Library Noise Policy Draws Praise, Complaint

by Chuck Muether

After complaints from students and a proposal from the Student Forum last year, the library staff has implemented new rules to reduce the level of noise in the library. Approximately every ten to fifteen minutes, a librarian walks around quieting and settling down students. Students who refuse to cooperate are reported to the Dean of Students, Marion Van Soelen.

Asked what she thought of the problem, Reference-Librarian Louise Hulst said, "I've worked here since 1968 and we've tried everything. Our past philosophy has been to let the students determine the level of noise, since it is their library."

Hulst said that because of student complaints, the staff now has to exert more control.

The response of the students to the rules has been mixed. Chris Oberreuter, a senior, feels the new policy is "to our own benefit." Said Oberreuter, "This year is much quieter than last year. I am able to study a lot more."

Kris Van Zee, a junior, agrees. "Last year was really noisy," she said, "this year the library is usually quiet." Said Hank Greene, one of the many engineers that live in the library, "I love it!"

Other students disagreed. One freshman, who asked not to be identified, felt he was being "constantly harassed." Another student thought the lights were the main source of noise and that students were being treated as babies. Asked if this was true, Hulst said, "I never heard a complaint about the lights, and we try to treat each student as a mature adult." Hulst did say that some students have acted immaturely, running around and hiding behind carrels when she tried to quiet them.

"Ideally," Hulst said, "we would like to see more student responsibility and have them become examples to others." For now, the librarians say they will do all they can to control the noise.

Photo by Jim Vanden Heuvel

Dordt students visit each other in the library. The Dordt library's new policy decrees that students must be quiet.
A Lesson in the First Amendment

By Warren Rogers

In Washington, when you are a news reporter, everything that happens in the nation and the world, as well as under your nose, is regarded as hometown news. Oddly, the White House press pass and congressional credentials that impressed the devil out of you when you first got them can really turn out to be tickets to misapprehension. They should open the doors that make you a highly informed igniter, but they often have the effect of making you only more parochial. What we see and do in the nation's capital is not always what the rest of the country is experiencing. It may be a long way from the real world. If you don't get away from issues and positions and press conferences and words, words, words, and make contact with some real, flesh and blood people, you may know less about the news than we supposedly interpreting and analyzing than you think.

The responsibility of democracy

Democracy is a gift for all Americans, those who immigrated as our forefathers did and those native-born like most of us. But there is a flip side to democracy that we don't discuss enough. And that is our responsibility to preserve freedom. Voltaire proved right every day: "Eternal vigilance is the price of freedom." If we relax that vigilance too much and too long, somebody will take our freedom away, or buy it from us for a pitance.

I would like to discuss the responsibilities we all have to preserve undiminished the rights we enjoy under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. I will dwell only briefly on the individual responsibility that freedom brings to all who enjoy its fruits, especially the lucky few who regard themselves as educated. These people bear a special burden of being open to the needs of those who are less enlightened and less fortunate. And that is not enough, of course, because they also must have the guts to do something about it, tempered by the wisdom and prudence to make sure that what they do is effective and not just a scintillating burst of firecrackers that quickly disappears in the sky.

All you have to do is look at today's headlines to know that the freedoms we take for granted in America are denied the vast majority of the people of the rest of the world. In general, the idea of a government truly founded on the consent of the governed is perceived as unworkable nonsense. A Hitler, a Stalin, a Castro, or a Boba is lurking almost anywhere, ready with a siren song and plans for creating the armed forces and the terror machines to impose a high-sounding but hollow doctrine.

A citizen who ignores the dangers, at home and abroad, does so at his and his nation's peril. We see demagogues everywhere, and it is an accident that the cutting edge of their attacks almost always aims at silencing the news media, or at least muffling them. Some of the first cutbacks under Gramm-Rudman Hollings, for example, were ordered in public-information offices throughout the government.

People love to hear the truth, but only about others, never about themselves. It takes a special brand of courage, and a certain amount of recklessness, to step up and fah away on behalf of the truth.

The watchdog press

Our Founding Fathers, those mostly young men of special genius—the average age of delegates at the Constitutional Convention in 1789 was 42—had a pretty good sense of the situation. We know there was a running battle over whether to include the press in the protective shield of the First Amendment. Good sense prevailed only when the choice was presented as the lesser of two evils. It was James Madison who carried the day with his repeated observation that, however "noxious" some of the press of that day were, the good outweighed the bad. Madison, like Thomas Jefferson, prized a free and critical press on a par with government. As he expressed it:

"A wide latitude for political criticism is indispensable to keep the electorate free, informed, and capable of making intelligent choices."

Decisions by more efficient than democracies because they don't have to worry about an inquiring pack of reporters. Yet, precisely because they are excused from accountability, they make monumental mistakes when things do go wrong.

Alan Barth of the Washington Post once wrote, "A free press is the watchdog of a free society. And only a press free enough to be somewhat irresponsible can possibly fulfill this vital function."

Not just events and issues

We do lose sight sometimes that it is people, real flesh and blood, caught up in the events and issues. This is true of us as individual citizens, as members of our craft, and as a nation. The mathematical equations, missions, and goals of our foreign policy, for example, tell only part of the story. No matter what road our national destiny takes—whether we succeed or fail in Central America, whether we do the right thing about South Africa, whether we were smart or foolish to fight in Vietnam—the one remaining constant is people. Our bureaucrats, and even those of us who report on them, sometimes forget that.

Warren Rogers has been a journalist and author for more than 30 years. He has written for Look and the New York Herald-Tribune and is currently the editor of the White House Weekly.

Letter to the Editor

In response to "Use of Alcohol at Dordt . . .", October 25, 1986 Diamond.

The comments I have to make deal with the "direct quote" of my definition of alcoholism. In some ways I am writing to the Diamond staff in particular, but also as a reminder to all of us in general.

When we attribute something as a direct quote we should make sure that what we say is accurate. That is what the person actually said, not our own "paraphrased" version of it.

A second guideline to follow in the use of quotes is to use them in the context they were given in.

I became angry when I read the last sentence I was "quoted" as saying. I did not say alcoholism is a matter of self control. This statement denies that alcoholism is a disease. What I did say was that alcoholism is a matter of loss of control. Self control of "will power" no longer applies to the alcoholic's use/abuse of alcohol. The alcoholic has lost the ability to choose to consistently drink socially. By this I mean that at times the alcoholic may be able to drink socially, but quite often when the alcoholic drinks she/he will use alcohol without intending to or choosing to. This loss of (self) control is one of the important factors in distinguishing the disease, alcoholism, from willful alcohol abuse.

Name withheld upon request.
As a conservative thinking person I am continually appalled at the lack of objectivity and fairness displayed by reporters in the U.S. It seems that the newsmedia has one thing in mind in our country, that is the radical reform of our country and political system through the use of deception, bias, and outright lies.

A case in point. I have never read or heard of an anti-abortion group in our country. However, pro-life groups are constantly referred to as anti-abortionist, anti-women's rights, and practically anti-American. Why doesn't the newsmedia call the pro-abortion groups anti-life, anti-American, or better yet pro-murder. The point is, that by using what may seem like an innocent prefix, "anti-", the media in general has associated the pro-life movement with some very negative connotations.

After President Reagan returned from the summit in Iceland, Americans were bombarded by headlines such as: "COLLAPSED SUMMIT IN ICELAND", or "REAGAN FAILS IN ICELAND". First off, this is just plain negative reporting. Furthermore, these headlines made it sound as if the President had given away the Louisiana Purchase at the summit. I, for one, viewed this as one of the finest hours of the Regan presidency. Not only did he get the Soviet Union to the bargaining table, but they also came up with what sound like some practical proposals. Whether they will stick to these is the subject of another article. Finally, neither leader went to Iceland to sign agreements. They went to find out if there was any common ground between the two countries. In this they succeeded admirably.

My final bone of contention is of course the shoddy reporting going on in South Africa. How can we in America presume to stick our self-righteous noses into the internal affairs of South Africa, while ignoring problems much closer to home and of much more pressing interest to our nation. We point our fingers at the repression of blacks in South Africa while ignoring the repression of millions of our own citizens. Children have been repressed to the extent that they have been denied the right to life. Meanwhile, our press continues to give us only a small part of the story. The press chooses to look the other way at the tremendous violence perpetrated by the radical blacks against the rest of the black population. This violence includes the bombing and murder of many black citizens. One of the favorite methods of these terrorists is "necklacing". The victims of these necklacing parties have a tire placed around their neck, they are then doused with gasoline and burnt alive. While this goes on the "comrades" of the rebellion dance around the victim sometimes even eating chunks of his flesh. People murdered in this fashion are guilty of such heinous crimes as going to school, being a township official, or disobeying a stay-away (boycott) order. Of course we see none of this reported in our newspapers or on the evening news. This is just a symptom of a larger problem: They don't want us to know what is really going on in South Africa. The media doesn't want us to find out that most of the blacks would like a peaceful solution to the problem. We aren't to know that the recent relaxations of the regime of Apartheid are definite positive steps, and not token measures as we are led to believe.

We are being led down the path of radical social change in this country and around the world by a small minority of our population. Christians stand to lose the most from this movement. This is because the very freedoms, norms, and values that we cherish the most are constantly the ones under attack. Therefore, we must be constantly testing the news that we see and hear, because believing a lie is worse than telling one. In closing I would remind Christians of the words of our Lord, "If the blind lead the blind both shall fall into the ditch."
A Day in Amsterdam

by Jeff Burghgraef

This article is PART I of a two part series examining what it is like to go on one of Dordt's foreign studies programs. In PART I we examine the Netherlands studies program. PART II will examine the Mexico studies program. In the following article, dialogue has been inserted to approximate what was said. All incidents recorded are factual but did not all occur on the same day.

Friday, November 7, 1986

A Day in Amsterdam

daily experiences while in the Netherlands were different than what they were accustomed to:

by Jeff Burghgraef

This article is PART I of a two part series examining what it is like to go on one of Dordt's foreign studies programs. In PART I we examine the Netherlands studies program. PART II will examine the Mexico studies program. In the following article, dialogue has been inserted to approximate what was said. All incidents recorded are factual but did not all occur on the same day.

Tony and Rich head for a bus depot a block away. On the way they pass peddlers, drug dealers, cops, and several street entertainers. The variety of talent and salesmen has made Central Station into "Amsterdam's giant yard sale.")

The two board a nearby accordion bus, they punch their own tickets. The fine for not doing so is 25 guilders, approximately $8.

The bus stops. They step off only a block away from their destination, the Free University of Amsterdam.

"Tony, what time is it?" asks Rich.

"It's 1:57," replies Tony.

2:00 - The two wait for the elevator to bring them to Dutch Art and Architecture class.

It was hard getting used to the hour trip to school. The luxury at Dordt of setting the alarm clock at 7:55 for an 8:00 class was gone. Like all Dordt students on the program, Tony and Rich stayed in a Dutch family's house for three weeks until they were moved to college housing. For this reason, it was necessary to allow a bit more time to get to class.

The classes that Tony, Rich and the other Dordt students took at the university were designed for foreign students; they

Cont'd on next page
weren't standard University courses.

2:05 p.m. - Tony and Rich locate room 9-A-03 and sneak into class.

"Mr. Bosch, please tell the class who painted 'The Laughing Cavalier,'" asked his teacher.

"Uh, Fran Hals?" replies Tony.


"Class, for the first hour, we will study here. During the last two hours, we will visit the Rijksmuseum," states the teacher.

All five of Tony and Rich's classes are three hours long with a 15 minute break in the middle. Students have only one class a day and perhaps one in the evening.

3:05 p.m. - Inside the Rijksmuseum is a valuable collection of furniture, paintings and Delftware. The walls are covered with paintings from Rembrandt Van Rijn, Thomas de Keyser, Gabriel Metsu and...

"Hey, here's one I recognize; it's the 'Laughing Cavalier,'" says Tony.

Before then hangs a painting as twice as old as the U.S. The Rijksmuseum isn't just a warehouse of paintings, Delftware and furniture, it's a vault that captures Dutch history.

5:00 p.m. - Class is done. Tony and Rich stop off at the school's pub for a beer.

5:30 p.m. - Tony and Rich wait for a bus a block away from the university. Several bikers pass by. In the Netherlands, bikes are a vital means of transportation. There are bike roads and bike traffic lights. The automobile roads are always hectic and are often narrower than U.S. streets.

6:30 p.m. - Tony and Rich arrive at the Fijn van Draad's house. The two are just in time for the main meal of the day, supper. Henk Fijn van Draad arrives home from his administrative job at Shell Oil. Henk, his wife, his three daughters, Tony and Rich are seated. Henk Fijn van Draad says grace.

Spread before the family is a typical Dutch meal of meat, potatoes and vegetables.

Tony takes a bite of the gehakt bol; it tastes like a spicy meatball.

"Not bad," he says.

7:30 p.m. - Supper is done. Rich and Tony engage in an evening of relaxation. 8:00 p.m. - Tony, after losing several games of Stratego decides to watch T.V.

Tony flicks through the three Dutch channels. Bill Cosby fills the screen speaking English with Dutch subtitles floating below.

11:00 p.m. - Tony and Rich's day has come to an end.
Entertainment

FILM REVIEW

by Galen Sinkey

If you do nothing else this weekend, see "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner." The acting by Spencer Tracy, Katherine Hepburn and Sidney Poitier is some of the best in years, and the film constructively deals with a touchy problem — inter racial marriage.

Viewing this movie will be a sentimental experience for any Tracy or Hepburn fan. This is the ninth and last movie the two filmed together, as Tracy died three weeks before the film was finished. In a sense, this is a movie about Spencer Tracy.

The film revolves around Poitier's parents Tracy and Hepburn's joining the not-so-beautiful, wealthy, yet extremely naive daughter (played by Hepburn's niece, Katherine Houghton) and her black fiance (Sydney Poitier), a social and intellectual genius. The young couple has fallen deeply in love after meeting in Hawaii on a short vacation. They suddenly fly back to San Francisco so Poitier can nobly ask Tracy and Hepburn for their daughter's hand in marriage. Unfortunately Tracy and Hepburn have only a few hours to decide because Poitier has to be on the next plane out of town. The shocked parents are soon completely at odds with each other. To make matters worse, Poitier's parents are joining the not-so-happy foursome for dinner.

Watching Tracy and Hepburn deal with this awkward problem is hilarious, yet heartwarming. It is a rare occasion that such unique and talented actors get together to make a film. "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" is showing Friday at 3:00, 6:30 and 9:00 p.m. Don't miss this one; it's a gem!

You want to take prayer, acting and creation science... Just what are you studying to be?  

President.

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Music Review

by Steve Nulder

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, the Sioux County Orchestra will perform its first concert of the season. Dordt students should be especially interested in this concert for many reasons.

First, many members of the orchestra are Dordt students. Second, even for those who are not avid connoisseurs of classical music, the concert will feature very familiar pieces. The program includes "Finlandia" by Sibelius and the "Surprise" Symphony by Haydn, as well as Slavonic Dance #8 by Dvorak and Brahms' Serenade #1.

Third, Dordt's band and orchestra director, Henry Duitman, will be taking the baton for the first time as director of the Sioux County Orchestra. Admission to the concert is free with student I.D. Plan to take some time off on Wednesday, and enjoy the best orchestra music in the county.
Entertainment

The Smiths
The Queen Is Dead

by William E.A. Meyerhoff


'Ve have put up with the "mind-rot" of rock musicians. So if you are trying; you won't be disappointed.

The Queen is Dead’ Comes To Life

SIDEBY ONE
- The Queen Is Dead
- Frankly, Mr. Shankly
- I Know It's Over
- Never Had One Ever
- Cemetery Gates

SIDE TWO
- Bigmouth Strikes Again
- The Boy With A Thorn In His Side
- Vicar In A Tutu
- There Is A Light That Never Goes Out
- Some Girls Are Bigger Than Others

The 1986 release of "The Queen Is Dead" by The Smiths marks the emergence of a new post-punk Irish band whose music is in the same vein as U2's politicized rock music. The album also reflects a trend among new bands such as The Cure, Bysshe Shelley, and Heaven 17, who are incorporating politics and philosophy in their music. This trend may be the result of a growing frustration among rock listeners who have been putting up with the "mind-rot" of rock musicians whose music is only about sex and sex and partying.

The album starts with the title track "The Queen Is Dead," a satirical song about the royal family and the cultural tension that exists between Ireland and England. The next cut, "Frankly, Mr. Shankly," deals with the struggle of artists who seek fame and fortune.

"Fame, Fame, fatal Fame/ it can play hideous tricks on the brain/ but still I'd rather be famous than righteous or holy, any day"

"I Know It's Over" is a complaint about the seeming emptiness of modern love. The young lover in the song laments-

"Sad veiled bride, please be happy/ handsome groom, give her room/ loud, loutish lover, treat her kindly/ (although she needs you more than she loves you) and I know it's over- still I cling/ I don't know where else I can go"

"Cemetery Gates" closes out side one. "Cemetery Gates" is a farcical song about a date two poets have in a cemetery discussing the poetry of Keats and Yeats.

"You say: 'ere thrice the sun hath done salutation to the dawn/ and you claim these words as your own/ but I'm well-read, have heard them said a hundred times (maybe less, maybe more) if you must write prose-poems, the words you use should be your own/ don't plagiarise or take "on loan"/ there's always someone somewhere with a big nose, who knows/ and who trips you up and laughs when you fall"

Several tracks stand out on side two. "The Boy With The Thorn In His Side" is the cry of a small boy who is disillusioned with the answers and lack of answers that adults give him to the questions of life.

"They don't want to believe us/ and if they don't believe us now, will they ever believe us?/ and when you want to live, how do you start? where do you go? who do you need to know"

"Vicar In A Tutu" is a hilarious tune about a vicar who is caught wearing a tutu during his off hours.

"The vicar in a tutu/ he's not strange/ he just wants to live his life this way/ The monkish monsignor with a head full of plaster said: "My man, get your vile soul dry-cleaned"

"Some Girls Are Bigger Than Others"

"The Queen Is Dead" ends with another crazy song about the observations of an Irish lad: "Some Girls Are Bigger Than Others."

"From the ice-age to the dole-age/ there is but one concern/ and I have discovered: some girls are bigger than others/ some girls are bigger than others/ some girls' mothers are bigger than other girls' mothers"

Although The Smiths can come off as being esoteric at times, they are a great change of pace from the banal offerings of most rock musicians. So if you are undecided about which album to buy next time you're shopping, give The Smiths a try; you won't be disappointed.

Puzzle Answer

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SIoux County Orchestra

Wednesday, November 12, 1986

Slavonic Dance #8 ........................................ Dvorak
Symphony #9 (Surprise) ..................................... Haydn
Serenade #6 (selected movements) ......................... Brahms
Finlandia ...................................................... Sibelius

From the rousing Slavonic Dance to the delightful Surprise Symphony, from the sublime Serenade to the powerful Finlandia, this is a program sure to please every listener.

CONDUCTOR: Henry Duitman

8:00 P.M. in the Chapel
Free admission for Dordt students-show I.D.

Sioux County Arts Council
Blades Fall to Drake

by Ron DeBoer

The Dordt Blades began their 1986-87 hockey season against the Drake University Bulldog team in a back-to-back weekend series that saw the Blades fall to a skilled Bulldog team in four straight games.

On October 26, the Blades held their season home opener at the Sioux City Auditorium where an estimated 300 fans watched the Blades lose 7-2, with Pete Zwiers and Ken Groot scoring the Dordt goals.

In the second game, a smaller crowd watched Dordt jump into an early 2-0 lead on goals by Phil Minderhoud and Jeff Alberts. Later the Blades squandered that lead when they couldn’t withstand a barrage of Bulldog shots aimed at Goalie James Koetsier.

When the final buzzer sounded, Drake had scored nine goals to Dordt’s four.

A week later, on Halloween night, the Blades traveled to Des Moines to play the Bulldog team on their home ice. Dordt played a strong first game and lead Drake 4-3 with just 8 minutes remaining in the game. However, Drake scored four unanswered goals—the first three within a minute and a half— to defeat the disappointed Blades 7-4. Dordt exercised a strong defensive attack throughout the game, but the four goals they got—two from Pete Zwiers and singles from Ron DeBoer and Mark Wolters, just weren’t enough to defeat Drake.

Drake defeated Dordt in the second game in Des Moines 9-1. Jeff Alberts notched the single marker for Dordt.

Dordt Outscrambles Trinity, Blanks Nebraska Wesleyan

by Steve Mulder

On Saturday, Oct 18, while most sports fans were concentrating on the Michigan/Iowa football game and the baseball championships, the Dordt soccer team played back-to-back games on the chapel field.

The first game was played against Trinity College, our sister school from the Chicago area. Trinity jumped to a one goal lead right before the halftime whistle, on a well executed passing play. After Coach Van Essen’s dramatic halftime pep talk, the Defenders came back in the second half to defeat Trinity 2-1. Aggressive second-half play was the key to the comeback.

The second game of the afternoon was against Nebraska Wesleyan. Earlier this season Dordt defeated Nebraska Wesleyan 7-0. Again in this meeting Dordt controlled the game and easily won it 3-0.

180 minutes of soccer action did take its toll, however. Even though Van Essen kept fresh players in the game, fatigue and the warm temperature on the field lead to many Dordt injuries.

Season’s Final Game

Dordt Ties Wartburg

by Steve Mulder

The Dordt soccer team finished its season on Saturday with a 1-1 tie with Wartburg. The Defenders’ final record was 10 wins and 4 losses, with 3 ties. The first time Dordt played Wartburg this season they were badly beaten, but this time the Defenders were better prepared.

Wartburg struck first with a penalty-shot goal late in the first half. Dordt came back and scored on a scramble in the goal-mouth early in the second half. Jim Colyn tapped the ball into the net for the tying goal.

From that point on Dordt controlled. Wartburg held tight defensively, and the game ended in a 1-1 tie.

Dordt travels to Des Moines again on Friday to prepare for the Saturday NAIA final game. Dordt will play the winner of the Grandview/Kaycrest game on Friday. Here’s to a state championship!