Eman evokes Holocaust memories

by Katie Dekker

As part of National Holocaust Week, declared by Congress as “Days of Remembrance,” Diet Eman will speak In chapel on Thursday. Eman is more than just another Dutch immigrant. The work she and others in the Netherlands did to resist the Nazi army helped to save 10,000 Jews from death.

“They don’t want to be made heroes because they think that [fighting for the Resistance] was what everyone did.”

Schaap had asked Eman if he could write her story after he heard her speak at a conference in 1991. She said she didn’t want it written. “They don’t want to be made heroes because they think that fighting for the Resistance was what everyone did,” Schaap said.

He said she changed her mind, however, when she realized how little today’s generation really knows about the Holocaust. Eman told Schaap that she had changed her mind, and he went to Michigan to hear her memories of the Holocaust.

Eman not only had her memories, but she had her diaries, Sietsma’s diaries, her letters to him, and his letters to her. She would translate the diaries, which were written in Dutch, and explain them to Schaap.

Schaap that she had changed her mind, and he went to Michigan to hear her memories of the Holocaust.

Eman told Schaap that she had changed her mind, and he went to Michigan to hear her memories of the Holocaust.

The first of the one-acts, "Twirler," about a young baton-twirler, won the Heideman award for best one-act of 1988.

One-Acts explore life issues

by Kristen Westerhof

Three casts have been hard at work since the beginning of March preparing for the next round of one-acts, slated for April 21, 22 and 23. Director Susan Jarnot, a senior Theatre Arts major, has taken these casts under her wing. Jarnot spends six hours a day with the casts in addition to preparing her own piece, called "Twirler."

The first of the one-acts, "The Man Who Turned Into a Stick," deals with issues of conformity and the desire to fit in. It promises to challenge audiences to look at themselves and say, "Hey, I’ve done that, I’m guilty." Jarnot would like audiences to come away wondering what they can do to be different besides "the whole world-view thing" and questioning their attitudes toward those who are different or stand out. Eric Epp, who plays "Hippie Boy" in the play, says "You have to be dumb as a board not to like this play."

One performance of the show is scheduled for April 21, and there will be two showings April 22.

Saturday the 23rd is set aside as "Women’s Night," an evening will be a monologue done by Jarnot called "Twirler," about a young award-winning baton-twirler. It addresses, in part, the human tendency to stereotype other. Its main emphasis lies in the main character’s dedication to taking her philosophy, which revolves around twirling, and applying it to every aspect of her life, as Dordt tells its students to do with their own worldview-philosophies.

These three plays will be performed at 3 p.m. on April 23 and 8 p.m. the same evening. Tickets are currently on sale for both productions in the box office.
PLIA shares experiences

During spring break, many students, a record number, in fact, took the opportunity to travel to different locales to participate in several service opportunities. Some of the participants have reacted in writing.

Altamont, TN
Because of the large number of students who chose to participate in the PLIA spring break projects this year, some new work sites had to be added. One of these sites was Altamont, TN. The team that went to Altamont (better known to many as the "Ex-Lax group") was a team with a variety of abilities and gifts, all of which came together to form a team that worked well together, got a lot accomplished, and had a lot of fun in the process.

The first two days of work were spent at Mountain T.O.P. (the camp that was our home for the week) fixing it up in preparation for the summer campers that will be arriving soon. The next two days were spent working for people in the community, doing various jobs, from digging a septic system (in the pouring rain) to roofing a house and building walls around a trailer.

Much of our time at night was spent in devotions, both as a team and with our prayer partners. Other activities included many rounds of Rock and other card games, group games, such as Ghost in the Graveyard, and, of course, the occasional practical joke.

The week was one of becoming a team, working together as a team, learning a little bit about a new culture, and growing closer to God. We had a great week, and came away from the experience better off for having spent time in Altamont.

Cary, MS
Spring break was an exciting time for the eighteen students who spent the week in the small, rural town of Cary, MS. We enjoyed the strong new friendships formed, the warm sunny weather and the break from studying, but PLIA was much more than that. Each of us grew and learned a great deal from the experience.

One of the new work sites had to be added, and the work was spent at Mountain Mendenhall Farm.

A trail's Pastimes August 1989)

One PLIA group puts in hard hours up on the roof

Mendenhall, MS
On our first day, we got orientation and got to know our surroundings. On Saturday was our day away in New Orleans and at the Gulf. We had a great time, and it was good for group bonding.

Sunday we got a chance to worship with the local people and welcomed the new way of worship. Monday, we started our main project of re-roofing a house. Other jobs we did included stuffing envelopes, sorting clothes, and working on the Mendenhall Farm.

The things that affected us most were the train tracks that run through Mendenhall, separating blacks from whites. We also noticed the difference in lifestyle and the sad sight of segregation.

The Diamond thanks those who were willing to share their personal experiences.

Student Forum Update

by Karen Vander Stelt

In the last issue of the Diamond, all students were invited to attend a Student Forum meeting. No non-members attended the meetings held March 3 and March 31.

Student Forum members have an impact in two ways. First, every member is also a member of one or two committees. The members of Dordt's nineteen committees include faculty, students and staff. Committees are divided into five categories: Faculty standing, student life, program, administrative and institutional. Within a committee, non-freshman students have equal say as staff—that participate in discussions and vote with all other members. They serve to represent the needs and concerns of the student body.

Student Forum also has an impact as its own decision-making body. As a group, Student Forum has been responsible for several events on campus this year. On February 26, a group of 35 students left Dordt at 5:30 a.m., headed for Mankato on an all day ski trip, sponsored by Student Forum. Our school's contributions to the Siouxland Bloodbank every few months are a result of Student Forum, in the form of a Student Forum sponsored drive. We encourage you to give blood.

Student Forum is working to increase student knowledge of the Campus 2000 plan, to add a student to the art committee, to improve paper recycling in the computer and office areas of the campus, and to increase the number of student-accessible outlets for plugging in cars on cold winter days.

All students are invited to attend the next Student Forum meeting, to watch and provide input as we discuss these and other issues. Next meeting: April 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bond Room.

Banquet plans develop

by Kristen Westerhof

The Student Activities Committee has set its sights on April 23 as this year's all-school banquet. The banquet, an annual semi-formal/formal event, will again be in the Marina Inn in South Sioux City. The room will be different this time, this one being lower down and closer to the river. It will also be divided by a partial wall, which shouldn't interfere with visibility. The evening promises a good meal, entertainment and a dance. Ron Ryders is looking into hiring a band to play for the dance.

The entertainment for the evening features Arthur Atsma, a Christian magician. At age nine, after seeing his brother perform a card trick, Atsma became fascinated and decided to learn how to figure out magic. Magic is, however, not his only talent—he's an accomplished pianist/organist. He holds bachelor's degrees in theater and music. He has worked with community and children's theater groups in Vali,
Dordt students study in Russia

by Lavonne Bolkema

Amidst the momentous restructuring of the former Soviet Union, the Christian College Coalition has launched a new Russian Studies Program (RSP) in the Republic of Russia this semester. Two Dordt students from Ontario, Tim Bootsmma and Andrea Koetsler of Harriston, are among the RSP inaugural semester’s twelve American students excited to be on-site where and when history is being made.

Led by RSP director Harley Wagner, the participants arrived in Moscow on January 19 and began their fifteen-week stay in Russia with a week of orientation and touring in Moscow.

The students then travelled to Nizhni Novgorod (formerly Gorky), Russia’s third largest city with a population of 1.5 million, to settle in for ten weeks. Nizhni is both a beautiful and excellent location, located on the Volga River approximately 230 miles east of Moscow in Russia’s heartland. It has become famous as the focus of post-communist economic reform. Mary Cline of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has noted, “Nizhni Novgorod is often referred to as one of the few success stories in the Russian transition to a new economic system. Local leaders have introduced innovative and aggressive market reform policies.”

While living on the campus of Nizhni Novgorod State University (NNSU), the students will be extremely busy. In addition to extensive Russian language study taught by NNSU instructors, they are involved in two seminar programs “Slavic Culture and History” and “Russia in Transition.”

Director Wagner is enthusiastic about the excellent resources available for both of these courses: “We are taking full advantage of Slavic literature, on-site visits to historical areas, and interviews with key people in these seminars. The goal is to make both the past and the present ‘come alive.’”

The institute. Each member will have earned sixteen semester-hours toward their baccalaureate degrees; but, more importantly, they will have earned a greater understanding of the conflicts and changes facing the region as well as some skills with which to continue their interaction with its people.

The students will return to America in late April. They will have earned sixteen semester-hours toward their baccalaureate degrees; but, more importantly, they will have earned a greater understanding of the conflicts and changes facing the region as well as some skills with which to continue their interaction with its people.

The RSP is one of six student programs offered by the CCC to students attending its 85 member colleges and universities.

“T’m sure it will be a very stretching experience.”

by Sonya Jongma

Five faculty members will be traveling to the Ukraine again this summer. Last year’s four-week program was very successful and the professors and the students learned a lot from each other.

This year’s group consists of professors Beryl Hugon, Wayne Robes, Lorna Van Gilst, and Darryl Vander Kool, student Kristin Kubes, and professor emeritus Russ Maatman.

The group will spend three weeks lecturing and teaching Bible lessons at the institute. Each member will be taking ten bibles with them to fill the great demand for bibles at the Karkhov State Pedagogical Institution. The director of the Institute, Ada Kureeva, asked each professor to teach English conversation for 2.5 hours a day. Half of this time was spent talking about some topic relating to American culture and the other half was spent reading and discussing the Bible.

May 18 is the day set for the group’s departure and they will return after a month. After teaching for three weeks, they will spend some time in Moscow, touring the city and seeing historical sites. The members of the group are looking forward to their departure. “I’m sure it will be a very stretching experience. I don’t know exactly what to expect,” said English professor Lorna Van Gilst. The Institute asked for a woman and an English teacher, and Van Gilst feels that teaching in the Ukraine is something she has always wanted to do. She is excited about the opportunity to serve and learn more about another culture.

Professors teach and learn in the Ukraine

by Kristen Westerhof

Bosnia—As many as 2000 civilians fled a Serbian advance near Gorazde in the army’s push toward a Muslim enclave in eastern Bosnia. Western powers have yet to intervene.

Washington D.C.—The administration supports Syria’s claim on the Golan Heights, although Israel is loath to surrender the strategic location. Israel did allow 50 Palestinian exiles to return to their homes in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

South Korea—Tensions heightened as a result of North Korea’s refusal to allow further UN inspections for nuclear weapons. The US has sent one shipment of Patriot missiles to South Korea for defensive measures, with another one planned.

Students interested in valuable experience as Diamond or Signet editor for next year, please contact the adviser, Lorna VanGilst. A one-semester editorship for the Diamond is a possibility. In some cases, workstudy or course credit is a possibility.
The Editor Speaks

Her Mind

The Power of Prayer

Dear God,

To sum it all up, please make my life easier. Amen.

Sometimes I'm surprised when God answers "no." To the petition above, a resounding "no" would be expected, but I always think how many times is God reading between the lines and hearing those exact words? But I've never experienced a "no" that did not again surprise me

God answers "no." To the petition "Dear God,ings to go away but simply for some-
thing, anything to happen. I've never immediately seen lightning or angels or experienced a Peretti-esque moment. God shows himself to me through his common sense.

Yet, we all have stories about blessings that could be called no less than miracles that were a result of prayer. For example, I know a person whose family was relatively poor at one time, and his sister needed a new winter coat. The family could not afford to buy one, and no one in the family had a spare one for her. So his mom and sister sat down and prayed together. The very next day, on the front porch, was a box of clothes left by an anonymous donor. Among the clothes was a new winter coat that fit his sister perfectly. But what's the difference between asking God to take care of everything so we don't have to be responsible for our actions and sin-

I pray, probably the biggest thing I forget is that God also speaks to us. God is not a passive list-
ener who hears our prayers and sprinkles pixie dust to make everything all right. When I think about it, I certainly hope God doesn't work that way. Yet I
usually treat him that way when I pray. I tend to ramble on and on about my problems and other peoples' struggles and my confessions and questions. But when I think about it, I wonder how often in the midst of my babbling God is trying to interrupt with a really great idea that I'm missing. I believe our pouring out is good for us and strengthens us on our spiritual journey, but how much more would we be strengthened by taking time to listen to God, who has so much more to say in one moment than we could ever formulate in our own minds!

Somewhere, there is a balance between speaking to God and letting him speak to us, which is something that takes a lot of patience and a clear mind. But no matter what is getting in our way of listening to God, that too is something to ask God for. Realizing that even our prayers are tar-

I was excited when I found out that Oprah's topic for today was on the power of prayer. That itself was an answer to a prayer for guidance. I watched in hopes that finally Christians were going to be represent-
ed fairly and even compassionately on T.V. As I watched, however, I became more and more disappointed. Oprah's God "doesn't get hung up on any particular religion," and prayer is something to be "used for our advantage." Well, Oprah, my God is not wishy-

As I should have expected, Oprah and her guests were so misled on the idea of prayer and who God is and how he speaks to us that it was no more profound than a Psychic Friends info-mercial. In fact, they tended to use a lot of the same language ("your Higher Power," "your God of choice," etc.) that TV people have to use. I think, whenever the topic becomes too deep and it's all they can do to avoid giving God the credit. The best thing Oprah had to say about God was that he was "cool."

Then she gave the microphone over to the audience for some personal testimonies:

"Yes, ma'am, and what is your story?"

"Well, Oprah, I had tried to commit suicide three times and I went to the ministers of my church and asked them to pray over me. As they did, I literally felt myself die inside, and my mind opened up and I felt God's love filling me."

"And you really believe that God had spoken to you?"

"Yes, I believe that at that moment my sins were forgiven and Jesus Christ--"

"And you, sir, what is your story?"

I never expected Oprah to allow any Jesus-talk on her show, but even the times when people described experiences so moving and emotional to deny the power of God, Oprah would remind the audience that prayer is a power that WE have and that it doesn't matter WHO we pray to. How boring.
Reader challenges columnist

Dear Editor,

In the March 10 issue of the Diamond, Jeremy Vos quotes several Associated Press releases to refute the likelihood that population growth will adversely affect future generations. Vos attempts to show how ludicrous the majority of population growth research is by presenting the following:

The Associated Press quotes the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology that 'reports sufficient could be produced for a population of ten billion people. The Council admits that some changes in farming practices, dietary habits, and expanded production may be necessary, but adds that the available land, water, solar energy and carbon dioxide are inadequate to produce more food than ten billion people need.

What Vos and the Associated Press fail to do is question what the Council could possibly mean by "changes in farming practices, dietary habits and expanded production." Specifically, what changes would there be in dietary habits? Looking to overpopulated Third World countries, we can obtain wisdom regarding the effects of overpopulation on their dietary habits.

When Sioux Center's population grows, where do we build new houses? On previously cropland! Yes, only is this cropland no longer useful for producing food, but it is housing an expanding family with future needs for more food and housing. What will happen to local Iowa cropland when Sioux Center's population doubles? Two questions need to be asked when confronting the issue of exponential population growth and its effects on our future generations:

1) Where will they live?
2) How will they live?

What will be the quality of life for these ten billion earthmatters?

In response to Jeremy Vos: "Will the sky fall? I think not." Yes, but the ground may give way under our feet!

Sincerely,

Nancy Pine (e-mail: nneryn)

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Overheard...

compiled by staff

"Christian Joy, you make Santa Claus look like a grumpy old man!"
—Scott Hazeu to Christian Godeke

"If there ever was a temptation to say a bad word, this is it!"
—Professor Koekkoek, while digging through his notes in an unsuccessful attempt to find the overhead transparency he'd just been describing to his class.

"I'm naked all the time when I'm with my wife. Well, not all the time."
—Dr. Williams.

"That rocks my worldview."
—Andrew Wolgen, unable to retain his normal speech patterns after a long day of classes.

"It's like being spit on."
—Andrew Wolgen, metaphorically speaking on trailer water pressure.

"Does this class come with a barf bag?"
—Sandy Van't Land, while getting dizzy watching a country swing dance she had to learn.

"It's easy to fall asleep sitting there staring at a blank wall. Some of you ought to know—you don't even need a blank wall!"
—Professor Koekkoek, comparing some in his Far East History class to Buddhist meditators.

"There's a woman who is desperately looking for a life."
—Dr. Williams, on Madonna.

"This method gets real slow real fast."
—Jim Bos, attempting to describe something in his Data Communications course.

"That was great! Now we know exactly what we don't know."
—Dr. Duitman at 11:30 p.m. after a guest lecture in Music and Technology class.

"Go get a mug or a bowl. I have to go to the bathroom."
—Sandy Van't Land, running two completely different thoughts together.

A hearty thank you to all students who have submitted quotes to the Overheard column.

Keep those quotes coming in!

Send quotes to:

Diamond Overheard

DC 595

The Diamond reserves the right to choose which quotes are suitable for publication.
It was recently revealed in a public opinion poll that nearly 25% of young Americans either are not sure what the term Holocaust means or have never heard of the term. Some pseudoscholars are claiming that the extinction of 6 million Jews, not to mention another 5 million others, never happened. World renowned director Steven Spielberg did not want the horrors to become merely a footnote in history books.

The director
Steven Spielberg, best known for his fantasy/adventure films such as “E.T.”, “Jaws”, “Close Encounters of the Third Kind”, “Jurassic Park”, The “Indiana Jones” Trilogy and the more serious “The Color Purple,” has never won an Academy Award for best director, although he has achieved phenomenal box office and critical success. Until this year. Spielberg’s film “Schindler’s List” won him the coveted award. He said of the award, “It’s the best drink of water after the longest drought of my life.”

But the award really is not what is important to Spielberg. It is far more important, he says, that people see the film. In his acceptance speech, he urged educators to not let the Holocaust become a footnote in the history books. He has written the governors of all states, offering that 2,000 high school students can see the film for free every month. And all the profits are going to Holocaust memorial causes.

Poldek Pfefferberg, a Schindler Jew, first appealed to Steven Keneally to write a book about the work of Oskar Schindler, a Czechoslovakian born industrialist who moved to Poland for cheap labor for his factory. Spielberg worked with Steven Zaillian, who adapted the book into a screenplay. They worked for about ten years putting their plan into action.

The film was a personal endeavor for Spielberg, a Jew. He dedicated the film to his mother, Leah Adler, as well as to all the Jews, both those who survived and those who died in the Holocaust.

The man
Oskar Schindler was a Czechoslovakian industrialist. He lived in Germany for a while, married, and went into a few business ventures which didn’t work out. He moved to Poland to take advantage of the fact that his membership in the Nazi party gave him the power to establish and run businesses at low cost and high profit with less restriction.

Schindler started by schmoozing with the Nazi officers in Cracow, partying with them, buying them gifts, sending their children presents. He realized that if he gained their friendships, he could get away with a lot.

He then went into the Jewish ghetto. He found Itzhak Stern, a Jewish accountant, who was probably well off before he was forced from his home and business, like so many others. Stern rounded up Jewish businessmen with capital who no longer had any real way to spend it, and they bought stock in Schindler’s company, an enameled pot factory. Stern became not only Schindler’s accountant, but also a trusted friend.

Schindler employed Jewish workers, primarily because they were cheaper than Poles. When all of the Jews were evacuated from the ghetto into Plaszow work camp, he made a deal with the officials that “his people” remain working for him. When it was decided that all of the Jews were to be taken to Auschwitz, a concentration camp in Poland, Schindler bought their freedom with the profits. He paid for the lives of over 1,100 Jews. He built a new factory in his hometown of Zwingtau-Brinnlitz, where they were to build munitions. The factory failed, but the Jews who worked there remained alive until the end of the war.

But Schindler was by no means a saint. He was a womanizer, a black market dealer, a Nazi, a drinker. So, to say that he was some sort of comic book hero would be to ignore his humanity. He said several times that he was just a businessman who wanted to make
and worst of humanity

money. But that does not do him justice, either. He managed to save the lives of 1,200 Jews and there are now almost 6,000 descendants of those Schindler Jews. He did what was right in the middle of dangerous circumstances. As Richard Dreyfuss, who introduced the film at the Oscars, said, Schindler showed “courage, not from a saint, but courage from all too human of men.” He went to jail, accused of being a Jew lover, and was released because of his connections. He risked his life to save others.

The story book ending to this story would be that he goes off, gets fabulously rich again, lives a life of comfort, and dies a hero. But life does not work that way. After the war, he failed at several businesses. He moved to South America with his wife and his mistress, and left both of them to return to Europe. He began visiting Israel periodically, where he was treated as a hero. He was given the title “Righteous Gentile” and planted a tree in the Avenue of the Righteous. He died poor in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1974. He was buried in Israel. His gravestone reads, “Unforgettable life saver—1200 persecuted Jews.”

The movie

Because I do not want to give away the entire plot of the movie and tell you exactly at which point everyone starts to cry and why the theatre suddenly grows quiet, I will point out a few themes to look for if you have not seen the film, and to contemplate if you have seen it.

One major theme is degradation. The Jews are forced from their comfortable lives to live all together in 16 square blocks. They must work for the Germans, and must constantly line up for any new regulation the Nazis impose. Then they must wear the star of David, not out of pride, but to set them apart for discrimination. Then they are forced to build their own work camp, with the main road paved with old Jewish gravestones. Lined up for inspection like cattle. The lowest point, I thought, was when a little boy, running from the guards during the camp liquidation, was forced to hide in the latrine. And there were already children there.

Another theme, which is strongest during a conversation between Schindler and Goeth, is power. Goeth thrives on his power, because he believes that the Jews fear him because he has the power to kill arbitrarily. Schindler argues that real power is having every justification to kill and not doing it. Goeth struggles with this, but succumbs to his baser tendencies. Goeth has been trained to hate Jews. This causes a real conflict for him when he falls in love with his Jewish housekeeper, Helene. In one scene, he has a conversation with himself in front of her, debating whether or not she was really human. Once again, his training wins over his humanity. Schindler also has power. He uses his power to save “his people.” He takes great risks to do this. He does what he can in threatening circumstances to do what is right. He realizes that he can’t save everyone. As Stern said, “The list is life. All around it lies the gulf.”

Spielberg never lets us see the Jews as a mass of nameless faces. He follows at least four families throughout, without letting us get too concerned about any one of them. But always, there is a focus on faces, eyes. The only time this is not true is in the mass scene at the camp. There we see them as cattle, flesh. But we never lose sight of their humanity and vulnerability.

This is the story of what human beings can do to other human beings. It is meant to shock us, to scare us, to repulse us. We are allowed to feel outrage, grief, compassion, and sympathy. The only thing we are not allowed to do is forget its message.
The eternal blame syndrome

by Kristen Westerhof

The Holocaust film “Schindler’s List” brings that time of deep darkness back into discussion. There are those who, despite overwhelming evidence, insist that events we either learned of in school or experienced ourselves simply did not occur. To pay any attention to this argument would be to give even slight credence to what they claim. There are also those who would continue to blame the Germans and Germany of today for the travesty which transpired in their country.

Casting blame has always been a particularly human trait. It seems to be a natural, if non-normative, response to being caught in guilt. It is also commonly used as a simplistic solution to an issue which may be tremendously complex. It seems there’s always a scapegoat around when you need one.

People of all races all too easily peg those of other races with undeserved and destructive stereotypes.

American application. Many Americans and Canadians struggle with understanding rare races. In the past, whites have been nothing short of devilsish to African and native Americans. While times have changed, resentment lingers. People of all races all too easily peg those of other races with undeserved and destructive stereotypes. The ‘eternal blame syndrome’ is not a strictly European phenomenon.

We must all realize universally that we are not responsible for the sins of those who have gone before us. But we are responsible to correct the aftermath of their past judgments and crimes. To do anything less would be to condone their sins and to grant them an unearned pardon. We are further responsible to create a climate in which a news report on a racially motivated act of violence, be it in Ottawa or Oslo, Berlin or Birmingham, is greeted with outrage by members of the human race, not simply by those whose eyes are closed to the victim’s color or nationality.

We are responsible to live as Christ would have us live, in understanding, in forgivingness and in joy.

April 7, 1994

Staff Voices

The eternal blame syndrome

by Kristen Westerhof

The Holocaust film “Schindler’s List” brings that time of deep darkness back into discussion. There are those who, despite overwhelming evidence, insist that events we either learned of in school or experienced ourselves simply did not occur. To pay any attention to this argument would be to give even slight credence to what they claim. There are also those who would continue to blame the Germans and Germany of today for the travesty which transpired in their country.

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We are responsible to live as Christ would have us live, in understanding, in forgivingness and in joy.
On the way to Calvary

by Dawn Bakker

Members of the music, art, and English departments working together presented a Good Friday program last week incorporating instrumental and vocal solos, scripture reading, poetry, slides, and hymns. The service titled On the Way to Calvary used these various formats to represent Christ’s last week before his crucifixion.

Some of the events in Christ’s life mentioned in chapel were Palm Sunday, the cleansing of the temple, the anointing of Jesus, the Passover, Gethsemane, Peter’s denial, and Jesus’ trial. The final section, the crucifixion, included “Were You There” sung by Curtis Taylor and images from Foosland’s “He Was One Of Us,” after which the audience appropriately left the chapel in silence.

Other solosists were Pam De Haan, Nicole Nibbelink, Wendell Schaap, Curtis Taylor, Tom Van Soelen, and Jared Wengert. Pastor Draayer, Joseph Heggers, John Velden, and Dirk Zwart read poems, and piano and organ music were provided by Vickie Broek, Kate Stamer, Louis Velden, Rhonda Dirks, Cindy Dykstra, and Sheryl Vande Kamp. An octet made up of members of the concert choir accompanied one of the solosists.

Dr. DeMol, Professor Alberda, and Draayer were the ones primarily involved in planning the chapel this year. Draayer says the idea of presenting Christ’s last week before his crucifixion came from a Reformed Worship journal, and once they had the idea, they looked for art pieces, songs, and meditations that would fit. The story was told straight from Scripture, and the three decided to use one gospel, the gospel of Mark, to tell the story.

Don Draayer, campus pastor, says this is the third or fourth time in the last five years that Dordt has presented a chapel on Good Friday. They have a special chapel in the afternoon because Dordt usually has classes on Good Friday. The music department used to put on a special Good Friday recital, but now that has been expanded into a broader, more inclusive chapel. The committee tries to use a different angle each year, and looking for material and planning goes on long before Good Friday.

“Dry pits” provide alternative

by Kristen Westerhof

In response to many students who want to have the option of having an off-campus, after-dark, out-and-wild-type event without getting drunk and who claim that if they go to pit parties, they go mainly for the social aspect, Ron Rynders, peer counselors and the Student Activities Committee have decided to resurrect “NAPPS,” non-alcoholic pit parties, which have been well-attended in the past. This is their way, a “partial solution to provide all the atmosphere with none of the risks,” those risks being the presence of “townees” whose sole purpose in attendance is to get drunk, underage drinking, the possibility of doing “unwise things at best, illegal things at worst,” and possible curfew violations, all according to Rynders.

The NAPPS, or dry pits, are harder to plan and to attract interest in than normal pits. If the weather is cold, those want to drink are more likely to go to a pit than those who would go to a NAPP. NAPPS also need pop, chips, marshmallows, sound equipment, a generator, firewood etc., while pits are generally more spontaneous and less planned out. It is also important for those in charge of dry pits to keep the area clean and to monitor the presence of alcohol. As for attracting attendance, Rynders realizes the dilemma of a student who would go to a NAPP except that his/her friends would rather he drinking. He sees the trick of attracting a lot of people as spreading the word and getting whole groups/cliques to go together.

The dry pit planned for Sandy Hollow for Saturday, April 2, had to be changed to the SUB because of the weather. Those who went to this indoor/outdoor event enjoyed the free food and the variety of music played with the option of written feedback or any kind. It was a good opportunity to have outlets for the sound system near the bonfire and strobe-lit basketball/volleyball games. Tentative dates for another party are the weekends of April 15, 16 or 29, 30.

Rynders has the traditional “senior keg” in mind. He wonders if maybe there isn’t a way to reorganize it into a safer, cleaner, more legal event while keeping it a legitimate “last fling.” He hopes there is a big enough group of students to reform the thing from the inside out, students who want to be together for one last time but avoid the alcohol factor, not buying into the world’s version of the “thing to do.” He would like to find a way in the school could work as a body to bring about a new and improved version of this event, although he wonders if official involvement by the college would put a damper on the event, if for any reason it is so exciting; "stolen bread eaten in secret is sweet." “I feel very devoted to helping students enjoy themselves,” Rynders added, “and yet make wise and obedient choices within the law of God first, then the law of the land.” He hopes this alternative activity will stimulate discussion and would like to hear either oral or written feedback or any kind.

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by Kristen Westerhof

Travelogue heads for coast

At 7:30 pm on Friday, April 8, travelogue-goers will experience the sights and sound of the Atlantic coast. Host Ren Cred will guide along the route, which covers foliage from Norfolk, VA to Key West, FL.

Tickets, available at the chapel door at the event, are $3 for adults, $2.50 for senior citizens and $2 for students.

Music, we have music

April 8 Senior Lisa Miedema performed as senior violin recital. Miedema, a violin performance major, has studied violin for eleven years, the first nine under Frances Kohl of Orange City and the past two with Teresa Ling. Husband Brad Miedema and Sophomore Christian Godeke accompanied her on the piano and the violin, respectively.

April 9 Wendell Schaap will give his junior voice recital in the chapel at 3 pm, accompanied by eight singers, one pianist and a guitarist.

April 9 At 8 pm, Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra will perform a light-hearted concert, featuring several soloists.

April 20 Sioux County Orchestra plans to perform its Spring Concert in Christ Chapel on the campus of Northwestern College in Orange City at 7:30 pm. Featured in the concert are works by Bizet, Haydn, Bach and a major work by Zoltán Kodály. Advance ticket prices are: $6 for adults, $2 and $12 for families. Door prices are $7.50 for adults, $3 for seniors and $15 for families. Tickets are available through Karen Rynders at 722-6221.

Seniors display artwork

In an exhibit entitled “Fingerprints,” four seniors will display a sampling of their works. The show opens tonight with a reception and gallery talk starting at 6 pm in the gallery in the chapel mezzanine. The show will feature pieces by Beth Twick, Boon, Ben Meyer, Juanito Moore and Monica van Reenen.

Sioux County Oratorio Chorus performed parts II and III of Handel’s Messiah in Dordt’s Chapel on Saturday. They engaged the audience in anticipation and praise for Easter morning.
Tennis team stuns Northwestern
Victory not totally unexpected
by Derrick Vander Waal
Dordt returned from their spring break tour and picked up a huge 5-4 victory against a solid Northwestern squad. This marked the first time in six years that Dordt was able to defeat Northwestern. Last season, Dordt’s only two losses came against Northwestern. Although Northwestern graduated their top three players off of last year’s team, they still had an excellent core returning.

“In the last few years, Northwestern has had some outstanding teams,” Coach Len Rhoda said. “We’ve had good teams in there too, but we could never quite get into a position to beat them until last Wednesday.”

Despite Dordt’s futility against Northwestern in past years, their victory against them did not come as a surprise to Dordt. The players had high expectations for themselves and expressed their confidence that they could beat Northwestern before the match.

“We have a nucleus of fellows that played have played for me for three years—that would be Devin [Le Mahieu], Tim and Russ [Natelborg], and Scott [Mawhinney]. Those four have just kept on improving,” Rhoda said. “Then, with Randy [Ten Pas] coming in last year and really making us a stronger team, they still had an outstanding team,” Coach Syne Alerna said. “I thought that we had to fill our time with something else, so that is one of the reasons why we chose to work with PIA.”

“On the way back from Texas, Dordt stopped off at Pittsburgh State in Kansas to compete in the Jocky’s N.C. Relays. The women fared extremely well finishing fourth out of nine teams. The men finished ninth out of ten team. Again, in this meet, Dordt was up against some strong competition.”

Last week Friday night Dordt competed in a meet at Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota. Three Dordt records were set in the meet. Team scores were not kept in meet.

U. of Texas, San Antonio meet highlights:
Women: -Teresa Van Zee set a Dordt women’s record in the shot put with her second place throw of 44’ 1 3/4”. Van Zee also finished first in the discus throw, 124’9”.
-Karmen Spronk and B.J. Sjoerdsema finished second and third respectively in the 100 m dash with the times, 12.89 and 13.13.
-Diane Schinkel, Sy Nonghirathi, Sjoerdsema, and Spronk finished third in the 4 X 100 m relay, 4:22.8.
-Men: -Mike Flesler finished second in the high jump, 6’2”.

Pittsburg State meet highlights:
Women: -Van Zee finished as first in the discus and shot put with throws of 128’8” and 45’1” respectively.
-Mel Shiebout finished third in the 400 m dash, 1:05.67.
-Spronk finished third in the 100 m dash, 11.24.
-Men: -Mike Flesler finished third in the high jump, 6’2”.

Dakota State meet highlights:
Women: -Van Zee won the shot put and reset her own Dordt record in the process, 44’ 1 3/4”.
-Spronk set a Dordt record with her second place finish in the 100 m dash, 12.50.
-Cindy Vande Voort finished second in the 800 m run, 2:31.94.
-Schiebout finished third in the 1000 m dash, 3:05.76.
-Sjoerdsema finished third in the 200 m dash, 23.54.
-Vande Voort, Schiebout, Sjoerdsema, and Spronk finished third in the 4 X 400 m relay, 4:26.74.

Men: -T.J. Rens set a Dordt record in the javelin throw, 174’.

Soccer

Softball
Briar Cliff 14, Dordt 0
Briar Cliff 11, Dordt 0
Concordia 19, Dordt 13
Concordia 21, Dordt 13
Onward 9, Dordt 10
Briar Cliff 19, York 5
Northwestern 14, Dordt 0
Northwestern 11, Dordt 3
Dordt 9, Mount St. Clare 6
Dordt 13, Mount St. Clare 2
April 8, vs. York, 3:30pm
April 9, vs. Doane, 1:00pm
April 14, vs. Teikyo Westmar, 3:30pm
April 16, tournament in Orange City
April 19, vs. Briar Cliff, 3:30pm
April 23, Teikyo Westmar tournament
April 29, at Teikyo Westmar, 4:00
May 6-7, Districts
by Derrick Vander Waal

With only one senior and two juniors on the team, Dordt's softball team was uncertain how it would respond once the season started. Not surprisingly, Dordt struggled for consistency during the early games of the season and lost their first five games.

Because of the leadership of Senior Steph Vander Molen and Junior Denese Rowe, both of whom are hitting well above .400, Dordt has been able to weather the tough times. They bounced back with three wins in their last five games. Sophomores such as Sara Bareman, Karl Vande Hoek, and Jill Van Essen as well as freshmen Julie Reno and Libby Kracht have stepped up their games and are all hitting over .300.

Much of Dordt's early struggles could be attributed to a lack of consistency in pitching and fielding during their early games. Two freshman pitchers, Reno and Kracht, were forced to make a quick transition from high school to college softball and have pitched the bulk of the minutes. Naturally, it took time for these inexperienced pitchers to get adjusted to college ball.

"We need to improve on our defense. We gave up way too many walks at the beginning of the year. Now, that the walks have been going down, we've been playing a lot better," Coach Vonda De Stigt said. "We need to cut down our errors a little bit. We're averaging about two and a half errors a game, and we should keep our error average to under two at least."

Dordt's offense has turned around much more quickly than its defense. Offensively, Dordt has pounded the ball and has been producing enough runs to win consistently.

"Offensively, this team is a lot of fun to watch," De Stigt said. "We've scored 81 runs which is more than the 72 runs that we scored all last year. We're averaging 6.1 runs per game which is fantastic. Our team batting average is .362. Our offense has been the strength of the team. A lot of hitting — A lot of speed."

Dordt opened the season with a double header against a strong Briar Cliff team and was shut out in both games by the scores, 14-0 and 11-0. On March 25, Dordt shifted its offense into high gear in a double header against Concordia in Seward, Nebraska, but they lost both (19-13 and 11-3 wins), because they could not hold the opposition's offensive capability down. In both of these games Dordt hit and fielded better than Briar Cliff, but the numerous walks given up by Dordt were costly. In both of these games, Dordt held leads but lost them in the late innings. In the early game, Dordt had leads of 3-0 and 13-12, and in the nightcap, they had leads of 9-0 and 12-6.

On March 26, Dordt travelled to York, Nebraska and split a double header against York College. In the early game, Dordt again blew large leads of 6-0 and 10-2, but York broke lose in the fifth inning and scored 16 runs to clinch their victory. Dordt out-hit York 11 to six but still lost the game 18-10.

The second game resulted in a convincing lead early scoring 3-1, of the first game, Dordt took a 6-3 lead with 5 runs in the third inning. Mount St. Clare tied the game at 6, but Dordt clinched their victory with three runs in the fifth and sixth innings. In the nightcap, Dordt jumped out to a convincing lead early scoring 12 runs in the first four innings and never looked back.

This weekend Dordt hoped to improve on its record as they play two double headers on Friday and Saturday against York and Doane respectively.

"We split with York last time, but I think with some of the pitching improvements that we've had, we are in good position to possibly get another sweep against York," De Stigt said.

Softball team struggles for consistency early

Pitching, defense spark early season success

by Ryan VanderPlaats

Several questions still needed answering as the Dordt baseball team boarded its flight to the Christian College Tournament in Homestead, Florida. The team had only played two games, a doubleheader with Division II USD, that had left the Defenders with two losses.

The lack of game experience in 1994 left the question of how players would react in game situations. Even more pressing an issue was practice conditions. The team would have settled for simply being able to practice outside, as cold weather had limited the team's practices to the gymnasium instead of the diamond. There was the matter of a fourth starter to consider. And how would the young bullpen perform?

While all of these things may have been running through Coach Visker's head, his attention was more focused on one immediate problem: where were the final eight members of his twenty man roster? The delinquent group, which had been forced to cram into a single car after one of the vehicles broke down, finally relied in five minutes before the scheduled departure time.

Despite difficulties in getting the team together, everything seemed to fall in place once the team arrived in Homestead. The four team Christian College Tournament opened with the Defenders showing no signs of early season nerves, with a two-run sweep of Grand Rapids Baptist College, winning 13-3 and 14-4. Senior Troy Vander Molen not only got the win in the opening game with five innings of shut out ball, but also had two doubles and 3 RBIs. Dordt found its four-man in the pitching rotation, as Chad Piekema pitched the second game and picked up a win in his first college start.

Dordt played another two-game set the following day, this time splitting with Ouachita Baptist. A two-run triple from Heath Cootenfield in the bottom of the sixth inning broke a 1-1 tie and gave Dordt the winning run. Jeff Schouten pitched the complete game, giving up one unearned run on three hits and one error. Dordt could only manage two hits in the second game, as they fell 9-1.

The final round in the preliminary portion of the tournament saw the Defenders go extra innings in both games of a double header against Kutztown (see BASEBALL, p.12)
Getting the lowdown on the high rise

by Shawn Abbas

SOUTHVIEW IS SINKING! SOUTHVIEW IS SINKING! No, the new Southview apartment building is NOT sinking. However, that has been one of the rumors floating around campus about the new student apartment. The project foreman, Arnold Kelderman said that being asked about the rumor by a Diamond reporter on Friday was “the first time [he] had heard that rumor.”

President Life Director, Curtis Taylor, when approached about the rumor said, “I had not heard anything about it.”

The rumor which apparently started with the girlfriend of one of the men on the construction crew, was that since the foundations had been laid for Southview Apartments, the building would sink into the ground approximately two inches.

Another rumor about the Southview Apartments about which Kelderman offered assurances is that all the rooms will be cable-ready. Thus, students will be able to bring in their own televisions, plug them in, and have cable TV right in their room.

Kelderman also confirmed that the new apartments should be ready for occupancy by September 1st barring any unforeseen events.

The various rumors about Southview, whether true or untrue, have been exciting. Living there is probably going to be more so.

BASEBALL: District play

Molen pitched the entire game, including the eighth inning, limiting Kutztown State to just two runs. Dordt only managed one run of its own, however, and took its second loss of the tournament. They rebounded in the second game, though, as Mike De Jong went three for four and drove in the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth. Chad Fiekena solidified his spot in the starting rotation by going 6 2/3 innings and giving up only three runs. He gave way to Jason Nikkel, who pitched the final 1 1/3 innings for the win.

The preliminary round ended with a three-way tie for the top seed between Dordt, Kutztown State, and Ouachita Baptist, who all sported 4-2 tournament records. The tie-breaking draw saw Ouachita Baptist winning the first seed, Kutztown State at number two, and Dordt in three. This meant a third meeting with Kutztown State, and a tired Defender team couldn’t avoid early defensive problems and couldn’t manage a hit, as they were shut out in what Coach Visker sighted as their only poorly played game, 13-0. Kutztown State went on to win the championship. Dordt did rebound to win the consolation game, walking over Grand Rapids Baptist 12-0. Dave Heynen accounted for three of Dordt’s nine hits, including a triple, and helped bring the team out of an offensive slump.

The Defenders finished the tournament in third place with a 5-3 record (5-5 overall). Coach Visker was very pleased with the performance, sighting that pitching and defense kept the team in almost ever game. A fourth starter was found in Chad Fiekena, and the bull pen worked some quality innings. The solid start gives the Defenders a definite base for a winning season, as they have had to battle back from below .500 ball in the past two spring trips.

District Play

With the spring trip behind them, the Defenders geared up to begin the “real” season. On March 31, they travelled to Huron, Nebraska, to play their first District 15 game. All games that had been played prior to this date were non-district games and would not count for post season play. Only games against District 15 opponents count toward the post season. In the first game, Dordt was down 5-4 after the second inning before Troy Vander Molen settled down to hold Huron to one run in the final five innings. The offense gave Vander Molen plenty of support, as they scored eight in the final five innings for a 12-6 victory. Rob Faber, Mike De Jong, and Vander Molen all went two for three. Jeff Schouten had a three-run double, and De Jong and Tim Roetman both hit home runs, as Dordt got twelve hits. The second game was much tighter, with Dordt holding on against a Huron five-run seventh inning for a 7-5 win. Chad Fiekena picked up the win, and Brian Altena got the save.

Dordt finally return to Sioux Center on April 2, and they treated the semi-frozen home crowd to a sweep of Dakota Wesleyan. The first game was close throughout, as neither team could muster a run in the first six innings. Dordt missed several opportunities, and they stranded thirteen runners. The game was a scoreless tie in the bottom of the seventh, as Mike De Jong reached on a walk. He was sacrificed to second on a Tim Roetman bunt, and moved to third on a wild pitch. The pitcher then uncorked another wild pitch, and De Jong uprooted the pitcher to score, as it seemed that the pitcher was sitting on the plate. Jeff Schouten posted a complete game shut out, allowing only thirteen hits. The final game of the twin bill saw the fifth complete game from a Dordt pitcher, as Heath Oostenink earned his way to a 7-1 win. Vander Molen and Roetman both went two for three to pace the Defender offense.

Pastors convene for lectures

by Rob Byker

To be Christian Reformed today is different than it was when Louis Berkhof wrote his theology. That world is gone. We live in modernity and it seems in everywhere...into the Sanctify them folds of our brains and the center of our souls. We are back in Canaan, paganism is rampant.

This was the bleak picture Dr. Joel Nederhood painted for Christian Reformed pastors and church members who trudged through snow, hail and ice to hear him give the keynote address of the Spring Pastors conference held at Dordt’s chapel Monday night, April 4.

Although it was blustery outside, for pastors who came from as far away as Omaha, NE and Winnipeg, Manitoba, each one heard a message inside that pointed to a steady, firm reality in the midst of life’s storm: the Bible.

As President Hulst announced before church leaders earlier that night, the stance of the conference would be planted around the Word of God. His hope was that pastors would join their hands and heads “Together Around the World” s they searched for wisdom and clarity to the turbulent issues that rock the CRC today. Certainly, such stance was needed to address the self-gratification of a sex-saturated culture, the laughter and disdain of fundamentalistic religion and the explosion of an information supermarket.

Overall, the conference and its stance of togetherness really pleased President Hulst and many of the pastors who attended this year. Hulst found Dr. Nederhood’s “focus on the Word for the purpose of obedience,” as a helpful reminder for all those involved in the supercharged issues that face our denomination.

Dr. Joel Nederhood gave the keynote address for the conference.

The evolutionistic world view, the self-gratification of a sex-saturated culture, the laughter and disdain of fundamentalistic religion and the explosion of an information supermarket.

We live in modernity and it seems in everywhere...into the Sanctify them folds of our brains and the center of our souls. We are back in Canaan, paganism is rampant. That world is gone.

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