Students support Hoekstras

By Brenda J. Van Hal

Sioux Center’s business came to a halt at 2:00 p.m., April 19. The streets were lined with crowds of residents and Dordt students welcoming Chad Hoekstra home. Sirens blared, horns honked and lights flashed as the police and fire units escorted the Hoekstra van into town.

The welcoming route was along Main Street past the hospital and then past Kinsey Elementary and Sioux Center Christian School. At the schools Chad and his family were greeted by over 500 cheering, yelling and squealing students carrying banners and balloons.

Jacki Fitzke, Dordt student and resident of Franken Manor said, "When I saw all of the people and the cars, what went through my mind is that how the whole community came together through this tragic accident. It's just too bad that it takes a tragedy for neat things to happen in the community," said Fitzke.

Diane Bandstra, however, felt disappointed that more people didn't come uptown to welcome the Hoekstra's back. Bandstra said, "I feel that way because the Hoekstra family has given so much to Dordt. I'm disappointed that the Dordt students aren't showing their support back."

The Hoekstras have given a lot to Dordt College. Rev. Cliff Hoekstra pastors Faith Christian Reformed Church, which has a high attendance of Dordt students. Pastor Hoekstra also serves on the Dordt College Board of Trustees.

The welcome back was set for Monday, then switched to Thursday and then the time changed from 3:00 p.m., to 2:00 p.m.

Considering all of the changes, most felt that the turnout was good.

"It's nice to see Chad come back home and to see all the enthusiasm and to have Dordt there to support Chad," said Kevin Vander Wier.

Diamond wraps up semester; next editor announced

by Brenda J. Van Hal

This is it! This is the last issue of the Diamond for the 1990-1991 school year. The final edition is written, designed, edited and assembled by the communication 242 class.

Communication 242 is a class that studies the content, design and layout of newspapers. Each member of the class was required to spend at least four hours on every issue which could include writing stories. The class works under the guidance of Professor Lorna Van Gilst.

The members of the class include: Cheri Van Klompenberg, Natalie Vander Meulen, Brenda Van Hal, Jennifer Schelhaas, Brenda Tutminga, Dan Mennega and George Vander Beek. The class would like to give a special thanks to Andy Fossum and Kevin Wassenaar for photography and to David Mahaffy and John Van Dyk for their assistance on the computer.

The Diamond entered the American Scholastic Press Association Evaluation. The Diamond earned 900 out of 1000 total points possible.

The American Scholastic Press Association awarded first place to the Diamond on the basis of four first semester issues.

In the evaluation one of the areas that needed improvement was in the coverage of off campus events like international and national events.

photo by Lorna Van Gilst

George Vander Beek was selected to replace Daniel Mennega as Editor of next year's Diamond. Vander Beek is a communication/journalism major.
Dear Editor,

I have been contacted by the postmaster about a continuing problem with mailboxes in the community being damaged or destroyed. Recently some Dordt students were involved in one of these incidents, which happened to be settled out of court. What will next year's wind bring?

Dordt administration decides to put up a Canadian flag at the end of April.

Students stage a nice, pleasant, polite revolt in C-160 moments after administration unleashes its plans to up tuition $800. Money for Nothing? We still don't know, but gentlemen, did you hear what Redeemer is doing next year?

A number of students say nuts to conformity and ignorance at Dordt College. The result: the bizarre YAWP, the student publication that your mother warned you about. (Rumor has it issue 7 is on the way.)

That All-American smile, that sincere sensitivity, that humor, wit, and pizzazz. Those lean, taut, defined muscles—ladies, it is not a dream, it is reality. John Koompjen is a free agent.

The Pro-Life Rally, on April 8, which draws incredible crowds of enthusiastic onlookers.

The B.J. Haan Education Conference, scheduled for the same night as the Pro-Life Rally—a year in advance.

The Suffering and Survival Conference. A sensitive look at the past through the eyes of those who have been there.

PLA. In its eleventh year, nearly 90 students have their lives changed. That's almost 10% of the student body.

Mennega as editor. Big, burly, ethically critical, down-to-earth and soft-hearted. Dan redefines the term "professional journalism" at Dordt College. (Too bad he chose Padre over PLA.)

Standish De Vries. He reads the YAWP (see 8), he's a member of the Pro-Life group (see 6), he attended the Suffering and Survival Conference (see 4), he went on PLA (see 3), and he has dance moves that make the earth shake and the anti-dance crowd weep. In short, the picture of the healthy, well-rounded contemporary Dordt College student.

There you have it, folks! There's no press like a free press.

Liberty is the pen's best friend.

—Dirk B. Schouten and John K. Van Dyk

Dear Editor,

I have been contacted by the postmaster about a continuing problem with mailboxes in the community being damaged or destroyed. Recently some Dordt students were involved in one of these incidents, which happened to be settled out of court. The postmaster wants to affirm that many people are on the verge of prosecuting individuals caught damaging or destroying mailboxes. This is a federal offense and carries a maximum $3,000/three-year jail term penalty.

Also, some damage to trees and landscaping on campus has recently occurred. It is sad to see Wilbur Draayer's hard work destroyed and efforts to beautify the campus be denigrated in such a way by students. Please respect our property and show a communal responsibility to keep our campus attractive.

—Nick Kroese, dean of students

Aware of the B.J. Haan series?

Dear Editor,

I wonder if Dorthea Groenendyk, when she wrote her article for the last Diamond, was aware of the fact that the B.J. Haan lecture series was scheduled for that evening. A number of faculty members were at a banquet in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Haan, and many faculty members were present at the lecture also.

The person(s) who scheduled the Pro-Life rally must certainly have been aware of the conflict, since the B.J. Haan lectures are on the Dordt calendar which has been out since last August. The conflict was unnecessary and unfortunate.

—Arnold H. Veldkamp

"Here I go to chase a little bouncing ball up in the armpit of Dordt College."

—Jane Lamfers, on her way to play raquetball

"I do some of my best physics just before going to sleep."

—Prof. Zwart in physics class

"I do some of my best sleep during physics."

—Anthony Roorda, in response to Prof. Zwart

"Who's Dirk?"

—Prof. Schaap, Eng 304

"Men are just idiots in human suits."

—Melanie Vis

"I want to dye my hair brown so that people know I'm blonde."

—Sue Theune, babbling

"It looks like a good book...it has a lot of adjectives."

—Mary Jane Vander Esch

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Famous violinist comes to Dordt

One of the most renowned and versatile of U.S. violinists, James Buswell, will be a guest of the Sioux County Orchestra and Dordt College on Tuesday, April 30.

Buswell has appeared with all the major orchestras in the U.S. and is acknowledged internationally for his talents. Buswell’s day at Dordt College will include a morning chapel address and short performance at 10:20 a.m. At 2:00 p.m. he will take part in a panel discussion with the theme “The artist in the Christian Community.” From 4:00 to 5:30, he will lead a master class for string players and in the evening, he will play a major role in the Sioux County Orchestra concert in the chapel at 8:00 p.m.

Chorale to take regional tour

by Jennifer Schelhaas

The Dordt College Chorale is preparing to leave Friday morning for a three day tour in Minnesota and South Dakota. The chorale will first give a concert in Pease, Minn., on Friday, and then travel to Platte, S.D., for another concert on Saturday. On Sunday Chorale will sing during the worship service of the Shalome Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Falls and return to Dordt for a home concert in the chapel at 2:30 p.m.

Director Dale Grotenhuis said the chorale will be more involved in a barnyard. No seriously, it’s because Dordt’s campus has been converted into a barnyard. No, seriously, it’s for Ag Day ’91!

The day will be filled with different contests including a judging contest which ranks animals, a grooming contest where cattle are judged on how pretty they look and a milking contest. There will also be a sheep shearing demonstration on campus. The Ag Club will be selling hamburgers and lambburgers at noon.

Ag professor John Olthof said the purpose of Ag Day is “to get people who are unfamiliar with agriculture exposed to it.” He said the day also helps promote the Agriculture department and the Ag Club, as well as provide information about what they’re involved in.

Organist keys up for senior recital

By Jennifer Schelhaas

Walter Meyer decided he would attend Dordt College for a fifth year simply because he liked music so much that he wanted to get a major in that as well as psychology. Meyer said he majored in music “just for the fun of it.”

Tonight at 8:00 p.m. Meyer will perform his senior recital on the organ in the chapel. His recital will feature six songs ranging from baroque pieces to 20th century compositions. Meyer mentioned one 20th century selection in which he plays segments of the song with his fist.

After graduation, Meyer will work in Palos Heights, Illinois, at Bethshan Association, a residential home for the developmentally disabled. Meyer hopes to be a church organist on the side.

World premiere presented

The world premiere production of all eight stories from The Man who Kept Cigars in his Hat will be performed by the Dordt College Repertory Theatre on Friday, May 3, at 8:00 p.m. in the New World Theatre. They will also be performing a dance, song, and drama presentation of You Cannot Kill the Light which was developed for the Young Calvinist Federation (YCF). Repertory Theatre will be performing at the YCF convention this summer at the University of Wisconsin. While they are there, they will also perform the musical drama The New Connection written by and featuring Ken Medema.

The Repertory Theatre will be leaving on May 10 for a 15-day tour through Michigan, Indiana, and Ontario, Canada. They will be performing in fifteen different high schools and two churches.

Director Verne Meyer said he is excited to be leaving on tour with three original pieces.

Photo by Andy Fossam

Photo by Andy Fossam

Kari De Raat and Tom Van Soelen rehearse for repertory theatre.
Steppin' across that line...

Dordt club does time in South Dakota prison
by Daniel Mennega

About a week ago I climbed into professor Arnold Veldkamp's van and headed for prison. The law finally caught up to me and the day had come for me to put in my time behind bars. But, fortunately I wasn't the only one in this chain gang. Sierk Spits, Professor Veldkamp, Craig Van Hill, Newton Trowbridge, Dan Huynh, and Professor Carl Jongama were also turning themselves in to the state of South Dakota.

Our offense was pretty heavy: desiring to do something different, first degree. Luckily for us, the sentencing was light: two hard-labor hours of sweat-breaking ping-pong against trained opponents, tournament style, no parole. After kissing my mother goodbye and squaring up my outstanding debts to Dordt, I fearfully departed.

The ride to Sioux Falls was a silent one, each of us pondering how best to serve our time. I think each of us had one word on our minds: Domination. It was either flight with all the mess or look on humbly while the other inmates chewed us up and spit us on the ping-pong table.

It was my second time here, so I knew somewhat what I should expect. But it had been a year since the last time, and going to prison is not a thing easily gotten used to. The South Dakota State Penitentiary, conveniently located near the airport, sits atop a hill overlooking Sioux Falls. As we pulled up to the ancient grey building, we found it surprisingly less threatening than we had anticipated. The guards didn't beat us incessantly. Instead, they gave us an escort through a huge underground tunnel to that dreaded place where we were to meet our opponents—the recreation room!

I looked on as the first round began. The inmates Rick Traversie, Dreamer, Miles, Putensen, Vice, and others were clearly veteran paddlists to be reckoned with. As it turned out, I was knocked down to the losers' bracket by an inmate, but by Dr. Jongama. Talk about getting stabbed in the back! Spits and Huynh experienced some major competition with Traversie and Vice. Meanwhile, I battled back against Trowbridge, Vice, and Van Hill, until Jongama again landed the death match on me, taking me out of the competition for good. Soon all the players were sideline decoration, except Dreamer and his final victim, Jongama, who resisted defeat as long as he could. Dreamer was champion, but only this time, we vowed.

Our debt willingly paid, we left the recreation room along with our opponents-turned-friends, who thanked us for coming and told us to come back sometime if we wanted more punishment. We shook hands and said we would.

On the way out I demanded that which was due me, as written in the South Dakota State Penitentiary law to this day: a horse, a loaded gun and one piece of gold. No luck. Oh well, I thought, at least I made it out alive.

Besides, if the prison system is designed to deter, it certainly failed for me this time—I want to go back to jail the next chance I get. In fact, I hope everyone at Dordt goes there someday.

To play ping-pong, that is.

Professor befriends prison inmate
by Daniel Mennega

Professor Arnold Veldkamp goes to prison once a month. The reason: prison ministry program called "Man-to-Man." The program, called "M-2" for short, provides opportunity for inmates of the South Dakota State Penitentiary to correspond with people "on the outside." Veldkamp has been active in the program for five years.

His M-2 man is Rick Traversie, who Veldkamp said, "just happened to be a good ping-pong player." So last spring, when Veldkamp saw a ping-pong tournament announcement in the Today, he arranged a trip to the prison with some club members. Since then, a group has traveled there several times to play ping-pong with the inmates.

The results of the M-2 program itself, which involves writing and visiting inmates, have been positive, said Veldkamp. The recidivism rate among M-2 inmates is considerably lower than the general prison population. The M-2 program also allows for seeing a needed action since the Native American tribal religion, though in many ways similar to Christianity, "includes no personal relationship with Jesus Christ," Veldkamp said.

Veldkamp hopes that ping-pong tournaments at the penitentiary will continue next fall, and will eventually become a traditional event.
...walkin' on the wild side

Scenes from south of the border
by Brenda Tuininga

After a 90 degree afternoon at the market in Matamoris, Mexico, just south of the Texas border, I walked back onto American soil with colorful blankets, jewelry, a poncho, and mixed feelings about Mexican city life.

For 30 Dordt students, Spring break '91 in South Padre Island, Texas included balmy days of relaxation on the Gulf shores and a 20 minute drive to the south border connecting Brownsville, Texas and Matamoris, Mexico.

Wise tourists generally parked their cars in Brownsville and walked the short distance across the border to avoid tipped off vehicles in Mexico. The whole process of crossing the line included inserting one quarter to walk through a turnstile; probably the easiest border you'll ever cross.

After crossing the bridge over the muddy, littered Rio Grande River, tourists had the option of spending $1 per person on a cab or catching the 25 cent Maxi-bus. Cheap students as we were, especially on spring break, the bus looked more appealing.

The "Maxi-bus" was actually a van with worn seats running around the sides of the vehicle. We piled on what appeared to be a full bus, but soon discovered that the drivers didn't stop at seat capacity. Two blocks later, the bus stopped to pick up 25 more college students. Even the standing room in the center was jammed with people while those on the seats doubled on laps.

Welcome to Mexico, where merchants will do anything for the American buck. After the hot crowded bus ride, we walked into the market, an area covering two blocks with a large stone square in the center where many sidewalk peddlers sold their wares.

The market boasted an array of color for the first-time tourist with its bright blankets, pottery, bracelets, hats, and ponchos on display in front of the shops. Many merchants recruited their customers by standing in front of the shops inviting passers-by to "make a deal."

What really made the impression for me wasn't the beautiful blankets or the fun of bartering with the peddlers, but some of the street scenes foreign to a tourist familiar with a different culture:

A beggar in the market sitting on his mangled legs held out his hat for passing tourists—a scene repeated several times in center square.

A woman breastfeeding her 3-4 year old child as she sat on the ground in center square selling hand-made dolls from the display in front of her.

Two children, both under the age of three left sleeping on cardboard mats and blankets on the sidewalk while their parents sold blankets nearby.

Older children, starting at about age five, loaded with gum, ran around the market for most of the day, illegally stepping into bars until kicked out by the owners, and all the while tugging on tourists, asking them to please buy gum.

A small girl, riding in a blanket on the back of mother who was selling bracelets, amused herself by watching people pass by.

A Mexican youth, passed out on a park bench in front of a bar, sleeping soundly under the hot sun in center square.

Don't get me wrong, these weren't the only scenes in the market in Mexico. It was a fun place to shop and many friendly people bartered with us, but working on a photo assignment down there forced me to notice the details skipped over while visiting Mexico in previous years. Scenes like these made me realize the quality life I often take for granted.

photographs by Brenda Tuininga

Market square not only provides space for peddlers to sell, but benches for relaxing or socializing.

Juan and Pedro take time for a picture while selling gum at the market.

Above Left: An elderly native sits comfortably while selling woven bracelets, hung on the rack to his left.
Above right: To free her hands for selling hand-made jewellery, a young mother carries her child on her back.
Seniors destined undecided

by Cheri Van Klompenberg

"What are you doing after graduation?" "Do you have a job?" "What exactly do you want to do?"
These are just a few of the questions I've had to answer—over and over—during this past school year.

Being a senior, relatives, friends and interested church members seem to think I suddenly have a total grasp on my future. Unfortunately I don't.

My answers to these questions have been "I have no idea." "No." and "Good question." These answers have the ability to completely unsettle me. Four years of college education and I still don't know what I want to do.

Curious to find out if I was the only unsettled person in my class, I started interviewing other seniors. I realized being unsure was the norm, not the unusual.

Lots of seniors have ideas for right after graduation, but not long-term plans. Juli Sawtelle plans to move to Seattle. She hopes to get a job as a box office manager of a stage theater. After a year of this she's thinking of returning to school for her Masters of Fine Arts.

Pat Van Der Aa's plans are indefinite as well. She's hoping to find a job in finance or marketing in the Michigan area.

For Teri Nikkel, two things are for sure. She's getting married in August and living in Pella. She's hoping to find a job in public relations. Although some seniors are still up in the air about the future, others have their's well planned out.

Lisa Rolls is moving to Portland, Oregon at the end of May. She'll be attending optometry school at Pacific University. She also has a job waiting for her when she gets there.

Teresa Van Gunst will be going to Western Theological Seminary in Michigan. She'll be working for her Masters in Divinity. She's not sure what kind of job she hopes to get after this.

While most seniors are concerned about what is coming up for them this fall, Dale Wubben made more immediate plans. This summer he'll be visiting England for three weeks. Tim Antonides and Wubben will hitch-hike around and stay in youth hostels. Although the future is still uncertain for some of us, we don't have to panic. The Placement Report for 1989-90 shows that 96.5% of last year's graduates were placed. If you don't have a job yet, hang in there.

Back to classes for faculty

by Cheri Van Klompenberg

Next year when Dordt students return to the classroom, several professors will too, but in a different capacity. Instead of being in front of the classroom, they'll be behind the desks as graduate students.

Dordt has an excellent program for helping faculty further their education. Next year five professors will take advantage of this.

For various reasons, four other professors will not be returning to Dordt.

Since so many professors aren't coming back, Dordt has been busy hiring replacements for next year. Instead of having the same teachers, students will have the chance to hear and learn from someone new!
Slow but steady

Housing improvements planned
by Natalie Vander Meulen

Attention Dordt residents! Upon returning to campus next fall, a few housing improvements will have been implemented. Pastor Draayer who will be working with housing next year said, “We want to send out the message ‘We care about you.’

“We are really working on living conditions, starting with West Hall,” said Dr. Kroeze. The first item on the list is the plumbing. Renovations will start over the summer months.

The following year remodeling of North Hall will begin. According to Kroeze the rumor going around about the freshman girls taking over North Hall is only a rumor.

For future East Campus residents, plans for expansion are under way. Initial meetings with an architect have already taken place. Although there will be no visible changes next year, it is something to watch for in upcoming years.

Once the new apartment buildings are finished, there is the possibility of making the present six person apartments into four person apartments.

But if you are looking for some drastic changes you may be disappointed. Improvements will be slow, but they are on the way!

Fitness room shapes up

by Natalie Vander Meulen

If you’re looking for some variety in your exercise program, you’re in luck. All you have to do is step into a new routine with the help of the new step machine and nordic trek that have recently been purchased by the Physical Education Department.

The new nordic trek assimilates a cross-country skiing workout, which is the number one sport for achieving complete aerobic fitness. The step machine may be a little easier to use, yet one can still benefit from an excellent aerobic workout.

The new machines will be introduced in the PE 10 classes and used in conjunction with various other PE classes. “They will also provide new alternatives for sports training programs next year,” said Professor of Physical Education, Len Rhoda.

The machines will be placed in the fitness room in the gym ready for use next fall.

Tour rescheduled for next year

by Jennifer Schelhaas

A number of students were disappointed to learn that the Literary England trip was canceled this year because of the Persian Gulf War. However, those students and anyone interested will have the opportunity to take the same tour shortly after graduation next year.

English professor Lorna Van Gilst is planning the tour in connection with the American Leadership Study Group. The three week tour will focus on studying famous literary figures throughout England. The tour will begin in London and then head down to southern England by Brit Rail. Then the tour will venture up through Oxford, Stratford, Scotland, and York. Van Gilst said the tour group will stay in Bed and Breakfasts and eat in Pubs. She said, “You can then get a better sense of the flavor of the country and interact with the people.” She also said another advantage is it’s cheaper.

People interested in the Literary England trip would be wise to decide if they wanted to go before September 1. Until then, people can still go for this year’s prices.
Fran Ton prepares herself mentally, focusing on the upcoming race. On Saturday she shattered the six-year women's record for the 800 meter run.

Track record falls

By George VanderBeek

This past Friday, while participating in the Sioux City Relays, Fran Ton smashed the Dordt women's record for the outdoor 800 meter run, shaving nearly a full second off the previous record. The former mark of 2:19.5 by Char Vander Grlend had stood since 1985. Ton, who finished the race in second place, had a time of 2:18.55.

By breaking the record, Ton, who also holds Dordt records in the women's Indoor 400 and 800 meter races, earned herself the opportunity to participate in the National Outdoor Track and Field Championships, which will be held in Texas a month from now.

Softball has home finale

By Pam De Boer

Big crowds turned up Tuesday afternoon to cheer on the softball team in its home finale against Northwestern. In the opener the Red Raiders scored four in the sixth and ended up winning 6-1. Lynn Van Heyst doubled and only had a hitting streak to fourteen games.

The second game ended after five innings with NW on top 11-1. Rhonda Haagsma went 2 for 2 and Donna Rickett pitched well in relief. "With the exception of one bad inning in each game we played them pretty even," commented assistant coach Joel Havenen. Next action is Thursday against conference rival Briar Cliff in Sioux City.

IM Active

Floor Hockey

In the fast and furious action of the past couple of weeks a conglomeration of hockey teams have been battling it out for floor hockey supremacy. League A is being led by Rob De Vries' team Ice Baby featuring the scoring prowess of Matt Beimers who has 13 goals. The Running Rink Rats also remain undefeated in League A play, led by captain Ed Minderhoud.

Jeff Koops' team Puck-Eh is at the top of League B with a record of 4-1. John VanderWal has the scoring touch there with 20 goals. Not far behind are Blue Zone and Mitch's Mob with records of three wins and one loss each.

Co-ed Slowpitch Baseball

The baseballs have come out with the good spring weather and the Co-ed League is in full swing. 2 Good 4U Wilma Veldhuisen's club is the cream of the League A crop with a record of five wins and no losses. Just Did It is not far behind with three wins and one loss.

A Lack of Interest has dealt opposing teams five losses in League B play. The Sluggards, led by LouAnn Bolkema, have crawled to a lazy second with four wins and one loss.

Men's Fastpitch

In a slightly faster lane the Faculty has taught the competition a lesson on the way to compiling a record of two wins and no losses. Oomp's has also won two games but lost one.

Speaking of sports...

By George Vander Beek

At the risk of starting another American/Canadian controversy, I will begin my commentary by talking about the sport of hockey. With all the variables considered I think it is safe to say that coming to an American college is somewhat like a cross-cultural experience, sportwise, for a hockey-crazed Canuck like me.

Bad enough that I can't watch regular season games on TV and have to pick up scores two days late from the Register (both punishable with public boggling and humiliation in my native land) but now I can't get in on any playoff action.

Never before having experienced this phenomenon I began to suffer from severe hockeywithdrawal which could only be cured by a quick-fix weekend jaunt to Winnipeg for a three day playoff package. I hope the i'm cured.

I wonder whether I shall ever be immune to this lack of coverage here in the U.S. Couldn't the residents of this fine land do without two or three of those endless basketball and football games to accommodate some ailing Canadians? Just a question.

By Pam De Boer

Hats off to Dordt's runners. Fran Ton ran well over the weekend. Another runner who deserves mention is not even on the track team (academically ineligible) but runs on more miles in the gym than he gives notes in class. You guessed it...Professor Arnie Koekkoek. The P.E. Club's weight lifting contest is a novel idea. Offhand I'd pick Professor Williams to take it all, all, with Marc Geels and Fred Brock, who have been in training for this for years now, having an outside shot. Watch for dark horse Kees van de Graaf to steal the show.

Between young hurlers like Troy Vander Molen, Cal De Jong (I.03 ERA), Kristi Terpstra and Donna Rickett, the Dordt ball teams look promising. Are IM sports taken too seriously? One might think so judging by some of the hard words during hockey and softball games. Winning is fun but not worth alienating other people.