

The aroma of "The Upper Crust"

by Marj De Bruyn



photo by Art De Boer

We'll smell its reality drifting from a converted profession of the old State Bank building diagonally across the street from Sam's Variety, hopefully by the end of January. That's what Mr. Dennis Heifner figures on, and he's the manager, part owner, and kitchen supervisor of the new pizza parlor that's opening.

Saturday noon he laid down his fork, leaving the half finished dinner of his rush-rush day, to clue us in on the actual source of the pizza scents being sniffed around Dordt lately. First, he said, "It's my feeling that this is part of the Lord's leading. I'm still a Lutheran clergyman as I have been for 12 years and am still active in the church. But at this period in my life, being involved in the Sioux Center community, and in business, is the Lord's leading."

"The Upper Crust" plans to live up to its meaningful name. "I'm thinking we will be serving very fine people--the students, the community, the older people" according to Heifner, "and we're thinking of doing it in the old Band style of the 1930's era. We'll be serving high quality products." Serving upper crust pizza to upper crust people in "The Upper Crust." Ummm!

Right now, inside the grey height of the old State Bank, the paint is being scraped off the beams to get back the 1930's dark wood aura. Kneeling over the blue prints layed out on his living room floor, Heifner let us join in the contemplation and excitement of "The Upper Crust" lay out. It's a three part set-up where 80 people can make themselves comfortable--non-smokers too--by sitting in either the Board room with its upstairs balcony-type setting, the side walk cafe on cobbled stones in the shade of awnings or in semi-private alcoves which will give that same frosted glass type privacy the old banks maintained for their managers.

It's with a pleasant assurance that Heifner feels, "This place won't be mediocre or classy, just a nice place...a family place type...unique in its 1930's bank style decor. Like the guys working there will probably wear the white shirts and arm bands."

Getting to the meat of the matter, Heifner plans on making the regular variety of pizza plus a specialty using a certain Dutch woorst that he's heard people around here enjoy. And he'll sell icecream and beverages of course. Does that include beer? (Popping the big question to the bigger rumor.) "Well," Heifner admitted, "we're not sure yet whether we'll serve beer. It's possible we will. We're trying to get the feel as to the pros and cons the public have about it. So we'd appreciate your opinions."

In speaking of music, Heifner says the community's suggestions are welcome again. He will pipe in F.M. radio and that the "possibility of a juke box is still there if I can find an appropriate physical spot for it where the volume can satisfy the whole place."

All these plans are getting things ready to serve the public at least six days of the week, tentatively from 4:00-11:00 p.m. with Fridays and Saturdays extending until 1:00 a.m. Doing business on Sunday is still in question.

Rolling up the blue prints and tipping back on his heels, Heifner rounded off this revelation with a readiness in his grin. "I've made pizza since 1958 with my own recipe. That's been our family's Saturday night meal for the last 16 years. In fact the first solid table food my kids ate was pizza," he laughed, "Even my mother-in-law likes my pizza."

Diamond

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa

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VanDyk speaks at CFF convention

by Vern Van Hofwegen

"It was mighty encouraging," said John VanDyk, philosophy professor, referring to the recent Christian Farmers Federation (CFF) convention he attended. "I really enjoyed rubbing shoulders with those guys; I learned immensely from them." He spoke at the banquet held November 25 in Edmonton, Alberta.

The two day conference also included other speakers plus workshops dealing with the topics covered in the speeches. VanDyk said the "farmers themselves initiated such a group." The 150 members of the two-year organization have, according to VanDyk, "found themselves caught up in this economic growth thing, and they want to take seriously such injunctions as 'It is better to receive' and 'the root of all evil is the lust of money.'"

He said the CFF "created quite a splash" when they stood up against proposed coal mining in Alberta. Because they spoke up, the government reversed its stand, saving millions of acres from being stripped.

"They realize," said VanDyk, "what economism, commercialization and the profit motive are doing and how that is



creating hardships for so many. They ask what the nature of the expansion should be; is it just, they wonder, to shove young people off who feel their calling is farming so that they can make great big farm estates for themselves.

"It's with a concrete issue of this sort that these people are confronted, and that's why

they've organized." They have worked with the Committee for Justice and Liberty, as well as the Christian Labor Association of Canada. "They are very open to academic input," Van Dyk stated, "because it became evident that some of the problems are so big that you'll need people looking into it full time."

VanDyk cont'd on page 3



Annual Christmas party features "Daylight"

The Student Union Activities Committee is sponsoring a Christmas party on Thursday, December 16. The evening will begin with a special Christmas dinner in the Commons for boarding students. Those who don't ordinarily eat in the Commons will have to pay the regular rate for the

dinner. Students are encouraged to dress up for this dinner.

After being comfortably (or uncomfortably) filled with the delicious dinner, everyone is invited to attend a concert in the gymnasium, featuring the group "Daylight." It will begin at 8:00 p.m. This quintet

from Minnesota will entertain us with their singing of folk music. There will be no admission charge.

After the concert, everyone is invited to a free reception in the S.U.B. Refreshments will be served, including punch, cookies, and candy.

editorial

I remembered most of the jokes I had heard about Grand Rapids when I drove up there during Thanksgiving break. When you visit friends who attend either Calvin college or seminary, you're bound to see a part of Grand Rapids that the "Banner" doesn't mention very often, especially if your friends don't live on campus. They can't afford the living conditions of a suburb like Jenison, so they take over the houses where other Christians used to live. It's not always safe, but the black neighbors are an interesting group.

The newer, yet often uglier houses in the suburbs, along with the cathedral-like church on every corner, turn the jokes about "Jerusalem" into the most sickening truth our society could have ever seen concerning the group of people who call themselves Christians.

And now, since the snow has fallen, and since the stores are properly tinsel for the occasion, the Christians in G. R. and the people down here in Bethlehem are ready to splurge into the happiest season of the year... it's like another spiritual high. There is warmth, togetherness, flickering candles, wine and pride... a pride that twists the truth like a worn-out dish rag, a pride that turns our eyes outside-in until we're seeing what we've done, how far we've come, and how great it is that we are where we are. And, oh yes, we bow for a word of thanks before we stuff ourselves, asking God to "remember those who are less fortunate than we." God's country!

If that shiver that goes up and down our spine when we hear the "Messiah" doesn't force us down on our knees before the throne of God, the one who came up with Christmas in the first place, then we've missed everything, and we might as well have different "seasons" of feeling good and long stretches of "just living for the weekend" like everyone else.

The baby in the cradle has been reduced to sentimentality and jingle bells. The source of happiness is reduced to a good, moral, long-bearded man, and happiness is reduced to the times the feelin' is there. And so, there sit

...what economic difficulties will God have to pull us

through to open our eyes to our obese way of living?

the Christians, as busy as ever, complaining about the high electricity bills and the wind chill factor. Meanwhile, cities many times larger than Grand Rapids stumble on with their millions of "less fortunate." You can hear "Amazing Grace" from a church a few blocks away.

I often wonder what economic difficulties God will have to pull us through to open our eyes to our obese way of living. We don't even feel uncomfortable with it anymore, except, that is, when we have to get out of our padded chairs. There is no real struggle, no real questioning, no real consistent attempts at restructuring our lifestyle, at least not as a group of Christians working together.

I was sitting in the projection room during Louis Tamminga's lecture on "Man and Work," one of the most significant events on campus this year, I believe. As I absorbed what he spoke, a group of "students" from an evening business course came down for their break, complaining about everything from the length of their break to the economics class where they would be listening to "that boring Tamminga business" on a tape. Meanwhile, Tamminga spoke very practically about the trend of using all of our riches. "We use them," he said, "because they're right in front of us. They're available, and we don't think twice about what we're doing."

We, who have such a hold on life itself, are so blind. We have our ethics and our smiles and our choirs, but the world is sick of ethically sound, smiling choirs singing the "Messiah" every year. Until we talk about our responsibility before God with our money, fuel, clothes, food and every other gift we have, the world won't see the justice and righteousness of the Messiah we're singing about.

Diamond

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

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KLATTER

by Jack Mouw

Gary Gilmore, the convicted murderer who wants to be executed, is in a way an admirable person, even though he killed two people. There are those who want to turn him into a romantic hero on the order of Bonnie and Clyde; someone wrote a ballad about him. Gilmore is hardly hero material, but he does have some things straight. In a society that dismisses sin as sickness, and guilt as a psychological aberration, Gilmore has the decency to be disgusted by his own behavior, when nobody else is. Murder is too commonplace to be taken seriously. Detroit, for example, averages about two murders a day; it's almost unthinkable that there could be two executions a day. That strikes us as barbarous. Gary Gilmore is still human enough to realize the enormity of his acts, and he doesn't want to live with his conscience. I like that.

It is assumed that Gilmore is an unusual person, a crackpot who is going to ruin everything for all those poor murderers who don't want to be executed. Gilmore may be unusual, but his views are unusually healthy. The Gilmore case illumines a side of capital punishment that is often neglected: the view of the one to be punished. Who knows more about the murder than the murderer? He should know if he deserves to die. Now psychologists have even taken away the individual's option of rebellion. How maddening for a person to know that nothing he can do would be bad enough for execution. How frustrating to be told by gently smiling college graduates, "You don't really hate society. There's just a chemical disorder in your brain." Then if they are particularly well-meaning and enlightened they alter your brain until your deviant behavior disappears, like in *A Clockwork Orange*. That is cruel and unusual punishment.

I haven't been following all the legal complications of the Gilmore case, but the situation would be laughable if it wasn't so tragic. How ironic that a government which can sit back and watch fetuses be aborted doesn't have the guts to kill a convicted murderer. It's as if no one has the moral integrity to say "yes, this man should be executed." Nobody in authority is sure enough of himself to take that responsibility. I shouldn't say nobody; three members of the Supreme Court were willing, six were not. It's a shame that those who deserve to die have to take justice into their own hands and attempt suicide. I hope Gilmore gets what he wants; he's got it coming.

letters

Cryptogram with a comment

To the editor:

The puritan work ethic seems to be undergoing a revival after the decadent years of the 20th century. Based on the notion that we must "build first the Kingdom," this hallowed guide for faith and practice is pushing young intellectuals to heightened academic achievements worthy of the Civitas Dei. This ethic, so long ignored, provides a new image of the Reformed Christian as "God's Little Helper."

This pervading spirit, notable on our small BUT SIGNIFICANT campus in Sioux Center, Iowa (a progressive community), is received by many with open arms. Yet, things don't seem quite right.

As I recall, another organization devoted entirely to Kingdom Building existed many eons ago. Their members also felt themselves to be God's Little Helpers. They worked very hard. They grew very sophisticated and independent. Gradually, as they put the finishing touches on their Pristine Chapel, they decided that God must really appreciate their work on the gloriously embellished piece of the Kingdom. God never said much, though.

A chubby little guy, dressed just like the little helpers of the day, wanted more than anything else to get to know God. The other little helpers couldn't understand that. "You don't know God, you work for Him," they said, smiling at his foolishness. He turned all red. (He used to do that a lot--some say he was unbalanced). After a lot of praying (He did that a lot too--some say he was very unbalanced), he one day put up a poster on the door of a Kingdom Building. It said a lot of things, but it really meant to say Sola Fide. Nobody said things like that in those days.

I don't hear a lot about that around here either.

Wik Wikholm

P.S. I didn't know if I should submit this, but I've heard that a Diamond is a pretty heavy rock.

VanDyk cont'd from page 1

"...they're interested in showing that land should support people in other ways than just economical."

They asked VanDyk to give "more of an inspirational speech." He took them briefly through the history of capitalism and socialism, showing that "there are spirits built into both which are incompatible with Christian commitment. I then urged them to pursue that third option."

What is that third option? VanDyk answered, "It's an attitude that would counteract the nature of economic growth as the ultimate happiness, the proliferation of goods, the subtle kind of advertising that goes with it, as well as the idea of a collection of consumers."

How did they respond? "Very good," according to VanDyk, "Those people don't even think that capitalism is the Christian

way of life. They're quite a ways beyond that. In the U.S. evangelicalism has identified Christianity with the American way of life. There are no questions being asked.

"But in Canada you have the socialists who have always been calling for a slowing down of economic growth, so the people are aware of the need. Now, they're interested in showing that land should support people in other ways than just economical."

In one of their workshops, they discussed the Biblical view of ownership, saying that "ownership is a God-given right" which involves responsibility. With the combination of right and responsibility, one has office.

They also concluded that "the capitalist-socialist controversy is not a real one" because "there is a communal and private side to ownership."

After looking at Old Testament norms such as tithing, the law of firstfruits and the law of interest, they stated, "the goal of ownership is that God's property is developed and managed in such a way that it continues to serve His main interest: the well-being of His children--in other words--the glory of God."

More specifically dealing with the third option, they discussed general guidelines, asking questions about sharing between neighbors and between employer and employee. They talked about the establishment

of a national food policy, as well as a food distribution system which would "reflect justice for all, "including the Third World countries. Also, they considered a "just land use policy" for Canada, talking in terms of "urban, industrial, recreational, forest and wildlife reserves and agricultural zones."

"It was quite different from

the common idea," concluded VanDyk, "especially found in the business enterprise, that we as Christians have to have an ethical dimension to what we do by just smoothing out the rough edges a bit. These people are busy with structural changes, looking for an alternative to the present agricultural policy. I hope this type of thing catches on."

Breaking down 168 hours

To the editor:

I believe everyone should take a good look at their life here at Dordt. Break down the 168 hours you have each week. Deduct the hours you're expected to be in class, the hours you sleep, eat and study. What do you have left? Now deduct the average amount of time you spend at church, chapel, bible study or prayer-meeting. What do you do left with the remaining time? Do you spend it in the game room, the coffee shop, downtown? This isn't being written to lecture you on using your time wisely as even I am at fault for wasting precious hours. So what is the purpose of this?

In Mark 10:28 Peter said to Christ, "We have left everything to follow you!" How many of us could say that same thing? Sometimes it seems like a chore to make it to church once on Sundays and then, if we go twice, well, that means you've been excused from chapel for the week!

Have you been to Tuesday night prayer meetings at 10:00 p.m. in C160? Or are you too busy? They only last a half hour. Are you so busy that you can't set aside that one half hour for prayer and fellowship once a week? God doesn't demand that much from us. He doesn't even insist that we go to church twice on Sundays, chapel twice a week or any prayer meeting or bible study. But the average time we're in church, chapel and prayer meetings per week (if you go to all) is approximately 5 hours per week. That's not even half the time we're expected to be in class (and there's no demands for two hours of work outside every hour of church, chapel or prayer meeting).

"Is there anyone in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise... the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (NIV, James 5:13 & 18)

Maybe you'll find that half hour to set aside for the prayer meeting next Tuesday.

Sheri Cleaves

Church music workshop scheduled for January

by Stan Kruis

Dordt's Music Department is inviting high school music teachers, church music directors, students, and anyone else interested to participate in a Church Music Workshop scheduled for January 27-29.

In addition to Dordt's music faculty, three guest artists--Eugene Butler, Donald Bruggink, and Marilyn Stulken-Ekwo--will lead workshops and give lectures. The participants will also be part of a mass choir, directed by Eugene Butler, which will present a concert on Friday evening, January 28.

Eugene Butler directs choral activities and teaches music theory at Johnson County Community College in Overland

Park, Kansas. He has published over 230 works and is known in the music world as a composer, conductor, educator and church musician. He keeps busy leading workshops for compositional seminars, church and choral music clinics, and new music repertory sessions.

Donald Bruggink, Ph. D., teaches Historical Theology at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. Many congregations consult him on church architecture. He has written two books with Carl H. Droppers: "Christ and architecture, Building Presbyterian/Reformed Churches" and "When Faith takes Form." Bruggink taught Church/Art

History seminars in Western Europe in 1967, 1969, 1973 and 1975.

Marilyn Stulken-Ekwo is the organist at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She also conducts workshops and teaches privately. Her specialty is church music, her major instrument is the organ. She is an authority on hymns and hymnology. Besides giving a lecture and workshop, she will present an organ recital on Sunday afternoon, January 30.

Those interested in participating in the workshops or in attending the lectures should watch the bulletin boards for details.

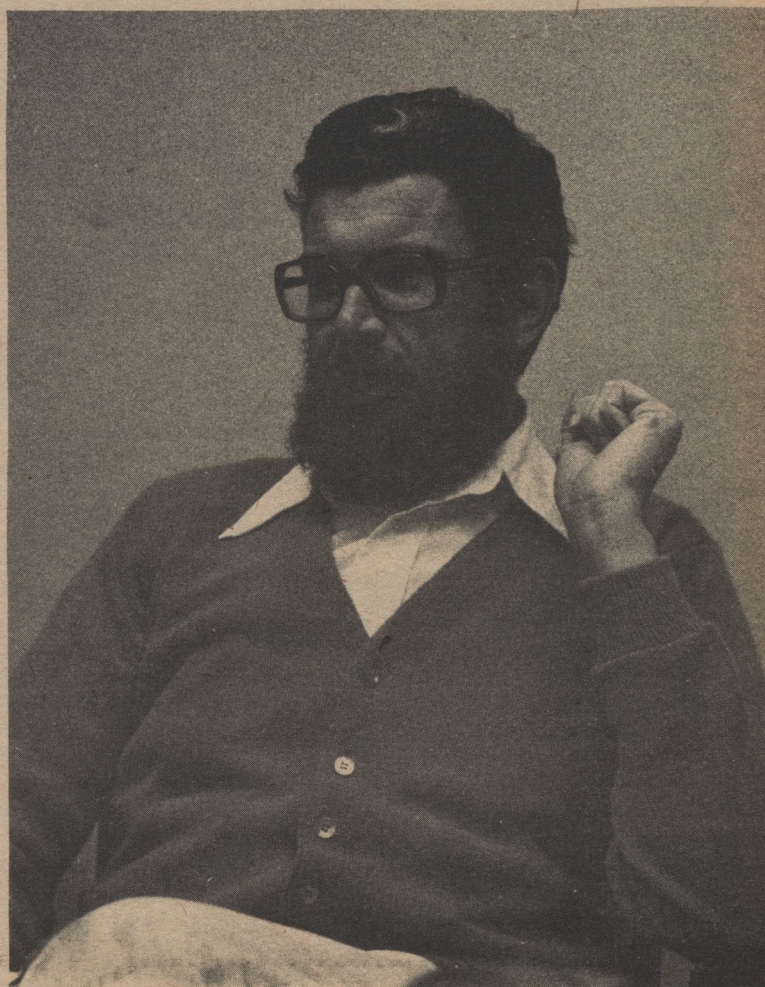


photo by Dave Groenenboom

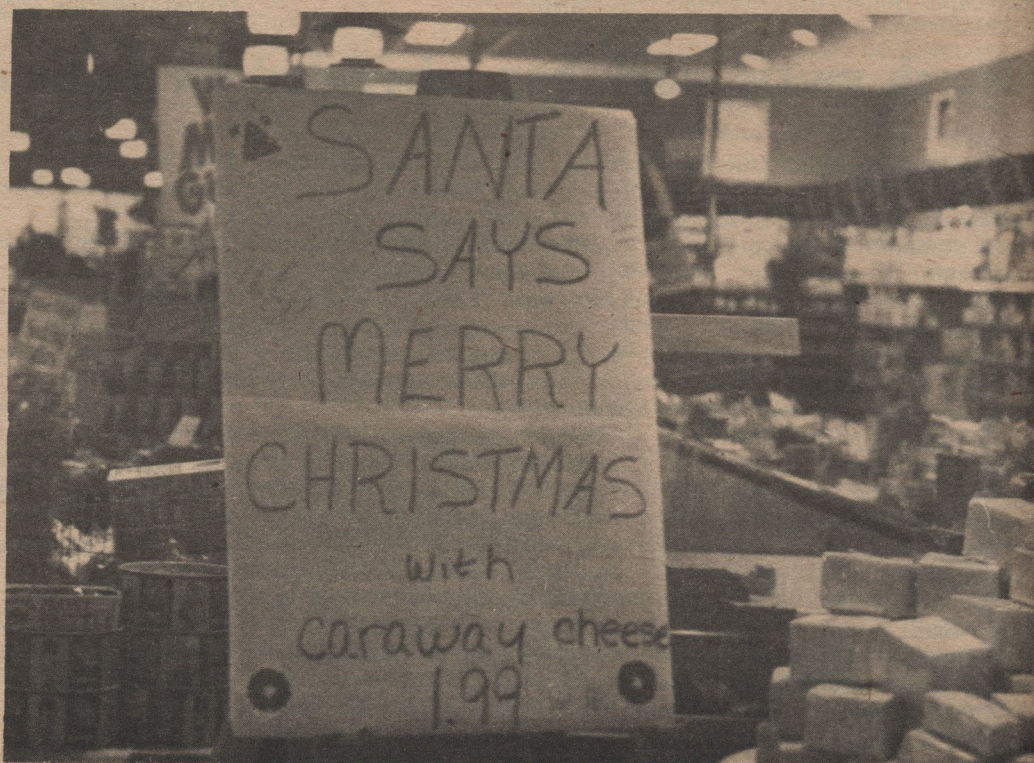
There are smiles between the snowflakes. . . frozen. It's like a herd of sheep on the edge of a green pasture, yet refusing to go through the open gate.

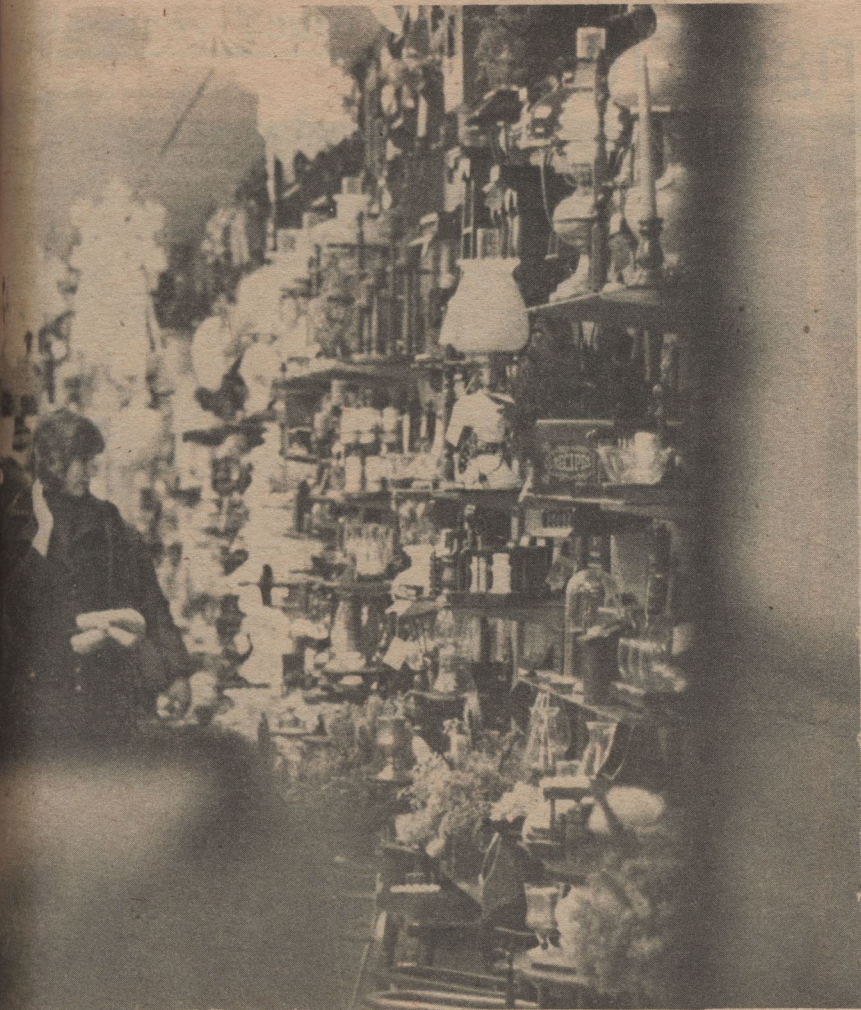


"I do it for the kids," she said, and the kids followed along, sensing that it was something joyful, something bright.

And when they grew up, they said they did it for their kids.

photos by Aric Bombardieri





Defenders: a new team and still developing

by Pete Buisman

Dave Den Herder and Lee Vander Aa, two senior members of Dordt's varsity basketball team were approached to gain insight into the players' point of view. They talked about the team's attitude and how their games have been going. For the record, the Defenders have won two and lost three of their first five games, but let's flesh this out in terms of attitude and performance.

Both Lee and Dave agreed that the team has been plagued by a lack of concentration in

their first five games which resulted in mental errors. They attributed much of this to the fact that it is still early in the season.

A perennial problem of Dordt's varsity has been getting psyched out by highly rated teams. Lee felt this was the case particularly in their game with Wartburg College and almost decided the outcome even before it was played. Dave stipulated, however, that although the problem is there, things are changing, and a more confident attitude is be-

coming evident. Both players referred to a very positive attitude on the team as a whole.

There is also general agreement between Lee and Dave that it is a new team, and it has new team problems. Only a handful of players remain from last year's squad. Lee and Dave maintain it is exciting to see their problems being worked out as the season progresses. For example, the team had been having defensive problems on the court, but the continual stress on defense during practices has begun to pay off. Now defense is considered to be a strong point, matching the already good offense.

They still need a team leader on the court; someone to control play on the floor. Lee and Dave feel that total team dedication is helping to resolve this problem. Both men see bright things in store for the varsity team, as the bugs are consistently being worked out of a new team.

Dave and Lee believe something also must be said about fan support, especially at home games. Lee sums it up by saying, "I expect fans to cheer for us and clap for the opposing team." Lee expressed his disappointment in fans who in any way make derogatory remarks to any player. Fans are there to build up and encourage, not to break down.

This also refers to the referees. They too are doing their best and do not deserve any type of hassle from fans. Dave puts it very clearly, "A

referee will make a bad call on purpose just as much as a player will miss a lay-up on purpose." Too many games have been ruined by fans riding the referees "poor" judgment. Fan support is great, but

should not downgrade the other team or the actual playing of the game, according to Dave and Lee.

This Saturday afternoon, they will meet Martin Luther College on our gym floor.

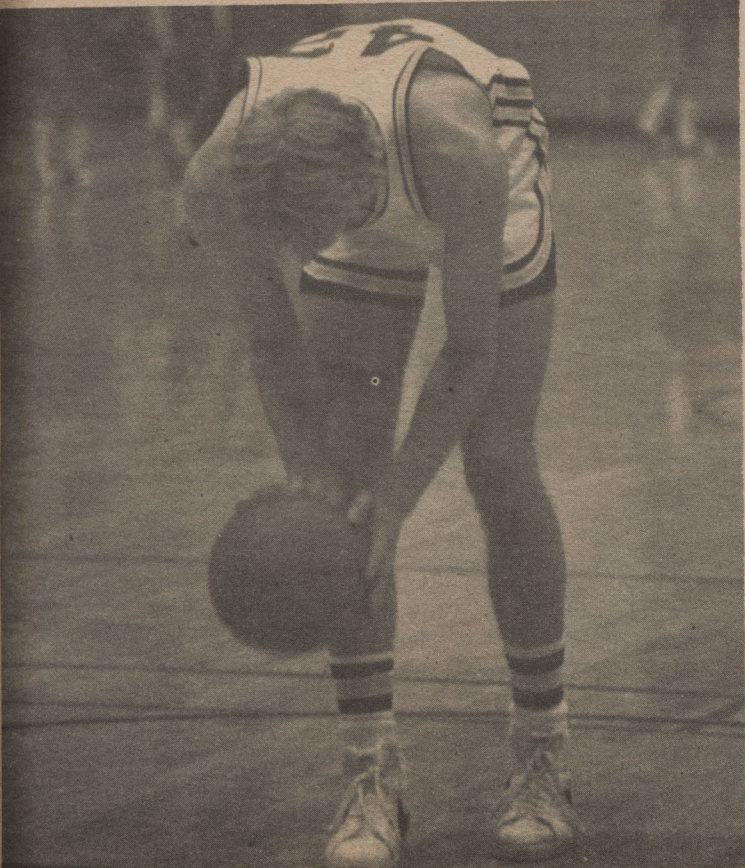


photo by Art De Boer

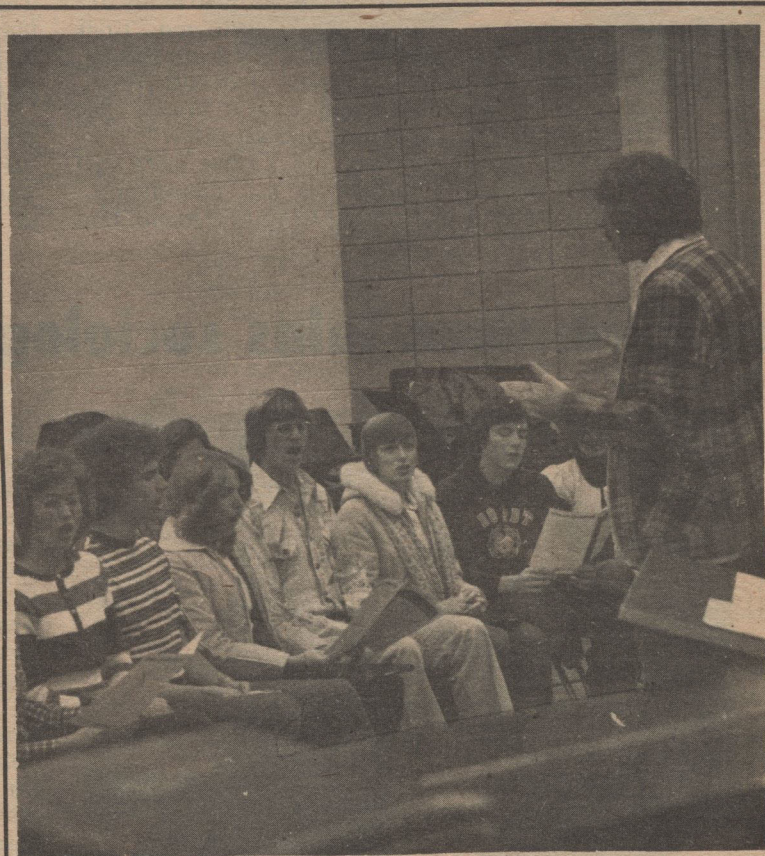


photo by Art De Boer

Chorale concert January 28

Dordt's Chorale will be featured in a concert on January 28 at 8:00 p.m. in the gym. Concert Choir and some community high school choirs will present a few selections.

The performance will be under the direction of Eugene Butler, an American composer-director. A 200-voice mass choir will perform some of Butler's compositions.

The red and white barn in Orange City

by Clarence Witten

Hidden behind a deserted farm house in Orange City is a typical red and white barn—the kind you expect to find full of cows. The first noticeable difference is the sign above the door reading "Coffee Barn."

Once you enter the barn you immediately forget its exterior. Kids are sitting around on the carpeted floor, talking, laughing and eating popcorn. Some sit gazing into the fire, and others enjoy a game of foosball.

The Coffee Barn, just east of Debo's Drive Inn, is much more than a barn. It's also much more than a coffee house. It's a group of 11 volunteers from Northwestern College dedicated to giving high school students a Christian atmosphere in which to function. The Coffee Barn itself is a place to socialize, to get involved. It's a place to call their own. "The Coffee Barn," says Darcy Lovgren, one of the staff members, "helps prepare the kids to take their place in society, and above all it gives them a chance to meet Jesus, learn about Him and feel His love."

The staff doesn't limit its time to the "coffee house" aspect. They also organize activities such as swimming nights, concerts and camping trips. "We want to develop these kids in all dimensions," adds Darcy.

"Our future success depends on the kids themselves. As long as they need us we'll be here," says Dave Ritsema, another staff member. "Coffee houses around here have a tendency of not making it. The fact that we've been around since January of 1973 is indicative of our success. Success, though, can't be measured simply in numbers. The kids have shown the need for a place like this, and as long as we fulfill this need, I



photo by Jim Hryck

feel we are a success."

It is only through the grace of God and the support of His people that the Coffee Barn has lasted. "Initially this barn was a shabby place, full of pigeons and the niceties that go along with them," recalls Darcy. It took a lot of work to transform that barn into the coffee house that it is today. Hours of labor, numerous donations, and many articles were contributed. "Look around you," suggests Darcy, "the carpet, foosball game, ping-pong table, piano, and fireplace are all gifts."

Today the Coffee Barn still depends on the community. The \$250 to \$300 a month that

it takes to run this place is received from all sorts of individual donors: college kids, high school kids and community members. A great deal of support also comes from businesses and churches. Some churches include the Coffee Barn in their budgets.

Not all the money needed to keep the Coffee Barn in operation is received by donation. The staff and kids themselves put on a few fund-raising activities such as their bake sale, flea market, and pig roast. "We have a really good time putting these things on," stresses Darcy, "but not too much money is made. None of us are business-orienta-



photo by Dave Groenenboom

ted." The significance of these fund-raising schemes is not in the money that's made but in the backing that is received. "In our bake sale and flea market," explains Darcy, "we had all kinds of cakes and articles dropped off by people we didn't even know."

The Coffee Barn has come a long way since Larry Leslie and Glen Hammerstrom first approached Northwestern about it. All they had was an idea and a great deal of enthu-

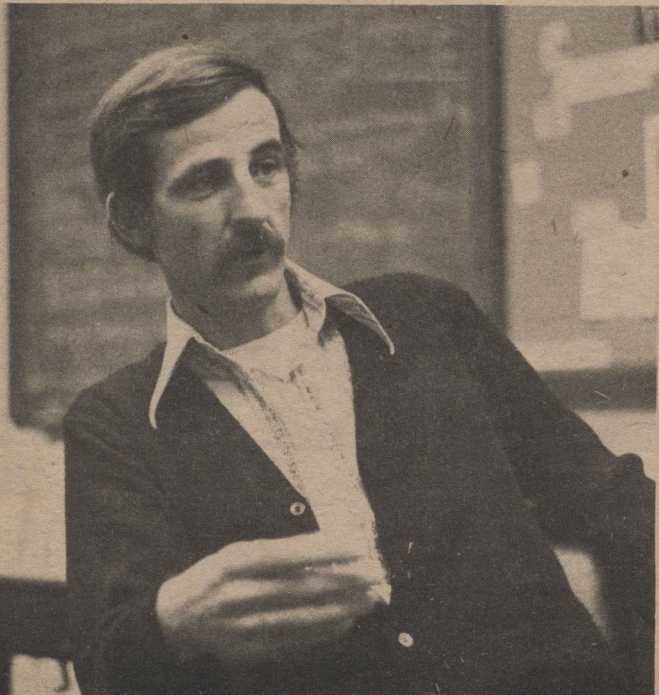
siasm. Today, looking back over the years, Darcy says, "We've come a long way since then; making mistakes but learning from them."

As for Tom Van Engen and his coffee house project for Sioux Center— "Sure we've heard of it," explains Darcy. "He's been here a number of times looking for help and ideas. Using our experience and resources, we help him in every way we can. Some day soon we hope to work together as sister coffee houses."

Ken Venhuizen joins sociology department

photo by Arie Bomhof

by Sue Bulthuis



Ken Venhuizen, after being involved in various areas of social work, will be joining the ranks of Dordt's sociology department beginning next semester. He will begin a course on the Introduction of Social Work and take over the course Sociology of Criminology. Taylor will begin a course called The Sociology of Religion. Venhuizen is also planning a course on a selective basis under special topics to get students involved in field work. This will be complemented with a practice seminar.

After attending Calvin College and the University of Washington, Venhuizen became involved with juvenile detention work, family services, youth homes and senior citizens. From 1972-1975 he worked with the CRWRC in

Korea in placing Korean orphans in Korean homes.

Venhuizen feels that "Dordt College has a real impact of taking sociological teachings and applying them in terms of a Christian perspective." He does feel that a Christian can approach sociology in some ways as a non-Christian can because "if you're trying to learn, there are things to learn." He went on to note that "you come with some things as a Christian that you wouldn't come to that same study with if you were a non-Christian."

Venhuizen pointed out that a Christian involved in sociology can "bring his perspective to bear on the theoretical positions of historical sociology and today's sociology." He stressed that a "Christian brings a real understanding of

humanness and a real compassionate understanding of man made in God's image.

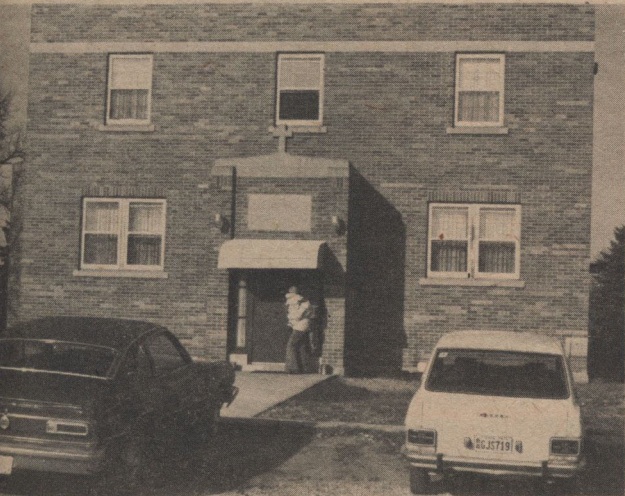
"The Christian, because of his prior understanding of man, is not blown about by every 'wind of doctrine,'" Venhuizen sees this instability in sociology as one of the main weaknesses in sociology today.

He noted that we must be careful when we try to relate the Bible and sociology. "We are instructed to know ourselves and in that regard, sociology may be a help for man to know himself." He also feels that the Bible has "an awful lot to say about man, society and those relationships." Venhuizen concluded, "We're going to hang our hats, so to speak, on the side of what God says versus what our sociological inquiry leads us to believe."

Harmony Youth Home

Working to build a bridge

by Rena Vander Dussen



Girl's Home in Ashton, Iowa

As one approaches the building, it appears to be just like any other home. There are no significant marks or bars on the windows to make it distinctive. Inside the building are all the traces of a family: comfortable furniture, trampled rugs, the delicious aroma of dinner simmering on the stove, and people. A motherly woman is cooking in the kitchen and the kids are watching TV after a day at school. However, this home has a twist.

This is Harmony Youth Home for delinquent youths. Whether one is at the girls' home in Ashton, Iowa or the boys' home in Orange City, Iowa, they are alike in structure and purpose.

The boys or girls are between the ages of 13 and 17 and have been placed in these homes by the courts because of crimes they have committed. Offenses such as car stealing, arson attempts and truancy are some examples. There are also some rare cases where a person will turn himself in, claiming that he doesn't want to live at home anymore and will go anywhere except back home.

Executive Director Glenn Van Ekeren puts it this way, "At Harmony Home, we are not out to change these kids. We're here to give them a chance to change. After that, it is up to them. They are given a combination of concern, love and compassion mixed with discipline just as they would in a normal Christian home. We work on the basis of behaviour modification. By this, the things which are good are reinforced, while those which are bad are disciplined."

At the present time, the staff consists of a few homemakers and counsellors who are in charge of running the home. The people in charge of over-

looking the operation of the Home are the cottage directors and executive director. Besides these two basic groups are the social workers, case workers and probation officers who deal individually with each resident.

As one tours the home, he can see the residents lounging around as it is their free time. The counsellors walk around much as parents might; they check on the progress of dinner and talk to the residents about their day at school. The residents are free to talk to any one in the home. Van Ekeren claims that for the two hours which he is at the Home each day, at least two residents will come in and talk to him. The conversation between counsellors and residents is normal for teenagers and parents. Quite often, the conversation is funny as they relate some humorous incident from their day.

Together, all of these people try to bring to each resident the chance to gain the self-image they lost somewhere in the past. This is the major cause of their problems. "They have gotten to a point where their self-image is zilch," Van Ekeren claims. "By zilch I mean that the self-image he was born with has been torn to shreds by incidents in his life. For example, a five-year-old boy hears his mother proclaim 'you kids are just a big pain in the hind end, and I just can't handle you.' The boy's parents get a divorce and a guilt complex begins.

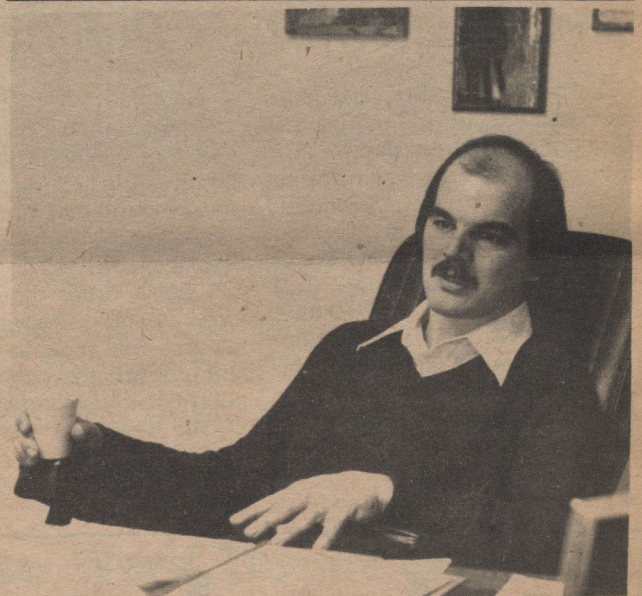
Three years later, he is living with his mother and she decides to remarry. But she says, 'If I get married, I don't want you kids tagging along.' Along with other things happening such as watching his brothers go to the state penitentiary, being told by his friends that he is not worth a plugged nickel and not having any family life, he begins to believe that he is not worth a plugged nickel. His self-image becomes non-existent and he does things to gain respect which result in arrest and in the courts sending him to Harmony Home.

"Our job here is to build a bridge," Van Ekeren continued. "There are two different pieces of land separated by a river. And all the time you're battling with that self-image, all these reoccurrences are happening and he keeps falling in the river and finally, he gets washed up on the other side. Our job is to build a bridge so that he doesn't have to come back through the water. Sometimes they'll get halfway over the bridge and fall in. Then it is our job to reach down and pull them out again and start over--not to go overboard but treat them as respectable human beings. We should be able to demand their respect and they should demand ours because they're no worse off than we are or better than we are."

This may sound cut and dried, but the counsellors at the Home will be the first to tell you that it isn't. The Christian influence in this Christian institution starts here. Christianity is not forced at Harmony Home but everyone who works there or is involved with the Home will agree that "without Christ we wouldn't be here and without Christ we wouldn't last." All the employees are Christians, and this is one way in which Harmony Home can be called a Christian institution. It is not a Christian institution in that you are handed religion on a platter at every turn. Rather it is the spirit of things and how they are dealt with in which a Christian spirit of living is emphasized.

This can be seen in a normal day. After waking up at 6:45 a.m., doing their chores and eating breakfast, the residents are off to school. When they return, there is either a planned activity,

"...it is our job to reach down and pull them out again and start over..."



Executive Director Glenn Van Ekeren

group therapy session or free time until dinner. After dinner, there are chores, planned activity or free time. Through this daily routine, the counsellors try to provide the love and security which the residents need.

The residents are graded on their chores each day. If it isn't done correctly or on time they receive a "poor." If, after a week, a resident receives all "good's," he gains a privilege. This is the beginning of a three level privilege system. After a resident receives a certain amount of "good's," he reaches the first level, which entitles him to snacks, TV and recreation room privileges. When he reaches the second level, privileges such as use of the telephone, off-ground activities and home visits are made available. The final level works on an individual scale through contracts. The counsellors and residents set up individual contracts to remedy individual problems. The benefits of this level include individual activities and more home visits. These privileges are gained one by one and can be taken away altogether if one of the "Big Four" offenses is committed. The Big Four consists of stealing, running away, use or possession of drugs and physical attack of a counsellor.

"The results of this system can be seen better two years after the resident has left Harmony Home," claims Van Ekeren. "Not everyone makes it, but about half of the graduates do live normal, good lives."

With much prayer and support from fellow Christians, Harmony's system of helping delinquent youths can continue and improve. For Harmony Home realizes that "without God, we wouldn't be here, and without God, we wouldn't last."



Making it just like home.

photos by Arie Bomhof

news briefs

On November 20, eight members of the Forensic Club attended a speech tournament at Lincoln Wesleyan at Lincoln, Nebraska. Twenty-five other schools attended the event.

Those competing from Dordt were Nancy Hibma, Piety Olivier, Dan Van Heyst and Cindy Holtrop in Oral Interpretation, Cindy Holtrop and Mary Vanderploeg in Dramatic Duo Reading, Sue Oppeneer and Kathy Vis in Original Oratory and Glenn Cullen in Informative Public Address. Daryl Vander Kooi and Charles Veenstra, Speech dept, coached the participants from Dordt and judged some of the events at the tournament.

The next tournament Forensic Club plans to attend will be at Iowa State in Ames on Jan. 28 and 29. Anyone wishing to attend can come to the club meeting Thursday evening, Dec. 9 at 7:00 p.m. in C160.

Garrett Allman, Dordt's keyboard instructor, will present a faculty piano recital on Tuesday, January 25, at 8:15 p.m. in Te Paske Theatre.

The program will include Bach's familiar "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring", Beethoven's "Appassionata" Sonata, Sonata No. 3 by the contemporary Russian composer Prokofier and Chopin's Ballade No. 2 and Scherzo No. 2.

The Dordt Blades hosted the hockey team from Iowa State University this past Friday and Saturday at the Sioux City Auditorium. In the first meeting Dordt handily outscored ISU 8-3. Next morning the Iowa State team came out strong in the first two periods and hung on in the third period to complete their well-earned 4-3 win. Both games were very hard, physically rough, though no serious injuries resulted.

Last night, the Defenders gave away an early lead, and the Beavers from Buena Vista ended up on top 68 to 59. There was ragged play by both teams and a high percentage of turnovers.

In the second half, the Beavers gradually pulled away from Dordt by capitalizing on Defender errors.

Two monetary awards of \$100 and \$50 will be given to the two Dordt students who have made the most significant writing contribution during the '76-'77 school year.

All selections -- of prose, poetry, fiction, essays and articles -- must have been written during the '76-'77 school term and give evidence of sustained quality.

Students applying for the awards should submit their writing pieces to Hugh Cook or Mike Vanden Bosch, English professors before April 9. Any writing published in either the "Diamond" or "Cannon" may also be entered.

These awards are from an anonymous friend of the college. The English department will judge the entries.

Women's BB team hosts Briar Cliff Friday night

The women's basketball team is out to a fine start this fall. With an eleven member squad which includes six freshmen, Coach Huisman has put together a strong, unified team.

Led by two freshmen starters, Dordt has played three times, winning 66-47 over Sioux Empire, 86-82 over Northwestern, and 61-54 over Sioux Empire again. This last game was an extremely tough one. Dordt had a few problems on the floor, but the team worked hard to compensate.

Coach Huisman stated that the team must do the performing on the floor. She busies herself with teaching the fundamentals and getting the girls to work as a unit, plus instilling team spirit. Miss Huisman feels that the team unit has been helped by activities outside of basketball, for instance team dinners.

The next home game for the



team is Friday night at 7:30, when they host Briar Cliff.

Tatum tot to satisfy Dordt cinema appetite

Hanke and I waited for rhubarb pie that Hanke's aunt was cutting in the kitchen. The weekly post-church roast feast was quickly eaten; the weekly Sunday meal at Hanke's aunt was a gladly accepted break from the cafeteria dining. Talk turned to movies as Hanke, Dordt's resident film philosopher, reflected on recent campus films.

"I saw the first 20 minutes

of 'Playtime,'" said Hanke with

Hanke looked at me with a blank face as he finished off the dinner rolls. "Maybe, Bergman should end his personal agonizing by driving a Volvo over a cliff."

"I don't think that's necessary, Hanke. Bergman is in tax evasion trouble in Sweden and has left the country. The publican always gets his man."

"The democrats beat this

pride.

"You didn't like the film?" I asked.

"No, it was O.K. even though it was in French. Its just that 'Billy Jack' was on T.V. that night. I've got my priorities, you know," declared Hanke, as he finished off the green beans.

"Is there anything in the Film Club's rules that says they can't have anything but black

and white films?" asked Hanke.

"I don't know, Hanke. Bergman's 'Winter Light' was here with the Film Club."

"I know. The Bergmaniacs were out in numbers, ogling in Swedish and looking grim."

"Bergman's films are melancholy, aren't they. He struggles for meaning in life; his struggles are tense and agonizing, and this is reflected in his films."

by Steve Huisken

fall, though."

I didn't have the heart to say anything. I just watched Hanke with amazement as he popped the last carrot stick in his mouth. Hanke's eyes lit up. "Maybe, Bergman will move to the U.S. and team up with Norman Lear and do some dynamite T.V. That would be the best thing to come out of Sweden since the Swedish meatball!"

There was not one edible thing left on the table; I felt uneasy as Hanke stared at me. I was relieved as Aunt Trena brought in the rhubarb pie. She went back for the coffee.

Hanke's eyes lit up. His pie was gone. "Maybe, Bergman will move to the U.S. and team up with Norman Lear. That would be the best thing to come out of Sweden since Elke Sommers and Swedish meatballs!"

"Hanke, you should see 'Paper Moon.' You'd like that."

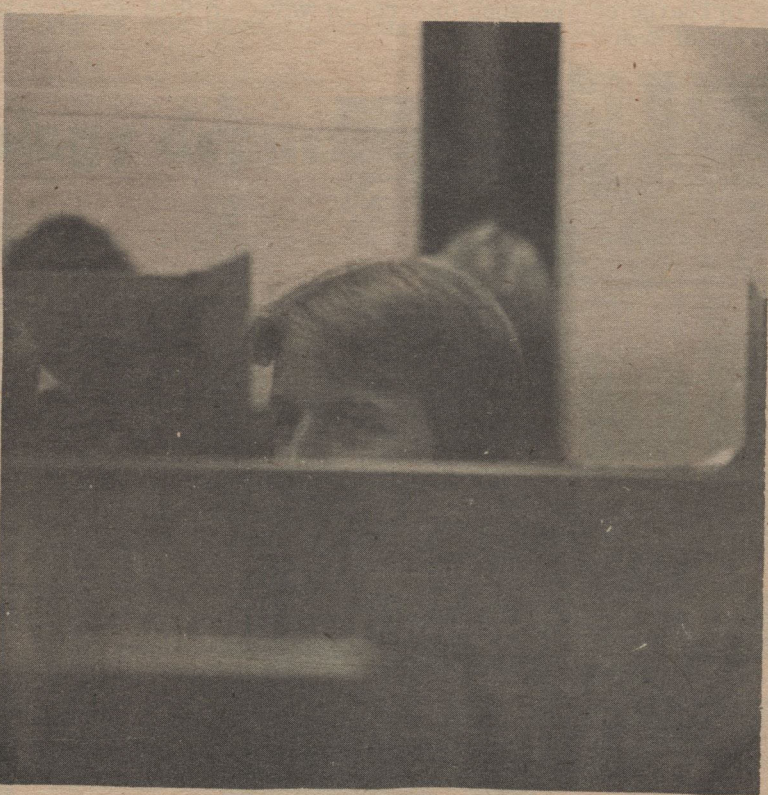
"You bet! Any movie with Cybil Shepherd has got to be good. And Bogdanovich is a great director. 'What's Up Doc' and 'The Last Picture Show' were terrific. Shepherd is his chic, you know."

Before I could correct Hanke, Aunt Trena brought in the coffee and chirped about an article in "The Banner." Anyway, Hanke will not see Cybil in "Paper Moon" when it is shown in C160 on Dec. 18; she isn't in it. But Tatum and Ryan O'Neal's performance as admirable Depression con artists makes "Paper Moon" a must to see. Bring your own popcorn, bring a friend, bring the bathroom sink: just make sure you are there for either the 6:30 or 9:30 p.m. showing.

Despite the six-tenths increase in the National Wholesale Price Index, admission to "Paper Moon" is still only 50¢.

calendar

Thurs. Dec. 9	-7:00 pm,	Forensic Club meeting C160
Fri. Dec. 10	-	Madrigal Dinner West Commons
	-7:30 pm,	Womens Basketball vs. Briar Cliff, here
Sat. Dec. 11	-	Madrigal Dinner West Commons
	-1:00 pm,	J.V. Basketball vs. Dr. Martin Luther College, here
	-3:00 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Dr. Martin Luther College, here
Mon. Dec. 13	-	Madrigal Dinner West Commons
	-7:30 pm,	Women Basketball vs. Buena Vista at Stormy Lake
Tues. Dec. 14	-8:00 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Dakota State at Madison, S.D.
	-9:30 pm,	Freshman group registration
Wed. Dec. 15	-7:00 pm,	J.V. Basketball vs. Buena Vista at Stormy Lake
Thurs. Dec. 16	-	Review Day
	-	Christmas Party
Sat. Dec. 18	-6:30 and 9:00 pm,	Film "Paper Moon" C160
Tues. Dec. 21	-	Testing ends and Vacation begins!!!
Thurs. Jan. 13	-7:30 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Concordia at St. Paul, Minn.
Fri. Jan. 14	-7:30 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Bethel College at St. Paul, Minn.
Wed. Jan. 19	-7:35 am,	Second Semester begins
	-5:30 pm,	J.V. Basketball vs. Northwestern at Orange City
	-7:30 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Northwestern at Orange City
Fri. Jan. 21	-6:30 and 9:00 pm,	Film "Conrack" C160
	-7:00 pm,	Women vs. Morningside at Sioux City
	-8:00 pm,	Travelogue - "Russia and it's people"
Sat. Jan. 22	-5:30 pm,	J.V. Basketball vs. Sioux Empire, Home
	-7:30 pm,	Varsity Basketball vs. Mt. Marty, Home
Mon. Jan. 24	-	Varsity Basketball vs. Yankton at Yankton, S.D.
	-7:00 pm,	Film club, "7th Seal" C160
	-	Pre-Sem meeting with Rev. Hellinga



"Why didn't I finish my term paper when I took the books out in October?"