Founders of first private university in the U.S.S.R. visit Dordt College

by Chuck Adams
Two educators from Estonia visited Dordt last Wednesday, Mart Susi is president of the first private university in the Soviet Union, and his wife, Marianne, is in charge of public relations for the school.

The Susis are natives of Estonia, one of three Baltic states in the western part of the Soviet Union. Estonia has declared independence from the Soviet Union like its neighbors to the south, Latvia and Lithuania, but has taken no real steps to secure its independence.

The Susis were invited to Dordt to talk about their university after President J.B. Hulst heard Mart Susi speak at a meeting of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

Susi says he would like to see some students from Dordt eventually sign up for summer courses in Estonia. He adds that those who don't make it to Estonia should still learn about Estonia and its history.

Estonia was an independent republic between World Wars I and II. However, the 1939 pact between Hitler and Stalin spelled the end for the republic's independence.

Susi says the annexation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania was illegal and should not be recognized. However, he says the process of independence may have moved too fast in Lithuania.

"What is the use of declaring independence right now if we don't really have it?" asks Susi. "Each independent state needs to have certain characteristics-independence in foreign relations, a separate currency, a separate military, and control of its own territory. When we fit some of those categories, that is the time for us to declare complete independence from the U.S.S.R."

"I'm quite optimistic that all the Baltic republics will get their independence," Susi says. "However, a month ago I was optimistic, and now I am skeptical of a peaceful move to independence."

Mart Susi of Estonia visited Dordt on Wednesday, to tell students and faculty about the university he established there. Susi says the university is small and attracts mostly part-time students, but is thriving despite lack of support from Soviet authorities. (Photo by Jeff De Boer.)

Mennega sets goals for Diamond

by Tom Overlie
"Watch out, Diamond readers! The Diamond is getting a new editor next year.

Dan Mennega will be taking the reins as editor-in-chief for next year's publication, taking over from Chuck Adams, who is graduating. Mennega, an English major, says he's excited about the new position and is starting to formulate some new goals for the paper.

Some changes in the paper will include the style of writing. "Some editors in the past printed only hard news stories and basically ignored opinion articles," Mennega says. "Others focused mainly on the opinion aspect and ignored the hard news. I want to find the happy medium of the two."

Other goals include focusing more on student issues. He says he's already working on a piece that deals with student depression. "Depression is common on campus. I want to write about topics like this that will directly apply to students," Mennega says.

He also says he hopes more people will begin reading the Diamond. "The Diamond acts as a link between students. A paper like this is supposed to bring the campus together."

Mennega also says he wants to encourage Diamond writers to bring more personality to their stories.

"News writing is a lot more than straight facts," he says. "Writing should have the personality of the writer."

Mennega, who has been writing as a journalist since he was a senior in high school, says journalism is only a hobby. "After I graduate, I think I would like to go on to school and concentrate on American literature," he says.

Mennega is looking at his editor's position as a training ground to becoming a better writer. He also hopes the position will help him develop better leadership skills.

Some day, Mennega plans to work for a publishing company as a book editor.
Making the connection:
The summer semester

When you plan your summer activities, whether it be picking up an old hobby or reading a good book, use the same criteria you used in deciding what courses to take at college.

Weather cooperating or not, we are winding down another school year. In case you hadn't noticed, next week is Dead Week. The week after is exam week. Then we throw off our books and begin a summer of some combination of work and leisure.

We tend to separate summer from the rest of the year—especially those of us who do it completely different tasks and live in different places during the summer. Maybe the biggest connection we make is something like “I'm working 80 hours a week in the hot sun all summer so I can afford to pay the ridiculous tuition Dordt charges,” or “I'm going to work in California so I can get out of Iowa for at least three months out of the year.”

We can't afford to cut off our summer experience completely from our school-year experiences. Since Dordt College is designed to prepare us for the working in that part of God's Kingdom outside Dordt's walls, summer work experiences are ideal for testing out what you have learned. And returning to Dordt and sharing those experiences is valuable for the rest of the community.

We ought to treat our summer vacations as an education—albeit a different kind of education than what we get in Dordt's classroom. You may be doing on-the-job training preparing for a career. Or you may be working at a "grunt" job at a grocery store or meatpacking plant, the kind of job which doesn't do much for your future career, but still offers an opportunity to learn to deal better with other people—especially people unlike the ones you might meet at Dordt.

The sole purpose of the summer shouldn't be to make money. Granted, some people have to work summers in order to afford another year of college. But summer should also be a time of relaxation from typical academic pursuits and a time for unusual learning experiences. More people ought to take advantage of study tours like Dordt's program in Mexico or Gordon College's program in Europe and the Soviet Union.

When you plan your summer activities, whether it be picking up an old hobby or reading an interesting book, use the same criteria you used in deciding what courses to take at college. People usually select courses on the basis of how much the course might help them in the future. Do the same with your summer activities.

We've made the point in previous Diamonds that all areas of life are under the lordship of Christ, and that separating areas of life into "sacred" and "secular" realms is wrong. There is a parallel with how we treat summer vacation. Most students realize that studying at Dordt is an integral part of equipping oneself for work in the Kingdom of God. But we all too often forget that our summers should also be used for that kind of equipping.

This is my last Diamond editorial. I'm going to miss having the opportunity to react to ideas and events happening on campus. I get the impression that students are getting more and more involved in raising issues and struggling with ideas in a unique, Christian way. Keep up the work! It has been an exciting four years at Dordt; I hope you underclassmen will keep up the excitement.

One final note: I just had to mention Bob Dylan’s name so we can say he has been mentioned in every issue this semester.

c. adams

True sportsmanship means having love and respect for your opponents

To the editor:
Steve Hoogland’s comments on the recent issue of racism in the Dordt community ("Dordt fans attract attention") both confused and disturbed me.

According to Steve, “Fans need to respect others.” I couldn’t agree more, but a problem arises with the definition of “respect” and “others.”

First, who deserves respect? Steve said “others,” but first rules out referees when he writes, “I am not so concerned about the referees. They, unlike the players, are paid to do their job and expect fans to tell them what kind of game they are calling.” Since refs are paid, they should expect to be cussed at and down graded if their calls are questionable!

Paul writes in Ephesians 4:29, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” This respect is intended for all men and women—no restrictions such as whether they're on a payroll or not.

This verse also leads into Steve's question of fans shutting opposing coaches and players? Steve wrote: “There is no right or wrong answer.” But there is! God lays it out clearly for us in His Word, “Do to others what you would have them do to you” (Matt. 7:12). Respect equals love for God and our neighbor and it cannot come in the form of "telling a coach to sit down, or telling a player he’ll shoot an airball.” This kind of respect has no place in a Christian community and it cannot be excused as "part of the game.”

As a sports enthusiast, I’ve frequently experienced the role of player, fan, and referee. I’ve taken abuse and I’ve also given a lot of it, but I’ll be one of the first to admit that sportsmanship includes love and respect in the form of building up rather than tearing down.

Marcia Wallinga

To the editor:
I am writing in response to the editorial written a couple of months ago by Chuck Adams entitled “Racism and Sexism Alive and Well at Dordt.” After reading this article, I was saddened. I could not believe that something like this could happen at Dordt. I was also saddened because I can imagine the hurt that each person must have felt when he or she was called “Noriega lover,” “slut,” or any of the other names that were used. Maybe those involved in name calling hadn't had to deal with being called names, but I can tell you that the hurt doesn't go away overnight.

What is the point of making people feel bad? Is it because they're winning and you can't stand that? The point of any game should be that each team play their best and be proud whether they win or lose. Furthermore, people yelling and screaming aren't going to change the score anyway. Maybe some of you do this to show that you are a big man and know how to swear, or maybe you want everyone to know that you are there. It isn’t a big man who uses foul language and puts others down, but an immature one. When you do these things, we wish that you weren't in the stands.

I could not help but be angry with this sort of attitude. I believe that many of us came to Dordt because of the Christian atmosphere that it is known for. When someone does something to tarnish the name of Dordt, we are also tarnishing the name of each one of us going to this college. In this way, we have a right to be angry.

I just hope that in the future those involved will show some respect to the players, the school, and their fellow classmates and put an end to this kind of stuff.

Alan Beckley

Dordt College and international culture

Do different cultures really enlighten the typical Dordt student? One reason for having international students is to provide cross-cultural experience. Are we experiencing this on our campus? How many international events are there at Dordt?

Dordt students must come to respect other cultures. Why do we Americans try to convert everything to the “right”—our way of doing things? Is anything wrong with being different? Other cultures on campus should help to enhance our knowledge of the world. Perhaps GEN 10 should include an overview of culture and how to relate to them rather than the other garbage taught in that class.

With a little effort by many people, we can make Dordt a place that is proud of its international culture. But we as the American host must make the effort. Just attracting more foreign students is not going to solve the problem of too little international awareness on campus. American Dordt students must be taught to realize the role they play in making Dordt a truly international campus, culture, and community.

Mike Vande Voort
Brent Veenstra
The Free Press Top 12

As a conclusion to a successful year of Free Press, I've decided to give credit to those who have been valuable. The following, from number 12 to number one, are the top events of the year.

12. The Annual Talent Show
11. Dave "Jim Bob" Totten hit the nail on the head with his article on the "un-thetically critical" letters printed in this semester's Diamond.
10. The JV Basketball team. From colts to controlled, these athletes provided Dordt fans with a dozen exciting games, and gave us a taste of a promising Defender basketball future.
9. The Return of Randy Ward. After experiencing the West Coast, Randy returned to Dordt to regain full R.A. status, and once again captured the hearts of dozens of single girls. "They come to me," he says with a grin.
8. The return of the Free Press. Reasons are self-evident.
7. GEN 300. This course is a must.
6. Any Dordt grad entering the workforce should have his or her groundwork straight.
5. February 13, 1990. In the heat of the night and in front of a packed house, Joel Veenstra sinks two free throws with 45 left to give Dordt a 93-89 victory over Dakota Wesleyan.

Canada. Saturday, October 7, 1990: At 4:23 CST, Tom Henke's 3-2 fast ball blows by Baltimore Oriole Larry Sheets as the Toronto Blue Jays clinch the American East division. The Jays push Oakland to six games, proving to the baseball world that their homerun power and bullpen are for real.
2. P.E.A. With one of the largest groups ever, these Dordt students gave up their Spring Break for more than just a look at the world outside of Sioux Center. Their interest and endurance should be commended.
1. The Free Press was originally founded by two Dordt students in 1968. One of them, Dr. James Schaap, is an English professor at Dordt. Dirk Schouten and Dan Menne were the first editors, and their work laid the foundation for the Free Press.

Until next year brings us together again, Kyrie. d. schouten

The Free Press

Students have opportunity to shape changes in curriculum

by Karla Kamp

A chance for students to have an effect on possible changes in curriculum is on its way. On Wednesday, May 2, at 3:30, the Curriculum Task Force will hold an Open Forum in lecture hall C-160 in the classroom building.

The Open Forum is a chance for the members of the task force to share their thoughts on changes in curriculum. The students will have the opportunity to discuss feelings on campus about issues such as the student load of five courses, methods of instruction, the possibility of implementing a month-long vacation, the attitudes toward the General Education Program, and classes like General 200 and 300.

What the curriculum task force is doing has to be a part of the whole campus," says the task force's chairperson, Dr. Rookne McCarthy.

Student input is vital to the task force's study since students are involved in the whole campus culture—they assess instructors, classes, and the living environment. The meeting is a chance to vocalize concerns and suggestions, and to see what can be earning in the future.

The task force is studying the following topics: the General Education Program; graduation requirements and courses; majors, minors, and programs; the academic calendar; and student and faculty load.

The task force's main goal is to assess whether or not education at Dordt College makes a difference, says McCarthy.

The task force has just completed its first phase: taking an overview of current studies on curriculum and college and university initiatives in the area of curriculum. The task force also reviewed Dordt College's official documents regarding curriculum and compared them to the programs of other colleges and universities.

We can be challenged by what other colleges are doing," says McCarthy.

"The overview," McCarthy says, "has gotten us to the point where we can find new goals and objectives in our General Education Program."

"Re-examining Dordt's program is part of a healthy review process that ought to occur at educational institutions," says McCarthy.

McCarthy expects the open meeting to last until 5:30. He strongly encourages Dordt's faculty and students to take part. He asks that those who participate in the forum read Jerry G. Goff's article "General Education at Decade's End," which can be picked up at the Student Services Office. McCarthy says the article stresses that colleges must maintain integrity throughout their curriculum program and throughout the entire institution.

The Curriculum Task Force began work this February and hopes to complete its task by May, 1992. Along with Dr. McCarthy, members of the task force include the three division deans and seven faculty members. Students have not been included on the task force because of the length of the study.

Reaching across the 49th parallel

This semester, some Canadians on campus have been upset by the limited knowledge Americans have about Canada while Canadians have grown up understanding their southern neighbor. Some Canadians ask themselves why Americans learn only about their country, and not about other smaller countries around the world. Being from Canada, I have a particular interest in this topic.

Nationalism takes on a different meaning in the two countries. To be an American is to love America and to believe in democracy and freedom. That does not mean we Canadians do not stand for these issues, it means we approach them from a different perspective. The love a person has for his own country is unique to that country. I have a particular fondness for my country's past and how the French and the British fought for the land. Others may have national pride in a sports or music hero.

When an immigrant comes to America, he puts aside his homeland—America is his home. There is an intermingling of many different cultures into one large cultural base, referred to as the "melting pot" of American culture. Canada is different.

Canada is made up of many different nations. And independence to Canadians means the freedom to run our own country yet still be closely associated to the U.S. In addition, Americans took a different route to their independence Americans fought for it. Canadians, however, received independence from Britain in 1867. Americans do not understand the mother country's effects on nationalism, just as Canadians do not understand complete revolutionary independence.

This independence is a key factor in understanding America's limited knowledge of Canada. As part of the British Commonwealth, we are more aware of countries around us. In the early 70s, Prime Minister Trudeau called Canada a multicultural nation. Multiculturalism promoted each individual's nation within the larger context of our nation. Prior to the 70s we thought we had an identity crisis because we could never find anything uniquely Canadian. With this speech, we broke from the path of our American friend to create a unique identity.

Multiculturalism helped Canadians understand different ethnic groups. Like large American cities, urban centers in Canada are populated with numerous ethnic groups, groups which love for their homeland. But unlike Americans, Canadians respect each group's love for their country. An appreciation for ethnic's countries enhances our country and our identity. After the Italians won the World Cup Soccer tournament, a Member of Parliament stood up in the House of Commons and congratulated the Italian community. To Americans this statement seems anti-nationalistic, but this attitude is at the heart of Canadian nationalism.

Because of the many ethnic groups in our county, we must understand where the people of our nation came from. This resulted in our school systems teaching extensive world history and geography.

Living in America has deepened my interest in learning about the U.S. It is important for us Canadians to see the differences between our cultures. But it is the responsibility of both Americans and Canadians to learn about each other's country. An easy way to solve the problem of American ignorance of Canada is to recognize the differences and to teach them about our country instead of expecting them to have that knowledge.

Bryan Klazinga
From Down Under to Dordt

by Heather Alsum
Karen Krikke, a sophomore elementary education major from Edmonton, Alberta, writes letters to approximately 40 people in Australia, New Zealand, India, the Philippines, Switzerland, England, Greece, Brazil, Canada, and the U.S.

Krikke skipped a semester of school and went on Youth With A Mission (YWAM). YWAM is an interdenominational organization whose motto is “To know God and to make Him known.”

Krikke spent her first three months of YWAM in New Zealand at a Discipleship Training School (DTS) with students from all over the world. During this time, Krikke listened to various speakers, mostly from other YWAM bases.

The students had daily duties, and a couple times during the week they served the community. Krikke helped a woman who had multiple sclerosis. Krikke also did “friendship evangelism”—making friends with the people in the neighborhood and sharing the gospel.

After DTS, the large group broke up into three groups for outreach. Krikke moved on to Sydney, Australia for one month. During this time, her group of nine to 12 people worked with a Baptist church and a beach mission.

The beach mission consisted of Christian rock bands playing every night for about two weeks. “It was during summer holidays so many kids—especially street kids—came. There were several intermissions in the concerts in order for us to socialize with the audience,” Krikke says.

Krikke, who attended Reformed Bible College for a year before transferring to Dordt, plans to participate in the Summer Training Session (STS) in Mexico this summer.

“I’m pleased to see Dordt encouraging Christian service and involvement in foreign mission. It inspires me further in the vision God has given me,” says Krikke.

Yes, it’s that time of year again. This is the final issue of the *Diamond* and that can only mean one thing—yet another year at Dordt College is coming to a close.

With the closing of the academic year comes several end-of-the-year rituals we all look forward to with fear and excitement: final exams, due dates for term papers, the thawing of 73 tons of manure in the fields (oh, excuse me, it’s not the fields I’m smelling—I just realized I’m downwind from a bunch of blue books!), the senior kegger, graduation, and of course sentimental starry-eyed seniors walking around like they have just started to see the world for the first time, advising underclassmen how to take a good look at things around them before they pass by.

Well, I hope I won’t fall into this proverbial pit of emotions and slosh. Please don’t misunderstand me; there is a place for emotion, just like there is a place for toxic waste dumps, just not in my article, for we live in a rational world founded on truth, logic, and REASON.

Anyway, as I have pointed out, it is the end of the year, and since I’m taking up valuable space that could otherwise be used for Calvin Seminary ads, I should impart you with some sort of pseudo-intellectual knowledge to help guide you through life.

As I sit back and wonder what I could possibly ever tell you, my mind drifts to a simple word—change. Our world is changing at a ferocious rate like a VCR put on fast forward. When you wake up in the morning you almost have to read the paper just to find out if the world is in the same state it was when you went to bed three hours before. How do we deal with this change? What is that perpetual thing that holds the world together?

I have been trying to deal with this problem for some time now, and I was quite relieved to find out that a number of even greater minds than mine have also tried to answer this question. Maybe my own way of dealing with this problem was to become a history major and to develop constants in my life.

I looked to strong and immense objects and ideas that I felt would last for centuries. An example might include mountains and other impressive geologic formations, but as Gollum in *Lord of the Rings* was so kind to point out, even those mighty things are susceptible to the ravages of time, just like the 5,000,000-year-old rock formations in Australia which collapsed in January.

Another constant might be a great city. Cities can last a long time—Rome was even declared “eternal” once. But this summer I got a chance to stand in the midst of the ruins of this “eternal city,” and somehow the Colosseum just did not fell me with a strong sense of eternity.

So what are we left with? Somebody once told me that the only constant in this world is the constant of change. Whatever is around today is sure to be changed tomorrow. Even ideas fall victim to the perpetual motion of change. We still may sing of “the music of the spheres,” but even if God could create this whole thing, it is then that I have to remember that if God could create this whole thing, we call the universe and still has the hairs on my head numbered, then He definitely has my life in His hands and all I have to do is trust in Him.

I’m afraid my answer is not all that logical and rational, but then I guess that’s why we have so affectionately named this trust the “leap of faith.”

Give my regrets to Immanuel Kant.

Mark McCarthy

(Editors note: Mark is a former Dordt student now in his final year at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. McCarthy compares his experience at the two colleges by saying “Calvin’s perspective may stink, but hey, the nightlife is great!”

**Moving to Chicago?**

There is a new Christian Reformed Church downtown, full of young adults who work in the city.

**On the move, in step with the Spirit**

We meet in the lower level of the Dearborn Station, on Polk St. at Dearborn St. on the south side of the Loop.

**Worship Service:**
Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Bible Study and Fellowship groups meet regularly. We’ll help you find the one that meets your needs. Come on down!
Years of training at Dordt provide challenges for Social Work major

Self-awareness is a key process which I have learned at Dordt College. I had to look actively at and challenge my thought process and observe how this made me act. This looking at myself causes me to become aware of ways in which I may have been judging others and may have been making decisions—perhaps unfairly. As a Christian, I feel I have the responsibility to look at my thoughts and actions to determine how these are affecting the world and people around me.

As a social work major, I have often had to evaluate myself and my values and actions in political campaigns before I vote. I simply can't just follow what my parents did. Another issue that challenged me was the pro-life/pro-choice argument. I strongly disagree with the murder of innocent children, but I believe the pro-life movement doesn't go far enough in its argument. I have been forced to question whether stopping these killings is really the most compassionate thing to do. I wonder what will happen to all the children who are unwanted, abused, and neglected. Pro-life needs to step beyond abortion and look at viable options for these children and mothers. I must also be willing to do something for all of these children. I find it difficult to imagine myself adopting a child who was born addicted to cocaine or one that has behavior problems due to abuse. Pro-life has the right idea, but needs to work with life from conception to the grave.

Finally, I have been challenged to look at my own attitudes concerning the issue of racism. I believe it is safe to say that I try hard not to be prejudiced or discriminatory. But when I really look at what I do to help the cause of the minorities, it isn't enough. I don't work to promote programs which would enable them with the same opportunities I have. Perhaps this is a form of racism. I must do my part to give minorities the same opportunities that I have, not coast by with excuses that minorities are just "too lazy" or "too stupid." If I and other readers are truly to be God's hand here on earth, we must be looking at these issues in depth. I am thankful for the education I received and the self-awareness it has taught me. We may not simply go along with the crowd, but I pray that we be different, for by being different, we can make a difference!

Deb Smit

Dirty diapers, snotty noses

His name was Adam. He was about a year old, a little brother of an eight-year-old client who had been sexually abused by her mother. Adam had large, dark brown eyes and long eyelashes. Dried tears stained the corners of his eyes. He had a mop of black hair—like the bright orange wigs clowns wear.

My heart went out to Adam. Here was a year-old boy—a cute kid with a future ahead of him. But what kind of future would he have, coming from a single-parent home where the mother abided her first child?

But I couldn't touch Adam. I wanted to reach out, but I was feeling uncomfortable. The home smelled like mothballs and felt like a damp basement. Magazines and dirty photographs cluttered shelves, tables, and chairs. I was sitting down on a mustard green sofa covered with a sheet of plastic. I didn't want to sit back—I thought I'd get dirty. I was feeling grimy and itchy all over.

Adam, with his nose running, crawled over tables, chairs, games, and feet, drooling over everything. When he came close to me, I could smell he had a dirty diaper.

Soon Adam was crawling over me and clinging onto my legs. I knew he wanted to sit on my lap, to be held, and to finger the pearls on my necklace. Finally, I picked him up and set him on the edge of my knee. I didn't want him to get too close to me—in case his diaper leaked or he wiped his snotty nose on my new blouse. Adam was a wiggle worm, though—he leaned back, touched my hair and face with his wet hands, and tried to stick his pudgy fingers in my mouth. I struggled to stay business-like, but I was loving him.

When the interview was over, the grandmother of the family led us into a dirty, cluttered room where the eight-year-old sat watching television. We said goodbye to her and walked to the front door, Adam trailing behind us. Before we walked out of the house, though, Adam pulled on my pant leg. I looked down into his huge brown eyes and he stretched his arms out to me.

"Why me?" I thought. "Why is he reaching out to me after I treated him like a prickly cactus?" I picked up Adam—snotty nose, drooly chin, smelly diaper and all. He instinctively wrapped his arms around my neck in one tight hug.

That's why I had tears in my eyes as I walked out to the car. I was afraid to touch an image bearer. But then came Adam, an irresistible child who needed to be touched, but somehow knew that I needed to be touched more than he did.

You know, sometimes God has a kid's face.

Karla Kamp

Are you missing an opportunity?

Does it seem ironic to anyone that 2,000 fans go to see every men's home basketball game and fewer than 20 non-players can tell you how the tennis players did Tuesday against Teikyo-Westmar? "Tennis is not the only sport that suffers a lack of interest on campus. Certainly, the baseball and softball teams suffer from the same kind of apathy. A few people may have to make it to the Dordt Invitational Track Meet, but for the most part their contribution goes unnoticed. Why do spring sports often go unnoticed? Both volleyball and soccer are followed rather closely, especially in the past couple years. I think part of the reason losses add up quickly in the spring sports is because students aren't participating. I've heard people say, "It's so cold." Sure, there were a few inclement days for the spring sports, but that hasn't been the case the past two weeks.

Another problem is that springtime brings class work to the peak of time consumption. Still, many of the same people who complain about the homework found time to "lay out" in Saturday's 80-degree sunshine. Another complaint is that baseball and softball games are so boring. Tuesday's second baseball game saw 36 runs cross the plate in six-and-a-half innings. People cannot tell me that is more boring than a soccer game which sees a 90-minute game with only three goals scored.

One wouldn't be hard-pressed to find a Dordt supporter who believes Dordt spends too much money and time in athletics, especially on athletic scholarships. "Students are at Dordt College to learn and study, not play sports," the gentleman or lady would say. I think we as Christians have a hard time defining what Christian sports is. Winning is more important than playing well? Winning is an important component in sports, even at Dordt College. I don't think it is over-emphasized. None of the coaches here at Dordt has to worry about losing their job just because they finish eighth in District 15. An abuse of athletes or academics will call for a dismissal, though.

What we need here at Dordt is more student interest in sports other than men's basketball. Volleyball and soccer have boosted interest with successful seasons.

Ask coaches Altena, Rhodes, Brock, or Vinder if there is talent right here on campus that isn't part of their athletic teams. The baseball, softball, and track teams suffer when talented athletes choose not to participate. I sometimes hear Dordt criticized as "a joke" for not having football or wrestling. I'm sure people would go watch a football game, even in a snowstorm.

Look around you. There are more sports on campus than basketball.

Steve Hoogland
Computer center staff concerned about excessive use of laser printer

by Tim Kramer

During the period of February, March, and April students ran off over 13,000 copies on the laser printer in the renovated IBM lab. At an estimated cost of 5 1/2 cents a page, the bill comes to over $700.

Art Attema, Instructor of Business Education, says the laser printer in the Altos lab runs off even more copies. Jim Bos, Dordt College Computer Analyst, says the Hewlett-Packard printer in the Altos lab has run off more than 17,000 copies during the course of the semester.

The only other laser printer available to students is in the Macintosh lab. Attema says the Macintosh laser printer doesn't run off nearly as many copies as the other two printers, but that's because there are fewer terminals connected to it.

Considering the number of terminals connected to each printer, the Apple Macintosh is the more popular computer, printing out more copies per terminal.

The laser printers in each lab can produce professional print quality. The college supplies each printer with high bond paper to ensure that instead of going to the system some students try to send their junk. Students helping each other to print responsibly, or lab.

"Students ran off over 13,000 copies on the laser printer in the renovated IBM lab. At an estimated cost of 5 1/2 cents a page, the bill comes to over $700."

Dordt students have run off more than 30,000 copies on the laser printers in the open computer labs on campus. That figures to an average of 30 copies per student this semester, a figure which increases even more considering many students don't use laser printers. (Photo by Jeff De Boer)

Not everyone comes to Dordt for an MRS degree

Students go to Trinity to study, Calvin to party, and Dordt to marry.

That's how everyone goes. If that saying is as accurate as many people claim, it should be written into the catalog added to the promotional video.

First semester alone, 52 engagement announcements appeared in the Today. It's no wonder many Dordt students feel the pressure to find a mate. Deb Gietema, who will graduate in two weeks, feels that some people look at single seniors and think, "You're single? How awful." That's not how Deb feels. "This is not the right time for me, but I don't feel bad," she says. She is one of the many who came to Dordt for an education, and not an MRS degree.

I asked Mike Schouten if he had missed out by not finding a wife before he graduated from Dordt. "Not at all. In fact, I probably got more out of life by being single. I was able to move wherever I wanted, go on vacations when and where I wanted, and see more of the country. I don't want to say that I wasn't tied down, because being married isn't being tied down. I just had no family obligation."

Dr. James Schaap feels that there should be a law at Dordt requiring all students to be married after freshman year because they become much better students. When students are single, they sit in class and watch to see whose legs are walking by the window. Aside from educational benefits, Schaap does feel that many students get married too young. He is another survivor who left Dordt single.

There seems to be some pressure to find a mate while at Dordt, but is it an internal or external pressure? At home, aunts and grandmothers seem to be annoyingly interested in your love life. They sometimes seem to think that if you miss the chance at Dordt, you will have a tough time finding a husband or wife. At school, half your friends seem to be planning their weddings. If you are dating, people ask when you are getting married.

For those who are worrying that they will leave Dordt single or are being pressured by others to worry, RELAX. The "senior search" is not the answer to your problems. There is a life for you, and it is not as a street person. A serious relationship or marriage is not the answer to everything. You must be ready to accept the commitment and responsibility or else you could be in for a long, difficult future.

Many students want to see an announcement in the Today reading, "Congratulations to all of those who have remained single." Well, here it is, and I mean it. You are no less a person because you leave Dordt single. Consider it a challenge that you have met.

Angela Eriksen

Orchestra takes tour of Wisconsin

by Mike Byker

While many of us will be traveling home after exams are done, a group of Dordt College musicians will be traveling to Wisconsin on May 11 for the annual orchestra tour.

The fifteen-member orchestra will perform in five concerts and two high school assemblies in the southeast Wisconsin towns of Delavan, Brookfield, Oostburg, Sheboygan, and Waupun.

The group's final performance will be Tuesday, May 15.

The musicians will take time from their busy schedule to visit Milwaukee for a day. Student tour manager Tania Roosenaal, said, "We'll get to see the sights and whatever there is to see in Milwaukee." The musicians will be spending the night in Brookfield, a suburb of Milwaukee, and home to Milwaukee Christian School.

On May 6 you can hear the orchestra's final performance before the tour, during the evening service at the First Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Center.
Proposed yearbook format designed to save time, money

by Cheri Van Klompenberg

As you walk into the Student Publications room and look around, you see large white envelopes lying all over. They're stuffed with pictures and page layout designs. A feeling of urgency is in the room. This scenario is true. The yearbook staff is working hard to get the Signet ready, but with the small number of students this is hard. Out of 184 total pages, 58 are at the printer but 126 pages need to be completed yet.

A proposal has been introduced, suggesting the production of a magazine instead of a yearbook. The magazine would cover all of the sports teams, musical groups, clubs, and activities such as Homecoming. It would not include mug shots if the Student Forum's proposal of a pictorial directory at the beginning of the year comes through.

There are many advantages of having a magazine instead of a yearbook. First, a magazine would be cheaper, costing about $13 instead of the current $26. Signet editor Brenda Van Hal says, "No one reads the yearbook. They page through it to see how many times they're in it and where their friends are, and that's it."

Another advantage is the possibility of the magazine production to be incorporated into a class. At this point, yearbook production is an extra-curricular activity and few people become involved. As a result, the responsibility of the yearbook falls on a small group. As a class, more people would be involved, possibly improving the quality of the production.

A third advantage is that producing a magazine would teach about magazine layout and design. An increasing number of students want experience in this area, and such a class could provide it. Magazines are increasingly popular, so education in this area would be beneficial.

Finally, with a magazine students can be more innovative. Instead of being stuck with the traditional yearbook lay-out, students can be creative. This will make an exciting publication.

Discussion about the proposed magazine continues. If the course is approved, students will have to add it to their schedule during fall registration. If you have any questions about the magazine, talk to a Student Forum member.

Proposed films for 1990-91

Field of Dreams
Rain Man
Driving Miss Daisy
Dead Poets Society
Creature From the Black Lagoon
Brazil
Year of Living Dangerously
Do the Right Thing
- to be shown in the context of a seminar

The following films will be shown in connection with the Suffering and Survival conference, as well:
The Assault
The Hiding Place

Next year, all viewers will be charged $1.00. There will be no free passes.

Dordt recruits new recruiters

by Mike Byker

Dordt College is searching for new recruiters for the 1990-91 school year. The positions opened after Mike Schouten and Bill Elgersma accepted teaching positions for next year.

Schouten will be teaching at Manhattan Christian in Manhattan, Montana, while Elgersma will teach in the English Department at Unity Christian in Orange City, Iowa.

According to returning recruiter Bryan Kooi, ads should be coming out in The Banner and The Voice soon. "It's been out for a while that there would be an opening. Some people have stopped by and inquired about the job already," says Kooi.

This past year Schouten handled Florida, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana. Elgersma recruited in Canada, Washington, Oregon, and Nebraska.

Kooi said, "We decided to go with only three recruiters again next year, but Howard Hall and Quentin Van Essen may travel a little to help out."

"The search isn't that urgent because the recruiting jobs run with the school year, but we do hope to have the new recruiters here by the end of July," says Kooi.

Students say...

Do you think the Signet should be changed from a hardcover book to a softcover magazine?

by Jill Beran, Cindy Kaptein, and Jeff De Boer

Clary Kloosterhof
"No, hardback has more prestige. In 20 years it'll still be around."

Suzanne De Vries
"No, definitely a hardback because softback is cheap looking. Dordt's into the expensive stuff."

Mary Natelborg
"Yes, it is more practical. It would look nice—not cheap. They can also have more people working on it instead of just one. I would miss having the hardback, though."

Carl Fictorie
"No, stay the way it is. It is a historical record. There's more to it than just capturing a story. A magazine can't capture the historical aspect."
Defenders win three in a row

by Steve Hoogland

The baseball team has played four games in the last week and have a modest three game winning streak heading into this weekend's contest with Briar Cliff.

vs. DWU

Last Wednesday afternoon Dakota Wesleyan University came to Dordt. After the Defenders built a fourth inning 7-0 lead in game number one, the Trojans erupted for 18 runs in their final three at bats. Starter Scott Roose allowed seven runs and reliever Todd Miedema 11 as the Defenders lost 18-8. Five Defender errors were costly.

In the second game Chad De Kam picked up his first victory of the year, striking out six in four innings as Dordt won 17-6. The Defenders scored 11 times in the fourth inning to take advantage of the five-inning ten-run rule.

Four players had three RBI's. Faber, Kooiman, Greg Haagsma, and Eric Visser batted three runners around. Faber added three hits.

vs. Teikyo-Westmar

Tuesday the Defenders hosted the Eagles of Teikyo-Westmar for a doubleheader. The Defenders scored five runs in the first and six in the second innings on the way to a five-inning 14-4 win. Dordt pounded out eight hits and were aided by walks and errors. Haagsma was the star on the mound going all the way to even his record at 2-2. At the plate Haagsma pounded a long homer over the center field fence.

The Defenders hung close through eight innings with the District's number one team. Dordt allowed three runs in the top of the ninth and lost again, 3-0.

In the afternoon, Dordt hosted a single elimination tournament last weekend and played Morningside Tuesday evening. The Lady Defenders' record is now 3-19.

Northwestern Tourney

The tournament was held on Friday and Saturday. Dordt's first opponent was Morningside. The Defenders allowed three unearned runs in the first inning and eventually lost, 3-1.

The second game of the day was against Teikyo-Westmar. Dordt got hits out of every player in the line-up except for shortstop Patty Boer. A three-run third was the difference for the Blades in a 3-2 victory.

Dordt concluded their Friday games against Northwestern. The Defenders left the bases loaded in the fourth and stranded seven runners overall en route to a 3-2 loss.

Saturday morning, the Lady Defenders completed the round-robin portion of the tournament with a conference game against Briar Cliff.

Dordt participates in NW tournament

by Steve Hoogland

The softball team participated in the competitive Northwestern softball tournament last weekend and played Morningside Tuesday evening. The Lady Defenders' record is now 3-19.

Northwestern Tournament

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Blades join NCAA Division II Hockey League for 1990-91

by Jeff Burgsma

In the 1990-91 season the Dordt Blades will officially become part of the NCAA Division II Hockey League. Currently there are two divisions. The Northern Division consists of Northern Iowa, Iowa State, South Dakota State, and Carrollton. Dordt will play in this division.

The Southern Division includes Washington University, St. Louis Community College-Meramec, Kansas, Missouri Western, and Drake. The newly formed Eastern Division includes De Paul, Notre Dame, Palmce College, and Wisconsin-Platteville. Each team will play within its own division until the playoff time where the leaders meet.

The League is a much needed step for the Blades and all the teams are excited about it. Bill Elgersma represented the Blades at the league's formation meeting.

The Blades will also be skating on new ice next season. Worthington, Minnesota, is building a new ice skating and hockey facility. The biggest advantage for the Blades in Worthington will be the ability to schedule ice time well in advance. In Sioux City and Sioux Falls, other teams have first priority for scheduling games. The new ability to schedule ice time assured the Blades that their position in the league will be secure.

With these changes ahead, the Blades can look forward to a year of higher caliber play. The Blades hope that with a pre-season schedule drawn up, they can get more community involvement and another year of great response from the Blades' fans.