Summer exchange students in Mexico yearn for Dordt Dutchmen.

by Vicki den Ouden

Strange happenings occurred in C160 last Monday night. One might have thought they were on an alien planet... or at least in a different culture.

Dordt's foreign language department sponsored the second annual International Day at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 15. The multi-cultural celebration filled the room past seating capacity.

Selina Ebens, sophomore at Dordt, was MC for the evening. After she welcomed everyone, the foreign language professors led the audience in the singing of the round, "Are You Sleeping?" in Spanish, Dutch, German and French. A few Spanish songs followed.

From this point on, the evening was filled with stranger and stranger occurrences. First of all, a Dutch Superman, alias Clark Kentstra, appeared. The audience also witnessed a Dutch grandfather, played by student Don Top, fly through the air with a toilet seat stuck to him. Next, a German wolf entered the room and ate "Großmutter" (student Clark Kentstra) belched loudly and emitted from behind the bed with two huge lumps in his stomach.

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**Editorial**

by Brian Deheer

"There is a time for every thing ... a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away." Ecclesiastes 3:16.

We often see giving up as a failure, a cop-out, or a sign of weakness. If someone we know has been pursuing a career or working on a project and leaves it unfinished, we say that person gave up and lost sight of his goal. Students come to college seeking education. Somehow a person who never finished college is not regarded quite as highly as one who has a degree. We then say it is the students' fault. But he left his work to save his life. Perhaps he could be of better service to God alive than dead. We can only speculate.

So how can we tell when to let something drop and when to keep striving? Oh sure, sometimes these decisions are easy. For instance, we have our tasks as students: at this point in the semester, with assignments after essay after quiz after problem after test, with term papers too long neglected and soon due, with no chance to come up for air, it's easy to say I give up. It's human to be discouraged and lose hope.

Yet we know we must keep pressing on. We have clichés for this: bite the bullet, never say die, tighten the belt. We respect Christians who are walking models of "perseverance of the saints," Christians who will be able to say, "I have run the race. I have kept the faith." None of us wants to be the one whose faith is shaken, the weaker brother or sister who loses hope.

But for these weaker brothers and sisters, God has given us Thanksgiving break. In anticipation of this break we can pray, "Mine books pile up around me, mine papers overwhelm me; I look unto the hills, and from whence shall my hope come?"

As the curtains were drawn, the students debated what to do as their Privacy was being invaded.

The doors were locked, the students discovered. The R.A.'s didn't mind; they were covered.

As the curtains were drawn, the students debated what to do as their Privacy was being invaded.

The rooms they went through, with a breeze, As the sinful students were left outside to freeze. (warmed only by boiling temper)

If it is the students' Trust they seek, Why is it necessary For them to sneak?

We only wish to be treated as adults and not be subjected to such under-handed tactics as we experienced and were forced to accept the night of the "Invasion,"

The Diamond is published by the students at Dordt College. These students are charged with the responsibility of creating a magazine which is true to Jesus as the Truth. We are striving to develop journalism which proclaims the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Individual opinions may vary, but we hope that the communication of these ideas will stimulate growth in the Christian community.

**Poetic Plea**

Dear Editor:

Re: "The November Eight Invasion"

'Twas the night to study, And all through West Hall, Everyone was working, 'Till the fire alarm did call.

Out with a dash, And into the cold; The students waited patiently, As they were told.

A mere fire alarm Was the R.A.'s intent, But their ideas Were obviously bent.

The doors were locked, The students discovered. The R.A.'s didn't mind; They were covered.

As the curtains were drawn, The students debated What to do as their Privacy was being invaded.

The rooms they went through, With a breeze, As the sinful students Were left outside to freeze. (warmed only by boiling temper)

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We only wish to be treated as adults and not be subjected to such under-handed tactics as we experienced and were forced to accept the night of the "Invasion,"

**Editorial Misuse**

Dear Editor:

I probably go against popular emphasis and belief when I say this, but I think you misused Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7b in your Editorial of Nov. 4. This passage in Ecclesiastes is often taken to be a beautiful expression of the harmony of life. The order of our existence is lauded and we are encouraged to learn when to be silent, when to speak, etc. I don't believe that is what the author of the book intended.

If not for the truth found in the last two verses of Ecclesiastes, it would be a book of despair. Solomon has looked at life with the wisdom given him by God and he finds it meaningless. (NIV Ecc. 1:13, 14) Throughout the book the refrain, "Vanity of Vanities," or "Meaningless, meaningless," is found.

A person works hard all his life but when he dies all that he has worked for goes to someone else. (2:18)

Many examples of the meaninglessness of events are exposed by Solomon. Chapter 3 is, in large part, this exposé of the meaninglessness of life. "There is a time to be silent and a time to speak." There is a time for coffee and a time for tea. There is a time to study and a time to "have fun." Everything according to a pattern, according to standards and traditions.

What of it? It's meaningless; vanity. "What gain has the worker from his toil?" (3:9)

"The words of the wise are like goads, (prompting
and guiding action) their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd. (12:11) "Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." (12:13b) If the writing of a letter to Diamond is fearing God and keeping His commandments, then yes, it is our duty. But if it is men hashing over issues, timely or untimely, it is meaningless. Then perhaps we're better off eating and drinking and enjoying our work. (2:24, 3:13, 22, 3:18, 8:15, and 9:7)

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Koopmans

P.S.—If you haven't done so recently, read Ecclesiastes at one sitting. It's really a great book to read.

KDCR Proposal

Dear Editor:

A high-flown visionary editorial, a mild dressing-down by a visiting reformer, a reply by the injured first party—is there room for two more cents' worth?

There are programs on KDCR that I appreciate, but 'Illumi-numi-nations' isn't one of them. I have nothing against good, contemporary Christian music nor against the concept of having that and only that on a particular program. That's not the issue, as I see it. What is, is (1) whether room can be made to air, critique, and enjoy contemporary secular music and (2) whether more solidly-artistic contemporary Christian music can be substituted for some of what is now being played.

I think both questions should be answered in the affirmative.

Given my position, I suppose I ought to give a proof for this assertion, but outside of class, mathematicians feign to be as fallible in argument as the rest of the world, editors and theologians included.

Sincerely,
Calvin Jongma

Altar-ed Call

Dear Editor:

re: article "Well-Received Band Glorifies God" Nov. 4, 1982

The contrast between Sunday and Monday's chapel use intrigues me. On Sunday, Oct. 31, chapel was packed with worshipping Christians at a mass Reformational Celebration. On Monday, it housed a mass emotional concert.

Clapping, whistling, and sporadic cheering at 7:50 p.m. came like a bolt of lightning from the heavens. The heavens were quiescent when he raised his Bible and were considerate while he read and sermonsed. Participated with his attempts to make us sing when it looked as if he wouldn't let the band out until we raised our hands and whispered our "Praise the Lord's" to his satisfaction. We were relieved when the band came.

Annie's tears and raised hands seemed rehearsed and "showy." She could turn her tears on and off easier than we can turn a faucet. However, it had its effect on us. By the end of the concert, many of us lifted our hands at Buck or Annie's command.

If our raised hands meant "to God be the glory," we can still add an Amen. But if the emotional tone of Annie's message was manipulating us into raising our hands, I'll sadly wish that we knew what we believed.

Is our Christianity only a "love relationship with Jesus?" Shall we go along with the flow, close our eyes, raise our hands, forget the realities of the world we live in, and let the emotional tears of Annie carry us into rapturous heights of individualism? Shall we squeeze the hand of our neighbor on Buck's command so he won't view us as cold, unresponsive, or uncchristian? Does the group have a right to stand on the chapel stage and manipulate us in the name of Jesus?

Shall we crawl forward to the altar and be put on display as "having responded" to Annie or Buck's call? Or shall we slip away quietly to our closets—to ask forgiveness for our gullibility?

Sincerely,
Theresa Hubers

Questionable 'ACTS'

Dear Editor:

I find it ironic that students question the possibility of a Reformed pub but do not question the use of altar calls i.e. during the 2nd Chapter of Acts' "concert." I don't mean to question the place of altar calls in this world, but neither do I question the need for normal attitudes and drinking practices. Calvin's Institutes III.X.2 for one example). Christians who are so busy questioning their faith have no time, energy, imagination or money for living as a Christian. A Christian can re dedicate his or her life by responding positively to something other than an altar call. A Christian does not work in a hierarchical framework: first begin with faith and once this is "settled" move down to alcoholic beverage consumption, re Theo De Vos' letter (Oct. 28, '82). Whatever we do is done in human brokenness and won't be complete until the new earth; this is reflected in our faith and our lifestyle.

It makes no sense to work on one and omit the other.

Sincerely,
Dave Koopmans

Tasteless Culture

Dear Editor:

Recently I heard the following riddle on campus: "What is the difference between Dordt College and yogurt?" Answer: "Yogurt has an active culture."

Funny or not, ample testimony bore out this student's opinion on Monday evening, Nov. 8. Being a very poor judge of crowd size, I would nonetheless venture that no more than one hundred people attended the senior organ recital by Pam Ruiter. If this was not scandalous enough, no more than thirty of those persons attending were Dordt College students or faculty.

Why this tragic lack of interest in—to use the broad term—culture? Surely the reason cannot be inadequate physical facilities. Dordt College possesses a magnificent organ, truly disproportionate to the physical size of the student body; apparently it is also disproportionate to any cultural capacity possessed by either faculty or students. Lack of talent is not a valid reason for this lack of attention paid to the performing arts. As those who attended the recital will affirm, Pam Ruiter is no second-rate musician, but rather, a very gifted and capable organist. I submit to you that the sole responsibility for the cultural brand of barbarism currently running rampant on campus rests upon the faculty and student body of Dordt College.

Disparagingly,
S. E. van Dyken

P.S. --the culture one absorbs from student recitals is cheaper than that absorbed via yogurt.

Mis-directed?

Dear Editor:

I am interested in the direction the Dordt College Agricultural Stewardship Center is heading. Is the main thrust of it, at this point, to help Iowa farmers in their present corn/soybeans/pigs/cattle/dairy projects, or is the stewardship center broader in its outreach?

I ask this question because I want to know whether Dordt is the place to which I should direct friends who are interested in using technology in the area of agriculture as a response to their Christian calling, in particular I am talking of students who are not involved in Iowa farming.

Does the stewardship center work at all with alternative technologies (as done near Machynlleth, Great Britain)? Since the larger community of Dordt guides the direction we go, I bring this issue up as a topic for discussion.

Sincerely,
Anita Elwell

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Student Forum Questions KDCR Music Program

by Sue Mulder

Are you interested in the programming of KDCR? Do you wonder why some types of music are played and others are not? Because a number of students were interested, a bridge meeting was held between Student Forum and Denny DeWaard, station manager of KDCR.

"Illumination" was to be the focus of the bridge meeting but the entire KDCR programming was questioned. The statement of purpose and the statement of policy were read by DeWaard. "Proclaiming a God-centered culture ... guided by the word of scriptures," was included in the statement of purpose. DeWaard pointed out that the statement of policy was written to conform to the statement of purpose. The main thrust of both statements is that everything programmed on KDCR should be of a reformed perspective. The reformed doctrine is the criteria.

The members of the forum were allowed to ask DeWaard questions after the reading. "How do you decide which music should be programmed?" asked one member. DeWaard stated that deciding what is to be aired is a difficult task. KDCR tries to stay with the traditional hymns for devotional music. Classical music is not as much of a problem. It is looked upon as an art to praise God. Music played on "Illumination" is not played for self-fulfillment but as praise to God. Music which could possibly be a "stumbling block to the weaker brother" is usually not aired. As long as the music is not a detriment to the statement of policy and meets the criteria of the reformed doctrine, it will be aired. "Nothing can be contrary to the reformed doctrine," stated DeWaard.

Other questions asked about KDCR's programming included: What about UPI?; the "On Campus" program?; Do you try to get student input for programming? DeWaard tried to answer all questions as best as he could. Gregg Van Kieft stated that he was pleased with the outcome of the meeting. "The organization of KDCR came through." He thought the forum raised good questions and was glad to see the interest shown by students.

Dekker To Speak Of Guatemala

Rev. James Dekker, who recently fled Guatemala because of political oppression in that country, will deliver an address entitled "The Contempoary Political and Religious Crisis in Guatemala," at Dordt College on Monday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. in C160.

According to the Oct. 25 issue of The Banner, a publication of the Christian Reformed Church, both Dekker and Jim Boldenow, another missionary, are no longer safe in that Central American country. Dekker works for World Missions and Boldenow is the Central American Director for the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee.

The Banner stated, "The American embassy instructed Boldenow and Dekker to leave after Boldenow was kidnapped by men whom he described as 'professionally trained hit-men.' His captors apparently mistook Boldenow for Dekker because he was driving Dekker's car." Through intense pressure on the Guatemalan government by the U.S. embassy and the State Department in Washington, D.C., Boldenow was released some six to eight hours after his abduction.

Dekker, according to The Banner, had been teaching church history and Old Testament at the Mariano Galvez University in Guatemala City. The Dekkers' plans for the future are still uncertain, though they will continue with World Missions.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Northwest Iowa Makes Literary History!

In a few years, travelers approaching area towns might see such signs as these:

SIOUX CENTER Where Sietze Buning's cats lived in the salebarn.

ORANGE CITY Where Keen Mouse cured Sietze's Dad's Cow

MIDDLEBURG Childhood home of Stanley Wiersma, known to the world as Sietze Buning

HULL Where Sietze threw a sandwich

Get the whole story in Sietze Buning's just-published Style and Class.

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Read these rave reviews:

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—James Van den Bosch
"What can I say, my dad wrote it..."
—Bob Wiersma

Copies are in at the bookstore.

So is buying one.
Copied Keys Could Cost Students

By Jacqueline Smit

Two weeks ago a situation arose which produced much discomfort for East Hall residents. It was rumored that a master key had been stolen, copies made and then sold to residents of North Hall.

This was first suspected when, during open house, several guys had keys which opened many of the girls' rooms. That night the girls in East Hall, fully expecting a raid, took the precaution of hiding their underclothing. Also, many girls slept in their sweatsuits in case a fire alarm was used to evacuate the building and let in the raiders. Surprisingly, no raid occurred that night.

Marion Van Soelen, Dean of Students, said that this was a very dangerous situation for all involved. Not only did it create discomfort and unhealthy relations amongst students, which would hinder the academic process, but it also could have cost the school a great deal of money if the locks had to be changed. He said that all those directly involved have been dealt with. "As far as I know, in this particular situation, all the keys have been returned."

"I am not saying that there are not keys out there that ought to be returned." Van Soelen stressed that it is the responsibility and therefore deserving of disciplinary measures, tuition payments will increase. Therefore, Van Soelen stressed that it is beneficial to the students if they convince others, who have access to unauthorized keys, to turn them in. He said he cannot continue to protect the financial situation of students without the help of the students themselves.

Calendar

Nov. 18
- Women's Basketball vs. Briar Cliff, Away, 7 p.m.

Nov. 19
- One-Act, "The Lottery," NWT, 8 p.m.

Nov. 20
- Women's Basketball vs. Neb. Wes., Away, 6 p.m.
- One-Act, "The Lottery," NWT, 8 p.m.
- Dairy Expo with Iowa State, 5 p.m.
- Film, "My Brilliant Career," C160, 3 p.m., 8 p.m.
- Organ Recital, William Hendrik Zwart, CH, 8 p.m.

Nov. 21
- Providence Concert, CH, 9 p.m.

Nov. 22
- Wayne State Madrigal Singers, CH, 7:30 p.m.
- James Dekker, "The Contemporary Political and Religious Crisis in Guatemala," C160, 7 p.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. USD-Springfield, Away 7:30 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Dana, Home, 7 p.m.

Nov. 24
- Thanksgiving Break begins, 12:00 noon.

Nov. 25
- Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 26
- Men's Basketball vs. Central, Home, 5:30 p.m.
- JV, 7:30 p.m. - varsity.
- Travelogue, "Southwestern Adventure," CH, 8 p.m.

Nov. 27
- Men's Basketball vs. Wartburg, Home, 5:30 p.m.
- JV, 7:30 p.m. - varsity.

Nov. 30
- Classes Resume, 8 a.m.

Dec. 1
- Men's Basketball vs. Buena Vista, Home, 5:30 p.m.
- JV, 7:30 p.m. - varsity.
- Madrigal Dinner, Home, 7 p.m. NW Commons.
Females Star in ‘My Brilliant Career’

by Ena Kaastra

Independence, equality and freedom are ideals to which modern women can relate. Sybylla Molyn (Judy Davis) is one female, in the movie “My Brilliant Career”.

Ross Performed

by Bert Sluys

As few people are giving recitals this semester, Cathy Ross' recital on Tues. Nov. 16 was a treat.

Cathy, a native of Kali spell, Montana, has taken voice lessons since her freshman year in high school. She will graduate this year with a music major and she plans to continue her education. She hopes to receive her master's degree in vocal performance, and later plans to teach in a college or university privately.

Cathy sang clearly and agilely. She sang her runs. She also chose songs from the cycle “I Hate Music” by Leonard Bernstein. Taking on the role of Zerlina, Cathy sang two songs from Mozart's “Don Giovanni” in Italian.

Two of the pieces she chose contained only one word. Shirley Huisman played the clarinet for Ralph Vaughan William's “Quasi Minuetto” while Cathy sang a beautiful melody on “ah.” Mozart’s “Alleluia” contained only the word alleluia.

Cathy sang clearly and melodically. Her voice soared beautifully up and down runs and managed fast notes well. At times, however, the words were difficult to hear because of little emphasis on consonants. This problem had for the most part cleared up by the end of the performance.

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Overall, the concert was a joy to listen to. Cathy is indeed a singer worth hearing.

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'Lottery' Proves Challenging

by Janette Winter

"It could have happened anywhere or everywhere," said Gioia Seerveld about "The Lottery." Seerveld and Mark Sinnott are co-directing the one-act play based on the short story by Shirley Jackson.

"Blind tradition is the main theme we’re dealing with," said Sinnott, "although it isn’t the only one." The non-realistic presentation style chosen by Seerveld and Sinnott lends itself more readily to the choreographed movement included in "The Lottery."

A cast of 20 inexperienced actors created somewhat of a challenge for the directors. "Scheduling conflicts was a bit of a hassle," said Seerveld.

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