Rensink vs. Bedell

by Brian Kearins and Joan Van Raalte

Incumbent Berkely Bedell and Congressional candidate Darrel Rensink squared off against each other in Northwestern College's Rowenhorst Student Center on Monday, October 29. The debate was sponsored by APJ, the Association for Public Justice.

The debate was divided into four different sections: farm policy, domestic and social issues, foreign policy, and defense.

In the last section, questions submitted by the audience were given to the candidates.

On the issue of farm policy, Bedell feels that Congress must get the deficit under control in order to bring down interest rates and reduce the value of the dollar. In a long-term program, this could be done by scrapping the crop base system, going to a paid diversion program, and improving crop insurance and loan systems.

Rensink questioned Bedell's seniority on the Agriculture Committee by asking why the changes haven't happened yet and why Bedell voted against a balanced budget four times. Rensink feels the government should reverse farm policies that haven't worked by giving incentives and stipulations.

On domestic and social issues, Bedell pointed out that he sponsored an amendment that succeeded in looking at the cost of parts in order to cut waste, voted for pro-life issues 100 percent of the time in this past session of Congress, and that he favors the simplification of tax forms and closing of loopholes in the tax system.

Rensink said that he favors an amendment to force the balancing of the budget. He also stated that he will not only vote for pro-life issues but will also work for them. Rensink pointed out that Bedell's comprehensive voting record in supporting pro-life issue is only 48 percent. In addition, Rensink supports the president's across-the-board tax cuts which were responsible for firing the economy.

On the subject of foreign policy and defense, Bedell claims that the intervention in Nicaragua strengthens the Sandinista government and forces them to go to the Soviet Union for aid. Bedell also feels that it is the duty of Congressmen to question the president and not to support murdering terrorists without knowledge of the situation. In addition, Bedell also supports a nuclear freeze and a test-ban treaty.

Rensink, in his closing statements, stated that he will stand up for small businesses and farmers, and give a priority to creating job opportunities. He also brought up the fact that the Farm Bureau gave Bedell a 29 percent favorable rating, and that Bedell had only a 32 percent favorable rating for small businesses.
Editorial

by Phil Grotenhuis

I knew it had to come eventually. Political candidates can only handle so much mud-slinging before the buildup either causes them to trip and fall or drown altogether. Thanks to Roger Jepsen taking the long-awaited initiative, the issues are finally taking precedence over personality. But I’m afraid it came too late: the damage is done.

The sad thing is, it is the voter who has suffered, not the candidates. Personality attacks are not the issue here, but truth. Who was the voter to believe when each candidate accused the other of lying and trivializing their campaign in the Waterloo, Iowa, debate? Both candidates deny that their campaign is negative. Why? Obviously because they believe themselves to be portraying the truth to voters. Can Harkin be telling the total truth in his Waterloo debate when he claims he is morally opposed to abortion although he has voted for every piece of legislation to legalize abortion on demand? Can Jepsen deny his campaign tactics are "negative" and that he is simply portraying Harkin’s voting record when he calls Harkin an atheist devoted to secular humanism? Harkin accuses Jepsen of getting political action committees to spread lies about him. Jepsen flatly denies he doesn’t need Harkin accuses Jepsen of getting political action committees to spread lies about him. Jepsen flatly denies the charge, saying the committees are independent and he has no control over them.

Their see-saving accusations seem infinite. One doesn’t need a college degree to realize that both of these candidates are bearing false witness against their neighbor. The pitiful thing is that after their heated accusations in Waterloo, both candidates were happy with their performance. "I believe I won," said Harkin in an interview with a Sioux City Journal reporter. "I think I won because Roger Jepsen called me a liar." Jepsen also praised the debate saying, "I think it was the best debate we’ve ever had. We started getting a little more into the substantive stuff."

Quotes like these do nothing for the credibility of either candidate; as far as demonstrating their mentalia, they couldn’t be digging their own graves faster. The end result is that the underestimated American voter is given a lack of respect. When the voter feels this disrespect, he has two choices. He can either demand a change toward a more ethical campaign style, or he can become apathetic toward what is occurring. It’s sad enough that some Americans are apathetic toward such issues as Central America, arms control, and the mounting deficit. It’s sadder still when such negative campaign tactics encourage it.

As one experienced reporter said to a disgruntled younger reporter in the October 22 issue of the Des Moines Register, "What are you complaining about? This is easy to cover. You don’t have to learn anything about tax policy, farm policy, or defense policy to cover this Senate race."

It’s too bad the political system has to suffer for the actions of a few. The American public deserves much more than what Roger Jepsen and Tom Harkin have given them, and they know it. Jepsen and Harkin may now begin to clean up their tactics, but, like a deep wound, their past actions will leave a lasting scar to both our country’s political system and to its voters.

Reagan, Mondale, Neither is Reformed

Dear Editor:

I personally resented Dan Vanden Bosch’s letter as much as Dordt Republicans must have resented Mark-Philip’s "mindless" comment. If Dan is correct in his assumptions, then I am not a Christian politically, and I was not raised in a Reformed home. Fortunately, I don’t think he is correct at all, and I hope a deeper look into the American political system and its assumptions will show why.

It has widely been accepted that American politics are not ideological but purely pragmatic (assuming of course pragmatism is non-ideological). If this is so, it is not because there is no ideological framework supporting American politics, but rather it is because Americans have answered their metaphysical questions even before the Constitution, and have not thought about them since. Thus, on a scale of world politics, American politics are a tempest of surface issues—debates in a teacup of classical liberalism. (cf. individualism, laissez faire, democracy, etc.) As Christians, the questions we should be concerned with are not so much—whether Reagan or Mondale is the Christian candidate, but whether this whole teacup of classical liberalism can be reconciled with a reformed world-and-life view. When this question is properly

(please turn to page 3)
To the Editor

Voter Motives Evaluated

Dear Editor:

As a Christian, committed to the Lordship of Christ over politics and Biblical justice for all, I am greatly disturbed when I look around the Dordt campus and see students passively and aimlessly advocating neither Reagan nor Mondale. One cannot help but see the myriad of Pro-Republican propaganda prevalent on the Dordt campus. One has only to walk through the S.U.B., the dorms, or the parking lots to see the incredible mass of followers that Reagan has enticed. Students wearing Reagan/Bush buttons are common; the request for these buttons was overwhelming.

Over 90% of registered Dordt students incessantly follow their leaders, their lords within the realm of politics: Ronald Reagan and George Bush. It seems to me that this tremendous praise, admiration and unadulterated adulation is misplaced. I believe we as Christians must not passively elevate Reagan to a pedestal merely because he is a Republican, he's anti-abortion, or the fact that he put more $s in our pockets than we had four years ago. No! I believe that as Christians we must realize that Jesus Christ is Lord over all, including the sphere of politics, and we must seek to do His will when it comes to voting.

How should you vote on Tuesday? Must you vote straight line Democrat or straight line Republican? That is not for me or anyone else to say. That is a personal matter. However, it is my intention to bring to your attention that as Christian Americans we must keep two basic beliefs in mind.

First, we must realize that Jesus Christ is Lord over all. We must remember that his Lordship extends over the sphere of politics. When we vote, therefore, we must vote for a candidate who will work to nurture and promote a God-honoring and God-glorifying society.

Secondly, we must keep in mind that the fundamental basis for politics is Biblical justice. If we are truly voting from a Christian perspective we must cast our votes for the person who is seeking to foster and promote Biblical justice, a person who approaches every issue of politics asking, "What should be done? How can justice be brought about in this situation?"

How then does a Christian evaluate Ronald Reagan? It seems to me that Ronald Reagan approaches politics from an economic basis rather than a basis of justice for all. Ronald Reagan has an undying belief in returning America to its glory days. He believes that a strong economy will solve all of America's problems.

As a Christian student at Dordt College, I challenge you to take one final look at Candidate Reagan. Ask yourself, "Does he submit to Jesus Christ's Lordship over all?" and "Does he seek to promote and foster Biblical justice for all?" As you prepare to vote on Tuesday, consider your vote in light of the realization that Jesus Christ is Lord over all. Lay Candidate Reagan before the Lord in your prayers. Ask for the Lord's guidance as you seek to vote in a prayerful, thoughtful, and meaningful manner.

Respectfully,

David Van Heemst

Manifest Destiny Dangerous

To the Editor:

Perchance many of you have, somewhere in your tour of duty as a student, encountered, heard of, or known Manifest Destiny. I mean not the inevitable rending of the veil which occurs when a test is handed back sorely weighted with red ink in a class which has been diligently neglected. Nor is Manifest Destiny the foreign student whose picture was missing from the Freshman and Transfer Student Directory. Which should not lead one to conclude that Manifest Destiny is not alive and thriving, at Dordt or anywhere else in this diverse country of ours.

I'll try by taking a closer look at the example of abortion. Reagan, in the debate of October 7, defended his anti-abortion stance on the basis of the innate right to life that the fetus possesses by virtue of being human, and that is guaranteed it in the Constitution. Mondale, on the other hand, defended his pro-choice (not pro-abortion) position by appealing to the constitutional right of the mother to control what happens to her own body. We as Christians say the fetus must live because it too is an image-bearer of God, and His law demands it. The fact that we Christians are not consistent with the Constitution as Reagan does not make his position distinctly Christian--he gets there by a very different, secular, humanistic route. To say they are the same is like saying because Christ and Marx both believed the poor should eat, Marx was a Christian!

The point I am trying to make is this: because Reagan or Mondale stand for certain "Christian-like" positions on several token issues, this does not mean they hold the Christian position. We must look deeper to see where these positions come from. Until you start from a true Christian base you will never come up with consistent Christian policy statements. Reagan wants to save the unborn, but will not do anything for the single mother of five in the inner city; Mondale is the other way around. These positions are not consistent to the Christian voter because they are based on anti-Christian presuppositions. That's why neither Reagan nor Mondale represent the reformed position--neither of them have been reformed!

Enno Meijers
Teaching Passes the Test

by Mark Vis

The Dordt College teacher education program has again passed an evaluation by the Iowa Department of Public Instruction, renewing the program's accreditation for another five-year period. Dordt works annually with a consultant from the D.P.I. to evaluate parts of the education program, but the actual review by the D.P.I. comes only once every five years. Fifty standards must be met by the program if it is to be reaccredited.

According to Dr. Marian Vander Ark, Professor of Education at Dordt, the state is following national trends in an effort "to upgrade the profession as a whole." She said that there are two task forces making recommendations to Governor Brandstad.

The task forces are recommending that education students be given more field experience and possibly more competency tests. During a teacher's first years, he or she would also be under the guidance of a master teacher, and would probably have to continue his or her education while teaching. Teacher recertification will also become an annual event if the task forces' recommendations are adopted.

Commenting on the increase in in-school requirements, Vander Ark noted that requiring too much more field education of Dordt students could become a hassle. "It would be hard to find space for more student teachers without going much farther away from Sioux Center." Approximately forty-five percent of all Dordt students graduate with education degrees.

Over all, Vander Ark is pleased with the national concern for excellence in education. High standards will help Christian teachers become "a better service to the Christian school movement as it exists both locally and nationally."

Letters to the Editor
(continued from page 3)

Manifest Destiny was once political dogma in the United States. With its rapid expansion and development, the United States is considered by many to be blessed by God, which, I will agree, it is. This idea quickly becomes treacherous when carried, as all ideas usually are, to extremes. The evolution from "tool of God" to "last hope for the free world" occurred without the intervening millennia Darwin so patiently prescribed for the rest of the earth.

Yet this Destiny should not be considered to have passed on, or to have been placed on the permanently disabled list, mained forever by the "good neighbor policy" or the Panama Canal Treaty. Manifest Destiny is still dangerous. It means more than the literal translation "shown future"; it is a perspective, an assumption that everything is for US, and we can take what we can get, without respect for the sovereignty of Everyman.

Admittedly, the days of the "Panamanian Revolution" are long over and Teddy Roosevelt's Big Stick has been renamed, but the concept of "might makes right" or "the end justifies the means" is ground into much of our political hamburger. And oddly, this points to a deeper "issue." Manifest Destiny, once the "obvious will of God for our nation" can be applied to personal perspectives and goals, away from foreign policy. It can easily become our mindset for our everyday lives. Each of us, too, has been fabulously endowed. Do we take what we can get? Is everything for US, or is the concern for excellence in education the means? Everything for US? Or the need of financial support--and she's getting it.

Caravelle

First in Houston

by Vel Vis

"Virginia"

by Carol Marcus

Yala Nyota is a ten-year-old girl from the country of Zaire who is in need of financial support--and she's getting it.

North wing residents of third floor East Hall decided to sponsor a child for their wing project. According to Ann De Blaey, the Resident Assistant, the idea originated at the Randy Stonehill concert in August. During the concert, Stonehill told the audience how they could help needy children through the organization of Compassion International, based in Colorado Springs. De Blaey then presented this idea to her wing, where it was enthusiastically supported.

To fund the project, the wing decided to sell doughnuts. Apparently, students on campus were interested in the idea of eating to save a starving child, since $125 was raised. This amount is approximately half of what is needed for a year. The wing is already beginning to think of a fund-raiser for next semester to raise the other half of Yala's support.

Clarification Requested

Dear Editor:

Theo Vander Wel's article, "The Campaign," in the September 27 Dordt Diamond reported the results of both a registration drive and a voter poll. However, the article did not make clear whether the poll included only those voters that registered in the SUB this fall or included some voters that had already registered. I am registered to vote in my home county, and so I did not need to register in the SUB, yet I did participate in the poll. Perhaps there were a number of other voters in the same situation. Perhaps some of the students that selected neither Rensink nor Bedell, for example, are voters that were already registered but still participated in the poll. Others, clarification in some of these details would give readers a more accurate picture of the poll results.

Garry De Jong
The Campaign

by Theo Vander Wel

The Presidential campaign and its issues have been the focus of much discussion on campus for the past couple of months. The student body as a whole is becoming more interested as November 6 nears. Various individuals and groups on campus have become outspoken in terms of the candidates and political awareness.

The Political Science Club has taken an active role in helping students become involved in the electoral process. It registered over 300 voters in September and sought to direct students further in a chapel service. A shuttle service organized by the club will provide transportation to the voting booths on the day of the election.

My second point concerns issues not brought out in the 1984 campaign. The continued misuse of our resources will greatly affect our lives in the future. Neither candidate has addressed this increasingly crucial issue. Herds of illegal immigrants arrive in the U.S. every year. This problem already has had detrimental effects on their lives as well as ours—an issue missed in the campaign. We must go beyond the vote-getting issues to a more comprehensive concern.

Finally, although the campaign is almost over, we as Christians must communicate the reasons for our positions and actions to each other. It is distressing that some of the campus-oriented political criticism has remained subsurface. It is our responsibility to discuss our views instead of remaining highly rhetorical.

Pseudo-Politicians Perform

by Mike Aman

Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale on Dordt's campus? Not exactly, but the students of Professor King's Parties, Elections, and Voting Behavior class are holding a simulated presidential debate.

Bob Wiersma (Reagan) and Enno Meijers (Mondale) will meet at 7 p.m. in C160. Tim Vos from KDCR, Mark-Philip Venema from the Diamond, Phil Grotenhuis from the Sioux Center News, and Joyce Campbell from APJ will comprise the panel. The debate will be handled in the same manner as the nationally-televised debates, but is scheduled to last only about one hour.

King's class was divided into two groups to fore the Republican and Democratic parties. Each group then selected a spokesperson as their presidential candidate, and both sides investigated the issues presented in the 1984 campaign. Through the debate, both those in the class and those who attend will be benefited as the stances of the candidates are portrayed. Hopefully, this will make everyone more conscious as a voter.

Wiersma commented, "By doing research, we find that neither candidate exemplifies what a good, Reformed Christian should believe in. We find inconsistencies in the issues of world peace, abortion, and other areas. All in all, it has been kind of fun."

(PRESS RELEASE)

Exciting Clash of Views on Vital Issues!

Republican and Democratic Platforms Put to the Public!

Thursday, November 1, 1984
7:00 p.m.
Room C160
Perkins Presents
"Felt Need Concept"
Relocation, Reconciliation, Redistribution

by Joyce Vanden Ham

"Human beings and human societies are not structures that are built on machines that are forged. They are plants that grow and must be tended as such."

Winston Churchill

The lecture series by Dr. John Perkins on Monday and Tuesday, October 22 and 23, reflected his commitment to this human right to grow and be tended to. Perkins' goal is to develop people to their fullest potential and thus begin to heal our nation.

Dr. Perkins and his wife Vera Mae have pioneered efforts in Christian community development and racial reconciliation through the church for 23 years. Perkins founded Voice of Calvary Ministries, and has actively provided leadership in the development of church, health, evangelistic, and youth discipleship and training programs. In 1960 Perkins began his ministry in Mendenhall, Mississippi, and in 1982 he and his wife moved to North Pasadena.

Perkins has authored both Let Justice Roll Down and With Justice For All.

On campus, Perkins spoke of the structural injustices of today's society. "Injustice," he said, "deprives people of the knowledge of God, of the ability to work..."

Perkins challenged students and faculty to be socially active and to go beyond meeting their own needs in meeting the needs of others. He stressed the need to affirm the individual's dignity. He said, "We can't give them dignity--only God can--but we can give them work, help them be responsible, and allow them to enjoy the fruits of their labor."

According to Perkins, religion has been the biggest hinderance to development in the South. Religion has made people blind to reality, and it has been used to maintain and justify black oppression. It is time to draw back the blinds and let true Christianity shine out. Because Christianity is "the outliving of the living Christ," Perkins challenged his listeners to be evangelists--"to be a living witness and testimony to the working of God in our lives and in society." Perkins challenged students and Perkins' final lecture on Tuesday evening addressed "The Church and Strategies for Change." He challenged the church to implement the "felt need concept," and he pointed out three steps to follow: Relocation--training youth and encouraging them to return to their home communities to work; Reconciliation--living as models so others can properly evaluate and understand the gospel in terms of our representation; Redistribution--redistributing wealth in a way that maintains the dignity of the individual.

Perkins defined the character of a leader with reference to Nehemiah, stating that we need leaders who carry a burden for the needy, seek God's will, recognize God's control, count the cost, prepare themselves, form co-operatives, and refuse to let enemies interfere with their commitment. Perkins emphasized that the CRC has the potential to be a very influential force in the reconciliation process, but it needs to believe in its potential to make a difference. Perkins suggested that the Dordt community get involved concretely by working together with "Justice For All," an organization in Rock Valley that assists the poor and underprivileged. This group has the resources and finances to actually affect communities. The student body could provide the manpower for such a society, and together we could invest in communities--not necessarily doing work for them, but helping them to provide resources so they can work for themselves.

Perkins concluded his presentation with this challenge to take social action: "I know that now you are motivated, but I'll really see your commitment and your genuineness when I see you in Pasadena actually helping us build. Come let us rebuild the walls! [Neh. 2:17]."

Leaders as Role-Models

Searching for ways to develop your leadership potential? Come to the Leadership Seminar in C160 on November 9. The seminar is entitled "Leaders as Role-Models." There is a growing demand for effective Christian leaders throughout the world today. This seminar will focus on leadership emergence, traits of effective leaders, and how to become an effective Christian role-model.

Dr. Lou Agnese, Vice-President of Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, will be the speaker and discussion leader. Dr. Agnese is a vibrant individual who is able to relate exceptionally well to college students. The seminar will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Two-Fold Purpose to Volunteer Program

by Margaret Valkema

Have you seen one of your fellow students bowling with a child from the community, or meeting with an elderly person after church on Sunday? Chances are that he or she is one of the 65 volunteers in the Volunteer Program this semester. These students volunteer an average of two hours each week, and spend their time visiting with an elderly person, being a role model to a child, working with the retarded, or just taking a handicapped person to a movie.

The purpose of the Volunteer Program is two-fold. First, it gives students a chance to practice what they learn in the classroom and to also put their faith life into a very practical experience. Secondly, volunteers provide many needed services to a wide variety of individuals who are less privileged in one or more ways.

The agencies involved in the program are pleased with the involvement and commitment of Dordt students. Volunteers are witnessing in a special way to eleven different agencies in Sioux Center and its surrounding communities. The Volunteer Program is a small way for students to show their love for Christ.

World in C160

Monday, November 12, is the annual International Day at Dordt College. There will be a special program in C160 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., during which various foreign language groups will perform skits and celebrate in song that all people, even though they speak different languages, can communicate together that they are one before God. The emphasis will be on relaxation and fun, and the audience will be invited to participate throughout the evening.
An Interview with John Perkins

by Phil Grotenhuis

Q. What has been the effect of the CRC and other Reformed faiths on black development?

A. Let me just first say I affirm the Dutch heritage and admire their work ethic. I think the people of the Reformed faith have a great concept of wholistic development. But I think one of their weaknesses lies in their cultural barrier. They must preach the gospel in a way that they break through that barrier.

I think that the problem with CRC and other Reformed faiths is that they are able to care for themselves very creatively, but a primary question is whether or not they can creatively empower other people to be like themselves. That's what I'm working toward in the Reformed circles.

Q. Do you see the Reformed community as a strong supporter of your cause in the near future?

A. Yes, I see them as a strong supporter in the near future. But I want them to be a strong supporter in the present. They are not at this point a major contributor of funds. They tend to give more of their physical support, which I like, but I would like to see them give more financially.

Q. We are helping these people out somewhat economically, but what about educationally?

A. Educating people isn't the only answer. I think we need to talk about community development. So far we have been educating isolated groups in the black community. We've selected the best brains in the community and have been sending them off to college. The problem is that the college graduates do not return to the community.

We have to create and develop a community so that these college graduates will return to it. We need special types of skills that lead to business development and ownership. Most of the skills the black receives are management and teaching skills. We need to develop engineering, carpenter, electronic, agricultural, and other agricultural, and other development skills that build an economic institution. That's a whole different style of education. I do believe schools like Dordt College can help in that.

Q. If these people presently have such a poor economic base, how then can they afford to attend a school such as Dordt which costs $25,000 over four years?

A. College aid could help a lot. If a push was made to help support four or five students, a community such as Rock Valley, Iowa, or any other would be challenged to help support these kids. We can't send an isolated student to Dordt without he or she knowing anyone.

Q. How can you encourage people who have minimal or no contact with blacks to be motivated to support them?

A. That is exactly the nature of what we are talking about here. We are now exposing students to these present sort of conditions. I don't think you can do it just through the media. We must expose people directly to the blacks' present condition.

Q. Have you noticed a certain amount of naiveté in the Reformed community toward the black people and their problems?

A. No, not in an embarrassing manner. You only know people you know. The Dutch people don't know many blacks because they haven't been exposed to many blacks. To say they are naive is to say they're normal. To say they have all the understanding toward the black would be suspicious. Naiveté gives off a negative connotation. The Dutch people simply haven't been exposed and that becomes my responsibility. I don't fault the victim, I try to enlighten the victim. What is the problem of the Reformed community? They are uninformed--unenlightened. I would definitely not say they were naive or ignorant.

Q. Finally, you talk of scripture as a two-edged sword. Do you see the power of scripture and the conversion of the black as the foundation of his improvement?

A. That has been the basis of our whole movement. I think Moses delivering the people of Israel from the land of Egypt has been the cry and hope of black people since their struggle began. I think our leadership has always consisted of people who have had their ankles at least somewhere in the church. I think our liberation has always been within the context of the church. Black folks are not atheists. We acknowledge God as a powerful reality. We are religious. In fact, at times I think we're over-religious. Sometimes I think we must think harder in terms of realism.

Q. So you term being over-religious as being unrealistic?

A. Yes. Sometimes we allow emotion to override our creative knowledge so we ride on emotion rather than knowledge. To be an excellent Christian is to understand God's revelation of Himself. Emotion should play a role, but not a major role.

Q. So you're saying that emotion should display itself in action?

A. That's what I'm talking about here. We must take our religion and improve the quality of people through action. My work of exposing people to the problems of the black is useless unless some concrete action can emanate from it.

It Doesn't Hurt a Bit!

"It's been nice knowing you, Val!"
Late Nights in the Library

Should the hours of the Dordt College Library be extended? From complaints that have been voiced since the beginning of the year, a majority of student seem to think so. It is because of this student interest that the Student Forum has decided to take action on the issue.

Last year, after Spring Break, the library hours were extended from 11 p.m. to midnight on Monday through Thursday. This was purely on an experimental basis. It was felt by the Library staff that since many students did not use this time, and since research materials were not used much, the extra hour was not needed. Even though a large number of students may not use that extra hour every night, there are times when most students have a particularly heavy load. It is during these times that the student needs a quiet, monitored place in which to study.

The following are recommendations being proposed by the Student Forum in this area:

1) Extend library hours to midnight from Monday through Thursday.
2) Extend library hours until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.
3) Keep the library open from 5 to 7 p.m. on weekends.

Rationale behind such a proposal includes:

1) It would provide extra study time during the week.
2) It would extend library hours on weekends since this is the time when most students work on papers.
3) Two problems must be worked out include:
   1) Increased expenses of library operation.
   2) Lengthening personnel hours.

Recently, Student Forum sent out evaluations to the students. Responses pertaining to the library issue will give important feedback as to how many students want the library hours extended. If anyone has failed to fill out the questionnaire, they are encouraged to let their opinion be known. Students are also encouraged to make good use of the existing library hours in order to display the seriousness of this matter.

The following is a brief explanation of items of the questionnaire that seemed to be most frequently misunderstood:

Campus Pastor: Due to encouragement from the Spiritual Activities Committee, a recommendation was motioned and passed at Student Life Senate to clarify what Dordt's position is toward acquiring a full-time campus pastor. The issue is presently being discussed at higher levels.

Dean's List/Honor Roll: At this time neither exists.

Office of the Student: The new Constitution of the Student Forum states under its "Purpose" heading that the student at Dordt College has an office. Office implies authority. The Purposes Committee is presently reviewing the Constitution and focusing on the question, Does the student have an office? Aside from this issue, the Constitution has been approved by higher powers than the Forum.

En Loco Parentis: Do Dordt's policies, rules and regulations generally take on the personality of absentee parents?

Jack Vischer Memorial: Contrary to popular belief, this is not a new scholarship fund. Jack Vischer was a Dordt professor who died unexpectedly a number of years ago. Funds were sent by his parents to a memorial of some sort. Very recently, it has come to the attention of the Student Forum that progress is being made for using the fund to erect new signs on campus.

Questionnaire Questioned

In order to understand the purpose of the Student Forum questionnaire, it is important to realize the position of the Forum within the college structure. Student Forum is a discussionary body and exercises no direct legislative or decision-making power concerning student life. However, all freshman, junior, and senior representatives are members of faculty/student committees. As members, they can bring up issues or proposals and can exercise voting rights. This is the extent of Forum's direct power; as a body they may submit proposals and recommendations to standing committees through their representatives.

In light of this, the questionnaire has been designed to generate awareness and (hopefully) support for issues on which the student body desires change. As a Forum we are your elected representatives, yet we find it difficult to seek out change if you, the student body, do not make your sentiments known. The Forum may be a forum, but we do represent an important facet of this institution—whose sentiments, when articulated, are difficult to ignore.

The following is a brief explanation of items of the questionnaire that seemed to be most frequently misunderstood:

Campus Pastor: Due to input. Through our periodic contributions to the Diamond and our weekly minutes, we do our best to communicate to you. On the other hand, we need you to communicate your ideas and opinions to us. Feel free to contact any Forum member. We urge you to read the agenda summary of each Student Forum meeting as they are printed in the TODAY. All Forum meetings are held on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons Board Room. We invite any interested students to attend our meetings.

By Val Haarsma
With record numbers of students registering to vote across the country, students will have an unprecedented opportunity to shape our nation's course on such issues as arms control, foreign policy, the economy, and others on November 6th, Election Day.

As a service to student voters, the National Student Campaign for Voter Registration offers this guide to the positions of the Democratic and Republican candidates for President, Walter Mondale and Ronald Reagan.

### ARMS CONTROL

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in defense spending</td>
<td>3-4%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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### CIVIL RIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MONDALE</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equal Rights Amendment</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal pay for work of comparable worth</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional amendment to prohibit abortion</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affirmative action</td>
<td>Calls for &quot;verifiable measurements.&quot;</td>
<td>Opposes quotas.</td>
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### CENTRAL AMERICA

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MONDALE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Aid to Nicaraguan rebels</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Aid to El Salvador &quot;Contadora process&quot; for negotiated settlement</td>
<td>Tie to human rights.</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. military in Central America</td>
<td>Remove all foreign forces.</td>
<td>YES in Honduras.</td>
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### THE ECONOMY

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<tr>
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<th>MONDALE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How to cut federal deficits</td>
<td>Tax reform, cut military spending increases</td>
<td>Strong economic recovery for increased revenue, cut spending.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balanced Budget Amendment Jobs for youth</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Supports subminimum wage.</td>
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### THE ENVIRONMENT

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pollution controls to reduce acid rain</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase funding for hazardous waste Superfund</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>No position.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensate toxic exposure victims</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>No position.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax hazardous waste generators</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>No position.</td>
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### HIGHER EDUCATION

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abolish Department of Education</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Drunk Driving: Which Side of the Road Are You On?

by Angela Struyk

It is the opinion of most educated people working with the media that to be one-sided on an issue is unjust. For example, what if TV only covered the Republicans in the upcoming election? With this in mind, the subject of drunk driving has been brought to public attention. This subject has never before been broached and voiced by those who drive drunk, and plan on continuing to do so.

GLADD—Guzzlers Loose And Driving Drunk—is an organization concerned with advertising the positive results of driving while under the influence. Members of GLADD feel it is their duty to inform the media of the reasons why driving drunk may be a positivism in today's society.

The issue which has influenced GLADD the most is the effect it has—on unemployment figures. Presently there is a shortage of positions for those in the medical field, especially for nurses. Drunk drivers could eliminate this shortage. People driving under the influence of alcohol could cause many accidents to occur in just a slow blink of the eye, much to the delight of the medics.

The mechanics occupied with such monotonies as changing oil, replacing mufflers, patching radiator hoses etc., would probably give up a dozen tire gauges to redo a car body, or put a vehicle back together. In addition, unemployed tow truck drivers and wrecker operators could also benefit from drunk driving accidents.

Another large group who benefit from the effects of drunk driving are the publishers of Webster dictionaries. Since drunk driving became an issue, several new acronyms have been introduced to the English language: SADD—Students Against Drunk Drivers; MADD—Mothers Against Drunk Drivers; GLADD—Guzzlers Loose And Driving Drunk. There is a lot of work involved in updating and revising a dictionary—enough work to employ many of those who have been laid off.

These are only a few of the areas where drunk drivers could positively affect unemployment. Besides these, there are other reasons why individuals drive while intoxicated. Some find excitement in driving while under the influence. To quote an enthusiastic member of the local GLADD chapter, "I do it for excitement... it'sh better than a roller coaster!" Some find it a challenge to see how long they can actually stay on the road, and certain GLADD chapters award points to its members for different items on the road which they hit. Those members with the highest number of points are given awards at the end of the year. When people challenge GLADD members by saying that drinking is only a temporary escape, members meet this challenge head on with "at least it is an escape," one of the mottos they toast with gleee.

GLADD also feels that drinking while driving could help keep the roads clear of excess traffic, animals and hitchhikers. The GLADD members in Iowa (and other states with deposits required on beer cans and liquor bottles) generally stash the cans and bottles in their back seats or under the dashboard, thus keeping the roads free of such litter.

Nelson Produces 'Two Too To'

by Don Huizinga

Ronald Thomas Nelson, a senior Theater Arts major here at Dordt, has written and is directing a play called "Two Too To," which will be performed in New World Theatre on November 9th and 10th (not on the 8th and 9th as erroneously reported in the "Vardley's Lives" program). Admission cost is 29 cents.

Mr. Nelson, since both your show and "Vardley's Lives" are student-written plays, are there any other connections?" Only that both Crush and I are from Pennsylvania." "How did you write it?" "The play was written in the most northern region of the Yukon Territory in northwest Canada. I was hitchhiking through the Yukon when the car I was riding in had been stopped for an hour or so for some road repairs. A forest fire had stormed through that area just two months prior and I was overwhelmed with such vast destruction. I realized it was very similar to what a fire storm would leave after a nuclear blast and "Two Too To" was birthed." "How long did it take to write?" "It's been revised three or four times in the last 18 months." "Why are you putting it on?" "It's sort of like taking yourself out on a date. It's weird." "Why are you doing it?" "We hope to produce new and unique material in New World Theatre." "You've written other plays?" "Yeah. This is my third." "What is 'Two Too To' about?" "'Two Too To' is...[long pause]...yeah. 'Two Too To' is an apocalyptic, cryptic..." "Now you're thinking like a poet." "Right. Forget apocalyptic. 'Two Too To' is a chat between two soldiers in the desert. It's a lot of fun. Let's leave it at that." "All right. Thank you." "Yeah, sure. Want more coffee?"
Drinking: a Problem at Dordt?
by Angela Struyk

Several weeks ago, most of the students at Dordt filled out a survey about alcohol and drug use. Students are now probably wondering what this survey was for, and whether they will ever see its results. On November 13, Dordt will be holding their second alcohol awareness seminar. The first one was held last year. The Outreach Team in Education from Calvary Rehabilitation Center in Phoenix, Arizona, consisting of Len Van Noord, Dr. Rod Mulder, and Dr. Alex De Jong, will be speaking at Dordt on the 13th. Dr. Alex De Jong, author of the book Help and Hope for the Alcoholic, will be speaking in chapel, and seminars will be held in the afternoon and evening for anyone who is interested.

These seminars are designed to make individuals aware of the problem of alcohol and drug abuse, and especially its abuse at Dordt and in the Christian communities. According to Van Noord, these seminars are not intended to educate people about the proper use of alcohol, but are intended to make them more aware of the problem. "You don't educate in one seminar. What you can do is make people aware of where the problem is coming from--sensitize them, if you will, so they're going to do something about it in the future. [This is] especially important in a college. It's really critical that you people know what we're talking about--you'll be the models to help the community--that's a big responsibility. I don't think kids often realize what a big responsibility they have--there are lots of areas students can wrestle with, but one that often gets shoved off to the side is this one."

At the seminars, the team will be sharing the survey statistics and holding question-and-answer discussions. These discussions are intended to raise awareness levels and possibly do some educating in the process, "just to try to help students address a very common social problem." Van Noord stated, "We don't come with pat answers for everything...it takes a group of people struggling and working together to come up with resolutions that can help problem areas." Van Noord hopes that even after we leave, we can leave behind a group of individuals with this problem (alcohol and drug use/abuse) as a focus."

Don't think kids often realize what a big responsibility they have."

Many of the seminars will be discussions of the surveys. Van Noord said the survey should "be able to tell us what's going on" in the way of abuse, use, and awareness. It should tell "how educated the people are in alcohol and drug-use, and how they compare with national statistics." The survey's results should be able to explain where Dordt stands compared to national statistics--if Dordt is low in comparison and why--what is working for them. If Dordt rates high in comparison, they'll look for the reasons why.

Two and a half years ago, Van Noord was the assistant dean of students at Dordt. Now he is the executive director at Calvary Rehabilitation Center. Calvary has a staff of roughly 27 people, and approximately 70 patients at any one time. Calvary is an alcohol and drug treatment facility. It has both residential and outpatient programs for men and women. Van Noord's job mainly is to travel to different places to give seminars like those to be held at Dordt and to educate people. He's generally gone at least a week and a half out of every month.

"I was at Dordt here for a number of years. I was really quite naive myself about abuse...I guess when I went to Phoenix, it became a personal goal of myself to educate people--especially young people."

Van Noord said that one of the big reasons for this goal was the age of Calvary's clients. He said that eight to ten years ago the average age for alcoholic patients was 40. Now, he says the average age is 25-26 years of age, and the number of women alcoholics is increasing. "If they're full blown alcoholics at 25 or 26, it's got to be starting somewhere in junior high or high school," Van Noord commented.

Does Dordt have a problem with alcohol and drug abuse? Van Noord said, "I think no part of our Christian community is exempt. I think we'd have to look very hard to find a church without a problem." He also commented that in order to determine whether Dordt has a problem with abuse, the meaning of 'problem' should be defined:

"To some people one person in a church is a problem. To some, 25 percent is a problem. To me, if there's one individual in a community with a problem, it's a problem. I know there are individuals at Dordt who have or have had a problem--I know that for a fact."

...no part of our Christian community is exempt."

Van Noord stressed the fact that students should work on decision making to see what they stand on the issue of drinking. He explained that he and the team do not impress "absolute resistance," although he did say that it is an appropriate stance on the issue if you ever make your decision--to use [alcohol] or not to use, it's an appropriate decision for you based on your value system." Van Noord believed it to be very important for a student to know exactly why he does or does not drink, and to stand firm to that decision. "To make a decision and not know why, is really no appropriate decision. If you know all the ramifications and all about effects etc., then say you're going to limit drinking; it's a strong, appropriate decision."

As well as being at Dordt, the Calvary Outreach Team will be speaking at Western and Unity Christian High Schools, and they'll be holding conferences with pastors of Sioux County. Both Dr. Rod Mulder and Dr. Alex De Jong are members of a committee appointed to discuss alcohol and drug use/abuse in the Christian community.

Calendar
Nov. 2--"Star Wars" at 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. and "The Making of Star Wars" at 7:30 p.m. Both in C160.
--Soccer-N.A.I.A. District 15 Championship Tourney
3--"The Making of Star Wars" at 7:00 p.m. and "Star Wars" at 8:00 p.m. in C160.
--Hockey vs. Sioux City at 5:30 p.m., home.
--Soccer-N.A.I.A. District 15 Tourney.
--Sioux County Musician Series presents Gesa Kordes, violinist, at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
6--Election Day.
--Phi Kappa Sigma at 7:30 p.m. in C160.
9--Joint Senior Recital, Del Hubers, tuba, and Jim Koning, French horn, at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
--Hockey vs. Iowa State at 7:00 p.m., away.
10--"The Abdication" at 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. in C160.
--Hockey vs. Iowa State at 7:00 p.m., away.
12--Senior Recital, John Kleinwolterink, clarinet, at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
--International Day, 5:30-10:00 p.m. in C160.
13--Alcohol Awareness meetings at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. in C160.
--Orchestra concert at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
15--Women's Basketball vs. Dakota State at 7:00 p.m., home.
--Faculty meeting at 7:00 p.m. in S4.
Sports

Volleyball Team Setting Pretty
by Mark Vofs

The Dordt Volleyball team ended their season with a 19-17 over-all record and a 7-3 (second place) finish in the conference. On Friday, October 27, a sub-district tourney began with Dordt seated in the number one position. They played four matches and lost the first one to Briar Cliff. A single elimination tourney on Saturday brought disappointment as the Defenders were defeated by Northwestern, 2-1. Coach Mary Schutten stated, "We were successful in every sense of the word. Not only did we have a winning season, but we played very well together as a team and grew together spiritually." Lisa Poel, one of two departing seniors, not only was the highest point-getter in the conference, but she also made the first-string all-conference team and the all-sub-district team, excelling as a middle hitter during the season. Another senior, Linda Mabie, was placed on the all-subdistrict team. A "great player," she led the team over-all statistically.

Junior Donna De Ruyter made second team all-conference and did very well as a setter.

"We probably had the best finish for Dordt in the last ten years as far as the conference goes," remarked Schutten. "Although it's sad to see the end, we had a great time and are proud of our accomplishments. Next year looks good since we had only two seniors but seven freshmen this year."

Soccer Shoots Super Season
by Ivan Bleyenberg

The Dordt College soccer team finished the regular season with an 8-4-1 record. The Defenders are coming off a 3-1 loss to U.N.O. despite Darryl De Ruiter's magnificent "diving header", assisted by Ian Koetsier, for the lone Defender goal.

Earlier in the week, Dordt traveled to Brookings, S.D. to take on S.D.S.U., an opponent they tied with earlier in the season. Just as in the previous match, it was an "evenly" played game as Stuart Hooegherhyde and Frank Vande Kraats netted goals for Dordt's 2-1 victory. Frank is presently the team's leading scorer with 13 goals, followed by De Ruiter with 11.

For the soccer team, the attention this week is being focused on the upcoming NAIA District 15 playoffs which are hosted by Dordt on Friday and Saturday. On Friday, Dordt will play Grandview at 3:00 behind the Chapel. The winner will then be matched against Loras (drawing a bye) on Saturday afternoon for the championship. This victor will represent Iowa in the regional playoffs. "We're anxious and ready to go," stated Coach Quentin Van Essen. "We have a completely different fullback lineup now than when we played Grandview before, and lately we have been strong in the goalie area as well."

According to trainer Roger Fedders, "Three guys have had injuries in the past weeks, but doctors have given them the o.k. to play for this week's tournament."

"It's the weekend that we've been waiting for a long time," says co-captain Craig Tinklenberg.