

DIAMOND

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Arab expert stresses knowledge of history

by Daniel Mennega

Understanding the Middle East as it relates to North Americans is not an easy task.

In fact, until now, most Americans have not even considered this task necessary, according to Reverend Bassam Madany, the featured speaker at several lectures in C160 on February 11.

An afternoon audience of 70 people and an evening crowd of 150 listened to Madany, the Arabic Broadcast minister of the *Back to God Hour*, as he gave a speech entitled *The Political Crisis in the Middle East*.

Madany spoke of America's long neglect of the history and culture of the Islam community in the Middle East. He pointed to America's history of unconcern for imperialistic affairs as a major factor of our unawareness of the development of the Middle East and of the influence Muhammadanism has on politics there.

"This unawareness of the affairs of the Middle East can not last longer," said Madany, who traced the long and fascinating story of the Muslim people.

A political religion

The focus of his lecture was a call for understanding and knowledge of the complex Islam history.

"Because of the nature of the people of the Arab nations, shaped by Islam, it is impossible to be



photo by Andy Fossum

Bassam Madany lectures to the community on the history of the Gulf crisis.

aware of the Middle East without some kind of a resume' to examine," he claimed.

Madany, who was born in Syria, explained that "Islam religion, unlike any other religion—Christianity, Buddhism, Confucianism—carries with itself political baggage."

He said that this inseparable

union between religion and government caused dissension and war beginning already 30 years after the Islam founder Muhammed died in 600 A.D.

Disputes over the legitimacy of the law and the leaders split the early Islamic world and continues to cause bloodshed, even today.

As a result of Europe's colonial

efforts in the Middle East, anti-West sentiments were instilled in the Arab nations, an animosity still felt strongly today, Madany said.

For example, said Madany, when Saddam Hussein bombs Israel, which is a symbol of western imperialism, he does so to rally the anti-west, Islamic factions in neighboring countries.

Our hope for the future

The expansion of Islam is a legitimate cause for war to most Muslims, according to Madany.

But we must not turn our backs on the issue as if it does not affect us, he said.

The present war compounds already existing problems in the Middle East, such as a water shortage and a poor economy. "Whether we like it or not, we are involved in this world's problems," Madany said.

"The world is interdependent, therefore this situation affects everyone," Madany continued. "We need each other. We have to learn how to live with each other in this world."

The only way to reach a peaceful world is in the realization of everyone's need for evangelism, and reconciliation through Jesus, stressed Madany, and urged the audience to become active in bringing that about.

Students return from off-campus programs

by David Mahaffy

This past semester five Dordt students had a chance to experience two of Dordt's off-campus programs. Christine Van Belle and Dave Branderhorst spent the semester in Washington D.C. with the American Studies Program while Ron Vanderwey, Cheryl Van Klompenberg and Patti De Nooy worked in Chicago with the Chicago Metropolitan Center program.

The student's reasons for going varied, but most of them went for the off-campus experience or to get involved in some aspect of their

major or area of interest. For some of the students, the experiences they gained during the semester have helped them make decisions about their future.

During the program, Christine Van Belle worked as an assistant to a lawyer in a position where she could experience different aspects of the field of law. As a result of her work, she decided that law was probably not an area she wanted to enter.

Ron Vanderwey worked for the Bank of America as a financial analyst. After the experiences he had there, he decided that he was

going in the right direction, and he even has the possibility of a job as a direct result of his work there.

The Chicago Metropolitan Center and American Studies are just two of several off-campus programs offered by Dordt. During the semester, students spend part of their time in an internship with a company in their major or area of interest and part of their time in classes related to the particular program.

A wide variety of positions are available for internships. Students work in such places as art galleries, museums, television sta-

tions, the Smithsonian, the Capitol, or hotels.

Besides the jobs and classes, the students were able to make many new friends, since each program had 40-60 students involved. There were also many exciting places to visit, such as the White House, the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center, the John Hancock Building, and Soldier Field. Students were also able to see such things as *The Phantom of the Opera*, and various plays, ballets, and theater events.

Every one of the Dordt students involved highly recommends the programs to other students. The

Students asleep?

Complacency at Dordt and misc. topics

Anyone who went to the lectures of Reverend Bassam Madany will know what I'm talking about when I say that most students don't really concern themselves with relevant issues.

Only 20 students out of over 160 people attended the lectures by this incredibly knowledgeable man.

This town may be labeled "politically dormant," yet I don't understand why, considering that students were outnumbered by locals six to one.

After all, this is our college, and opportunities for knowledge are right in our faces, but we refuse to see them, or ignore them instead of grabbing them. Maybe we should be labelled dormant or sluggish instead.

I was just beginning to think that editorials on complacency were getting old. You've been told it all before—"Get involved. Get active. Get up off your butts and learn something."—Harping on Dordt students' complacency is becoming cliché. Will it ever take effect?

There is a major war going on

(soon to be called World War III), so this lethargy can't go on. For our own sake. Farmers, businessmen, social workers, teachers—this war will affect you.

We call ourselves politically aware. What a joke. How actively concerned are we about the war beyond a few yellow ribbons and . . . and . . . , well, beyond a few yellow ribbons?

Madany gave us concrete answers to some of the ques-

tions we ask about the war. Instead of finding answers, most of you are still asking those

questions, and walking around in a dizzy haze of confusion, maybe hoping you'll hear it from friends or through the party grapevine (and that's "beer" party, not the Democratic/Republic type.)

Complacency: contentment accompanied by ignorance.

But enough on the negative stuff, already. I care about this campus; but maybe that's why I get uptight about it sometimes.

Inter-Varsity

I went to the kick-off meeting of Inter-Varsity this past Sunday night, held in John Wagenveld's basement apartment. It was an exciting experience for me to be in an atmosphere where college kids speak

openly and unashamedly about Jesus.

It was one of the only times I'd ever been in

that type of situation during my Dordt College career. I don't know much about Inter-Varsity, either, but I plan to find out more as we continue to meet.

Inter-Varsity— isn't that the organization launched on so-called "secular" college campus-

es to evangelize to unbelievers? What is it doing here at Dordt?

Doesn't that make Dordt look bad, like we actually need evangelism?

Maybe it does make us look bad. Then again, maybe we aren't so good after all. If it leaves a bad taste in your mouth, I suggest you swallow it, along with your pride.

V-Day

On a more jolly note, to all you love-stricken romantics: Happy Valentine's Day!

--DM

"Opportunities for knowledge are right in our faces, but we refuse to see them."



Students say...

"What is a Defender?"

by Kevin Wassenaar



Christal Vander Zee

Jr., Iowa

"Something you can't make a mascot out of or cheer for at games."



John Klompier

Jr., Minnesota

"A little knight in shining armor who hasn't reached knighthood so he can't go on the offensive."



Kristin Van Zyl

Fr., California

"Someone who gives you a reason to have pride in your school because they fight hard to the end."

Diamond

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

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Seven lives on

Most Dordt students are probably not aware that Martin Seven, the man after whom the annual writing contest is named, used to work as a cataloger in the Dordt College Library.

According to Mrs. Hulst, head librarian, Martin Seven began working in the library after he had retired as a Christian high school teacher. He contributed to the library as a cataloger and as the founder of the Dordt College

Library archives that presently consist of the Dordt collection and the Dutch Heritage collection. Mr. Seven worked at the library from the mid-1960's to 1978, the year in which he died.

Because of his dedication to Christian education, Martin Seven funded scholarships as well as the annual Martin Seven Writing Contest that is open to all Dordt students. The deadline for the contest is February 15.

Craig in concert

Craig Smith, a Christian contemporary musician who tours nationwide, will be performing live at the Dordt College chapel/auditorium on Friday, February 15 at 8 p.m.

Smith has recorded several albums and has had eight songs reach the top ten on national Christian music charts. Smith's music ranges from traditional devotional songs to contemporary praise selections.

The concert is sponsored by KDCR to raise funds for its broadcasts. Tickets are \$5 with free admission to children under 12 who are accompanied by parents. Advance ticket purchasers will receive a free cassette tape of Craig Smith's *Worship* recording that won him the 1988 Dove nomination for best worship and praise album.



photo by Kevin Wassenner

One student's trash is another child's treasure

HOMECOMING WEEK

by Tiffany Hoskins

Getting into the spirit

Homecoming Week 1991 is in motion, and the campus is stirring with anticipation. Each night, students are taking part in the activities planned to build spirit and excitement for the climax on Saturday.

Sound Search

Monday night opened Homecoming Week as two carloads of Dordt students searched Sioux Center on the Sound Scavenger Hunt. Each group recorded a list of required sounds such as a whistling tea kettle, a flushing toilet, falling bowling pins and a

cheering crowd. The winning team recorded all of the sounds in the proper order except for a ringing gas station bell because, according to freshman Becky Van Soelen, "The Co-op pulls in their bell lines at night!" The team received free pizza and pop from Pizza Hut.

Trivia Trial

Tuesday evening students were challenged to "test their knowledge" in the College Bowl. A total of eight students made up two teams—an upperclassmen team of four men and an underclassmen team of four women. A team of four faculty also competed. The contest featured trivia questions in four

categories: arts and entertainment, science, history and geography, and the 80's.

In the end, the faculty won with 640 points, while the upperclassmen scored 360 and the underclassmen 125. Each member of the faculty team received a three dollar gift certificate from the snack bar for their win.

Couple Caper

Newly married or engaged couples also tested their knowledge, not of trivia, but of each other last night. The organizing committee for the game made up the questions which six couples answered in two rounds, including a bonus question, much like the syndicated version of the Newlywed Game. Brian Van Zee and Melynda Slings successfully accumulated the most points by matching the most answers. The two will enjoy a romantic dinner at Sandora's.

Feud Fiesta

Students "face off" in the Student Family Feud match at 7:00 p.m. tonight in the chapel. After producing "good answers" to questions from the Family Feud board game, the winning family will be eligible for the speed round consisting of Dordt-related questions. Each of the winning teams will receive a large Pizza Hut pizza and pop.

Homecoming Hop

The Valentine-Homecoming Dance, hosted by the P.E. Club, heads off an action packed week-

end on Friday from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. The dance, held in the lower gym, features special lights from the Theater Arts Department, great new music, and refreshments provided by the Sub Club.

Hands-on Hoops

Saturday tops off the week with a day packed full of events. The action begins at 1:00 p.m. with a basketball game between alumni and JV teams. A Slam Dunk Contest held during halftime of the men's varsity game, will provide entertainment for the crowd. A Dordt sweatshirt from the bookstore goes to the first place winner, while the second place winner will receive a Dordt t-shirt.

Bang-up Basketball

Teikyo-Westmar will provide the competition for the men's varsity game in the contest Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. Starting time for the women's varsity game against Briar Cliff is 6:00 p.m.

Talent Take-off

After the women's game, Dordt students will strut their stuff in the Talent Extravaganza sponsored by Student Services at 8:00 p.m. in the chapel. Twenty-five dollars will be awarded to the first place act, fifteen dollars to the second place winner and ten dollars to the third.

Ice Cream Indulgence

An Ice Cream Social in the Commons will follow the talent show to top off the week's events. Everyone is welcome!



photo by Andy Fossum

The upperclass team was schooled by the faculty

Lifter waits for improvement Poll brings response

Dear Editor,

The Dordt College weight lifting room is an outdated and inadequate facility to supply the needs of a college of over one thousand students. There are increasing problems in the weight room that I feel should be brought to your attention. The problems have been gradually increasing as weight lifting is becoming a more popular way of staying in shape.

One of the major problems is that there is a serious lack of space. Students can not take advantage of all the different types of weight lifting equipment in the present area. The space that is needed to contain the existing equipment should be at least double or triple its present size in order to allow adequate space for movement. By increasing the amount of space available it would also lessen the chance of accidental injury.

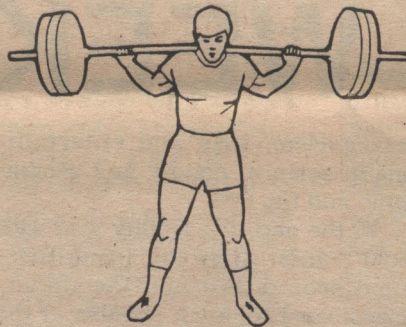
Another problem is that a greater number of people are using the weight lifting room. The amount of people that use the room has been increasing dramatically over the four years that I have been at Dordt. The amount of time that is being spent by each person in the room seems to be going up also. These two factors combined have an overcrowding effect. This situation causes great frustration from the students who have a difficult time moving about and getting their routines done.

In comparison to other colleges in the area Dordt's weight room

and equipment come up drastically short. High schools around the area have better weight rooms and equipment than Dordt does. Some of the equipment that we do have is lacking of parts and is of no use. The stuff is just not quality, it looks like it was built in a barn with an outdated welder. The safety of the equipment is very poor and is not in very good upkeep. It would be in Dordt's best interests to take a serious look at the equipment and the problems that might occur...to avoid any possible liability that could be incurred.

I challenge Dordt to treat the weight room the same way they treat the rest of the college buildings and classrooms. If something was wrong with a computer, Dordt would fix it, or if the lights did not work, Dordt would certainly fix them. Why is it when there is something in the weight room that does not work Dordt does not fix it? Those of us that use the weight room would greatly appreciate the consideration.

Marc Geels



On February 12, the Diamond editor conducted an informal six-question opinion survey to expose some of the many differing views that exist on Dordt's campus concerning the current war in the Middle East.

1. Do you believe that the war against Iraq is just or not? Why? In general most of the responses were positive. Although most of the students surveyed believed that the war is just because Iraqi dominance must be stopped and Iraq had no right invading Kuwait, some specified that the U.S. involvement in the war would not be justified if it is purely for economic reasons. As one student said, "Yes, the cause is just but it is not a U.S. war." The general feeling was that if the U.S. is fighting strictly for oil then American soldiers should not be there.

2. If you were in charge of the U.N. coalition of countries, what would you have done after Iraq invaded Kuwait? Most of the replies agreed with the course of action that has unfolded. Nathaniel Meyer, a senior biology major from Sioux Center, answered, "I support the actions the U.N. has taken. Repeated warnings, international condemnation, sanctions and finally military action were all pursued in a proper way."

In contrast to this majority response, some students said that military action should have occurred sooner, while a few did not think that the embargo, sanctions, and peace talks were pursued far enough.

3. If you support the war, how long would you continue to support it? Almost everyone surveyed agreed their support will continue until the ultimate goal of the war is met—and Kuwait is freed. As Professor Mahaffy said, "If something is right, then it would be fickle to change one's principles because it was too long."

4. What do you think the coalition should do if Saddam Hussein and Iraq surrendered unconditionally tomorrow? Opinions ranged from taking the culprits to a rubber room and beating them with a wet noodle, to punishing Saddam for war crimes while helping the Iraqi people rebuild their country, to leaving Saddam in power and not meddling with internal Iraqi politics. According to Lisa Kollis, a senior biology major from Sioux Falls, "Saddam and his government should be taken into custody and put on trial in front of the World Court; Iraqi people should be helped in rebuilding their lives and a new government."

5. What, if anything would justify the use of tactical nuclear weapons against Iraq? Two responses dominated opinion with regards to this question. Either students said that nothing would justify the use of nuclear weapons or they demonstrated an eye-for-an-eye attitude: if Saddam uses them first, then the U.N. would be justified in retaliating with nuclear weaponry. One student described this attitude as "the tit for tat method; as soon as Iraq comes with nuclear weapons, respond the same way."

6. How do you think the countries of the world would respond if a similar situation occurred in a different place (such as South America or Africa)? The majority opinion was that students hoped the world would respond in the same way but many did not think that near as much would happen, near as quickly depending on how directly the invasion affected the economies of major world powers. Bob Pollema, a junior from Sioux Center, said, "Well when the assets (\$) are at stake, the world takes notice. If no interests (\$) are in danger, the world shakes a diplomatic fist and then forgets."

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Student forum alive and well

QUESTION: What is Student Forum doing for the students?

ANSWER: All-school picture directories. Book market. Christmas banquet and dance. Extended open-house hours. Blood drives. Proposal for off-campus senior housing. Proposal for a winter retreat. New magazines in the library. Answering students questions.

QUESTION: What committees does Student Forum work with?

ANSWER: Student Activities, Dance, Student Discipline, Spiritual Activities, Teacher Education, Film, Library, Curriculum, Personnel, Intercultural, Social Work, Academic, Student Life Senate.

QUESTION: What are some of the things that Student Forum does that students might not be aware of?

ANSWER: Looked at possibility of getting a coin machine in the SUB; wrote a proposal to extend the hours in the computer center until 12 p.m.; looked into a request to have carpeting in West Hall; encouraging on-campus dances; looked at possibility of a different meal plan at the commons; established RA/RD contacts.

Our goal as Student Forum is

to represent YOU, the student. As you see, we are involved in many areas around the campus. Our meetings, which are held every other week, include discussions of things that directly affect YOU.

The most recent activity that we are working on is the proposal for Senior off-campus housing. Many students have already signed a petition that has been around campus. Although we are not involved in the actual petition, we are involved in approving this proposal and directing it through the proper channels. It is important to realize that changes do not take place overnight. In fact, a proposal such as this may take months. This proposal, for instance, must (1) be approved by Student Forum, (2) be brought to the Student Personnel Committee by a Student Forum member, (3) be brought to Student Life Senate for approval, and finally (4) discussed and approved by the Executive Committee.

Take a minute to talk to a Student Forum member about an idea or concern YOU may have. We'll gladly work with YOU in writing up a proposal, bringing your request to a committee, or simply answering a question YOU may have.

Overheard...

"I'm caught in the middle. My wife is American; I'm Canadian. But we're both Dutch and headed for the new earth so I guess it doesn't matter."

— John Vander Stelt, in Gen 300 on the topic of cultural diversity

"That's the funnest. . . Just laughing!"

— Christal Vander Zee, on her favorite pastime

"What does it mean to be a chair?"

— John Kok, philosophy class

"You should have seen LouAnn after the game—we had to peel her off the ceiling and tell her to quit bouncing off the walls!"

— comment concerning womens' basketball team beating Briar Cliff

"If I were white, I'd be so red..."

— Standish De Vries after a particularly embarrassing moment

"Doing the bench press will not allow you to go out and run two miles in a shorter distance."

— Vonda De Stigter, PE 10

"Well, that certainly throws a different monkey wrench in the wheel."

— Henry Duitman, when he discovered an unexpected timing in an orchestra piece

"Ligaments are like the elastic in your underwear. If their elasticity gets stretched out, they lose their usefulness and fall down."

— Rick Vander Berg, describing injuries

Professors learning lessons

by Teri Nikkel

Paul Moes sat in a classroom, pen and paper in hand, ready for another lecture from Professor of Biology Aaldert Mennega. Panic struck as Mennega reminded the class of a paper due at 5:00 that afternoon. Moes had understood the paper was to be handed in the following day. After class, he hurried to complete the paper before deadline. Later that night, Moes called Mennega, hoping to deliver the paper and avoid penalty.

"He told me to wait until next class and take the penalty," says Moes. "I didn't understand then, but I'd probably do the same now that I'm in the professor's shoes."

Many of Dordt's faculty instructed students who were to become their colleagues—future Dordt professors. Moes, one such professor, remembers taking all of Mennega's classes and doing an independent study with him as a biology major. Moes admits to feeling a bit awkward when he made the change from student to professor. "It took

me four years to call him Al. He hadn't changed a day," he says.

Although Mennega has changed little in Moes' eyes, he has had to change a few teaching strategies. "Students today have to be entertained. Yet, they seem to have more specific goals and know their political market better than in days past," he says.

Professor James Mahaffy, also a student and colleague of Mennega, recognizes similarities between pros of his college days and today. He believes he is better able to empathize with students. "I've had to take Koekkoek's multiple choice exams and so nobody can tell me I don't know what it's like," he says.

Mahaffy remembers challenging Mennega to let him take a test on evolution, although he wasn't even taking the course. Mahaffy proceeded to get a B on the test, causing Mennega to question the need for his instruction. "Now I understand why things like that can irk pros," says Mahaffy.



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More on chapel, housing policy

Dear Editor,

The last issue (January 31, 1991) of the *Diamond* contained comments by a good friend of mine, John S. Wagenveld, voicing protest regarding my remarks at the chapel I led on January 17, the morning after the United Nations forces began air raids upon Iraq in a move to begin the military liberation of Kuwait.

I am happy to hear John's voice of protest, for that is what real democracy and freedom of the press are about. He and I have had some good conversations since that time, and I trust they will continue.

At the same time, it would be good to set the record straight.

Throughout the chapel I consciously tried to emphasize that this was a United Nations vs. Iraq endeavor, not merely a U.S. vs. Iraq or a "Western Imperialist Powers" vs. the Arabs kind of conflict that Saddam Hussein now wants to make it. Twenty-eight

nations now have forces involved in the liberation of Kuwait. It is a massive, international effort, involving not only western, but second and third world nations as well. Of course, as the world's strongest military power, like it or not, a lot of the war must be waged by U.S. forces.

Fortunately a lot of the financial support is coming from elsewhere.

It seems to me in his criticism of chapel John is tending to see this in purely U.S. vs. Iraq terms, which is a serious mistake. While he agrees "Saddam Hussein must be stopped" he expresses no plan to do so. He expresses no moral outrage over what has happened in Kuwait.

If we support the idea of a New World Order—and we need it urgently, not only for reasons of

economics and of peace, but also to deal with global environmental problems—we need very much to see the United Nations resolutions enforced, not only now against Iraq, but in other cases as well. If Mr. Bush is sincere about wanting a New World Order—a United

Nations that really works—there are a lot of acts all around the world

"War is a terrible way to solve problems."

that need cleaning up. John has rightly mentioned a few. When I spoke in chapel I had these implications of a New World Order very much in mind, but under tight time constraints, and the needs of the moment at the onset of war, I felt it unwise to get involved in what ought to be a lengthy list of injustices. Abraham Lincoln once said that you can

only fight one war at a time.

I am sure that no one is happy that Iraqi intransigence has made war necessary. As I said in chapel, "War is a terrible way to solve problems." Economic sanctions can be important, but with a determined aggressor like Saddam Hussein it would be only his people who would suffer; there would always be meat on his table. To stop him we, the United Nations, have to use force.

I hope the war will not be long, and that casualties on both sides may be few. We must not lose sight of why we are there, and what the implications of a New World Order are for building a more just and stewardly society when this conflict ends. It is either a New World Order or continuance of an Old World Anarchy. We all have things of which to repent, and changes to make. May the Lord give us strength for the task!

Richard G. Hodgson

Dear Editor,

In the last *Diamond*, you printed two letters responding to Professor Richard G. Hodgson's "Good Samaritan" sermon in chapel. I would like to respond to their thoughts that obviously were not well thought-out, or ones said due to lack of experience in Professor Hodgson's class.

Misconception #1: Richard Hodgson supports every past and present foreign policy of the United States and never was nor is ever critical of the Reagan-Bush administrations.

Almost all of us have had Hodgson in one class or another. Folks, if you haven't heard his criticism of our "Environmental President," then you were skipping class the entire Physical Science unit on land stewardship or the entire semester in Environmental Studies.

Richard Hodgson is also former county chair of the Sioux County democratic party. If he's going to support this Republican administration, it's going to take a long, personal, ideological struggle. I appreciated his democratic affiliation when I heard his chapel sermon.

Misconception #2: Richard Hodgson can't exegete a scripture passage or use good hermeneutics when preparing a chapel sermon.

Again, a little digging by these "theological-know-littles" will open a bit of reasoning for not being so radically critical.

Hodgson received his Masters of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary. Did you know he pastored an Orthodox Presbyterian Church in New England before he came to Sioux Center? He still is a minister in good standing in the OPC's Presbytery of the Dakotas and is welcome to preach at any of our CRC churches due to the ecclesiastical fellowship of the OPC and CRC.

And look what else...Rev. Hodgson has a Masters in Theology from Westminster Theological Seminary. He obviously can exegete and apply hermeneutics to God's Word better than either of the writers to the January 31 *Diamond*!

Those of you who dare to to criticize Rev. Hodgson's sermon and take your "pro-19th Province of Iraq" stances, should stop and carefully research before you write.

May the God of Shem bless the peace-loving people of Kuwait who have suffered the rape and pillage of their land and daughters.

May the God to whom we confess 'belongs our world' bless the effort of the united, allied Western and Arab nations of his world.

May the Lord of Life, the eternal Holy Spirit, bring President Hussein to his senses and leave Kuwait and affectually bring him to repentance and new life in Christ.

Justice for All!

Jeffrey D. Voorhees

Dear Editor,

Regarding the article written by John Wagenveld in the previous issue of the *Diamond*, I would like to say that I support Dordt's current housing policy. I believe that a housing policy must be in complete support of what Dordt College stands for (including Christ in all spheres of life). I am convinced that the housing policy does exactly that. It gives training in responsible living, teaching us that although "Mommy and Daddy" may not be in control of our lives, we are responsible to someone.

Just think what would happen if Dordt changed its housing policy. Any person could live on his own! Sounds great, doesn't it? But let's take a closer look. Admit it. There are students at Dordt who are not responsible enough to live on their own. Irresponsible students might form party houses (no need for the pit anymore!). Dordt's reputation would slip, therefore discouraging some good prospective students from coming here. Dordt's revenues would probably slip from lack of East Campus rentals,

which could result in steeper tuition hikes. I admit this is a worst case scenario, but we must concern ourselves with the question "what if?"

I do not believe that the article by Mr. Wagenveld (or the petition which came hot on its heels) thought about all the "what ifs?" The article pointed out that Dordt makes exceptions for "extenuating circumstances." That's fine for me. I think that it's O.K. for certain, responsible students to live off campus. Am I discriminating? OF COURSE I AM! We are called in scripture to be "shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matt 10:16). We are, to paraphrase, to shrewdly protect our innocence. Shrewdness was definitely present in the article. It was full of loaded words and double meanings, such as "Dordt barracks" and "give up the right to choose." Sometimes it is necessary to stop what we are doing and to ask ourselves "why?"

Joel Keen

Correction

In the January 31 issue of the *Diamond*, Moslems were mistakenly named the largest population group in Amsterdam

("International programs cancelled"). Actually, Moslems comprise the largest minority group in Amsterdam.

The Free Press



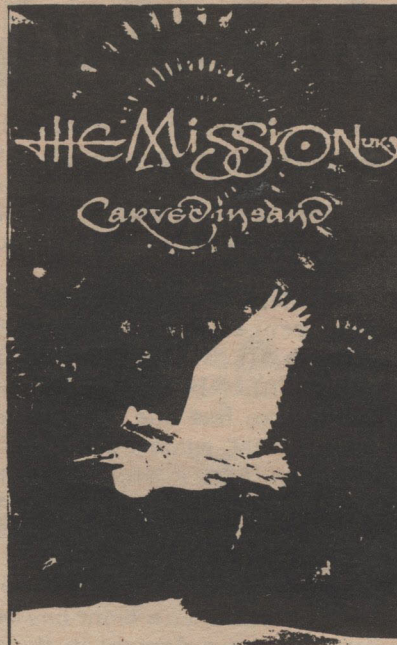
This week's Free press is a testament to fast information and thetical criticism. That's right! No more of this being "critical without being thetical" jargon. Have you ever heard of ham and cheese without the ham? Of course not. This week, we will focus on what we think is both right and wrong in the Middle East:

Thumbs up to:

1. **The soldiers.** A football is won or lost at the line of scrimmage. So will be the case in Kuwait. Diplomacy hasn't worked, and talk is cheap. George Bush is a good guy, but world peace will only be attained through the efforts of these men and women. Whether you are for or against war, they need your support.
2. **Bassam Madany**—this "Back To God Hour" speaker hit the nail on the head by stressing the inter-relatedness of the world. Economically, socially, and environmentally, this is a "global city" we live in. What we do will effect our neighbor.
3. **Dordt's response** to the war; substituting prayer and sympathy for too much Nationalism. "Bows on Trees"—a constant reminder.
4. **Peace rallies**—it's been twenty years, but the American youth is exercising its right to not be complacent.
5. **The music industry**—even without Bob Dylan, it still has the power to heighten awareness.

Thumbs down to:

1. Secretary of Defense **Dick Cheney**: Cheney's writing "To Saddam, With Affection" on a missile is nothing less than a sick, twisted celebration of war.
2. **Peace demonstrators** who smashed the windows of Armed Forces recruiting centers, fight protesters, and battle police.
3. **The Soviet Union**: although they condemn Iraq's annexation, they're busy insuring their own.
4. Gen. **Colin Powell's attitude** expressed in his recent remark, "Saddam, you didn't move it, so now you're going to lose it." Get a day job, Colin. You've been hanging around Dick too long.
5. **The media**—while a war rages, many reporters are taking Oscar-worthy attempts at over-dramatizing the ongoing events.



Album review:

The Mission U.K.—*Carved in Sand*

by David McReynolds

The Mission U.K. offers some of the best in progressive music in their recent album *Carved in Sand*. In it we have a combination of good music and stirring lyrics, a combination not seen enough of these days. Take for instance the song "Grapes of Wrath" a tribute to the farmer. It speaks about a love of the harvest, and praise for the noble character of the farmer. In essence it is referring to the common guy. In another song, "Amelia," they deal with the very serious matter of child sexual abuse. In this powerful song not only do the lyrics make one think about the problem, but the music and the way it is sung also bring out strong emotions. In some of their other songs they wrestle with spiritual issues in a way that reminds one of U2. Although they are not a "Christian band" their lyrics show Biblical principles. All of the lyrics show deep thought and are at times ambiguous so you have to think about what they are talking about.

The music consists mainly of the standard guitar and drums combination with synthesizer music in the background. Some of their songs could be classified as rock, but that would not be a sufficient description. The best category for the album would be progressive. Each song is distinct and there is quite a variety of different sounds. One song has a bit of a middle eastern or Asian flair, another a predominant acoustic guitar, and then another has a piano melody with a flowing synthesizer sound in the background.

Carved in Sand is aimed at the more mature listener of contemporary music which can be seen in the topics of the songs and the lyrics (mature doesn't necessarily mean pornographic). The Mission is very popular in Europe, where tens of thousands will go to see them in a single concert, but has still not caught on in the United States. This is surprising because this album is first rate in the music, singing, the artwork on the album cover, and the lyrics.

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Basketball season rolls on

by Pam De Boer

On Saturday, February 2, the Lady Defenders avenged an earlier Iota-Kota Conference loss to Teikyo-Westmar, 82-61, led by Lisa Wubben with 23 points and 13 rebounds. Last week Dordt breezed by a weak Buena Vista team with a 69-48 win in which all 13 team members got into the scoring column.

Against Mount Marty: Last Saturday the Lady D's hosted Mount Marty, who had handed Dordt its other conference loss two weeks earlier. Supported by a large and vocal crowd, the Lady Defenders stormed back after being behind by as much as twelve points in the second half. Mount Marty got the ball with 11 seconds remaining but failed to capitalize. Dordt squeaked out the 1-point victory, 73-72, fueled by Jill Bousema's 21 points. Lisa Wubben also contributed 14 points and 11 rebounds. The win brought Dordt to a 5-2 slate in the Iota-Kota Conference, tied with Mt. Marty.

At Northwestern: On Tuesday night the Lady D's visited Northwestern, always a tough road opponent. Two weeks ago Dordt beat NW by 20 points at home. NW improved their play and walked away with a 79-74 win. Both teams scored 28 field goals (5 three-pointers each, Dordt's all by Rhonda Gritters), but the Red Raiders shot

18 for 23 from the free throw line while Dordt sunk only 13 of 22. Leaders for Dordt were Rhonda Gritters with 22 points and Beth Hollander with 16 points and 6 rebounds.

This defeat makes a second place conference finish seem likely, though Mt. Marty must defeat Briar Cliff to become champions. Dordt also has one more conference contest, against Briar Cliff on Saturday. After a week of preparation NAIA District 15 play-offs will begin, with Dordt probably hosting a first-round game.

Men's team building character

The Dordt men's team has been experiencing a drought in the win column of late, playing some teams close but also taking some in the chin. Last Saturday Dordt traveled to the Cliff. The Chargers found no early lid on the basket this time, and cruised to a 78-57 victory. Craig Veurink led Dordt with 16 points and 9 rebounds for the Defenders.

At Mount Marty: Last night the men played tough against an 18-9 Mount Marty team, but fell 79-93. The Defenders were led by Galen Van Roekel with 18 points and Scott Wynja with 14 points. Coach Vander Berg commented, "The guys worked hard for forty minutes, but we had too many turnovers and they were just too quick."

Spring sports on track

by Pam De Boer

The people running around in 10 degree weather with stocking caps are not simply health freaks. They are the Dordt College track team, who began practice a month ago. This year's participation is up from last year, with about fifteen men and fifteen women on the team. Dr. Syne Altena, assisted by former Dordt trackster Craig Heynen, are in charge of the fast-moving, long-enduring running die-hards.

Next Friday Dordt participates in an early season indoor meet at Bethel College in Minneapolis. "This is a good meet for us to get to

know each other and to discover where our strengths lie," said Coach Altena.

Seniors Bill VanderKooi and Brad Ackerman are expected to show leadership for the men, along with Rita Mulder and Fran Ton for the women. Altena anticipates strength in the sprints for the men, along with adequate middle distance runners on both teams. He's also excited over increased participation in the women's field events. "We might even have some female javelin throwers!" said Altena.

Blades Strive For Playoffs

By George VanderBeek

After opening the new year with four straight wins the Dordt Blades Hockey Club has run into some tough competition in the last two weeks. The Blades lost to the league leading team from University of Northern Iowa with scores of 8-3 and 7-3 on February 1 and 2.

The Blades continued their season with a four game series against South Dakota State. In the first of those games, on Wednesday, February 6 at Worthington, the Blades had a sluggish start and had to battle back from a 3-1

deficit to tie the game in the dying minutes. In their first overtime effort of the season the team came up short when S.D.S.U. scored after a minute and forty-eight seconds.

This weekend the Blades carry on their battle for third place, and a playoff berth, against S.D.S.U. with games Friday and Saturday in Brookings. Their final home game of the season will be on Wednesday February 20, versus S.D.S.U. in Worthington.

Playoffs are to be held in Des Moines during the first weekend in March.

SCOREBOARD

WOMEN (17-5)

DORDT 82
Teikyo-Westmar 61

DORDT 69
Beuna Vista 48

DORDT 73 Mt. Marty 72

DORDT 74
Northwestern 79

MEN (7-17)

DORDT 74 Mt. Marty 77

DORDT 76
Northwestern 102

DORDT 77
Dakota Wesleyan 92

DORDT 57 Briar Cliff 78

DORDT 79 Mt. Marty 93

HOMEcoming GAMES

Saturday, Feb. 16

JV vs. Alumni 1 p.m.

Varsity vs. Teikyo-Westmar 3 p.m.

Women vs. Briar Cliff 6 p.m.

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