system is becoming inadequate in its representation of the American people as a whole. The popularity of Ross Perot and the success of term limit referendums in a number of states indicate that there is a growing percentage of Americans who feel that they no longer have a voice in their government. Although these two particular developments may not seem practical, they do illustrate a significant attitude of acceptance to new Ideas for political change.

As Christians we must take advantage of this opportunity by setting forth our own concrete proposals based on biblical principles of equality and justice. In recognition of the pluralistic structure of society, one of the proposals that has been gaining support is proportional representation. This concept would allow for several new parties to be formed. Instead of the traditional Republican/Democrat choice, voters would have a greater opportunity to choose a party they can identify with.

For Christians it may mean the opportunity to organize a party that is completely pro-life on all issues including the environment, public welfare, and abortion.

Rather than a "winner takes all" system we have in place, proportional representation would allow all minority groups to have their fair share of influence in the American government, including Christians, regardless of financial strength. Such a system could lead to a greater understanding and appreciation for the political and cultural diversity that makes this country unique. It would give us a chance to get at the problems that undermine issues as well.

For example, the Christian community must do more than just fight for legislation to outlaw abortion. We should be addressing the things that have made abortion the controversial issue that it is today. These things include the disintegration of the family, greater economic inequality, and a lack of justice for women throughout our society. Rather than giving these issues the lip service they have received in the past, we need to attack them with new legislative proposals that reflect biblical norms for justice in those areas.

By aiming towards justice in the political arena, we can begin to deal with some of our nation's biggest problems in a way that is both practically and biblically just and equitable.

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Marc Andreas and Calvin Horlings "enjoy" ice cream at Western Night at the Commons
Basketball season opens Friday

By Derrick Vander Waal

The Dordt basketball team prepares for the 1992-'93 season with high expectations for a vastly improved season after the mediocrity of the last few years. Following a disappointing 9-16 campaign, Coach Vander Berg is optimistic that the experience of the returning players will result in a winning season. Dordt has lost the services of starting outfielder Brian Driessen, to graduation this year. With the return of almost all of the key players from last year's team, Dordt seems ready to take a big step upward this year. "They are a lot more experienced," Coach Vander Berg said. "Most of the players now know what it takes to play college basketball." Combined with the experience of the returning players, Dordt has the senior leadership that it has lacked over the past few seasons. "We have gotten very good leadership," said Coach Vander Berg. "Our post play- especially the rebounding aspect should be strong." Dave Van Essen as a freshman last year led the team in scoring and rebounding with 15.4 ppg and 6.3 rpg and was named to the NAIA All-District team. Junior Mark Van Gorp, an excellent post player, averaged 12.6 ppg and 6.8 rpg. Senior Brian Sipma, a workhorse on the offensive boards, Senior Craig Veurink, a good outside shooter and solid inside player, and Senior Doug Veenstra, a spark off the bench, round out a strong front line.

As the season nears, the backcourt remains a question mark especially with the loss of NAIA All-District player, Brian Driessen. Driessen's outside scoring punch, passing skills and leadership are some of the intangibles which must be replaced. Senior Galen Van Roekel will start again this season at the point guard spot after averaging 9.4 ppg and 2.5 apg last year. In the practices and scrimmages, Van Roekel appears to be more focused and prepared to accept the leadership role of the point guard position. Junior Jay Regnerus, a sharp shooter from outside, will slide into Driessen's slot while Sophomore Tim Brunsting, an intense defensive stopper, will spell the two starters at the guard position.

For the most part Dordt's team statistical comparisons to their opponents last season are very compatible. One striking difference, however, is a significant gap in turnovers. Dordt turned the ball over 114 times more than their opponents. They will have to play much smarter and learn how to handle excessive defensive pressure. Although the team is relatively big and physical, they lack some team quickness and speed. "We still lack a little quickness, a little speed, so we will have to compensate for that," said coach Vander Berg. As a result, it is even more essential that they concentrate on their fundamentals when going up against quicker defensive pressure.

Dordt opens its season tomorrow and on Saturday in a tournament at Dana before traveling to Minneapolis next Tuesday for a game against North Central College. These early games are very important since Dordt plays its first six games on the road. Dordt does not play at home until Wednesday, December 2, against Dakota Wesleyan. If Dordt can develop the team concept and attitude it takes to win it could be the start of a bright future for Dordt basketball.

Blades pull off a win against Drake

By Matthew Belmers

The Dordt Blades did last weekend what it took 18 games last season to do—win first game of the season. The 5-1 win over Drake was a far cry from last year's 12-4 loss in the opening game of the season, which was the beginning of the longest losing streak in Blades history. With a new coach and blend of young freshmen and returning players the Blades seem to be on track for a more successful season.

The Blades are coached by Steve De Boer, a MARS seminary student from Ontario who played competitive hockey in Ontario last season. De Boer took over the coaching responsibilities early in the year after being approached by Dean R Zooze— former Blades coach—by way of Hendrik Wildeboer of his duties as player-coach.

De Boer has the team going full court and understands the importance of winning which has seen the emergence of several young players form the nucleus of the young team. Sophomore center Joel Minderhoud plays between the Wildeboer brothers Michael and Hendrik and have accounted for much of the team offense. Minderhoud leads the team with 10 points off eight assists and two goals. Freshman goaltender Duane De Young has cut the teams goals against in half and backs a defense bolstered by returning senior Doug Vanderveide.

In last weekend's Friday night opener first of the weekend's doubleheader, the Blades opened up against a large Drake crowd. The Blades opened the scoring before the Bulldogs tied the score midway through the period before taking a 2-1 lead into the intermission. Dordt came back to tie a 4-3 lead on three late goals in the second period. Drake, the Blades oldest rival, came back with three unanswered goals to take the game 6-4. Last year's nemesis of the Blades, penalty minutes, was again their downfall as the Des Moines team scored the winning goal on the power-play.

Saturday afternoon the Blades played in front of a large Dordt alumni crowd who hosted a dinner for Dordt's team after the game. The Blades opened up the scoring on a Mike Wildeboer goal before the Bulldogs evened the score on a long shot on the power-play. The Blades then got a pair of goals from Hendrik Wildeboer and singles from Ralph Krikke and Joel Krikke to seal a 5-1 victory. The victory against the Division I school was the first in several years.

This weekend the Blades travel to Carlton College, just south of Minneapolis, for a pair of late weekend games. Last season the Blades lost to their counterparts by a 1-0 score to the end season. Carlton, which will be much improved this year with lots of returning players, always play tough against the Blades. Dordt returns home the weekend before the Thanksgiving Break where they will face off against Northern State. The Aberdeen school is a first year team who the Blades have not heard much of. The game will be a solid warm-up for the Blades before they face off against perennial powerhouse UNI. The Panthers have one of the strongest programs in the league and are a fast-skating and hard-hitting team. The Friday night games start at 7:00 p.m. with a cost of $2.00.
Oh, what a feeling!

Women take down Mt. Mercy to advance to district finals against Northwestern

by Matthew Belmers

The Dordt College Lady Defenders are heading towards a District 15 championship game against the Northwestern Red Raiders on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Dordt College has never qualified for the District final in its history. This Saturday they will have a chance to redeem themselves against the Orange City school after the Black and Gold fell in three straight games last week to close the regular season. The loss to Northwestern came on the heels of a 3-0 defeat to Morningside. The two consecutive losses marked the first time the Lady Defenders fell in back to back matches and the first time that Dordt did not win a game in a match. The Black and Gold's trip to the finals began last Saturday afternoon where the women faced up against Clark in the District quarterfinal, the first time in a number of years that Sioux Center has hosted a play-off game. The court squad did not disappoint as they only surrendereed a total of 10 points over three games in winning 15-2, 15-11, and 15-7. The win propelled the women into the semi-final where they played the number two seed, Mt. Mercy, who came into the match with a 36-8 mark. The game, which was a 1-0 standstill for some time, saw Dordt take control and run up a 9-2 lead. The visitors got the ball back but since 1984, Van Essen held them scoreless the rest of the way and rode the momentum and Joyce Veensma's carefully placed kills helped Dordt take a 2-0 lead. Mt. Mercy came back in the third game for a 15-6 advantage. The women had trouble gaining momentum as their opponents jumped out to a quick lead from which the home team could never recover. In the fourth game the two teams battled back and forth. Mt. Mercy coming back from a 12-7 deficit to bring them within one at 12-11. The Lady Defenders, behind the support of the home town crowd, held their opponents off the score sheet for the rest of the game and won 15-11. In running their record to 36-4, the women tied a school record which was set in 1986, a team led by Coach Vonda De Stigter. De Stigter noted that the team "really deserves this record, their such an unselshless bunch, they really played like a true team out their tonight." The women, who's .900 winning percentage is the highest by a volleyball squad, will get a chance on the record this weekend against the Red Raiders. In their initial match of the season, the Black and Gold took their long time rivals to 5 games in a two- and-one-half hour match. Coach De Stigter said the team is "happy to get the chance to redeem ourself, we know we can do better and this will give us that chance, we will be excited to play again."

District finals Sat., 2 p.m. vs. Northwestern at Unity

Van Essen ends coaching career at Dordt

by Matthew Belmers

The balls have been flattened, the nets taken down and the awards handed out—three sure signs that the 1992 soccer season has come to a close. The season, which ended on an ominous afternoon against the Briar Cliff Chargers, left the team with an impressive 15-3 record but still failing to qualify for the District Championships in Le Mars. Unfortunately, the match saw the careers of four time letter-winner Scott Hilbelink and Coach Quentin Van Essen come to an end.

Hilbelink was named an NAIA scholar athlete last season after accumulating 24 goals and this year was voted captain of the squad by his peers. Hilbelink, who along with David Vander Ploeg started the famed "Oger," the team's post-scoring ritual. He will be remembered for his tenacious hustle and his sense of humor.

Van Essen took over the coaching duties in 1980, and the next season guided the Defenders to the District Championship and earned Coach of the Year honors for his work. 1984 saw the Defenders take home the District 15 trophy before bowing out in the bi-district to Saginaw State, one of the top teams in the country. In the late 1980's, the emergence of Grandview as a soccer power provided Dordt with it's most intense competition. While the Defenders have not won the overall crown, Van Essen has walked the sidelines for 158 wins against a mere 61 losses and 11 ties. Last season Van Essen guided the Defenders to a 15-2 mark, the most successful in Dordt history before the team bowed out to Grandview in the finals. Van Essen, who was promoted to Head of Admissions last season, will not have the time to balance his office job with on-field responsibilities but will still be one of the team's biggest supporters—sitting among the fans. Van Essen was much more than just a coach. He was a leader, friend, and mentor for many past and present Dordt players.

Van Essen was more than just a coach.

The team finished the season in dominating fashion as they defeated Briar Cliff by a 9-0 margin. The Defenders quick one-touch passing and speed was too much for the young Sioux City squad as the visitors jumped to a 3-0 first-half lead on a pair of goals by Chris Hull and Doug Brouwer. The second half saw the game's physical style lead to some pushing and shoving before two players from each side were ejected for fighting. With the teams playing at 9-aside, the Defenders pumped in 5 goals in the final 15 minutes. Hilbelink finished off his soccer career in fine fashion, with three goals and two assists to lead Dordt. Hull, a sophomore who had 26 goals last season, hit the 20 goal plateau again by netting four goals and adding an assist. Jason Hultink tied a Dordt College record by setting up four goals and freshmen Kevin Caspersen broke the school shutout record by recording his ninth white-wash of the season.

While the young goaltender and defense allowed a meager 13 goals against in 18 games (70 GAA) the offense scored 78 goals (4.3/game). Hilbelink, who punched in 11 goals himself, led the team with 14 assists. Hull's 20 goals were good enough for the team lead while Bryan Wilgenburg followed with 13 goals. Several members of the team were named to the All-District 15 team. Doug Brouwer, who suffered a bout of hepatitis earlier in the year, made the district team for the third year in a row. Brouwer led the team from the midfield position. Hultink, Wilgenburg, Hilbelink, and Hull were named as honorable mentions by the district.

While next season's coaching position has yet to be filled, the new head-man will see the whole team return along with the new recruits. While the team did miss districts for the first time in several years, next year's squad will be ready to go with a new coach pacing the sidelines for the first time in the Defenders soccer history.
Temptation

Let’s be Frank

by Frank Schippers

The truth is that he does not. He does not, either in Temptation or in his writing, celebrate the occult, concede oneself centered immorality, or mock the Christian faith. Rather, he does quite the opposite. But to see this play, one has to use a different formula than either of the two above. One has to use a formula that says a play is allusive, that its many images work together to form one big picture, that its many words work together to form one big idea.

If we do this, we would include that the demon-masked Zanni helped to support Fustula’s observation: “We know that the devil is a master of disguises. What we might think is one disguise could imagine than the one offered him by the godlessness of modern times?” Then the disgusting relationship help support the complaint “about the increasingly stupid willfulness of the powerful and increasingly stupid submission of the powerless, and the awful destruction committed in today’s world in the name of science.”

Then the mechanical conformity of the characters supports the image of the machine hanging over the stage, which in turn supports the observation that man “has crowned himself (and his constructions) as the highest authority, so he can then observe with horror how the world is going to the dogs under that authority!”

Allowing theatre to be allusive doesn’t always ask to give any picture, or smiling heroes, or mathematical equations. It asks theatre to give a many-piece puzzle that fits together to give a picture, a picture that tells something about our world. Havel himself would say that the picture he creates is not rosy. But he would add that it is a picture whose message is desperately urgent.

Diversity is also one of the outstanding characteristic of this latest album, Red Heaven. Because the band and their music is easy to label as “alternative,” what goes into the music is often overlooked. As with any “alternative” band, they exhibit the amusing use of guitar feedback, echoes, and the ever-present “da-da” lyric. But besides that, it’s original, thoughtful, and creative.

“Furious” introduces the album with a slow, driving beat and vocalists singing about a familiar alter ego, which carries the ears through all thirteen songs. Though Hersh’s style of singing is consistent throughout, the songs themselves jump from brooding to happy; from mellow to dance. That the Muses can accomplish this and make it sound good is genuine skill.

“She begins loud with a beat more typical of Bob Mould rather than the Muses. This is not surprising since Mould himself joins in unexpectedly on the second half of the album, his powerful, gravelly voice in full force. After this, “Dirty Water” brings us back to the typical, comfortable alternative beat, which they constantly experiment with.

If a reader was to read the lyrics for herself, she would find herself asking one question—“why would the words for the music be written for the music. This can be disputed, but I really believe the lines in this music tell the singer what words to use in order to create a mood. One has to be a reader and a listener to appreciate these lyrics. The songs themselves jump from the words in which the main sound is the voice with beautiful chords underneath. And the lyrics have a strong message about the frustration of a woman being physically and psychologically oppressed by a man.”

The Diamond has several position openings for next semester, including Sports, Copy Editing, Layout, News, and Photography. If you are interested, contact Dr. Vander Kooi at x6259.