STEWARDSHIP
by STEVE VANDER HILL

The cultural mandate given to man by God in Genesis 1:28 challenges us with a task—stewardship of the planet.

Stewardship, the gentle and loving cultivation of the earth, requires us to be knowledgeable, vigilant and responsive concerning creation. It demands a liberated lifestyle in which we do not conform to this world, but rather, are sensitive and creative in choosing our path. Cooking More With Less and Living More With Less are two Mennonite books which demonstrate some stewardly strategies for living.

Although stewardship may mean a change in our daily habits, diet, work, play and resource consumption, it does not mean primitivism or cultural regression. In fact, improving the energy efficiency of our homes, factories and vehicles is a big step towards stewardship which does not require much sacrifice.

Here at Dordt, students, faculty and administration have all committed themselves to stewardship, yet as fallen creatures, we have not reached our goal. We have a long way to go.

The articles on pages six and seven deal with major areas requiring stewardship here at Dordt. The articles describe the problems, goals, achievements and operations related to the development of a stewardly campus community.
In this month’s Reformed Herald an interesting book is reviewed: David Chilton’s Productive Christians in an Age of Guilt Manipulators. Chilton reacts to Ronald Sider’s book Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger, claiming the proposals contained in it are not in agreement with scripture and that (in the words of reviewer Rev. D. K. Erlandson) “Sider is a guilt-manipulator who tries to make Christians feel guilty for the God-given wealth which they possess.”

He goes on to mention that Sider’s influence on Reformed circles is evident as Sider was the speaker at Dordt College’s commencement exercises. But then he adds this: “And, although there have been few detractors, little has been written to counter the influence of his book,” and later, “We can only view with regret the decision of Intervarsity Press, co-publisher of Rich Christians, to refuse to publish Productive Christians on the flimsiest of excuses—namely that its tone was too biting and sarcastic and uncharitable towards Sider. Granted, Productive Christians is a biting uncharitable book . . . ”

That Erlandson so readily sides with Chilton infuriates me. Although Chilton does make a few valid criticisms, I am sick and tired of this type of theological carping. The time has come for action.

Stewardship action is taking place at Dordt College but professors, not students, are leading the way. Charles Adams, associate professor of engineering, was instrumental in installing four solar panels on the engineering building roof. He has plans to put solar collectors on his house just as his colleague, Dr. Russell Maatman, did in 1981. Adams also has several student projects planned such as measuring community homes for infiltration heat loss and building a small windmill that would convert wind energy into electricity. “There’s no reason why Sioux Center can’t be the first town to cover 95% of its heating needs with solar power,” he says. And he emphasizes principle over economics.

What vision! My mind begins to wander, thinking of other possibilities . . . and other ideas . . . new vistas . . .

Anybody feel bombarded? With education lectures, world hunger church services and challenging lectures (on an “awake” day), who needs a call to be stewardly?

You might as well ask, “Who needs a call to be Christian?”

As my life broadens, I get the feeling that each thing done, seen or heard, has an effect on something else, but the criss-cross of connections isn’t a jumble of tangled wires; again and again life in the world shows itself to be incredibly interrelated. Stupid man comes along and tries to break it all apart, tries to understand what every “thing” means—apart, tries to understand what every “thing” means—by itself. We tend to forget how things look—all together.

Mike Stair, echoed by Jerry Bouma, wants to reassert that not only thinking things out systematically and logically, but also dealing with reality, creatively and intuitively, is a legitimate (inherently created) and generally ignored way of learning and, may I expand the circle, living.

In line with Bouma and Stair’s minor thrust that stressing the positive in education might create greater self-worth and product than continually pointing to the negative, Rev. Kamps repeatedly shocks Covenant CRC’s congregation with liberating “calls” to joyful living—this may also include tithing with a “party” before the Lord.

Now don’t go shouting, “What about sin, conflict, and Christian struggle?” Like being obscure, it’s too easy to be negative—it’s harder to be positive in a negative world. (Static reform and over-used “reformational” terms fall by the same sword as “simple” wording: positive/negative, or worse, black/white.) Like much at Dordt, home and elsewhere it’s time to get to the living debate (far beyond pedantic word games)!

What I’m getting to is that stewardship, from the above perspective, names not only conscientious “earth-keeping,” but begs that we make a creative leap into a working out of that mandate, and that we experience saving water, cans and glass; or eating mounds of rice with imaginative sauces rather than beef and potatoes; or using one’s legs instead of the round ones of a machine; or learning to live more with less, not as excuses for taking the fun out of life, but as true expressions of thankfulness for what we have been made stewards of.

LS
Bouma, Stair Challenge Educators

by LYNN DE YOUNG

The students wondered what woodwork their new-found champions had crawled out of, and discovered that it was the Arts Division of the college responsible for this Faculty Lecture Series. On Nov. 14, 15, and 16 formal education, as it is traditionally conceived of and practiced, was evaluated and found to be lacking; in fact, in the eyes of the examiners, Mike Stair, Professor of Theatre Arts, Gerry Bouma, Professor of Music, it flunked with red markings in all the margins. Some of the professors in the lecture hall were secretly hoping the examiners would apply a curve or at least give extra-credit. But they were ignored and the lectures proceeded as planned.

Stair opened the series with the lecture "Something Is Wrong with the Way We Think We Learn." After first establishing that the state of education is in trouble, he explained that the mess stemmed from a reliance on an out-moded system based on a "love-affair with the great body of material." The problems in education are indicative of Western man's over-all view of life; he is aware, since the Fall, of a world of opposites (pleasure/pain, good/bad, sweet/sour), and is forced to live in and make meaning of that world. Because of this necessity, Western man tries to eradicate one of the opposites (usually the negative one) instead of recognizing them as two sides of one wholistic experience. Stair maintains that this habitual way of experiencing reality in halves shapes (at least) our practical application, if not our entire understanding of education. Instead of accepting creation, we analyze and dissect it until we can understand it. By this process we turn whatever it is we are looking at into a mere object. Stair asserts that the individual is a part of a whole; therefore to know something, that something has to become a part of the individual; the knowledge and the person can be together "in creating." He closed by saying that the role of the teacher should not be to transfer information, for information is cheap, but to insightful-ly guide the students through experiences which help students to grasp their own insight, for insight is precious.

Dr. Bouma's approach to the problem of education was from a psychological standpoint. He began with the premise that we, as Christians, must be trying to understand how people learn and thus develop theories of the learning process. He emphasized the untapped possibilities inherent in the sub-conscious mind. The first part of his lecture was devoted to the man's built-in control system, the "Servo," which effects learning through a system of error and correction. Externals, such as the family or school, can influence the Servo either positively or negatively. Unfortunately, too often the school is a negative influence creating a negative attitude to learning. The Servo can be self-programmed to over-ride these negatives (thus over-riding itself). The Servo can't distinguish between a simulated and a real experience. Dr. Bouma continued by looking at the conscious analytical processes through which information is categorized, re-designed, or adapted according to need, and is stored for future use in the sub-conscious (memory). The problem revealed here was that information which seems to have no immediate use to the person is dismissed, sent uncategorized to the sub-conscious where it is almost impossible to retrieve. Bouma concluded then that the teacher must find a way to make the information necessary for use so that it won't be dismissed.

A discussion period was held in place of a final lecture, and the questions which were raised varied from curriculum to motivation to economics. No cut-and-dried answers were given, for both Bouma and Stair feel that each situation must be examined individually and a method created to fit the problem. Finally, each teacher must set the problem before himself. If he is unhappy about either what he is doing or not doing, then he can work to create his own unique pedagogical techniques on the basis of the students' needs and his own personality.

Small Orchestra Provides Precise Sound

by ART NIKKEL

Dr. Wayne A. Mitchell conducted the Dordt College Orchestra in their first performance of the year at Dordt on Friday, Nov. 11. They performed six pieces in their hour and fifteen minute concert.

The evening began with the four movements of "Chamber Suite in D" by G.F. Handel followed by "Canon" by Johann Pachelbel which some may remember as the theme from the movie "Ordinary People." The first half of the concert ended with the "Sinfonia di Caccia" by Leopold Mozart in which a French horn quartet also participated. Members of the quartet were Melanie Masters, Becky Terpstra, Roger Tubergen and Allison Vander Zee.

The second half of the concert began with the four movements of the "Sonata da Camera in E Major (Suites for the Chamber)" by Antonio Vivaldi in which Julie Vanden Brink participated as harpsichordist. This was followed by the familiar "Serenade No. 13 in G Major, K.525, (Eine Kleine Nachtmusik)" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and the concert was concluded by a more upbeat style piece, "Northridge Drive" by Caesar Giovannini.

Though there was a small turn-out for Dr. Mitchell's premier performance at Dordt, it was obvious from the audience's response that they appreciated the fine musicianship of the conductor and ensemble. The small size of the ensemble provided a very pure sound and enhanced their dedication and individual performance.

Afterwards Dr. Mitchell said that the group had "given me confidence in the devotion we had before the concert." He expressed his affection for the group saying that they and he were "friends working together." Coming performances by the group will be "Gloria" by Vivaldi on Dec. 18 with the Chorale, conducted by Dale Grotenhuis.
Dear Editors:

I would like to discuss a prevailing tone or attitude I have noticed throughout the Diamond this semester, then discuss the computer issue (as brought out in the TwinLuke Zone) in the context of the first discussion.

A few quotes from previous Diamonds pinpoint this tone: "It took it upon myself to paint a rather pathetic picture in which I thought of an escalating supremacy of media, myth and machine over man." (Luke Seerveld, Sept. 15 issue) "Dordt ... had better set up a knowledgeable board of faculty, students, and outsiders to minimize the extent to which the users become the used." (The TwinLuke Zone, Nov. 3 issue)

The thrust of these statements is that computer technology constitutes a force that can or will control mankind. I disagree. Men control other men and nature possibly through the use of computers and other technological products, but computers do not control man.

Technology is an activity of man and technological objects a product of this activity. We are responsible to God for both. Technology is not an autonomous power that has escaped man's control, even though man has extended his power through it so that modern technology "has put its stamp on the whole culture, sweeping it right along with the swift pace of development." This quote is from the book Technology and the Future by Egbert Schuurman which provided an excellent and indepth study of this matter.

I would like to briefly explain the application of technology to the computer, using Egbert Schuurman as a reference and guide. Computers have a twofold application—they are interwoven into 1) thought processes and 2) control mechanisms. With thought processes they are used to deliver information to people; as interwoven into control mechanisms they are interpolated between people and a fact or process.

The computer is much more than a toy to play games on, type papers on or make graphs with. It is a very powerful tool that can simulate processes, organize and process enormous amounts of information rapidly and faultlessly and can execute complex mathematical procedures that will never be within the capacity of the human brain. But it is just an instrument that is subject to people. The information fed into the computer is done by people, and the processing and program for processing this information is the result of human analytical powers.

Egbert Schuurman sums this up well when he writes: "While the computer's results may be in the nature of a surprise, and while people may never be able to achieve these results themselves, we are not to jump to the conclusion that the computer is independent of people. The computer is at humanity's service. It helps people to analyze, find, remember, count, and sort." (Technology and the Future, p. 23)

The computer, then, is not something to be afraid of. It is a tool, but like all other tools it must be used wisely. This means making decisions and setting up priorities.

The main problems that may arise with the computer are the ones of making certain it is being used with the appropriate restrictions and by people who need it the most. The computer may become a crutch to a society enamored with convenience. The computer also may stifle creativity, though it need not.

Dordt has never presented a very unified or clear picture of what the computer is or how it is applied, partially due to the fact that Diamond reporters know next to nothing about computers and have no engineering or technological background. This is also partially due to the fact that there has been very little effort on the Diamond's part to address these issues to people who have been studying them. (Prof. Adams and Prof. Chang are two that I know of specifically.)

I feel Dordt already has a knowledgeable board—perhaps not as big as it should be—but still there and open for people to come to. Engineering 105 deals with issues for freshmen; engineering 320 (Technology and Society) deals with these issues on a more indepth level. I'm sure the computer science major includes classes that deal with the topic.

In conclusion, I would like to raise this question: Does Dordt need the number of computers it plans to eventually get? Couldn't this need be met by a more structured approach to computer use, such as restricting paper typing on the computer, game usage (already restricted somewhat), and similar uses? Perhaps the typing room should be partially converted to computer use, or fees set up for the use of Magic Window or for paper usage. The matter could definitely use more discussion and thought.

Sincerely,

Kurt Kuipers.
Nuclear Holocaust: 'The Day After'

On Sunday evening, Nov. 20, ABC will broadcast "The Day After," a made-for-TV movie which has become one of the most controversial programs ever aired, even before its showing. The controversy rises from the show's content—a dramatization of the nuclear annihilation of Kansas City and its effect on survivors in Lawrence, Kansas. The movie is horrifyingly graphic which, combined with the heavy nature of the content, has prompted ABC to advise parental discretion in viewing.

The controversy surrounding the film comes from proponents on both sides of the nuclear freeze issue. Antinuclear advocates hope to use the film to increase involvement in the nuclear freeze movement. Opponents of the freeze movement, such as Rev. Jerry Falwell and William Buckley claim that producers of the film have basically made a $7 million dollar contribution (cost of the film) to the anti-nuke campaign. Those who put the film together claim political neutrality; claiming the film only depicts what might happen in a nuclear war situation. The words "Although based on scientific fact, this film is fiction" are flashed on the screen to begin the show.

The film is sure to heighten the awareness of the nuclear threat in all who view it. Discussions about this film will last for weeks and involve almost all Americans. The Diamond encourages all Dordt students to try to view the movie and discuss with others the actions we should take as Christians in the Nuclear Age.

continued from page 4

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Agriculture
by KELVIN DEN BOER
KEVIN DEN BOER
JEFF PASTOOR
Stewardship--the proper use of our God-given resources. In what way does this apply to the Dordt Agricultural Stewardship Center? The Stewardship Center came about as a response to the needs of Dordt College, as a place to train agriculture students in an atmosphere of Christian stewardship.

The purpose of the Stewardship Center is based on the infallible Word of God. In Genesis, God instructed man to till the soil and produce his food by the sweat of his brow (Gen.2:15; 3:19,23). In Proverbs, we are told to take good care of the animals that provide us with many of our basic needs (Prov.27:23-27). In the parable of the talents, Christ teaches us to make optimum use of our available resources (Matt.25:14-30).

There are several ways in which stewardship is practiced at the Stewardship Center. In the area of soil conservation, students and staff use terraces to minimize erosion from water runoff and plow in the spring to prevent soil erosion from winter winds. Crop rotations are used to maximize soil fertility and to replenish soil nutrients. Many of the fields have been tilled to remove excess water from low areas which would otherwise hinder planting and tillage in these areas.

At the dairy, animals are fed according to production, so that they are neither overfed nor underfed. This also minimizes wasted feed and allows for maximum production of quality milk. The animals are treated with proper respect and care, as exemplified by the excellent herd health record and low death rate at the facility. Production is also maximized through the use of modern equipment and by milking the cows three times daily.

At the swine and beef facility, special attention is also paid to maintaining healthy cattle and hogs through the use of proper nutrition and herd health programs. All animals are watched carefully, and computerized record keeping system is utilized to ensure maximum use of the facilities by keeping close track of the farrowing schedule. This system also provides a way of keeping track of the productivity of each sow plus the amount of feed that is used in the overall system. Butcher hogs are sold as soon as they reach 220 pounds (or at least close to this) because once they reach this weight, their feed efficiency drops dramatically and one wastes feed by keeping them longer.

The Agricultural Stewardship Center provides many different uses for one facility. Besides providing food products, the facilities provide work study jobs for students, opportunity for agricultural education and research, an example of proper management techniques and practices and a service to the community through research, test plots and practical advice. In the future, the Agricultural Stewardship Center will try to implement as many new management practices in the area of stewardship as the budget will allow.

Resources
by SUE KONYNENBELT

Does Dordt College utilize resources in a stewardly fashion? Are we doing all we can to conserve energy and food?

Dordt maintenance seems to be doing a fair job of energy management. According to Lou Kuiper, steps have been taken to reduce heating costs on campus.

Equipment-wise, the ventilating fans in the campus buildings are computer controlled. This means they are on a time clock which turns them on and off on a regular basis. During the summer of 1980, small double-paned windows replaced the previous, large, steel-framed, single-paned ones. Judging by the lower heating costs, Kuiper estimates that this insulating renovation has already paid for itself.

The chapels of the Commons seemingly has an "energy-conscious contest" between the dorms. Food is another resource that Dordt is dealing with in a stewardly manner. The Commons seemingly has an inability to waste food. According to the cooks, they rarely throw out food. Yesterday's leftovers are served again today, and will probably reappear in tomorrow's casserole and next week's soup. The rule that Commons' workers may not give out double portions, but rather that students must come back for a second helping, is very effective. By observing the trays going into the dishroom, one can see that little food is thrown out.

Although it is possible to say that Dordt is an energy-conscious campus, students daily waste an incredible amount of resources. Water usage, namely the lengthy showers some students take, is one major concern. Another is the alarming number of students that drive cars to classes and the commons.
Recycling
by STEVE VANDER HILL

Students studying the physical part of creation can easily see the resource problems we are heading for on our present course, so some of these students are currently promoting "recycling awareness." Convinced that students, too, have a responsibility for stewardship, they have developed a small-scale recycling program to reduce material-wasting on campus.

Though both the Ag Club and the Natural Science Club ran the program last year, the Natural Science Club is operating it alone this year. Planning to make the program city-wide eventually, the Natural Science Club is tackling a formidable organizational task. Collection, storage, transportation and markets for the recyclable materials are several of the problems which must be worked out before a program can begin.

Depending on what markets are located, the club may collect cans, aluminum, jars and milk jugs for recycling. Last year, paper collected on campus was donated to the Sioux Center Christian School's paper drive and the cans collected were stored at the Dordt Dairy facility. However, the cans accumulated are not worth enough to justify the cost of transporting them to a recycling plant in Omaha, NE.

Because of the size of the job, the Natural Science Club is seeking students who would like to help begin the city-wide program.

World Hunger
by BOB BOTMA

The World Hunger Awareness Club, in its support of hunger relief agencies and its sponsorship of two overseas children, is promoting world hunger awareness on campus.

The club collects donated pop cans around campus and uses the money to pay for sponsorship of two needy children in the Philippines, through the 'Food for the Hungry' organization.

WHAC also supports CRWRC (Christian Reformed World Relief Committee) projects. The club plans to sell products handcrafted by Filipinos through 'Cottage Industries' based in the Philippines. This program of the CRWRC is helping the poor help themselves.

Frank aids hungry.

Environment
by PATTI FISHER

Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies is not found in the typical college setting. Located in Mancelona, MI, beside a lake on a wooded hillside, it is surrounded by several acres of woods. This setting is not only excellent for recreational purposes but is often used for classes.

Au Sable is an off-campus program of Dordt College which is touching many people's lives with its Christian perspective on stewardship in our highly technological, throw-it-away society. A variety of environmentally-related courses (not limited to biology) are offered which discuss current environmental issues and involve several field trips and other hands-on experiences.

During the past two summers, students from a variety of Christian colleges including Dordt, as well as several professors such as Dr. Vander Zee and Rev. Hodgson, have met at Au Sable. Students may take one or both of the five-week sessions offered (a winter interim is also offered) for college credit. Not only are these classes worthwhile, but the friendships developed make the sessions pass quickly. A few Dordt students who have spent part of their summer at Au Sable are Pam Veltkamp, Kent Kuipers and Patti Fisher.

Many students come for two or more sessions, not only because they enjoy it so much, but in order to take advantage of Au Sable's certification program. Certificates are given for environmental analysts, land resource and analysts, water resource analysts, as well as naturalists.

Au Sable is a great place to meet other stewardly-minded Christians, and to be challenged with the task we all share as "earth keepers." If Au Sable interests you, see Dr. Vander Zee or Rev. Hodgson or talk to any of the students who have gone.

Andrea and Yolanda make it a daily routine.

Natural science club retrieves collectibles.
Energy Wise Pedestrians

Question #1: Would you be in favor of a pedestrian campus if it would cut down on car usage through campus? (Cut off car usage through the middle of campus?)

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Question #2: Would you be in favor of cutting down on energy usage even if it meant a modification in your present life style?

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A Change In Voice

by ANNETTE COUPERUS

The Voice, a Dordt publication sent to families across the U.S. and Canada, has taken on a new format this year. Sally Jongma is the new editor, and she hopes to represent Dordt as honestly as possible: "Not show how great we are, but to see how we're serving."

Jongma says she is excited with the new potential of The Voice. What was once a four to eight page publication has now expanded to 12 pages. Now there will be more room for feature articles and coverage on a greater variety of topics. The Voice was mailed to alumni, parents of students and donors to the college. Now the mailing list has expanded to a full 80,000 which includes all the member families of Christian Reformed churches across the U.S. and Canada.

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This is the second part of the two-part series concerning genetic engineering. The last "Confabulations" dealt with a brief look at the mechanics of this science, and this article will attempt to deal with the following things. First, a few quotes will be given to depict the prevailing atmosphere in which genetic engineering is being developed. Second, we will deal with the sanctity of man and the cultural mandate. And third, we will try to come to some conclusions concerning a few areas of genetic engineering.

"No act is evil in itself... if the greatest good of the greatest number (i.e. social good) were served by it, it would be justifiable not only to specialize the capacities of people by cloning or by constructive genetic engineering, but also to bio-engineer or bio-design para-humans or 'modified man.'" (Fletcher, 1977: 390).

"Nobel Prize-winning scientists claim they will be able to produce live carbon-copy clones of you in less than ten years. Leading scientists are proposing that only people with certain 'superior' genotypes be licensed to have babies. Normal sexual reproduction might be totally replaced by artificial procedures within fifty years. Some companies are selecting people for certain jobs on the basis of their genotypes (Howard and Rifkin, 1977: 1)."

It can be seen from these quotes that the general atmosphere within the field of genetic engineering is antithetical by nature. Man's responsibility to God does not even come into the picture. The greatest good of the majority is seen as the sole criterion for moral decisions. The end justifies the means. Very little questioning is done to the ethicality of the procedures of genetic engineering. Therefore, an awareness of the culture we live in should have a profound effect on how we deal with the burning questions of genetic engineering.

When dealing with this area of science, there is a danger of treating man as just another part of creation. That is not to say that man is not a part of creation, but that he is an unque part. This uniqueness stems from the fact that man is relationally tied to God. Therefore, man is on a different level than the rest of the created order. It is on this basis that any scientific investigation of human life must be considered.

Any dealings with man are dealings with God. Man is born with this type of untouchability which limits any free inquiry into his structure and nature. We must fight against any idea of a free individual right to inquiry. God commanded all of mankind to be stewards over creation, and this stewardship must be characterized by humble service. There must be a communal effort both in the investigation of creation and in the laying down of guidelines and restrictions for this investigation.

Now let us try to get down to some particulars. For example, when dealing with in vitro fertilization, we must realize that this practice begins to abstract conception from the family. Due to the moral consequences of such a trend the Christian community should not support it.

Nobel Prize-winning scientists claim they will be able to produce live carbon-copy clones of you in less than ten years.

Furthermore, the practice of in vitro fertilization does not respect human life in its earliest stages. There is needless killing in the field within the laboratory, and to say that this could be stopped is unrealistic. To fertilize one egg at a time is considered too costly, and therefore, undesirable. A stance on this matter must, when concerning human life, take the safest course. This is good ethics.

What about therapeutic genetic surgery? Could we see that as beneficial? It would, if perfected, allow many more newborn babies to live healthy lives. If therapeutic genetic surgery could be perfected within the most complex animal first, then its use for the betterment of human life may be considered. But at this present time, a moratorium should be placed on any genetic engineering experimentation with humans until society can be assured that the technique can be used to aid life with a high degree of success. Furthermore, no experimentation should be done outside of the attempt to aid life so that it can develop to full-term. This would exclude any experimentation for experimentation's sake alone.

Cloning is definitely wrong and an act of rebellion against God.

Due to the antithetical nature of our culture and our lack of wisdom, it might be best for Christians to hold back almost all forms of genetic engineering. Our society is so decadent, we cannot expect it to use genetic engineering properly. The argument of moral consequences demands a stronger stance. Perhaps even the above-mentioned conclusion on therapeutic genetic surgery will have to be laid aside.

In conclusion, this article has only touched on a few questions and a few areas of genetic engineering in hopes of stimulating discussion. Many other pertinent issues need to be dealt with.

Bibliography


Peer Counseling Expands

PRESS RELEASE

Three years ago, Quentin Van Essen and Karen Helder, both of the Counseling Center, began what is known as the Peer-Counseling Program. The first year was just a planning year. There were relatively few Peer-Counselors (PC's), and they had little contact with students. Last year there were nine PC's. They attended regular meetings and assisted freshmen in adjusting to college life. This year eighteen PC's were chosen. According to Van Essen, this is the year the program has reached maturity and that eighteen is the highest number of PC's to be chosen.

Peer Counseling is a program common among many colleges and universities. Its main purpose is to have upperclassmen assist the Counseling Center in helping freshmen adjusting to college. Upperclassmen have most likely experienced similar situations freshmen face and so can function as a source of encouragement. The PC's assist in orientation at the beginning of each school year. They provide campus tours, attend freshmen group meetings and provide an information booth in the SUB. They also assist transfer students who enter at semester break and must become acquainted with the college.

This year for the first time, the PC's worked with faculty advisors. They have given academic assistance, concerning course information which many faculty members are not always able to supply. This aspect of the program, says Van Essen, has worked quite well.

The relationship between PC's and Resident Assistants (RA's) is quite clearly defined. They work together in the sense that the program is enriching for both students and peer counselors.

The roles of each are to assist freshmen in adjusting to college. Upperclassmen have most likely experienced similar situations freshmen face and so can function as a source of encouragement. The PC's assist in orientation at the beginning of each school year. They provide campus tours, attend freshmen group meetings and provide an information booth in the SUB. They also assist transfer students who enter at semester break and must become acquainted with the college.

This year for the first time, the PC's worked with faculty advisors. They have given academic assistance, concerning course information which many faculty members are not always able to supply. This aspect of the program, says Van Essen, has worked quite well.

The relationship between PC's and Resident Assistants (RA's) is quite clearly defined. They work together in the sense that the program is enriching for both students and peer counselors. They complement each other. Also, a good number of present PC's are former RA's. The roles of each are totally different. The PC's are more of an information outlet whereas the RA's become more involved in the emotional strains of students. The PC's function more as "brother/sister" to the freshmen, whereas the RA's assist the Counseling Center in keeping up on other problems (spiritual/emotional/discipline).

Evaluations of both the program and PC's were sent to the freshmen and the response received by the Counseling Center was positive. The PC's assist in orienting new students to the College and in answering their questions. They have been a valuable addition to the Counseling Center and have helped to make it a more effective place for students to seek help.

Ontario Authorizes ICS Charter

PRESS RELEASE

After three years of intensive negotiation with the Ontario government, the Institute for Christian Studies (ICS) received a charter to grant graduate level degrees. The Ontario Legislature passed Bill Pr21 on October 25, and thereby ended the threat to the Institute's continued operation as a Christian graduate school. Bill Pr21 gives the Institute a charter authorizing it to grant the degree of Master of Philosophical Foundations, which recognizes the Institute's work in the philosophical foundations of the humanities and social sciences.

In 1980 the Ontario government introduced a bill, passed in revised form in June, 1983, directed against non-chartered institutions that gave degrees of little or no academic worth. The government made provisions for theological seminaries and Bible colleges to obtain charters. Because ICS did not fit into this category, its existence was endangered despite its reputation for high academic standards.

Support for ICS came from various academic quarters and from head officials of many churches and religious groups, including Anglican, United, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Christian Reformed, Baptist and others.

The Institute's negotiations with the Ontario government had a successful outcome when Dr. Bette Stephenson, Minister of Colleges and Universities, agreed to a unique degree designation last January. The bill to enact the ICS charter was supported by all political parties in Ontario. It was introduced by Mr. Andy Watson, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Chatham-Kent, and seconded by Mr. Richard Troilleven, MPP for Oxford.

Upon receipt of the charter, Dr. Bernard Zylstra, ICS President, commented that this recognition of the unique character of ICS is "another step forward for Christian higher education in Canada."

The ICS is a graduate school located in Toronto, Ontario, that offers courses for masters work and certificate studies in areas of philosophy, theology, political science and aesthetics.

Sylvan Payne Displays Artwork

NEWS RELEASE

The art work of visiting artist Sylvan Payne is currently on display in the Dordt College Mezzanine through the end of November.

"The Two of Us"

Payne is a native of Seattle, WA, but now lives in Toronto, Ont. He holds a bachelor's degree in painting and drawing from Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL. The majority of Payne's pieces of art are for sale. All pieces were done using oil, graphite and transfers on paper.

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The Dordt College art department invited Payne to display his artwork in the Mezzanine, but Payne also came to the Sioux Center area to visit his brother-in-law Professor John Kok and family. Kok teaches philosophy courses at Dordt.

All interested persons are invited to visit the art display Monday through Saturday.
Celibacy Workshop Probes Singleness

by LORI WALBURG

"Believe it or not," ran the "Today" announcement, "Dordt is providing a celibacy workshop (singleness workshop) Monday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. in EC A-1. Karen Helder will be speaking and a discussion will follow afterwards. All are welcome—except if you're married." Fortunately the communications of celibacy did not drive everyone away—eight girls and one boy showed up for the informative workshop. Helder discussed these reasons for singleness along with problems and privileges experienced by singles.

The reasons for not marrying are more varied than the religious rationales given by monks and nuns as well as by Paul the apostle. Some choose against it because of a gradually increasing awareness that it's unlikely for them, or because there is a lack of eligible partners. Busy with a job or college, others simply have not found their spouse yet. Still another group has been emotionally crippled by the death of a spouse or by an unsuccessful marriage, and therefore, feel unable to marry again.

This singular status generates many problems, the most common problem being loneliness. When friends marry they turn inward toward their family and often times make shallow what had been a deep relationship.

DORDT COLLEGE IS THE PLACE TO GO TO FIND A MARRIAGE PARTNER

Society also becomes increasingly couple-oriented, and churches have no societies for the wide age variety of singles. Pressure from the family to marry may cause feelings of embarrassment, doubts of one's self worth, and a fear of never marrying. The single person must also deal with sexual desires that have no outlet.

The privileges of singleness, though less numerous than the problems, are also present. One has the private time needed to grow through introspection and to deepen one's relationship with God. Because one's identity isn't tied up with the spouse's, the single person can develop a strong self-concept through his or her own accomplishments. Finally, one has the freedom in making all his or her decisions, from where to live to how to spend money.

The students discussed the stressful attitude fostered by family and friends that "Dordt College is the place to go to find a marriage partner." Although one may feel he is here only for an education, parents often seem to have another objective in mind: a "nice" Dutch Christian Reformed spouse for their son or daughter. One person commented that parental attitudes often seem contradictory: "Parents say, 'If your going to get married it would be best to get through college first, but why don't you at least date someone?'" Extended family relations also derive a nosy delight in asking, "Have you found a nice boy out there at Dordt yet?"

Marriage, however, is not a "cure-all" or single's panacea. It can't remove one's feelings of insecurity or loneliness; it can't even stop the relations from probing into your life. As one married student pointed out, after marriage they ask, "When are you having a kid?" Instead, "Marriage is a gift from God," reminded Helder, "and He'll give it when He sees fit."

Wildlife Biology Offered

by SUE KONYENBELT

Next semester the Dordt biology department is offering a very "wild" course—"Birds and Mammals of North-West Iowa." The course is designed to increase skills in observation, identification and interpretation of local fauna.

The course format is unlike regular classes, as it will consist of three field trips and three lecture sessions. All classes will be held on Saturday mornings.

Gordon Brand, an expert in wildlife biology, will teach the course. Brand has previously taught Field Biology of Birds and Mammals at Dordt College.

This course is very unique as both students and members of the community can enroll. For community members, the cost is $25. In this case, the course would be regarded as a non-credit continuing education course.

One hour of biological credit can be earned by students who concurrently enroll in a one hour individual studies class (Biology 355). In addition to successfully completing the course, students will probably have to make several museum study specimens for the college. The course is an excellent opportunity for everyone to become well-versed in wildlife biology through observing and learning important ecological and structure-function concepts.

Puzzle Answer

ACROSS
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
1. Movie mogul Marcus
2. The Sunflower State
3. The Regents
4. Drink to excess
5. Drink to excess
6. "The Lord is My
7. The Sunflower State
8. The Sunflower State
9. The Sunflower State
10. Drink to excess

DOWN
1. Conservativer's foes
2. Liberal's foes
3. Liberal's foes
4. Liberal's foes
5. Liberal's foes
6. Liberal's foes
7. Liberal's foes
8. Liberal's foes
9. Liberal's foes
10. Liberal's foes

EDD BOYD, JR., EDWARD JULIUS COLLEGIATE (NW)'72
by NORMAN VISSER

This weekend the Dordt Blades will take to the road to play a two game series against Drake. These games will constitute the first real test that the young Blades team will face. Their only other game this year was a loss to the Sioux City All Stars, in which inexperience, and a lack of practice played a part.

The majority of the players this year are rookies. Only two seniors returned from last year's squad: goalie Eno Meijers and defenseman Ken Griffioen. Also returning are juniors Theo Poel, Jack Bandstra, and Bryan Vander Linden. The majority of the players on the team are freshmen, including three of the four defensemen, Peter Zwiers, Dave Westra, and Glen Bandstra. Other freshmen are centers Ed Groot, and left wing Tony Bosch. Two other first year players are Peter Holmen, and Norman Visser.

Player-coach Jack Bandstra says he is optimistic about the potential of the Blades this year. He said that early in the season he was surprised by the talent that he had on the ice. However, having a small team presents some problems. For example conditioning becomes a real factor. To be able to last a full game and avoid injury, the players will have to be in good shape. Therefore the players have engaged in running and other off-ice training, to complement regular practice.

Generally, Bandstra says he has been pleased by the progress of the team. Bandstra says he is also pleased with the amount of enthusiasm on campus for hockey. A lot of people are excited about and want to go to hockey games, so the Blades would like to apologize that they have been unable to get many home games. Bandstra mentioned that there are few hockey teams in the area, and it is difficult to get them to play. Twice this year teams have backed out of scheduled games with only three days notice.

After they return from Drake, the Blades plan to enter a tournament in Emo, Ontario, at Thanksgiving break. Later in the season, they plan to go on a 10 game tour in Vancouver B.C. during Christmas break, and will host a tournament against teams from Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Thunder Bay, Ontario in February.

Defenders Start Victorious

The Dordt College men's basketball team commenced the 1983-84 season Monday night by defeating the Dana College Vikings from Blair, NE, 68-66. Dordt had a slow start as the Defenders trailed by as many as 12 points and were on the losing side of the score at halftime, 39-31. The Defenders grabbed their first lead of the game 58-57 with 4:10 left in the contest. Don Van Den Top, a junior, sparked Dordt with 26 points.

The Defenders have nine returning lettermen this year, and eight of them saw starting time throughout the 1982-83 season. Returning members of the team include: 6'4" senior forward Jon Broek from Orange City, IA, who averaged 11.4 points per game, and led the team with 137 rebounds; 6'6" senior Brent Kok from Corsica, SD, who averaged 10.1 points per game last season; 6'5" Brad Boer from Sioux Center, IA, who averaged 9 points per game; 6'5" junior forward Don Vanden Top from Rock Valley, IA, who last season averaged 11 points per game and was chosen to the all-district 15 team; 6'10" sophomore center Paul Hamstra from Phoenix, AZ, who pulled down 6.5 rebounds and averaged 9 points per game.

The Defenders backcourt includes: 6'0" senior Doug Miedema from Hospers, IA, who scored 6.3 points per game last season; 6'0" senior Russ Smith from Englewood, CO; 6'2" junior Mark Christians from Sioux Falls, SD; and 6'1" junior Brian Vos from Ripon, CA.

Newcomers for the Defenders include junior Gale Tien from Sheldon, IA and sophomore forward Dave Brenneman from Sioux Center, IA.

Hockey players compare legs. by John Wessellus

FUN(D) NIGHT

Betty De Jager clobbers No more hair there! Pauline Vander Lugt.