In defense of assessment

by Sarah Bias
Staff Writer

A train is traveling at 60 mph towards another train, which is traveling at 20 mph. If they both left at the same time, when will they meet? Do you care? It is 6:00 a.m. and someone wants to know if you can still remember the math you forgot the day after they tested you on it in tenth grade.

Why do we take assessment tests? The obvious answer would be that it is a new and devious way Dordt has discovered to torture its juniors and seniors. The official reason is so that Dordt can analyze its scores and decide what, if any changes need to be made in its general education program.

For those of you who threw a party on the last day of your final math class ever in your life, you should rejoice to hear that a few years ago there was talk of increasing the general math requirements. Then they looked at the scores on the assessment tests and discovered that the students were still scoring high in the math section, so the discussion was dropped.

An additional benefit, besides the pencil which you do get to keep, is that if you score well, you can subtly put your score in bold print all over your resume or applications to graduate school.

The continuing saga of Dordt 2000

by Sonya Jongama
Feature Editor

Construction on the new recreation complex north of the gym is starting to pick up after a slow first month in March when Iowa weather worked its usual unpredictable tricks.

East Campus residents, finally accustomed to the empty look of the treeless lot, are now getting used to seeing a big crane and various other construction and destruction equipment as they walk to class every day.

According to Douglas Carlson, Operations Manager for Terracon Consultants, Inc., the next couple weeks of construction will consist of foundational work done by Blackhawk Foundation Co., Inc.

Carlson was on campus Tuesday to evaluate the design and analyze the capacity of the building's foundation. "You won't see much happening above the ground in the next little while," he said. "It's mostly preparing the foundation for the structure."

Terracon tested soil samples last year to determine which type of structure would give the building adequate support at the best possible price. Cement pilings will be used rather than steel pilings or a shallow cement foundation.

Blackhawk Foundation Co. is a company from Geneseo, Illinois, that specializes in cement pilings. The company will be using a crane with an auger to drill holes 25 feet deep and fill them with cement.

Mike Vande Weie, project manager for Blackhawk, said the cement pilings held a test load of over 120 tons, well over the 35 tons required to adequately support the recreation center.

After the foundation work is completed, Poppema-Sikma Construction of Sheldon will take over and begin work on the structure of the building.

The recreation complex is expected to be completed in August of 1997, so this year's sophomores will be able to enjoy a year of new and improved facilities.

An indoor track, more racquetball courts and better access to facilities for people who want to exercise on their own or who are involved in intramural and varsity sports are just a few of the benefits the complex will offer.

Nothing has been decided yet regarding the name of the recreation complex. Judging by the names of other Dordt buildings, "the gym" would be a safe bet.
by John E... boff
Staff Writer

Over spring break, 135 students finally got to go on a trip that has been in the planning for an entire year. After they contributed time, work, ideas, and $50 dollars each, they deserved it. This excursion, which has been happening every year at Dordt since 1981, is called P.L.I.A: Putting Love Into Action. That title may sound a bit too simple to warrant a whole year of planning, but when a project involves over 100 students in 10 groups going hundreds and sometimes thousands of miles all across the country in a little over a week, it is easier to understand why the committee in charge needed a little time.

There is actually more than one committee involved. There are actually seven: devotions, planning, tools, fundraising, retreat, transportation and the co-chair people. From these committees, they choose the leaders for each of the 10 sites. There are two leaders for each location.

Peter Drost and Karen Schouten led a group to Chicago, Ill., to work for Roseland Christian Ministries. Keith Hendricks and Doug Hausken were the leaders for a group to Allamont, Tenn., while Johan Kers and Monique Sildekracht worked with Salama Urban Ministries in Nashville, Tenn. The group to Denver, Colo., was led by Arbin Pokharel and Kristin Johnson. Voice of Calvary Ministries in Jackson, Miss., received help from a group led by Newton Trowbridge and Jeff Droog. Mississippi was also visited by three other groups. Steve Veenstra and Steve Ling worked with Cary Christian Health Center in Cary, N.C. Nate Schreur and Ryan Groen helped out Mendenhall Ministries in Mendenhall, and We Care Ministries in Vicksburg was visited by a group led by Jane Manuel and Nathaniel Zylstra. Another group went across the country to Haramele Ministries in Pasadena, Calif., led by Brad Vos and Terry Bulljje and a final group, led by Jason Bootsma and Jason Alons, traveled to Inez, Ky., to work with Appalachian Outreach.

All the sites gave the groups plenty of time and interesting ways to put love into action. The group to Allamont, for instance, began building a new cabin in one of the camps owned by Mountain T.O.P. Ministries. The acroynm stands for Tennessee Outreach Program, and with seven inches of snow falling in one night, the cabin will be much appreciated when finished. In Mendenhall, the jobs involved a lot of farm work, such as clearing brush, taking down a barbed wire fence and painting a wooden one. The group was especially blessed to work with Dordt graduate, Chris Shupe. He graduated as an agriculture major two years ago, and is now working on the farm owned by Mendenhall Ministries. Almost all the sites involved some painting, and many involved building. But even if a person does not particularly enjoy all the work, P.L.I.A. is more about God and his people than it is about anything else. The work is just a tool to bring people together.

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by Sarah Bouma
Staff Writer

March 14, 1:30 p.m.: ...And we're off. It's a gorgeous Thursday afternoon and I'm sitting in a van with 13 other people, most of whom I hardly know, heading south on Hwy. 75. The start of our trip down to Cary, Mississippi. Our group took the initiative and were the first to leave the parking lot, which was lined with rental vans and trailers. We were supposedly traveling with the Vicksburg group, but they blew us by at Walmart. I think I saw Erick Jansens driving—that might explain it...

...Our group is going to be good. Steve and Steve (our fearless leader) seem to have only one goal in mind: to have fun. Okay, I can work with that, I suppose. Alyssa, Heather and I have claimed the back seat. Does anyone up there realize how much more room we have than them? (ha ha)

March 15, 7:30 a.m.: Vicksburg ended up waiting at a rest area for us to catch up, but immediately went ahead of our van again. They were rear-ended a little while later. We headed to the police station with them in Kansas City, a building that evoked images of "Gotham City-meets-Big Brother," weird...

...We've stopped for breakfast at McDonald's somewhere in the top part of Mississippi. (I really have no clue where we are.) The trip seems to be going very quickly, I really don't have a concept of how long we've been on the road. Steve Veenstra says that we are "making really good time" (a.k.a. speeding). We stopped for devotions last night at a rest area, surrounded by sleeping truckers and a warm, gently blowing breeze. I was struck during devotions by how well our group seems to get along. We are only starting to know each other, but it's working great!

As we drive down the highway, about three hours away from Cary, I'm noticing how flat Mississippi is. Everything seems to be dead right now, and the vegetation seems short and "shrubbery." I can't understand why the branches of the trees seem to be broken off at the top. Was there a storm that damaged everything? Rundown, standard homes are the predominant landscape feature as we drive down this highway...still "making excellent time."

March 15, 5:15 p.m.: ...Just returned from a short walk around Cary. We were given the run-down on the policies of the center this afternoon, and unlike Pasadena, California, walks are allowed.

March 16, 11:00 a.m.: We're driving to New Orleans. What interesting vegetation you can find in the bayou keeping our eyes peeled for a crocodile.

March 17, 6:30 p.m.: We went to a black Baptist church this morning, and were warmly welcomed and made to feel as a part of their extended family. We participated in their service by singing "Forty" as a group for them...

March 18: Today was our first official day of work but hail made work difficult. Those of us working in the Thrift Store were not too affected by this, but painting and building projects for the others were complicated by it. We had a really interesting debate in the kitchen tonight about the differences between the King James and NIV translations of the Bible; that in turn led to many other issues. P.L.I.A allows you to get together with a diverse group of people, and discuss these issues and really learn from each other.

March 19: A small group of us built some porches on another site today in Marysville, about 15 minutes away from Cary (they even let us hammer!) The other group stayed at the center and did painting and scrup jobs.

March 20: Today the group, with the exception of a few, worked on scraping and painting a house. As we drove up, we thought "Hey, no problem, it's not that big." We were wrong...Spent the afternoon telling stories (the farm hand?) and bonding.

March 21: We finished off that house today. Our plan was to clean up the Center tonight, so that we can get an early start tomorrow morning. Once those cleaning-type jobs were done, we realized that we had nothing left to do. So, a group of us decided to head down to Mendenhall and visit the group staying there. How were we supposed to know that they were in bed at 3:00 a.m.? Just so they'd know we stopped by, we did all sorts of "nice" things to their van.

March 22: The trip home was uneventful, other than our detour in Memphis to see Graceland. The rest of the trip flew by. We were all happy to be heading home after a great week.
Northwestern hosts Leadership Conference

by Charity Lopez
Staff Writer

A weekend at Northwestern College is not exactly something a Dordt student looks at with anticipation. I had heard all the stereotypes about Northwestern. They are simply our rival college up the road in Orange City. We are not supposed to get along. I knew very little about what goes on there because I had never really been there.

This past Friday and Saturday, however, Dordt and Northwestern students had a chance to share ideas about leadership roles at Northwestern's sixth annual Student Leadership Conference.

Approximately 100 of next year's peer counselors, RA's, and other student leaders made the trek to Orange City to hear Faye Chechowtch, a professor in Christian Education at Taylor University, speak on the theme "Habits of a Leader" and participate in several workshops.

Friday night those in attendance were treated to a banquet. The main dish was chicken oscar with raspberry cheesecake for dessert. This was a far cry from fried chicken and "cheesecakes in the Commons." We then heard about "Habits of a Leader's Mind" from Ms. Chechowtch. After the address we were invited to a coffeehouse on campus and a movie.

Participants were back to Northwestern on Saturday morning at 8:30. The day began with a continental breakfast of mini-ture bagels and bitter orange juice. We heard about "Habits of a Leader's Mind" from Ms. Chechowtch and were then sent to find our way to one out of the six workshops being offered. Faculty from both Dordt and Northwestern led workshops such as, "Leadership in the Midst of Generation X," "Habits of an Effective RA," and "When Someone Needs or Asks for Help."

Lunch and then two more workshops closed out the day around 3 p.m. There were special workshops geared especially to peer counselors, RA's, student government and student activities council. A time of evaluation ended the day.

I guess I would have to say that Northwestern isn't quite as bad as it has been made out to be and suggestions have been made to try more joint activities.

Country swing causes concussion

Choir crooner claims calamity created cloudiness in cranium

by Sarah Nieuwsma
Staff Writer

Mandy Langeland was injured at a country dance in Alton on Friday, March 8, when she fell while doing a flip.

"People say [my head hitting the ground] sounded like a bowling ball dropping on the floor," she said. "I don't remember anything about it—everything I know has been told to me by my friends.

Langeland was unconscious. She was taken by ambulance to Orange City, then flown to Sioux City, where she stayed until Sunday morning.

"The first thing I remember, at about five or six the next morning, was the nurse by my bed. She started asking me questions. I had no idea why I was there."

"The accident" affected more than just her short-term memory. "If I think too hard I get headaches." She said, too, that she had needed a lot of rest. "I'm not as hyper as I used to be—but that should come back, too."

"Langeland says.

Doctors say that one month after the accident she should be recovered, but it will be another month before she can resume all physical activity.

Describing how she felt after the accident, Langeland said, "I just took each day a step at a time. I didn't take it so much for granted—singing in the choir, and exercising." She continued, "Now it's so fun for me to do those things again."

Langeland said how thankful she is for the support she's gotten during this time.

"It makes me think about the things that I have, and how lucky I am."

Speaker stresses importance of Christian fatherhood

by Dirk Zwart
Senior Correspondent

Why would we need to address this topic on Dordt's Campus? You become a father when you and your wife give birth to or adopt a child right? Not necessarily.

"If you're talking the car somewhere, take them along." Another reflection he shared with us, "Listen to their music and praise or critique it with them."

Doriani laid out the premise that all of life should be rooted in the Holy Spirit. He also insisted that we be imitators of Christ, or as Calvinistic theology would state, imagebearers of Christ.

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In the previous lecture when Doriani laid out the premise that all of life should be rooted in the Holy Spirit. He also insisted that we be imitators of Christ, or as Calvinistic theology would state, imagebearers of Christ. Through the course of the two nights we studied Bible passages relating to the relationship between husband and wife. "Wives submit to your husbands (Ephesians 5)," a verse commonly used by men to justify their hunger for control, was given new meaning by Doriani. One of the last points Doriani made was the difference between justice and mercy. This discussion reminded us where rules stop and anger subsides.

Over the two lectures, Doriani stressed that fathers, as well as mothers, should spend time with their kids. His best example was, "If you're taking the car somewhere, take them along." Another reflection he shared with us, "Listen to their music and praise or critique it with them."

Doriani has come and gone and there is a firm beginning for men who want to be Christian Fathers. Do not expect your fellow male friend to be practicing his fatherhood skills too quickly, but be glad that there are individuals who want to be Christ-like fathers.
Letter to the Editor:
AMOR can't be explained in words

You've heard the word AMOR on Dordt's campus. You've heard some students talk about AMOR. You've heard there was going to be an AMOR chapel. Or maybe you've never heard of AMOR. Well, in this short article, I hope to tell you basically what AMOR is.

My name is Dan Altena, and I am the coordinator of AMOR, a position that is new within this past year. I am a resident of Sioux Center and have gone on the past three AMOR trips. After my second trip, I contacted Pastor Don Draayer and volunteered my services as the coordinator. I felt to have the same person coordinating the program each year would give it much more continuity from year to year. In the past, a student would usually pick up the duties of coordinator each year.

AMOR is an acronym for A Mission Out Reach. Each Christmas break, a group of Dordt students and their adult sponsors travel to the Dominican Republic for a two-week mission experience. The group usually numbers around 20. We work with a non-denominational association from Grand Rapids, Mich. called World Wide Christian Schools. One of their employees, Jerry Nyhof, has traveled with us the past two trips, which has been quite beneficial. We tear down, build and remodel Christian schools for the Dominican people. We are supervised by Max Van Til, a Christian Reformed missionary in the Dominican Republic.

Each person who goes is responsible for raising $1,000. Most of that is raised by writing letters and visiting our churches. We also do a carwash and in the past have sponsored some dances. This money covers our plane ticket, room and board, as well as building materials for the project.

What can't be explained in words is what Christ does in your life through this experience. I can't explain why. Maybe it's because on an AMOR trip you feel stripped naked and thrown out of your comfort zone. You draw close to God, and He draws close to you... and you're never the same again!!!

**AMOR will be having a meeting before the end of the school year to talk about next year's trip. Watch for the announcement in the TODAY. Or e-mail me at: AMOR (Dordt e-mail address).

Dan Altena

Student Forum Elections Coming Up

Submit a paragraph about and a photo of yourself to Leona Dekkenga by noon on April 11 if you want to run for Student Forum. Elections will be held April 15, 16, and 18.
Editor:

I wish to briefly address your editorial policy of publishing letters anonymously, regardless of their content. I believe there are some very legitimate reasons why editors do not in principle publish letters anonymously, and would like to encourage you to reconsider your policy.

The most immediate reason is to assure accountability for whatever is communicated in a public forum, such as a newspaper. If a writer is shielded from having to take responsibility for what he/she says, it provides a kind of literary license to make any statement without regard for its veracity, integrity, or consequences.

This is currently the case in negative campaign ads appearing in the media where some nebulous group makes accusations, misrepresentations, or judges and encroaches the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Letter to the Editor: What Arms Race?

To the Diamond,

The last time I looked up the definition of the term “race” in Webster, I found that it referred to a contest between two or more parties to achieve superiority in some given area. According to an editorial published in the previous issue of the Diamond, we are in a race over handgun production. This appeal to our emotions (through the association of the production of a defensive weapon with a time of tension between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.) is frightening. It is all too typical of the scare tactics and emotional (therefore hardly rational arguments) by which some are attempting to identify themselves with something that is to be publicly distributed, then it raises questions about that person’s confidence that what they are saying should be taken seriously and subject to further discussion. It also places the newspaper in the position of “protecting” or shielding one of its readers at the expense of many others who may feel unjustifiably criticized, maligned, and even slandered. A newspaper is a community’s public forum, where a diversity of views may be respectfully aired and respectfully debated. Anonymity in my estimation undermines the spirit of mutual trust and respect that should characterize a community, especially one that shares a unity in Christ. I want to applaud the hard work of your staff in producing a thoughtful and stimulating newspaper, but at the same time challenge you to think about this issue.

Sincerely,
Donald E. King
Chair, Dept. of Political Science

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Gun control advocates have apparently decided to fight more exclusively on an emotional battlefield, where one terrorizes one’s targets into submission rather than honestly persuading them with credible evidence.

Dr. Gary Kleck

Freshmanity by Seth Koerner

Chuvack by Laryn Bakker
Executive Interview

President-elect
Dr. Carl Zylstra talks about past experiences, present hopes and plans for the future

by Kate Dekker
Assistant Editor

Dr. Carl Zylstra, Dordt's third president, will officially take office July 1 with experience as a pastor, teacher, and administrator.

Question: First of all, can you tell us a little bit about yourself, your family, and your past job experiences?

Zylstra: Well, as to the basic resume stuff, I am a 1970 graduate of Calvin College as a philosophy major. When I went to Calvin Seminary—I graduated from there in 1973—I concentrated particularly on philosophical theology, and systematic theology was kind of my concentration. After six years as a pastor in the Chicago area—Hammond, Ind.—I went to graduate school at Princeton Theological Seminary and received my Ph.D. there in theology and communication. Then I taught for a year at Calvin Seminary before coming to Orange City as a pastor.

Along the line, I acquired the opportunity to be married. I met my wife when I had a ruptured appendix in college and she was the nurse in the hospital, so that story has kind of a neat touch to it. My wife says the main thing was that I realized that she had income and I didn’t, so there was some economic potential there. But in any event, my wife Gloria and I have been married now for—this is our 25th year.

My oldest boy Aaron is a senior here at Dordt, going to medical school next year. He and his wife Jodi have a son, Christian Mark. My next son, Nathaniel, is a sophomore here at Dordt, and my son Adam is a junior in high school.

How did you get approached with, or interested in, the Dordt president position?

I don’t know who all may have suggested my name, but I know one of the bodies that suggested my name was the council of our church. They talked about it and then asked me about it and said, “We know you, we’ve worked with you for over a dozen years. We think you have gifts in those areas and we think you could serve well in that area. Not that we’re trying to get rid of you, but if you would be willing to consider it, we’d be willing to send in your name.” I’d have to say that personally over the years I’ve probably had a lot of dreams about what I might want to be. As a little kid growing up in the city I thought it sounded like fun to be a farmer. I wanted to be a teacher, and a lot of other things that as a kid I dreamt about, but being a college president just never entered my mind until people started suggesting it to me over the past few years. People said to me, “You’ve gotten to know Dordt College now, and you have gifts for leadership and administration. Would this be something that would interest you?” And I guess at that point it becomes one of those surprises God brings into your life when you say, “Well, yeah, I guess I would.” And it becomes a sense of calling. For me, I can’t explain it any other way than that God worked in different ways and it’s a very clear calling to me. Being president of Dordt College is something I really feel a strong conviction about.

You will be the third president of Dordt College. What qualities do you think you will be able to bring to the presidency?

I’ve been outside the academic realm for the last thirteen years. I haven’t been directly involved in higher education, and I think that brings a fresh perspective to the position. Coming in from the outside, I know what people look at in a college and how they relate to a college. I’ve related primarily as a pastor of students at college, as a community member in the area where the college is located, as a parent sending kids off to college and helping with the cost of college, as well as just being interested in the ongoing academic work more on a personal level than a professional level. So I think that “refreshing” will be the main attribute that I bring.

Which of your past positions do you think will help you most in being Dordt’s president?

To be honest, I think the position that helped prepare me the most was when I was in Orange City. I served as vice-president and president of Christian Reformed World Missions for six years. That gave me the opportunity to have a leadership position in an international organization, and I think that kind of global perspective will be helpful here in the college position. We were going through a major restructurings at the time I came in, and I learned a lot about what leadership is that not only provides sup-
port for an institution but also helps reor-
ganize an institution so that it's responsi-
ble and responsive to its' supporting con-
stituency.

Also, my teaching experience at Calvin Seminary where I served on the faculty will be helpful. That's a different angle, too, and unless you've been in that position it's a little hard to relate directly to it.

How will having family at Dordt College affect your decisions?

I think it gives me a real ownership stake in the college, coming in. I feel part of the college because probably no one else is as much part of the college as someone whose children are attending here. That's why I'm really pleased that so many of the faculty have children here, and I think being parents of students here really affects their commitment to the mission of the institution and their per-
spective. You see things from a student's eyes as you talk with your own kids.

It's good to talk to other students, too, but I don't know if you take them more seriously when they're your own kids, or maybe they're just a little blunter and they say, "Dad, this is the way it is," or, "Dad, you know what they're coming up with now?" or, "Dad, are you behind this?"

In the past, one of my sons used to come home every weekend with, "Dad, if you get the position at Dordt, this is something you have to work on." He came up of a list of things for me. So I think that kind of ownership and involvement will be helpful.

But maybe almost as helpful is having been a pastor of at many times 20 or 50 Dordt students, because a lot of stu-
dents from our church have attended Dordt. As a pastor, I've tried to talk with them about their experiences, and I think that gives a real ownership relationship to the mission of the school too.

What past ties do you have to Dordt College besides the fact that your sons attend here?

I was asked to serve on the Board quite soon after we had moved to Orange City, and so I think I served five years on the Board, from something like 1985 to 1990. During that time I served as chair for a search committee for the Vice President of Academic Affairs as well as being involved in other committees and special task forces.

The last few years, my relation-
ship to Dordt has been primarily one of a neighbor and a parent.

What were your first impressions of Dordt College?

There's a real sense of enthusi-
asm and excitement here that we're learning about the glory of God's world. We're pre-
paring to serve in his kingdom, and we're doing it together. That's what's impressed me about Dordt over the years, as well as with the commitment of the fac-
ulty. When I talk with faculty, they get so excited talking about what they do with the students. I don't think there's anything that energizes the faculty more than their interaction and instructional rela-
tionships with the students. And for people that have a lot other activities and other things to do, I think that shows a tremendous commitment to this being a teaching college and not simply a place where professors come and pursue their own studies and students come and watch, which tends to be the case in some universities.

What do you think will be some of the biggest challenges involved in your new job?

I think some of the immediate challenges are managing the growth. There's a lot of growth and momentum underway. We have to manage the building projects that are underway, which have to be paid for, and the crunch on student housing is a major concern. Not only in that, but also in quality of stu-
dent housing. Can we both upgrade the quality and increase the amount of stu-
dent housing available?

When a college grows, it also changes the dynamics of the community. To keep that same sense of camaraderie within the college community as the college grows is going to be a major chal-
lenge.

Managing the growth of the facul-
ty will also be challenge. Recruiting and pre-
paring highly qualified and committed Christian professors who teach from a per-
spective that fits with Dordt College's mission of the institution doesn't make any sense. The longer-term challenge is to keep the institution on track with its perspective and sense of commu-
nity and character while maintaining a good, solid administrative and financial structure for the growth is going to be the biggest challenge close up.

The longer-term challenge is to keep going and demographics change over the years, where we might not have the same growth phase that we have right now. We need to keep the college from falling into either lethargy of spirit, or financial crunches down the road because it has overextended itself. Those are the real challenges in the, say, five to fifteen year time frame, but the first five years will just kind of be like jumping on the train and trying to make sure it doesn't get off the track as it keeps rolling.

What are some aspects of your new job that you think you will really enjoy?

I think the things I'm going to enjoy the most is simply being on the col-
lege campus as much as I am. The freshness, excitement and energy that students bring, and bringing onto campus another 450 students every year. I don't think there's any institution more exciting where you get that kind of infusion of new enthusiasm every year.

The other side is just being able to associate with professors and faculty. College faculty in general are a very bright, intelligent, capable group of peo-
ple. You can't find, probably, a more capa-
ble group of people assembled anywhere else in society as you will on a college campus. And at Dordt, particularly, it stands out from there because they not only share those common characteristics with every other college faculty, but they have a real sense of dedication to their task and a real sense of mission.

So I think that the most fun part, although I'm discovering that getting together with Dordt alumni and support-
ers is terribly exciting, too. There are peo-
ple all throughout the United States and Canada who are terribly excited about Dordt College. Just associating with so many people who have that same sense of excitement and enthusiasm is personally a very stimulating and rewarding experi-
ence.

What advice have you gotten from oth-
ers about becoming president?

Some of the best advice I got from Dr. Bullman at Northwestern College. When I sat down and talked to him he said, "You know, the best advice I got— and I'll just pass it on to you—is just be yourself. People chose you because of who you are, so don't try to change when they see you." That's probably some of the best advice I've gotten, just be who I am and rely on the strengths God has given me.

What would you like to say to the stu-
dents and faculty of Dordt College?

What would you like to have them know about you?

Well, I think I'd like to have them know first of all that I appreciate being invited to be part of their community. I don't see this as my community.

I think this is an existing com-

munity that I've been invited to be part of. I also want to let them know that I want to work with them in the tasks they're already busy in, and that anything I can do to help you do your task better is what I want to be doing. That's the main role of the president. A president without any insti-
tution doesn't make any sense. If they hadn't found a president for this year, Dordt could have gone on for another year.

I think the reason there is a pres-
ident is to support the students and fac-
culty, and I want to hear from students, faculty and staff how I can help them do their work better, either them particularly in their work, or the entire institution's.

Anybody who sees areas they think need to be strengthened, corrected, or encouraged in the institution, I sure want to hear about that as well.

It's a great, great college from what I've seen of it. It has tremendous students, faculty and staff, and I'm just looking forward to getting to know them better, and I they're eager to get to know me better, too.

Zylstra: What hasn't he done?!

Graduated from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. in 1970
Graduated from Calvin Theological Seminary In Grand Rapids, Mich. in 1973
Pastor of Hammond CRC In Hammond, Indiana, from 1973-1979
Received doctoral degree in practical theology from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1983
Served as a lecturer in practical theology at Calvin Theological Seminary for one year
Past president of the board of Christian Reformed World Missions
Served as vice president of the Board of World Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church
Served on the board of trustees of Calvin College
Served as secretary of the board of Dordt College
Elected first clerk of the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church in 1994
Leadership roles in local boards or committees of Orange City Day Care Center, Classis of the Heartland of the CRC, Unity Christian High School, and the Orange City Chamber of Commerce
Pastor of Immanuel CRC In Orange City, Iowa, since 1983
Current member of the board of trustees of Calvin Seminary
Concert Choir tours Northwest
12 days of mountains, love and music

by Sarah Dryfhout
Staff Writer

The Concert Choir experienced spring in the Northwest during break. Along the coast of Washington and British Columbia, members of the choir observed the mountains, forests, and Pacific Ocean.

To director Benjamin Kornellis, and three students in the choir, this area is home. As for some of the other members of the choir, this was their first encounter with such beauty.

The choir performed eight full concerts and sang for seven school assemblies, in a Seattle church. Some of the men became victims of big-city crime when cash was stolen from the dressing room during a concert.

Erika Rozeboom responded to the tour positively by saying, "I liked it. It was fun, a real good time." Rozeboom said she really appreciated getting to know people on the tour and expressed how much she enjoyed singing. She also said she felt more confident with the songs after each concert.

The choir concluded the tour with their home concert Sunday, March 31, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert had a varied repertoire.

In an encore, the choir sang "Praise to the Lord." This song was performed with enduring energy after 16 songs.

Le Mars coffee house draws a crowd
by Stephanie Brown
Staff Writer

For all those seeking weekend recreation, there's a fairly new coffee house (open since Jan. 1) just a hop, skip and a jump away in our very own Le Mars. It's open weekdays 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. (or so) and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. The house serves espresso and showcases local talent on the weekends. The place is called Anodyne Alley—but if you don't know what you're looking for, you'll never find it.

Here's what you're looking for. The Alley is located literally behind the movie house in the alley. (Take someone with you.) Look for a receiving door with a single light bulb—no flashing neon sign yet. I think "Anodyne Alley" is scratched in the door or something.

Basically, the place is a revamped, rectangular storage room. It's dark and cave-like with a high ceiling accentuated by a slowly circulating fan. It's a makeshift joint, very "no frills" but sort of swanky in its own peculiar way. Abstract art hangs on walls that are each painted a different color. Keep your eyes open for funny lamps in high places. Sometimes they burn candles. The room is outfitted with old mushy couches and only the very best lawn furnishings. There's a very obtrusive pool table shuffled off to one side.

Friday night is Jazz Night with bluesy tunes from the Westmar Jazz Trio. Saturday nights have been a jumble of obscure midwestern bands, like The Mumbling Mobstarkers, groups from Omaha, and talents from local high schools.

Here are some tips from a veteran Alley goer. Get there early (2:00ish) to avoid sitting on the dirty barn-slab floor. If you get there too early, (or get by some numbers), there are plenty of shelves full of interesting literature to peruse through. If you find one you like, find a good hiding place for it. Don't take books in good hiding places. If you ask for a latte, tell them how to make it. Dress for a warm climate. Bring friends. For more information call 1-712-548-4776.

Concert Review:
Chords of the United States of America

special guests
Chixdiggit

Ranch Bowl, Omaha, Nebraska
March 9, 1996

by Sean Voogt
Art Critic

Walking into the claustrophobic Ranch Bowl, I knew right away that this was not going to be your run-of-the-mill concert. A plethora of young 'uns (those under 13), and an opening band from Canada dubbed Chixdiggit, pretty much backed that thought up.

Chixdiggit (check out the spelling, yes, that is CHICKS DIG IT), an embarrassment to the Canadian music industry, started off the night with a mac and cheesy bang. The band's closing song was delicately titled, "I Wanna Hump You." Everybody now! Now you know where the embarrassment comes from... mmmm Canada.

So no one would miss their bedtime this brisk Saturday evening, the Presidents hit the stage at about 10:00 p.m. They opened with a cover of "Rick Out the Jams," and carried on for about 90 minutes. Three-chord rock has never sounded so, urn, three-chord-esque for the simple reason that the bass guitar has two strings, and the guitar literally one-ups that.

The Presidents went through all their radio smashers, including "Lump," "Peaches," and the tender "Kitty," and how could they not? These songs are the very reason that I and the 499 or so 12-year-olds attended. These songs or so 12-year-olds attended. It is so hard to have a positive attitude at a concert when mosh-hungry pre-teens are connecting their heads with the bottom of your jaw every half minute or so. I will not even begin to talk about the groping—that is a story in concert ethics in itself.

Well, And "mud flowed up into Lump's pajamas..." Later.

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Next time I go to a show where it would normally be considered a bar, I would hope that I could be surrounded by bar-aged people. But then again, with songs like "Peaches," and the lyrics that accompany it, what can one expect?

Well, And "mud flowed up into Lump's pajamas..." Later.
Cleveland presents for organ recital

Douglas Cleveland, winner of the 1994 National Young Artists Competition of the American Guild of Organists, performed a recital Friday, March 29, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Cleveland also conducted a workshop at the Haan Auditorium on Saturday, March 30, entitled "Service Playing and New Music for Lent."

Cleveland earned his bachelor's degree in 1991 from the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, N.Y., as a student of the late Russell Saunders. In 1994, Cleveland earned his master's degree at the Indiana University School of Music. He has won first prize in six national organ competitions, including the 1993 Fort Wayne Competition and the 1994 competition of the American Guild of Organists.

The AGO competition prize includes two years of professional management with Karen McFarlane Artists, performing dozens of recitals throughout the United States.

Cleveland's new compact disc, The Grand Organ of Princeton University Chapel, has received critical acclaim and has been heard on National Public Radio's Pipedreams program.

Cleveland has performed recitals in many parts of the United States and Europe, most recently at Westminster Abbey in London and the Cathedral of Berlin.

Students anticipate Ag Day

by Jonathan Frump
Staff Writer

The annual Ag Day event is planned for April 26 this year. It will include a variety of displays, activities, and games.

Each year the Ag Club organizes Ag Day to increase campus awareness about the different facets of the agricultural world. Despite the agricultural setting of Dordt College, many students are unaware of the advancements in research and technique in the agricultural industry.

Several events this year will include livestock displays as well as other farm animal displays. There will also be tractors on show. Special attractions will be Ft-Hit the cow, who has an opening in her stomach in which you can put your hand. There will also be a display by Trans Ova Genetics, a local company that deals with livestock embryology and other biological advancements.

Junior Art Show

DORDT COLLEGE ART GALLERY
MEZZANINE LEVEL - B.J. HAAN AUDITORIUM

APRIL 1 - APRIL 12
ARTIST'S RECEPTION: APRIL 8, 7:30 P.M.

Jonie Meinders Janeen Wassink Lee-Ann Grootenboer Jocelyn Heggers

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American Eagle
339 N. Main
The Defenders are entertaining their first conference doubleheader with perennial power Briar Cliff.

Dordt starter Jay - ... by Ross Bouma and the Cougar pitching staff held both offenses in check as the score remained knotted at 0-0. Vander Giessen led off with a single promptly stole second base. A single up the middle and then 5-5. and that is where run across in the bottom of the seventh. Glessen.

Vander Giessen sent the Cougars down in order in the bottom of the first. Two more in the top of the fourth as the Cougar defense mishandled a hit off of the bat of Matt Fynaardt.

Unfortunately, the Defenders returned to Northwest Iowa only to see their first week lost under the drifting snow of a late winter blizzard. But on Monday the Defenders finally returned to the diamond as they scored another run in the bottom of the first to give Dordt an early 1-0 advantage.

Although they failed to garner a win in the first game, the Defenders continued to make positive progress being made. With the loss, the Defenders slipped to 1-11 on the season.

With the score now tied at 2-2, Briar Cliff’s offense came alive, scoring four runs in the fifth off of Schulteman and three more in the sixth off of relief pitcher Randy Lamfers.

Dordt failed to score again and managed only three hits for the game as the Defenders lost by the score of 9-2.

Bret De Ruyter awaits offering from Charger hurler.

- Schulteman held the potent Charger offense in check through the first four innings as he allowed just two runs, but the Dordt bats also remained dormant through the first four.

Then in the top of the fifth, Faber led off with a walk for the Defenders and scored as Bailey knocked a curveball over the left field fence for a two-run homer.

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Briar Cliff 9 Dordt 4

In game two, Briar Cliff jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the first inning, but Dordt countered with an offensive outburst in the top of the second.

Mike De Jong led off with a single, followed by Tim De Jong and a sacrifice by Vander Giessen unable to score again. Briar Cliff moved the De Jongs over to second and third. Faber then walked to load the bases and Lamfers hit into a fielder’s choice which scored Mike De Jong.

Dave Dressen then stepped to the plate with two men aboard and gave the left hander a wide berth and drove in Faber. With the score now tied at 2-2, Briar Cliff’s offense came alive, scoring four runs in the fifth off of Schulteman and three more in the sixth off of relief pitcher Randy Lamfers.

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With the loss, the Defenders slipped to 1-11 on the season, and Coach Tom Visker sees some positive progress being made. We are starting to make solid contact at the plate and are playing better defense. Now we just have to consistently execute the little things that win games: we have to get our bunts down, be smart on the bases, and do all those intangibles that win ball games.

The Defenders’ next game is at Dakota Wesleyan on Thursday at 1:00. Dordt then plays their home opener against Dakota Wesleyan Saturday at 1:00.

Tennis teams set for new season by James De Boer - Sports Co-Editor

The men have completed their spring break trip, and it’s time for the local games to begin. No, we’re not talking Olympics here, we’re talking tennis.

With the women returning four players and the men coming back with some of their top players, the season looks hopeful.

With senior George Denisenko back at #1 singles and sophomore Brad Veenstra teaming with Denisenko at #1 doubles, the men look especially solid.

“The men will be tough,” said coach Len Rhoda. “Last year, we lost once after spring break.”

The loss was to Northwestern, which, as always, pops up on the schedule again this year.

After beating Morningside before the spring tour, the men headed south. A tough Texas CC team put Dordt down 8-1.

Bryan Horlings and Andy Ketler picked up the lone win in #3 doubles.

Against Scottsdale CC the next day, the defenders fared better, but still came up short, 6-3. Horlings and Ketler again scored a win, with Ketler also taking the #3 singles victory. Veenstra and Pablo Capizzano took the #1 doubles.

The men played their third games on the third day, as they finished up with Glenclay CC.

The heat of the season was too much, and Dordt fell 9-0.

Back from the break with a 1-0 record, Dordt is looking to get down to business. Besides the senior star Denisenko, Dordt returns Randy Ten Pas and Scott Vanden Berg. Senior Matt Mosee comes in on the roster, as well as sophomores Veenstra and Capizzano.

The freshman faces are Horlings and Andy Ketler.

On the women’s side, four raccucenwowers are back, including #1 singles player, senior Rachelle Martinus. She teams up with her twin sister, Jill to form a talented #1 double.

Also on the women’s side of the net are seniors Shaelee Noteboom and Sarah Larson. Sarah Houck is the lone sophomore for the women, as freshmen Sheri VerMeer and Val Van Druien round out the squad.

Both teams played Martin Luther on Tuesday. The women lost, Northwestern today, Thursday, while the men host Westmar this coming Tuesday.
Boston or bust!
One prof and a pair of students set their sights on running in the Boston Marathon

by Mike Aldrink
Guest Reporter

On April 15, the 100th Boston Marathon will take place. Who would be crazy enough to run a marathon? Well, do not ask the 37,000 plus people who are planning to run the 26.2 mile distance from Hopkinton to Boston, Massachusetts. Three of these crazy people include two students and a professor. Professor Hillenlink will be heading up to Boston to do what he enjoys—run. The other two are roommates Mike Aldrink and Chuck Van Drunen.

When asked why these two are doing this self-inflicting torture, Van Drunen immediately responded, “Because it is there.” Aldrink did it in 1994 and has also run four other marathons.

“Boston is the most prestigious of all the marathons. It is the 100th year anniversary this year, and many runners have the goal to finish the Boston Marathon. Personally, I think Chuck can finish. I was braving it up one night, and Chuck said, ‘Let’s go for it!’ Hey, if anything, it will be a long road trip. Beat that, you Galveston, Texas guys!”

Dordt students seem to like the idea of long road trips this year. This one to Boston for the weekend will rank right up there. Aldrink and Van Drunen plan to stay at Becky Tingley’s house for the weekend. Tingley said that her parents would be more than willing to feed the guys some pasta before the race. Micah Vardenman is planning on driving his station wagon to Boston.

If Aldrink and Van Drunen finish the marathon, they might need some help getting to class for the rest of the year. Aldrink is planning to carry a disposable camera to take some pictures during the race. It should be quite interesting.

They will be leaving April 12 at noon. There was some talk about painting Nate Schreurs’s Green Machine as the General Lee. However, Nate likes his car the way it is. He said, “My machine has to last me another eight years!” Boston here we come.

Young softball team struggles through early season games

by James De Boer
Sports Co-Editor

The Lady Defender softball team has taken its shots in the early season. Coach Don Draayer lost eight of his top players from last year’s squad, and the young team struggled through their spring break trip.

The women dropped a pair of contests on March 15 to open up their year. Continuing play the next day at the Kansas Wesleyan Tournament, the team was handed three more losses. The Lady Defenders closed out their trip to Kansas with a pair of games at Sterling. Dordt was again denied their first win, dropping both.

Dordt played tough against Hastings on March 16, but fell just short, 5-3. Sophomores Kris Huenink and Meredith Kos led the way on offense, as they both posted 2-3 games. Huenink rapped out a triple, scored a run and collected an RBI. Freshman Janna Bouma belted out a homerun.

The Lady Defenders also matched up with Kansas Wesleyan that same day. The game was a barnburner, with Dordt getting the short end of the stick, 10-8.

Several women picked up a pair of hits, led by Wendy Beimers. The freshman was 2-2 with a pair of runs, an RBI and a triple.

Sterling provided two good games for the Lady Defenders, but Dordt dropped both by scores of 6-3 and 7-4. Beimers provided offense in the second game, with an identical box score to her game against Kansas Wesleyan. Bouma pounded out a couple of hits in the first game, and also scored a run.

Despite the 6-7 record after spring break, the women are showing some promise. Of their seven losses, only two were blowouts.

“They’re learning,” said Coach Draayer. “They’re a group and they’re having fun.”

Of the 15 players on the roster, nine are freshman. Although only two seniors graduated from last year’s squad, the team lost eight players.

Besides the graduates, two more players transferred and three others are too busy with internships to play. Sophomore Natalie Groninga, last year’s top pitcher, probably won’t play this year. She hurt her shoulder and hasn’t thrown the ball for a number of weeks.

Excluding Groninga, only five players have college experience. Juniors Becky Tingley and Tricia Feyer return to the squad, as well as sophomores Huenink, Meredith Kos and Amy Pelikma.

A number of freshmen will be filling key roles this year. Beimers adds a solid bat to her pitching arm. Karla Haagasma and Janna Bouma have both been impressive so far this season.

Faith Baas and Renee Van Kooten add their talents to the infield, while Andrea Koolter and Angie Schiebout solidify the outfield. Lisa Bekkus and Nikki Thomas round out the roster.

The Defenders are slated to travel to Le Mars to take on Westmar in their first conference action. Only five schools in the South Dakota-Iowa Conference field softball teams, with Dakota State and Dakota Wesleyan’s clubs being in their first year.

This weekend, Dordt will play in a tournament in Sioux City. The Lady Defenders are scheduled to take on both Northwestern and Briar Cliff twice and Grandview once. Action starts Friday at 3:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, the women dropped a pair against a tough Briar Cliff team, 10-1 and 4-2.

Track teams hold high hopes for 1996 campaign

by Dave Huffman
Sports Writer

The Dordt College track team began the spring tour with high expectations, and came back with even higher expectations. In three meets the track team performed at a high level, and now look to carry that level the rest of the way.

In Pittsburg, Kansas the team saw strong performances from both the men’s and women’s teams. On the men’s side, the team of sophomore Jamie Schiebout, sophomore Tom Roозeeboom, freshman Steve Holwerda and sophomore Paul Buiwalda won the medley relay with a time of 3:39.4. On the women’s side, freshman Sarah Plum qualified for the national meet when she finished the 800 meter race with a time of 2:15.56.

Other strong performances came from the 4 x 400 meter women’s relay team which finished with the third best time in Dordt history. The all-freshman team consists of Cathy Palmer, Heidi Vanden Hock, Becky Van De Grond and Plum finished with a time of 4:09.

On a personal note, Van De Grond finished in 1500 meters with a time of 5:03, her best time ever.

The second meet came in Big Sandy, Texas where the women’s relay team was at it again. This time the team won the meet with a time of 4:24, a full 18 seconds off the previous meet. Other notable wins were junior Sonja Jongama and Palmer who won the women’s 3000 and 800 meters respectively. On the men’s side junior Matt Howsey won the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 59.4.

The tour’s final meet came in Emporia, Kansas where the Defenders went up against their toughest competition yet. Dordt had no first place finishes, but still recorded some impressive numbers. Sophomore Jason De Weerd ran an impressive 1:50.7 in the 800 meter race, and freshman Peter Simmons put up a time of 10:25 in the grueling steeplechase event. One of the more impressive times came from the men’s relay team of Schiebout, Roozeeboom, Holwerda and Buwalda who finished the 4 x 400 meter relay with a time of 3:29.9, the fifth best time in school history. On the women’s side, freshman Rhea De Stigter completed the triple jump with a distance of 33:11 1/2.

Outside of the races, the 26 member track team also found time to do a service project. In Fayetteville, Ark, the track team planted trees and picked up trash at a national forest. Overall the trip was very successful for the team both on and off the track. “The trip set us up to have a really good season,” said coach Atena. “I hope we can improve on it.”

The Dordt College track team next runs this Saturday at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake. The next home meet will be April 13 at the Dordt College Invitational. Come and cheer them on.
Dordt students join fitness craze

by Paula Treick
Staff Writer

It’s coming. The sun’s out, and skin is beginning to be bared. That’s right, summer: the season for swimsuits and cutoffs. From West and East Campus alike, hordes of lycra, spandex and cross-trainer clad men and women head for the gym or for Southview’s exercise room. Both the gym and Southview are overrun with the fitness-crazed, although Southview does provide a bit more privacy. Southview’s facilities include a Universal, three stationary bikes, one Nordic-Track, one stepper, a sit-up, a Smith and a Smith. “I exercise to stay healthy,” says Jodie. “Exercising gives me more energy and a better outlook. It’s also another way to burn those Commons calories.”

Professors take time to relax during spring break

by Kendra Van Duyne
Staff Writer

Despite the time off during spring break, a majority of professors kept on working, grading papers and tests, and catching up on correspondence and administrative duties. However, there were a few professors and faculty members that did not have to stay here in Sioux Center and work.

The Pacific Northwest

Professor Kornells traveled the farthest, a distance of 3821 miles through Iowa, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington and British Columbia with the Concert Choir. The tour included eight concerts, seven school assemblies and three church services. The following are some of the highlights and lowlights of his trip to the Pacific Northwest:

Stopping along the way at the Little Bighorn Battlefield where Custer made his “Last Stand”, listening to the “rooks” and “aahs” while crossing the Cascade Mountains in Washington coming from folks who had never really experienced mountains before; spending a day in Seattle in weather above 70 degrees; hearing the choir improve each day; seeing how the choir members cared for one another, and seeing new friendships emerge and existing friendships deepen; playing Dutch Bingo at every stop to see who was related to whom; not getting food poisoning anywhere along the way; being regaled with interesting and unusual observations all along the way by Tommy, the bus driver (“There’s an eagle’s nest over there.”); was heard every five to ten minutes in some stretches; watching Speed while on a moving bus; arriving home to snow drifts and icy roads; and sensing deeply God’s grandeur and grace both in the beauty of his creation and in the beauty of his people.

Sacramento, California

Two other professors who traveled quite a distance were Dr. Mr. and Mrs. Schelhaas, who attended a conference in Sacramento, Calif. from March 14 to 16 for the International Lutheran Association. The meeting gave grant recipients from 12 colleges the opportunity to share what they have been working on. They also had an opportunity to further reflect on what is meant by stewardship. Dordt was represented at this meeting by Professors Goedhart, Hermann, D. Schelhaas and Vander Zee, who shared their progress in developing two courses which will have stewardship themes.

Azusa Pacific, California

Azusa Pacific in California was the sight for the Global Stewardship Initiative Conference also held during spring break. This meeting gave grant recipients from 12 colleges the opportunity to share what they have been working on. They also had an opportunity to further reflect on what is meant by stewardship. Dordt was represented at this meeting by Professors Coxhart, Herrmann, D. Schelhaas and Vander Zee, who shared their progress in developing two courses which will have stewardship themes.

San Diego, California

California was a popular place to be for spring break for Dordt’s faculty. Dr. McCarthy, Dr. Bussema, Curtis Taylor and Pastor Draayer went to San Diego during break to a conference focusing on Spiritual Formation: Educating for the Kingdom.

On the way home, Pastor Draayer was bumped from his flight, so he had a 14-hour wait. When he finally made it to St. Louis, there were poor weather conditions, and he ended up waiting 10 more hours. Although it was a long, boring wait, he said the experience had a positive side. He got a free ticket home out of the deal and at the airport there were free pop refills.

Snow Disaster

Pastor Draayer was not the only one caught in bad weather. Mr. and Mrs. Schelhaas were also stopped by the Midwest snowstorm, but their experience was more life-threatening. March 24, they left Chicago without having heard an accurate weather report for this area. By the time they reached central Minnesota, they hit a whitewall of snow. It took two and a half hours to go 12 miles. Finally they just had to stop on the interstate because it was impossible to see and the roads were blocked by snow.

To prevent hypothermia, Mr. and Mrs. Schelhaas layered on all the clothes they had packed for the trip. Fortunately, there was a postal truck that was also stopped by their car, because at 3:30, the car just would not run any longer. So they spent the rest of the night with the truck driver until the plows came through at 8:30 a.m. on Monday. Mrs. Schelhaas said it was a humbling experience because they were at the mercy of the weather.

Minnesota and Wisconsin

Professor Jake Van Wyk went on tour for Dordt with a number of the admissions staff during his spring break. They traveled to various Christian high schools across Minnesota and Wisconsin and gave an art chapel about the power of Biblical metaphor. This is his fourth year on the tour.

North Dakota

For Professor David Oppedahl, spring break was spent escorting and providing technical support to his wife as they went to North Dakota to look at organs. She will be studying for her Ph.D. in musicology.

Local Break Activities

Professor De Mol visited some family members and attended a few concerts by composers John Worst, Roy Hopp and John Rutter.

Professor John Hofland wrote an article for CITA magazine, designed the scenery for a puppet show that will tour Canada with the Repertory Theater, designed a banner to hang in First CRC on Easter Sunday and accidentally destroyed his favorite apple tree in his backyard.

With spring break now over and students and professors again worrying about deadlines, tests, assignments and lectures, it will be an intense and busy time to the end, but just remember, there are only 25 weekdays until summer vacation is here.