Games' With Dordt Twist Is Homecoming Theme

Larry Van Den Berg tests his knowledge of Dordt Trivia last Friday in a crowded Student Union Building. The "Dordt Game" table is part of the homecoming celebration this week. Photo by Paul Vande Kamp

Forum Mulls Walking Lane, Open House

by Galen Sinkey

Student Forum has been busy this semester working on goals that were set last semester. In September all Forum members turned in five "goals"--things they would like to see Forum accomplish throughout the year. Each of these goals is discussed extensively at Forum meetings, then assigned to a member who brings this goal to the appropriate faculty-student committee. This is a very effective way for the student body to be involved in the decision making process at Dordt.

One goal being discussed is the possibility of creating a "walking lane" along 4th Street from Dordt to Hardee's. This would

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"Dordt College: one part of God's game plan for our lives." That is the theme of Homecoming '87, planned for the week of February 15-21.

Homecoming committee co-chair Julie Handlogeten, a junior at Dordt, explains, "We chose the theme to try to make the point that, although there will be a lot of variety among alumni who come back at Homecoming, Dordt is a common bond that alumni, students, and faculty members have."

Homecoming week's activities will center on a game theme. Daily displays in the Student Union Building will feature popular games given a "Dordt twist." For instance, on Tuesday, February 17, the game display was Dordt "Trivial Pursuit." Questions were about Dordt history and statistics.

Other plans include recruiting student and faculty teams for a softball tournament. Games will be played outdoors unless temperatures are too cold, but organizers are hoping for a little snow. An indoor putting tournament and a slam dunk contest will also take place.

In the big game of the week, the Defenders will take on Marycrest at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 21. Before the varsity game, the men's J.V. team will play an alumni team made up of former varsity players who have graduated in the last five years. That game will begin at 12 noon.

A number of musical activities are also planned. Homecoming week began with a concert of contemporary Christian music on Sunday evening. Pam Feenstra Rutter, a 1983 graduate of Dordt and a doctoral candidate in organ at the University of Iowa, will give an organ recital on Friday evening. Music students will present a series of mini-recitals in the chapel auditorium on Saturday morning.

Alumni and students will together enjoy a banquet in the Commons on Saturday evening. While they eat, they will be entertained by a clown, a barbershop quartet, and strolling musicians.

The final event of Homecoming is the Talent Extravaganza in the chapel auditorium on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Organizers expect an entertaining evening with a wide variety of skits, songs, and other presentations. The Talent Extravaganza will be followed by an ice cream social in the Student Union Building.

The Homecoming organizing committee hopes that these and other activities being planned for the week will attract a large number of alumni to the campus. They believe that the activities planned will have the added benefit of allowing alumni, students, and staff to enjoy Homecoming week together.

Quilt Will Star In Dordt Drama

by Angela Struyk

This week the Sioux County Quilters Guild met in the chapel mezzanine to piece together their two-year project—the quilt to be used and displayed in the spring production of "Quilters".

The quilt is 15 feet square, and was made from approximately 84 yards of fabric, explained Natalie Brummel, a guild member. Jo Alberda, a member of the guild, suggested that the group see a production of "Quilters." When Dordt obtained rights to produce the musical, the guild "was excited about it and decided to volunteer," said Brummel of the guild's decision to make the quilt for the play.

The play deals with a woman's final legacy quilt, and each of sixteen scenes in the play are represented by a quilt square. At the end of the play the quilt is displayed—the actual quilt the guild has been working on.

The guild has been in existence for nearly four years, and membership numbers 25. "We meet mostly for educational purposes, to learn more about quilts," explained Brummel. The guild also gives money to public libraries for up-to-date books about quilting. The guild displays different quilts at regional fairs and festivals. President of the guild is Ruth Terpstra of Rock Valley.

County Quilting Guild ladies stitch the main prop for a production of "Quilters." Photo by Rick Faber
Savor It Now... We'll Be Strangers Soon Enough

I went to my high school homecoming two weeks ago. It has been three years since I slouched in those graffitiscratched desks, changed books into lockers, and complained about cafeteria food. This time I returned with my mother to watch my younger sister’s drill team routine. I wouldn’t have been caught dead seen with my mother at a basketball game three years ago.

As I walked through the brightly decorated halls, I viewed the excited high school students as kids. I felt like a stranger—an old alumnus returning to half-heartedly haunt the halls. And I only graduated in 1984. I enjoyed poking around the old rooms and finding familiar hang-outs. But without the faces of my friends, I did not feel at home.

This week Dordt invites its alumni to return to their former home. It may be depressing for a few who do not feel at home anymore and who don’t recognize or know their old friends anymore. In fact, the campus has probably transformed so much that many may need maps to find where the special events are occurring.

Although changes may make Dordt less homelike to many alumni, it must also be encouraging for them to see how much the college has actually grown.

Obviously the physical makeup of our campus has changed drastically over the past ten years. Major additions have been the chapel/music building, a new science building addition, a computer center, and two farms. The landscape has changed dramatically as well. Flower gardens, shrubbery, and trees replace what was in the recent past just grass with remnant alfalfa clumps sprouting sporadically.

New teachers, a new president, additional departments, hoards of available computer terminals, and changes in student living arrangements, are some of the internal changes which have taken place.

Although enrollment has peaked and is now slowly decreasing, every year a surprising number of students in a great variety of fields decide to make their short term home here in Iowa.

For those of us who currently attend Dordt, we may not always find the college to be an attractive or beneficial place. Once students become second semester juniors, they generally become anxious to scrape the Iowa soil off of their shoes, and leave this place forever.

But without making this sound too much like public relations, we should be able to see that Dordt is really (to coin a once popular high school expression) a “decent” place. The article written by Alicia Nugteren in the last issue of the Diamond proved that graduates of Dordt are well equipped to face the working world. As the slew of engagements this year proves, Dordt must also be the ideal place to find a young man or woman with like backgrounds, and similar beliefs.

The semester is almost over, and spring break is only three and a half weeks away. This is the perfect time to enjoy the friendships, Dordt opportunities, and even the Iowa weather. Before we realize, we may be strangers in a once pleasantly familiar home.

Campus Footprints with Josh Vanlaan

This past week I watched the saddest film I’ve ever seen. It portrayed a tragedy. Ironically there were no murders, no disasters, no deaths. The film, advertised as a story about an evangelist, in reality is a story about the decaying relationship of a man with his God. The sad thing about this film is that it is a true story. The film I’m talking about is “Marjoe,” a film to be shown at Dordt this weekend.

If you see “Marjoe” in the wrong frame of mind, you may easily be turned off. To appreciate “Marjoe” you have to question yourself. Dordt College has a predominantly CRC student body. Too often we don’t test our beliefs or understand the beliefs of others. “Marjoe” will test you.

Perhaps the biggest question you will have to ask if you see “Marjoe” is “What does it mean to be a Christian?” Does the fact that many Dordt students have probably come from Christian homes, went to church all their lives, have gone to Christian schools, earned merit badges in Cadets or Calvinettes—does all of this make students Christian? “Marjoe” deals with a situation similar to that of some Dordt students. Marjoe, the main character, seems to have been engulfed in God’s light all his life, but is still spiritually blind.

Attending Marjoe’s church services is quite a different experience than going to a Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Center. If you pay attention you will realize how much tradition has shaped our church services. The extreme differences in worship services should cause the viewer to ask himself questions such as these: What is a preacher? What are the responsibilities of a preacher? What is worship? Can music with a rock beat be used for worship in churches? Are speaking in tongues and faith healing obsolete?

“Marjoe” may be viewed as an attempt to stereotype Pentecostal preachers, charismatic preachers, and TV preachers all as con artists. I still recommend you see this film. “Marjoe” should help Christians realize how tradition has shaped their worship and help point them in a direction in which they can recognize false Christianity.

As Christians we need to know how to test the spirits—even if it means testing our roommates. The movie may seem humorous because the people in it are very real, sometimes unattractive, and gullable. The movie is a true story.

‘Marjoe’ Probes When you see “Marjoe” don’t laugh, cry. And then pray for Marjoe.

Diamond

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

Dordt College
Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

The Diamond reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

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Thursday, February 19, 1987
Letters to the Editor

February’s Most Improved

After seeing your last issue, I nominate the Diamond for "Most Improved Newspaper of February, 1987." From the cross which appeared right-side-up in your logo to Mr. Ten Pas's toothy front-page profile to the feisty editorial to the incisive review of Witness by Mr. Brayer, the paper seemed up in all respects. I hope other students will know a good thing when they see it and be encouraged to contribute. If we were to have a tradition of excellence, this is how it would have to begin.

Sincerely,
Randall VanderMey
Assistant Professor of English

Heidelburg Catechism
Question: What is required in the third commandment?

"That we must not by cursing, or by false swearing, nor yet by any appearance of cursing, profane or abuse the name of God; nor even by our silence be partakers of these horrible sins in others; and in sum, that we use the Holy Name of God in no other way than with fear and reverence, so that He may be rightly confessed and worshipped by us, and glorified in all our words and works."

This catechism question has been constantly on my mind since I began attending Dordt last fall. My decision in coming to Dordt was based on the idea of a Christian education with Christian fellowship. However, I find it very hard to fellowship with people that swear and take the Lord's name in vain.

In Lev. 24:15-16, we see that God commanded such a man as cursing to be punished with death. It offends me how we can attend a Christian institution and claim to be Christians when we commit such a grievous sin as this.

The Heidelburg Catechism takes four questions to explain how vital the third commandment is. We should experience a burning in our ears when we hear the Lord's name being taken in vain or a swear word being spoken, but most often all we hear is the laughter of agreement.

Don't misunderstand me, we are all guilty of sinful thoughts, but not all of us speak these words. I therefore would like to challenge all Dordt students and faculty to wipe Dordt clean of this blasphemy and to live as Christians in all our words and deeds and thoughts.

Put above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath; but let your yes be yes; and your no be no; lest you fall into condemnation. - James 5:12

Name withheld upon request

Opinion

Busyness Crowds Compassion

by Bob Vander Hart

"Hey, have you got a minute?"

How often do we hear that line? How often do we use it? It seems as though nearly every minute of the day is taken, doesn't it? College students and faculty are busy people, and rightly so. We should be busy. This time of our lives passes quickly.

But along with the busyness we often need someone to talk to, someone to just sit and listen to us. At those times, how easy is it to find someone? How often does this happen? You meet a friend on campus. You're feeling a little down about something and need to talk to someone about it.

Maybe you had a fight with your boyfriend/girlfriend. Maybe you're a senior and you just got a rejection letter for a job you really wanted. You greet your friend, "Hi, how are you?" Your friend answers, "Hi. Oh, I'm so busy! Reluctantly you ask, "Have you got a minute?"

"Well, I've got a class now and then I have to go to the library." The best you can do is make small talk for a minute or two.

Later, you find another friend who is willing to sit down and talk, but he/she hasn't "got a lot of time." So instead of getting open ears and a closed mouth, you get your ears filled with advice and "wisdom." In short, your "friend" tries to solve your problem for you. You decide it's useless, so all you can say is, "Well, I'd better let you go," and the reply is, "Yeah, I should get going."

Does this happen at Dordt? It inevitably does. Remember, we should be busy. But is there a point at which we could be too busy? You might be saying, "But the profs pile on too much work!" Whether that is true or not, I am convinced that we can actually make ourselves too busy. It's easy to get so caught up in studying and striving, goal-setting and goal-attaining, that we get ourselves too busy.

This is a paradox:

We should be busy but we shouldn't be too busy. So what's the answer? We have no answers, but we have a lot of questions. Has the business of working in God's creation so driven us that we have forgotten such Christ-like qualities as patience, compassion, and the ability (or desire) to bear one another's burdens? Are we more willing to talk at and about others than with them and to them? Are we willing to put love into action right here on Dordt's campus? If not, then are we really preparing ourselves to be effective tools in God's Kingdom?

Glass Fiber May Replace Wire at Dordt

Says telecommunications task force

by Chuck Adams

As the revolution in telecommunications continues, Dordt College is looking for ways to join in. A task force of faculty and staff, set up by President J.B. Bulst, has begun to investigate expansion possibilities in computer and video communication. One reason for the task force is the fact that the computer system at Dordt runs on a confusing array of telephone wires.

According to Vice President for Business Bernard De Wit, the Sioux Center phone system is being taxed because of the enormous amount of telephone cable used. To alleviate this problem, the task force is looking into the possibility of using fiber optics, a new glass fiber technology, to connect the terminals of the computer system. Willis Alberda, Dean of Natural Sciences, says that a fiber optics system could "increase the system's capacity by a factor of almost infinity."

He says the system would allow for terminals to be placed in buildings farther from the computer center. Although investigation of the fiber optics system is not complete, implementation of the plan could start in a year, says Alberda. Looking ahead, Alberda dreams of a terminal in every dorm room hooked up for data and video information.

Another possibility that the committee is examining is the use of KDCR's old satellite dish. When KDCR switched from the UPI network to CNN Radio News, the station purchased a new satellite dish. The dish has not been sold, so it could someday be mounted on the classroom building for the use of video material, such as lectures from other colleges, says De Wit.

Dordt's use of cable TV is also being examined. Although cable TV has been a controversial issue in the past, the committee will discuss the possibility of using this medium. A cable TV system that would serve as the center for telecommunications is part of the discussion.

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Thursday, February 19, 1987
Teachers Find Their Students 'Real People'

by Alicia Nugteren

Most student teachers agree with Karl Kaemingk and Scott Vander Maten that teaching is "a lot of work." Yet, like Sandra De Jager, they also think "it's great." These three, along with 82 other senior education majors, have completed half of their long-awaited 9-week practicum.

Kaemingk, who is teaching Algebra I and II, Senior Math, Bible I and Senior Bible at Unity Christian High in Orange City, commented that student teaching is really the second half of his education. Now he can finally apply what he has learned in his classes, and can think of students as "real people" rather than abstractly. He confessed that he expected his students to be intimidating, but has discovered them to be helpful. "They want me to succeed as much as I want to succeed," he stated. This experience has been rewarding for Kaemingk; as he noted, "I feel good at the end of a day." Of course, there are the disadvantages to student teaching, said Kaemingk. "It's like living two different lives," he said referring to his responsibilities at Dordt as well as the teaching duties.

Vander Maten is teaching 5th grade at the Sioux Center Christian Grade School. He noted that he is becoming aware of things that one can learn only by teaching. In addition, he observed that there is much "management" needed in the classroom. "Sometimes you have to make sure [the students] are on the right page, or stop and explain something they don't understand," he said. He found that teaching also needs to be more individualized. He noted that although a lesson plan is a good outline, a teacher must strive to "meet each specific need."

Helping out in the first grade at Hull Christian is Sandra De Jager. She said she can tell "no horror stories" about student teaching. "I can be myself, and the kids like it," she stated. In fact, "they give me little notes and treat me as a regular teacher." Student teaching supervisor Dr. Marian Vander Ark indicated that by this time each of the student teachers have nearly taken over the entire teaching responsibility, although some are in more of a team-teaching situation with the regular teacher. She revealed that 35 to 40 Catholic, Christian, and public schools, including schools in Chicago, IL, Seattle, WA, and Oostburg, WI, are cooperating with the Dordt education program.

Supervisor Mrs. Andrea Struyk said that not every situation in which students are placed represents an "ideal" classroom. She pointed out that where there are discipline problems or children with learning disabilities, it is helpful for student teachers to see how an experienced teacher might handle the situation. De Jager noted that she appreciates the ideas she gets from her cooperating teacher, especially in the areas of discipline, getting the class's attention, and knowing what type of questions to ask the class.

Vander Ark said that these student teachers are participating in at least their second teaching experience as part of the Dordt teacher education program; a mini-teaching requirement is fulfilled when students are sophomores. However, revised Iowa teacher certification requirements specify that two early practicums be completed by elementary education majors. Struyk praised the idea that prospective teachers obtain "greater exposure" to the profession.

Having sampled the teaching profession, many Dordt education majors are eagerly writing letters of inquiry or even filling out applications for teaching positions, Vander Ark noted. Although Kaemingk confessed that he is apprehensive about his first year of teaching because of working with new textbooks and having to set up his own rules in the classroom, he looks forward to using his talents in his occupation. Vander Maten declared, "I want my own class." He is now certain that he wants to be a teacher.

Career Day Makes Professionals Available

by Melanie Ten Pas

"It is so important to be in touch with the professionals," says Quentin Van Essen, who has planned tomorrow's Career Day. Career Day is designed so college students, especially underclassmen, can speak to professionals about career goals and obtain career information. Nineteen of the 35 professionals scheduled to visit are Dordt graduates. Most of them are local people, but a few will come from South Dakota and Des Moines.

Friday is also campus visit day, so local high schoolers will be able to participate as well. Career Day is held every other year in September.

Professionals will be present to speak with students about the following careers:

- Agriculture/Animal Science
- Business/Banking/Management
- Communications/Radio/TV
- Computer Science
- Counseling
- Dentistry
- Elementary Education
- Engineering
- Environmental Studies
- Journalism
- Laboratory Technician
- Law
- Local Government
- Management Information Systems
- Medical Technology
- Military
- Missions
- Ministry
- Optometry
- Osteopathic Medicine
- Physical Therapy
- Podiatry
- Secondary Education
- Social Work
- Youth Pastor
- Veterinary Medicine

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Thursday, February 19, 1987
Children of Light Sing A Second Year

by Steve Mulder

Sunday night a concert to open Homecoming week was presented by the on-campus singing group, Children of Light. The concert in the chapel featured contemporary Christian music, with a theme of "Singing Praises to God's Greatness." The concert included titles such as "I Sing the Mighty Power of God," "Greater is He That is in Me," and "Sing to the Lord."

This is the second year that Children of Light has been in existence. Last year Children of Light gave a presentation of the contemporary Christian musical "And There Was Light." Although there are new members this year, the purpose of the group is the same. As the name "Children of Light" implies, the group hopes to encourage and challenge other believers to put their trust in Jesus Christ, the light.

Diane Plantinga, senior from Manitoba, Canada, is the originator of the group. She assumes the leadership and organizational tasks. She has discovered that it is difficult to plan rehearsals and prepare a concert with the busy schedules of many group members. Plantinga will graduate this spring, and the future of Children of Light is still unsure.

Although the Homecoming concert is over, Children of Light may still make a few appearances later this year. On February 27, the group will perform a concert in Budy, Minnesota.

The year's final Diamond announced the "First Formal Event of the School Year"—the Christmas party; freshman class president Jack Vanden Berg headed the food committee.

Ten years later, the Diamond had become firmly established as a mainstay in the Dordt diet. The headline of 1967's first issue announced "New Station to be KDCR." The FCC had granted a broadcasting license, and building on the station was soon to begin. Under the editorship of Jim Vanden Bosch, who later became a member of Dordt's English faculty, the Diamond carried stories on many pertinent issues. Ken Armstrong, former Viet Nam war correspondent, made the front page twice. His lectures on Viet Nam, sponsored by the student council, reportedly drew 600 attendants.

The year 1967 also witnessed the achievement of the library's goal of 25,000 volumes. Today this total has risen to 120,000 books.

Today's students have inherited much from the dedication of Dordt's alumni. We enjoy the chapel and its music facilities; KDCR continues to "proclaim a God-centered culture;" and the Diamond carries on its 30-year-long tradition of reflecting the facets of campus life.

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Thursday, February 19, 1987
Senior's Study Finds Wells Contaminated

by Julie Peterson

Iowa's reputation as a virtually pollution-free state is being challenged because of drinking water contamination.

Rob Ribbens, a senior environmental studies major, is researching the level of nitrates in area water wells. Contending that the problem is serious, Ribbens says, "over sixty percent of wells in northeast Sioux County exceed health standards by 45 ppm (parts per million).

Since last October Ribbens has been doing field work, testing nitrate contamination levels due largely to excessive use of fertilizers. In the 60's and 70's it was popular to use large amounts of fertilizers for better crop growth and production. The problem has arisen only recently because it has taken about ten years for nitrate saturation to reach the water table.

"Seventy percent of the crops in this area are row crops which do need nitrogen to be productive," says Ribbens. It is natural to have nitrogen in the soil, explained Ribbens, but not the high levels that exceed health standards. Farmers are not wholly responsible for the problem, he commented; consumers must take responsibility too, for they demand the highest productivity from producers. And in the 1960's chemical companies "brainwashed" producers into using large amounts of fertilizers, claimed Ribbens.

Ribbens said that there exists a myth that once a farm Hooked up to a rural water system, contamination is eliminated. But many farms have had their own wells for so many years that they are already contaminated. Hooking up to a system doesn't solve anything. Even though Sioux Center's water supply is at a safe level, other towns are not so fortunate. In recent years Hoeppers has had to shut down its well several times because of the high level of contamination.

Nitrate poisoning affects both people and livestock by reducing the oxygen-carrying capacity of their blood. Blue Baby Syndrome is a result of nitrate poisoning. It occurs mostly in infants, although there are a few reported cases in older people, especially those with respiratory problems. Dr. Jongewaard, of the Sioux Center Medical Clinic, has reported that five or six of these cases have appeared in the last seven to eight years. Nitrate poisoning also affects livestock. Area farmers are wary of using their well water in the farrowing house because of the sensitivity of sows.

Ribbens is conducting his study by visiting over 150 farms with independent wells in a "watershed," a system of tributaries running into a river. Ribbens has been examining the headwaters of the West Branch of the Floyd River in particular, although he has also performed tests in six other watersheds.

"IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY NOT TO DEGRADE WHAT GOD HAS CREATED."

Ribbens is excited that his work may pay off both locally and nationally. His pollution evidence will be used in a proposal to be presented to a Senate sub-committee by the Association for Public Justice in four weeks. When APJ discovered that Ribbens was working on this project, they invited him to submit evidence and to act as a consultant on their ground water pollution task force.

What is the solution? Ribbens says the answer lies not in trying to control the problem by distillation or other expensive methods. He believes long term goals should be established to build water safety awareness in both adults and children. It will take another ten to twenty years to get the excessive nitrates out of the water system, says Ribbens. "Realistic fertilizer goals should be set," he said, and the sooner the better. Farmers can make a profit using smaller amounts of fertilizer. "It's our responsibility not to degrade what God has created."

Iowa is one of the first states to actively pursue the establishment of water rules. The state hopes to set a precedent for other states, promoting health drinking water once again.

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Alberda says, however, that work on video production can proceed at Dordt without use of a studio. Technology now exists that allows for good productions without a studio.

Dordt productions could be used on local access cable TV, or he made into video tapes for use by various parts of the Dordt community. Alberda believes the admissions and advancement offices could especially benefit from video technology.

Plans for the future may even include the possibility of sending programs to a satellite for use by others. However, a link-up like this is very expensive, and would not come for many years. No date has been set for completion of the investigation. DeWit is quick to point out, however, that the task force is still in the investigative phase.

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Thursday, February 19, 1987
A Rich Book In An Age Of Hunger

by David Van Heemst


Summary: This book has been dedicated to Ron Sider and rich Christians in the Western World. In this book, Sider attempts to bring rich Christians to an understanding of what it means to be poor and what our commitment as rich Christians is to our poor brothers and sisters who are daily dying of starvation.

Sider has three basic elements to his book. In the first part, he makes a look at the present day world and provides many facts about the poor. In the second part of the book, Sider provides a biblical perspective upon the poor and upon possessions. In this section, the main thesis is that God has a special concern for the poor and that we as wealthy Christians ought to have a carefree attitude towards possessions. In the third part, Sider provides ways in which we as rich Christians can implement these biblical principles into our lives, by means of a simpler lifestyle as well as loving one another and seeking structural change.

Evaluation: I have a very deep and profound respect for Mr. Sider in his writing of this book. This is not an easy subject to address. Indeed, Ronald Sider has a burden for the poor and he is not afraid of letting the public know what the Lord has placed on his heart. For that, I deeply respect him.

There is certainly a great need for a book such as this to be published. There is a great deal of validity and credibility to what Sider says. His basic analysis of Western Christianity is correct. Many Westernized Christians are essentially selfish. We have many possessions and we do not want to give them up. Many of us do not nor cannot understand what it means to be truly poor. Sider clearly points this out as he shows the degree of our selfishness (we are the richest country in the world yet our percentage of development assistance in relation to the GNP is very low).

He rightly shows the ludicrousness of saying that we are on the verge of poverty when we take $15,000 a year. Indeed, when there are people in the third world who are living in tin huts and never even dream of owning a car since they know this could never happen, it is just sheer ludicrousness for us to say that we are on the verge of poverty if we have only one car in the garage.

A particularly disturbing yet provocative section of this book deals with the rationalization of North American Christians to their riches. Indeed, it becomes awfully easy to rationalize our wealth yet we must be constantly seeking out the truths of scripture in terms of what it says about the poor.

Sider is particularly insightful with his analysis of the Bible has to say about property and wealth. Sider says that as Christians ought not be concerned with our possessions nor their accumulation since we know and believe that true joy and peace with the Savior does not come with the acquiring of things but rather in placing total and complete faith and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of one's life. Indeed, as Sider points out, the lilies of the field neither spin nor weave yet Solomon in all his splendor was never adorned as one of them. (Luke 12:22-31).

I strongly believe that the statement by which Sider is calling us is biblical. It is not radical, merely Christian. Indeed, how would Jesus be living today if He were here on earth? We are called not only to personal stewardship but also to aid and have compassion on our poor brothers and sisters worldwide.

However, this book is not without flaw. I strongly disagree with Sider's analysis of Old Testament civil laws. Sider believes that these laws apply to today and therefore ought to be implemented. However, this analysis is shaky. Surely, not only were many of these laws cultural but many were fulfilled by Jesus Christ when He said, "You say an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, but I say to you, vengeance is mine." Therefore, many of these laws that Sider quotes such as the year of Jubilee, the Sabbatical year, the Mosaic economic laws do not apply to today.

Finally, there are two points brought out by David Chilton in his book Productive Christians in an Age of Guilt Manipulators which I agree with. First, Sider does stoop to some guilt manipulative actions. Secondly, if our possessions are so unimportant, why does he write a whole book on redistributing these possessions? Finally, his ideas of redistribution are clearly unbiblical as the Bible never allows for stealing even if the means of acquiring the wealth are unjust.

Marjoe: Devastating Documentary

by Angela Struyk

"Marjoe" is a devastating documentary about a minister of the Old Time Faith Church and it may make the viewers so angry they will want to walk out of the theatre.

Marjoe Gortner (the name Marjoe is a combination of the names Mary and Joseph) was ordained as a minister at the vulnerable age of four. The movie shows clips of this young preacher actually performing a wedding ceremony in the entire form by heart, at the age of four. Other clips show him finger-jabbing, and singing sweetly, while preaching fire-and-brimstone sermons. According to the film, when Marjoe preached, his parents cued him from the audience with exultant exclamations. For example,

"Praise God" signalled that it was time to take a collection.

This film, made just before Marjoe decided to retire from evangelism, was his final film at making a buck. For the same reason he went back into preaching after a four year break. "If you want to get into big time religion, then the means that you've got to take," says Marjoe, who supported his parents from the time he was four until he started to preach.

The viewer is brought to several of Marjoe's revivals where people are led by him to praise God, be healed, and give their money to a "worthy" cause.

Behind the revival tents and the backs of the Southerners drawn to hear Marjoe, he says, "I can't think of a time that I ever believed in God or thought it was a miracle of God that I preached." He says at another point, "I think religion is a drug. Can God deliver a religion addict?" and laughs. Later the camera shows Marjoe gleefully counting his money, joking about his coming techniques to his hippie friends, and rolling in a waterbed proclaiming, "Glory to Jesus!"

"Perhaps because the film is a documentary, and the idea of religious undercurrents, there may not be a large turnout to see Marjoe." But for anyone who is interested in communication, charismatic Christianity, or southern black music, this story of a disillusioned but gifted man will certainly hold your interest. See the editorial on page two for other reasons to view the movie.

This film was an inspiration to Dr. James Schaap. Schaap saw the movie when it was first released in the early 1970's, and was inspired by it to write the musical "Maggie's Song," performed at Dordt five years ago. Schaap's reaction to the film was, "What would it take to get a guy like Marjoe back into the church—not back to religion, but faith?" Schaap's play is about a young man from her father, a travelling preacher, and is eventually reunited with him.

Schaap will be leading an AfterImage following 6,30 showing of "Marjoe."
Rhoda: 'Good Feelings' About Lady D's Season

by Marg Scholman

Dr. Len Rhoda, the coach of the Lady Defenders, is a 1962 Calvin graduate. By 1968 he had obtained his master's degree from Michigan State University and his Doctorate of Education from Brigham Young University. Before coming to Dordt in 1970 he taught for five years in California and two years in St. Louis.

Rhoda has been coaching the Lady Defenders for eight years. He says that he has good feelings about this season. The team struggled before Christmas with a record of 2-7, but after winning the Northwestern tournament over Christmas, the Lady Defenders have improved much as a team.

During the fast break and greatly pressuring the opposing team are two of the strategies Rhoda likes to use. He feels that he has a strong bench this year, more so than in other years. He likes to see a balance in scoring between the starters and those coming off the bench.

To Rhoda, coaching has many enjoyable benefits. Watching development in individual players, seeing team improvement, getting to know the athletes, and watching their Christian commitment displayed in the way they play, are some of these benefits. He also enjoys deciding which plays are the most advantageous and struggling to correct bad plays.

Rhoda believes that the problems a coach faces are similar to those an athlete faces. He has discovered that sometimes it is difficult for him to plan ahead and be properly prepared for classes, just as some athletes have discovered.

The Lady Defenders play their last game of the season at 7:00 tonight against Mt. Marty in our gym.

Forum Will Publish Newsletter

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consist of a painted line along the side of the street so motorists would leave room for pedestrians. This would be considerably less costly than to lay a sidewalk.

Other issues under discussion are Sunday open house hours, longer computer center hours, noise in the library, mid-semester professor evaluations, and increasing the publicity of Student Forum activities and accomplishments.

During first week in March, Student Forum will publish a newsletter. This newsletter will include all student forum achievements throughout the year, as well as reports from committees that are represented by Forum members. Student Forum strongly encourages the student body to talk to their representatives on Forum about issues on campus.

Lady Defenders Bow To Peru

Nudge Northwestern

by Marg Scholman

This past Saturday the Lady Defenders travelled to Nebraska to take on Peru State in a non-conference game. The Lady Defenders fell behind by 13 points but climbed back to within four points, then lost by nine with a score of 70-61. Two players scored in double figures. Vonda Broek led Dordt in scoring with 26 points, and a strong bench performance by Janice Vander Zee also put her in double figures. She hit three baskets from the three point zone, and ended with 11 points. Dordt shot 45 percent from the field while Peru State shot 45 percent.

The Lady Defenders were disabled in offensive rebounding, with Peru State out-rebounding them 17 to 8.

On Tuesday, February 10, the Lady Defenders travelled to Sioux City to take on the Briar Cliff Chargers in a conference game. Briar Cliff, ranked 16th or 17th in the nation, gave Dordt a tough battle, and eventually came victorious with a score of 92-72. The Lady Defenders had eight more turnovers than the Lady Chargers, but rebounding was nearly equal. Vonda Broek and Jacque Van Leeuwen led Dordt in scoring, both with over 20 points.

The Lady Defenders hosted the Lady Red Raiders from Northwestern on Saturday, February 7. This was the third time Dordt took on Northwestern this year. Dordt won the first two games, once in Orange City, and once at the Northwestern Tournament during the Christmas break. The third game was the closest of the three, with Dordt prevailing in over time, 80-78. Sue Doktor tied the score with eight seconds left, hitting both of her freethrows. Four of the Lady Defenders scored in double digits; Van Leeuwen led the scoring with 24 points. The team's record now stands at 9-14.

Thursday marks the final game of the season for the Lady Defenders, and will be the final game for five seniors—Broek, Van Leeuwen, Julie Broekhuis, Lisa Ruish, and team manager, Glenda Annema.