Dordt Receives Science Grants

Dr. Russell Maatman, Professor of Chemistry, announced last week that the Dordt chemistry department has received two grants-in-aid totaling $15,000, spanning the next two years.

The first is a grant of $4,800 from the National Science Foundation for use during the summer months of 1967. The purpose of the money is to support two high school teachers for ten weeks while they participate in laboratory research at Dordt.

Many colleges in the nation are included in this program. The NSF has sent out brochures to all interested high school chemistry teachers. In turn, these teachers send in applications to the college or university of their choice. For Dordt, this means that two teachers will be selected from these applicants; one to work under Dr. Russell Maatman and one under Dr. Edwin Geels.

Maatman, the department head, also announced the accrualment of a grant of $10,500 from Petroleum Research to be administered through the American Chemical Society. Starting in September of 1967, this grant will pay two years' expenses of two undergraduates who will be doing research in chemistry.

It is interesting to note that of the above-stated $15,300, approximately $1,200 is in uncommitted funds, which can be used by Dordt College for any purpose so desired. However, the full benefit will not be experienced at once, since generally the payments will be stretched out to cover the same period of time as the second grant.

Dordt College is to be commended for receiving these funds, for it demonstrates the credibility and acceptance of the work done so far in this very important field. While this has been the third year Dordt has received the National Science Foundation grant, the Petroleum Research endowment represents a new gift received by the chemistry department.

DATE SET FOR LETTING SCIENCE BUILDING

Bids for the science building will be let January 10, 1967, in the office of the business manager.

Cost of the two-story building will be $300,000. A federal grant of $98,000 and a federal loan of $125,000 have been received to help finance the building. It is hoped that the anniversary drive will bring in the remaining $77,000.

The new science building, which will be south of the library, will include laboratories, class rooms, and offices for the Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, and Physics Departments.

National Organization Recognizes Dordt Professor

The American School Health Association recently conferred on a Dordt professor, Mr. Frank Calsbeek, the status of fellow in that organization.

Mr. Calsbeek, a physical education instructor at Dordt for the past three years, has been a member of the A.S.H.A. for quite some time.

The action entitles Mr. Calsbeek to several privileges including the eligibility to hold office in the association which is made up of about 10,800 members. He may also now become appointed to serve on any of the research councils sponsored by this organization.

Mr. Calsbeek, therefore, becomes (continued on page two)
Debaters In First Round Of Experience

Friday, December 2, Dr. Lathers’ maroon Chevy set out to Wayne, Nebraska for the first tournament of the 1966-67 intercollegiate debate season. The tournament consisted of three rounds on Friday and two rounds on Saturday giving the Dordt debaters a win - 6 loss records. Schools defeated by Dordt were Wayne State twice, St. John’s, and South Dakota State. Dr. Lathers, the debate coach, pointed out that this year’s results at Wayne set a new high for Dordt at that tournament. The debate teams in the Wayne tournament were composed of Orlin Hogan and John Strikerda, Reynold Siebenga and Larry Kooi. The following weekend the remainder of the debaters from Dordt, including Ron Oostra and Jack Van Vliet, Barb Jabaay and Dean Vander Veen, attended a tournament at Sioux Falls College. The two teams went through four rounds Saturday and won two out of eight with Barb and Dean taking the two wins. They defeated the U. of North Dakota and the U. of South Dakota.

The next debate meet is scheduled for January 10 at Mankato, Minnesota, and with the first tourney as past history, the experienced debaters are anticipating more wins.

Minstrels Entertain Students With Live Performance

Despite the fact that Dordt College could not sponsor the New Christy Minstrels, a surprisingly large number of Dordt students attended the concert at the auditorium on the Westmar College campus.

The students were treated with a wide variety of the famous Christy Minstrel brand of folk-singing. The New Christy Minstrels, composed of seven men and two “all-American” girls, conducted a program by singing, cracking jokes, and superbly accompanying themselves with guitars, a banjo, a bass, a mouth organ and a tambourine.

These lively and talented young people retained the rapt attention of their audience from the time they romped onto the stage until they energetically left at the conclusion of the performance.

The microphone system, which was inadequate and at times soundless, proved to be the only blemish on the entire evening. The group, however, made light of this inconvenience by passing humorous remarks about it throughout the show.

Perhaps the high point of the evening came at the conclusion of the program when the audience was invited to sing along.

The picture of these clean-cut young people is one which will undoubtedly remain for a long time in the minds of those who saw them.

Writer’s Club Proves Partially Successful

In this era of history the effects of science influence many other human pursuits. On this campus it has invaded one of the most unlikely fields of all, creative writing. The invasion is in the form of an experiment, a scientific means of arriving at knowledge. The experiment in progress here is the attempt to foster a club whose purpose is the study and production of creative writing.

The attempt is experimental because its success is not assured. The club intends to function without officers, by-laws, or Robert’s rules. Procedure is arbitrary. The procedure at the recent meeting, supervised by the volunteer sponsor, Mr. Meeter, was an analysis of some poetry written by members. The analysis proved to be largely interpretation of meaning, intended and otherwise.

Several members later expressed dissatisfaction with this procedure. Suggestions of variations included a discussion of the initial approach to writing something and discussion of the feasibility and definition of Christian creative writing.

Certainly one emphasis of the club will be, however, the actual production of creative writing. Therefore, the publication of the Arête, including writings of members and any others wishing to contribute, will be the responsibility of this club.

Recognizes Dordt Professor (continued from page one)

the first Dordt physical education instructor to win for himself and the college national recognition in his field.

In order to attain the status of fellow, one must first fill an application and then be recommended by the state chairman. Following these steps, the testimonial statement is sent to the Fellowship Committee and the Governing Council.

The organization to which Mr. Calsbeek has been named a Fellow publishes the magazine, The Journal of School Health, which is found in the libraries of many educational institutions.
Peanuts, peanuts, and other types of nuts. For those that weren't firing peanuts at random instead of merely at the villain it could have been a very understandable production. But as it stood everyone that had a nut threw it at some other seeming nut, and thus the evening progressed to the great utterance of "may he rest in peace."

The evening moved along rather merrily with rousing melodies by the paradise girls while the stage crew cleared the platform of round earthy missiles.

The regisseur must be commended for giving the entire set an atmosphere of freedom; but in doing this some of the speeches were lost. I do believe that had it not been for the freedom given to the audience, the melodrama would not be as memorable. It seemed to be quite drawn out, but boredom was overcome by throwing another nut at whoever was on stage or wasn't there.

I believe that the peanut and cider awards should be given to Miss Eekhoff, Miss Rupke, and Mr. Ebbers. These three, it seemed to me, did the best job of impersonating their characters.

Now Sing We All to Thee

Dordt students observed the holiday season on Thursday, Dec. 15, with an evening of Christmas caroling. After meeting in the Commons at 7:30, the students split into six groups, each of which was assigned several stops. The entire body met at the hospital at 9:00 for some combined singing.

Weary carolers then trudged back to the Commons for the welcome refreshment of popcorn and hot chocolate. The last survivors participated in an informal Christmas song-sing led by Dave Bloemendaal. Highlights of the singing were solos by Don Boner and Al Bandstra. After a considerable amount of popcorn throwing, the crowd dispersed in a festive mood.

Churches Vote On Services Times

On December 5, Bethel Christian Reformed Church conducted a congregational meeting. One of the items of discussion was the matter of whether to continue having evening services or switch to afternoon services as had been done in preceding years. It was decided by an 11 vote majority of the congregation, that beginning on January 1 and continuing until the second Sunday in March, worship will be conducted in the afternoon.

One week later, on December 12, the same item was discussed by the First Christian Reformed Church. They resolved by a substantial majority to maintain evening services.

There was a tree who green was ever, Till some man so smart and clever Invented electricity. —j.v.b.
Letters to the Editor

"TRUE CONFESSION"

Dear Editor,

It is rumored that there is a scandalous case of infamy tramping across our pure campus of late. We, the guilty persons involved, are favored by public censorship to bring some facts to light.

It is true that we seek to be together as much as possible. We are both married, but not to each other. One of us does have three children. Our backgrounds are so similar that we have much in common. One of us is a music major and an English minor. The other is an English major and a music minor. We both come from a large family and have lived in a small town all of our lives.

We may as well confess. We do love each other. Don't all brothers and sisters?

Ronald Rynders
Esther (Rynders) Olivier

TURNS CHRISTIAN LIGHT ON BIRCH PRINCIPLES

To The Editor:

Miss Jaboay wrote very eloquently about the John Birch Society in the last issue of the Diamond. Indeed, she wrote with a fervor that should characterize these pages; for these insignificant black symbols printed so orderly under their column heads should pulse with the urgency of the prophetic function to which they are called. Every word has been steeped in the blood of the King of truth. Being limbs of that torture-torn body, we would be callous beyond belief if morality is not out of Christ, morality, integrity, and purpose.

As a body of young people whose hearts are revived to life from death by the nail-ripped hands of Him who came to "bear witness unto the truth" (J. 18:38), truth is not only "our only weapon," but also our tongues and hands. It is our joy and duty to speak every word and to do every act in the purpose of holding before one another, before the nation, before the world, the truth.

This means that the political word and the political act must conform to the command of the Father who sent Him, who is the life also of politics. Thus Christian political action stands completely outside of and opposed to the contemporary political spectrum.

In this context, I ask Miss Jaboay whether Communism is actually "contrary to the whole current of man's aspirations and history" as today's ideological scene is unified in its denial of the relevance of Christ to politics, Birchite conservatism, included. Every action not founded on the recreative power of Christ and not dedicated to declaring his Kingship over society, labors contrary to God's law.

Christian action is never negative, because our weapon—the truth—is not negative. The John Birch Society is negative at its roots, as every movement not grounded in the authority of Christ must be. Thus, the "hopes and fears of religious intensity" which motivate the Bircher are misdirected; led by the belief in this "upward reach" which you mention, the pseudo—Messianic character of its anti-Communism crusade can be and is doomed to futility. Thank God that his love was strong enough to reach down into the abysmal depths where our "upward reach" has carried us.

Communism's doctrines are founded on the same "upward reach," and even today in the U.S.S.R. as long as a person's faith is relegated to where it is "entirely his own affair," he is tolerated. One of the U.S.S.R.'s "never-ending concerns is with morality, integrity, and purpose" also. If morality is not out of Christ, it is moralism to which Christ addressed himself very forcefully in the Pharisees.

Add this to your list, Barbara: If you want to think, act and work in the Kingdom, then this, fellow Christians, transcends all "isms."

Harry Der Nederlanden

COMMENDS CHAPEL SPEECH

Dear Editor,

Noting the apparent variation in appeal of the talk offered by Mrs. Haan in the Dec. 15 chapel speech compelled me to give an opinion. I deeply appreciated the modest straightforward sense in which this speech was delivered. It lacked the lofty, wordy, philosophical, theological approach and still brought a conviction across that spoke as clear and direct as any message. I am not saying that this lofty approach is not proper. I do believe that there is a distinct difference. These two methods appeal to different personalities in different degrees of understanding.

I think there is a place for each method in conveying its message. We at Dordt could stand a little more earthly and plain approach to the gospel. In our classes and personal discussions we attempt to interpret our beliefs from a Theological point of view. Couldn't chapel be a proper means to interpret both our understanding of the gospel and our task in the Christian community, in a sincere, humble, clear-cut and plain old manner? It would probably be more instrumental in compelling us to search out our basic religious convictions, our basic beliefs, which, after all, underlie all our doctrinal and denominational subtleties.

Gary Halbersma

MORE ON BIRCH

Dear Editor:

Concerning Miss Jaboay's letter to the editor in the November 21 issue of the Diamond, I am sorry that she misunderstood my presentation of Mr. De Koster as an "authority" on the John Birch Society. I merely wished to pose Mr. De Koster's authority as equivalent to the authority she herself possesses concerning the Society.

David Vander Plaats

Students at times may embarrass the faculty and administration, but that is one price of education for freedom.

—Eugene Wilson
Varsity Freshmen--
Marlin Broek and
Bernie Van Roekel

VARSIY FRESHMEN SPEAK
(continued)
to college basketball?
B. "I feel that the tougher defense
in college ball is a big change.
There was more time to shoot in
high school. If you are open for
a split second in college, you
have to shoot." 
M. "College ball is definitely
rougher. You can throw elbows
and get by with it." 
B. "Tougher defense in college
makes it necessary to throw more
accurate passes." 
M. "College play is more aggres-
sive under the boards, although
I feel that college ball, on the
whole, is slower." 
B. "You can rebound in high school
without getting good position. In
college ball, good position is a
necessity." 
M. "More versatility is expected in
college ball. You cannot only
bomb from outside, but have to
be able to drive. Also, you must
learn to shoot with a hand in
your face."

In the following two paragraphs,
Bernie and Marly answer individual
questions about basketball technique
and strategy.

Bernie, how do you position your-
self for rebounds?
"I try to keep myself between my
man and the basket. It's also nec-
essary to let your man know you're
there by throwing your weight a-
round so he can't get around you
for the rebound."

Marly, if your team was behind by
one point with ten seconds to go,
and you were assigned to shoot the
last shot, what kind of shot would
you take?

"I would take a jump shot from the
head of the key."
When asked about choice of of-
cence, Bernie and Marly replied that
they preferred the fast break. Bernie
became accustomed to it in high
school and feels that it will wear out
the other team if your team is in
shape. Marly agrees with these rea-
sons, but likes it especially because
it is the most fun.

The two cagers' defensive prefer-
ence is man-to-man rather than the
zone because the former type of de-
fense gives each man his own respon-
sibility, makes it easier to pinpoint
mistakes, and presents a bigger chal-
lenge to one's individual defensive
ability.

I-M Gems

by Stephen J. Arends

In this joyous Christmas season, es-
specially for the SR's with their 201
I-M points, we find a new trend in
the I-M contests. The JR's are strug-
ghling with 147 points. The Sophies at
185 are pushing for an I-M trophy.
In their appropriate place the
Frosh have 138 points. But with bowl-
ing, basketball, and the New Year,
the JR's hope for a turn in the tide,
BUT........

The Colorful Plains League sees the
emergence of two undefeated teams:
the Hoop Benders with a defensive
masterpiece of 35-13 over the Theo-
logians and a romp over the partici-
pation points; and the hustling Kam-
ikezies with 56-32 and 69-32 vic-
tories over the Interceptors and the
Microcsmns. Minor upsets in the
league include a 61-27 steal by the
Interceptors over the dribbleless
Dribblers and the 43-37 Loafers slap
to the Microcsmns' pride. The Theo-
logians regained their poise with a
67-41 triumph over the Loafers. Not
so dauntless after their loss to the
Dirty Dribblers, the Dauntless suf-
f ered a 34-25 defeat........

The Rugged Mountain League has
been filled with upsets—at least as
far as my cock-eyed predicting has
gone. The Frosh Bruisers, cocky
and all, have mauled the Hi Hoop-
ers, Cards, and Ids, Sophie Lutt-
waflle shocked the campus with three
big wins over the Bouncers 44-29,
Cards, 44-39, and Globetripprs,
35-31. Someone better tell them
they are supposed to lose before the
whole league falls apart. The Rinky
Dings breezed to 60-32 and 53-41
victories over the Globetrippers and
the Hi Hoopers. I wonder if "Hi
Hoopers" came from A students in
Miss Hooper's English. The Bouncers
bounced back to a 60-37 win over
the Cards after their glorious defeat.
One team, the Ids, must be singled
out for honors. They lost to the Cards
39-21, the Hi Hoopers, 48-7, and
the Bruisers, 81-13. The Ids are al-
most bad enough to make the partic-
ipation points look good or is it vice
versa?........

Finally the good-lookers take to
the courts with the start of the Hur-
ricane League season. The JR's clash-
ed with a 39-10 victory for the Bouncing Basketeers over the Desper-
adoes. The Sophies elected the Frag-
ilistics by 31 to 7 over the No Names.
The Frosh contests saw the Magnifi-
cent Six stun the Net Rippers 62-5
and the J.C. Pennies buy a 25-4
victory over the Dordtettes. The SR
Boucnerettes were idle. Watch for
my predictions on the Hurricane
League coming soon....

New girls' bowling high: Jean
Theune—178. Watch for the final
results in the next Diamond.....

Ref of the Month: A new award is
given to the "best" ref of that month.
The qualification "best" refers mere-
ly to an outstanding attribute of a
ref which has set him apart from all
others. The Ref of the Month Award
goes this month to John King for his
control and authority in reefing.
Even the player-refs and the
crowd-refs were quiet when
John blew his tooter. Although he
was ahead of his time, in more than
one way, he did manage to call
things that no one had ever heard,
called before. I-M Gems salutes
you, Mr. King, Ref of the Month.
I-M Gems would like to take this
opportunity to wish all its readers a
very Merry Christmas and a prosper-
ous New Year. And I hope to see
you next year not only watching
but participating in our many I-M
events.
"There is no longer a Christian mind." So begins Blamires' harsh, but embarrassingly accurate appraisal of twentieth century thinking even within the Christian fold. There remains, he says, a Christian ethic, a Christian morality, a Christian spirituality, and a Christian practice, "but as a thinking being, the modern Christian has succumbed to secularization."

But Blamires strongly affirms the possibility of a Christian mind. (By mind he does not, of course, mean the gray matter in each human skull, but "a collectively accepted set of notions and attitudes," as in "the modern mind."). "There is nothing in our experience, however trivial, worldly, or even evil, which cannot be thought about Christianly."

But it is equally possible to think of sacred matters secularly. Because Christians have done just that, there has been no Christian dialogue. Any Christian thinker finds himself communicating to a frustratingly small number of persons even when he faces an audience as large as our own. Christian as that in the Dordt College chapel. But if he wants to feel real frustration, let him, for instance as a politician, present in Congress his Christian thinking on such an issue as labor.

What is the result of this lack of Christian principles? Thought and action must be determined and criticized by some standards. And so morality and truth are no longer determined by the absolute Biblical standards of right and wrong. Rather, the politician is right when he is loyal to his party. New church creeds and doctrines are true if the majority of the synodical delegates consent. The individual is moral if he abides by the prevailing standards of his community. In other words, we fight on secular ground, under secular rules and a secular umpire, before a secular audience, and then we are appalled at the weakness of our cheering section.

But this book is not negative and critical. In delineating the vast differences between secular and Christian thought, it also reveals the marks of Christian thought. In its criticism it points to the correction our thought needs. This is not to say that it has no faults. In fact, the author blunders into the very error he is trying to avoid—that of positioning some standard, some authority above God—when he consistently elevates the church rather than God as the ultimate authority.

But don't let the title of the book scare you. Don't even let this review intimidate you. This is not an obscurely philosophical book. Rather, it is written in a clear, easy, story-book style with an abundance of delightfully spicy illustrations. It speaks on current problems found in the C.R.C. and even at Dordt College—problems ranging from fraudulent advertising and materialism to heresy scandals and sex.

SCOPE

MUSIC IN THE CURRICULUM

by Ron Rynders

An educated person is not a person specialized in a certain field to the exclusion of many others. Education can be viewed from an organic point of view; that is, an education made up of different parts, each part functioning toward making a whole man. There is a mandate involved in Christian education to educate the whole man, making his entire being serve God, opening up every field of learning for him to explore. If all of the world must come under the dominance of man, as our Calvinistic view asserts, man should be busy in all spheres, and not neglect the aesthetic. This includes aesthetic education, among the most basic of which is music. A man must feel as well as think. And the child must be taught sensitivity to color, sound, rhythm, and emotion.

In an emotional sense, music adopts a major role in education because it supplies a medium through which a satisfying expression of emotion can be channeled.

However, it follows that in a school curriculum, there must also be an element of cognition and guidance towards a suitable expression of emotion. Feeling, emotion, and intellectual aspects must all combine to form an awareness of the power of music. Music education in our schools can aid children toward an intelligent appreciation through evaluation, discrimination, awareness, acquaintance and understanding of music. This must then be taught to be expressed through rhythm, singing, listening, creative and recreative activities.

Music has an aesthetic function and is a medium for moral development. But basic to moral conviction is spiritual insight. Moral conviction can be proven by history. But spiritual values are rooted in faith. The reason for making this point is that there is no medium through which we can exercise moral and spiritual values better than by music. Music can be and has been used as a medium of communication from man to God, God to man, and man to man.

Musical talent can be easily developed in the young, agile, and emotional child, and must be emphasized. This makes music education even more significant in the junior and senior high schools. After all, the goal of education is presenting facts and molding ability so that the proper relationship between man and his God, his fellow man, and natural order may be restored. And the goal of music education in particular is to train a good expression of this relationship.

APPRECIATION FOR THE CAMPUS DECORATING HELP

The Delta Sigma Kappa (Service Club) extends a "thank-you" to the Sioux Center Junior Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas tree lights, and also for the work involved in hanging these lights about campus. Also the many Dordt students are thanked who so generously helped place the lights on the tree.
The concept of religion, presented by Robert Welch in *The Blue Book of the John Birch Society*, is something short of Christian. He uses the term "true faith" referred to by Dove Vander Plaats concerning those religious principles of the John Birch Society. The concept of religion, presented by Welch, is not a personal Supreme Being, but simply as a set of "eternal truths" existing apart from man. It would perhaps be easiest to show this concept by examining what Mr. Welch himself has to say concerning religion.

In deploring the loss of faith in "God" and man found generally in the United States today, Mr. Welch states concerning those who have not lost this faith, "Let all of us thank whatever God we severally worship that there is so large a remnant of the really true believers left" (p. 57). It seems somewhat inconsistent to worship "whatever God" and thereby belong to the body of "true believers." It should seem obvious that what he means by "God" is something different from what the Christian means. He refers to the true believer a little later when he states that "the same trend (among the Protestants) of worldly disillusionment and loss of true faith is visible among Catholics, among Jews, among Moslems, among Buddhists, and among the formerly devout believers of every great religion of the world" (p. 59). The "true faith" referred to here could not possibly be faith in God, and the "devout believers" do not necessarily have to be Christian.

Mr. Welch feels that man up to this time has had an anthropomorphic concept of God—a concept which limits God to the finite mind of man. This is brought out when he states that "this present concept will seem to have viewed the Creator as far too close, too understandable, and too provincial a Power, against the remoteness, majesty, and omnipotence then conceivable" (p. 147). By the "present concept," Mr. Welch means his own concept of God as Creator, which is a completely evolutionistic concept both geologically and biologically. After this period of confining God to this mind, man must come to realize "that God is infinitely greater than those ancestors were yet allowed to see" (p. 147). When one adds to this "that all of man's increasing knowledge leaves the Unknowable just as completely unknowable as before" (p. 147), one cannot but realize the evolutionistic and agnostic tendencies of Mr. Welch.

Mr. Welch expresses his own religious belief in a line from the English poet, Tennyson: "For I doubt not through the ages one increasing purpose runs" (p. 146). One might well question this sentiment as to whose purpose, God's or man's, runs through the ages. Mr. Welch quickly answers that it is man's purpose, which has been placed in him by God—however, not to glorify God but to glorify man. Since God is unknowable and will always be, Mr. Welch supposes that therefore "we can give far more of our energy and dedication to serving that purpose better." (p. 147). According to Mr. Welch, man's purpose is expressed by the poet, Harry Kemp: "Thou hast put an upward reach in the heart of man" (p. 149). This "upward reach" does not refer to man's search for God (which he has just shown to be fruitless), but rather to man's constant striving for betterment—a striving which we as Calvinists believe to be non-existent, since man is totally depraved and incapable of doing any good in and by himself.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Welch expresses his religious beliefs from modern poetry rather than from the Bible. This does not mean, however, that Mr. Welch does not believe in the Bible, for he says that the men who wrote most of the Bible "were the poetic spirits of their respective ages." (p. 148). He continues by saying that "those same interpretations and recordings and expressions of man's developing experiences, beliefs, and faith do not come to us today as further books added to our Bible; but they are being given to us, with greater and easier understanding than we might otherwise achieve, by the same kind of reverent and poetic minds" (p. 148). These statements, of course, demolish any beliefs in the inspiration of the Bible as well as its efficacy for our salvation.

When Mr. Welch, therefore, professes: "I believe there is a broader and more encompassing faith to which we can all subscribe, without any of us doing the slightest violation to the more specific doctrines of his own creed or altars of his own devotion" (p. 63), he is referring to this purpose to which "we can give far more of our energy and dedication." The John Birch Society is supposedly a major outgrowth of this "purpose" since it is built of energy and dedication.

It is true that Robert Welch, in presenting his own religious principles, at the same time states that each person will be allowed to keep his own religious beliefs. "Yet the evangelical fervor, with which we expect our members to fight the forces of evil and work for a better world, makes certain principles with regard to religious groups apply to ourselves" (p. 168). It is this application of religious principles to the John Birch Society and the expectation of "far more work and dedication, and far more sacrifice of other interests... than you ever thought of giving to any other organization which you joined or even considered joining" (p. 166), which involves the danger to our religion. Does this mean that we are to dedicate our lives to a secular society rather than to God? Are we to give far more dedication to this society than we ever thought of giving to any other organization including the Church? These principles concern sacrifices of Christian principles which a Christian simply cannot afford to make.

Note: All page references are to the Blue Book of the John Birch Society by Robert Welch.
**sports**

**Active Varsity Wins ONE--Loses Four**

Dordt's varsity is nearing the completion of a busy pre-Christmas schedule which has involved playing five games in twelve days.

Our first home game ended with Dordt dropping a 100-85 decision to Westmar. The Defenders played fairly well, but missed many free throws in the first half which could have kept them in the game. Hot-shooting Westmar forward, Orval Biever, stung in 36 points to lead all scorers, and was assisted by prodigious sophomore Roger Moller, who finished with 22. Mr. Moller used his 6-foot 10-inches to advantage as he often took two or three shots before the ball fell through. Gene Hospers was high scorer for Dordt with 20 points. Larry Van Wieren should be commended for his persistent hustle and determined rebounding.

General Beadle, Dordt's next opponent, crushed the Defenders 91-59. Dordt never could get going in this game because of poor ball handling and many dribbling errors.

The Defenders were outclassed on offense and defense by a smoother ball club with better shooters, four of them in double figures. De Vries and Hospers were the only Dordt players who could muster double figures, as they scored 19 and 18 points respectively.

Our cagers produced their second victory of the season on December 9, as they handed Briar Cliff a 81-58 defeat in a hard-fought game. Dordt played well on defense, and improved her offensive game by scoring 45% from the field, and taking good shots. Dependable Gene Hospers drilled in 27 points, including 7 for 7 free throws.

On December 12, Dordt journeyed to Denison, Iowa, to play Midwestern College. The result was a fast-moving offensive game which Midwestern won, 113-99. Mechanical and various other errors again plagued Dordt. Defensive spark was lacking as Midwestern's men often beat our Defenders down the floor and scored easy lay-ups. Midwestern took 107 shots and connected on 46% of them. The "Packers" had three men with 18 points, while De Vries with 19 and Ver Meer with 18 were high for the Defenders. One of the few bright spots of the night was the play of reserve forward, Bernie Van Roekel, as he added 11 points and snared 12 rebounds, 10 of them in the second half.

Last Friday evening our Defenders bowed to Buena Vista, 77-51, in a very interesting game. Buena Vista's Beavers, with their accurate shooting, adept ball handling, and a tough zone defense, showed why their team is one of the top-ranked small colleges in the state. Larry Blittner racked up 22 points with exceptional shooting to lead Buena Vista's scoring, and was aided by 18 points from their 6-foot 7-inch center, Cliff Mortenson. Dordt used a control offense, and had few turnovers compared to previous games. Our Defenders are to be complimented on their hard work on defense, and the discipline which they demonstrated as they waited for good shots. Hospers and Kamps led Dordt offensively, both scoring in double figures, while Van Roekel again rebounded well as he saw extensive action.

Dordt finished its pre-holiday schedule tomorrow night with a game against the South Dakota State Freshmen at Brookings.

---

**JV Learning Lesson**

Dordt's Junior Varsity learned that it takes two good halves to win a ball game. In the first four games three were lost and the fourth almost lost because of one slack half. When the team is clicking as it has on numerous occasions, however, it has shown great potential of being able to break almost any game open.

The team's overall lack of height is well compensated for by good speed, and a strong bench for a relentless attack.

In the J.V.'s first game with Northwestern, a slow first half put victory out of reach. Terry Van Hofwegen did a good job rebounding; and Stan Visser led the defense that shook up the Northwestern team in the second half. Mr. De Wit praised the whole team for its defensive improvements.

The J.V. won its second game in a thriller over Westmar 70-67. A blazing first half built a 20-point lead which was blown in the second half. Ken Stum led the scoring with 13 points; eight other players scored 6 or more points showing the depth of the team. Important buckets by Keith Fennema and a free throw by Paul Shelhaas iced the game.

The General Beadle game proved a rerun of the Northwestern game. The J.V. was down 11-0, finally got within one point at 62-61, but still lost by seven. A full court press in the second half was very effective. The boys led at half by 12, but couldn't handle Nettleton's fast break. Jim Schaap led the scoring with 21 points. The free throw percentage was better in this game; but the poor show on the defensive boards proved fatal.

Because of the team's potential, the boys are going to be tough when they get used to each other; and when they learn their lesson.

---

**Varsity Freshmen Speak**

Bernie Van Roekel ("Barn") and Marly Broek ("Fuzz") represent the freshman class on this year's varsity basketball team. Both men attended Western Christian High and compiled excellent records with Western's basketball team for the previous three seasons.

As Dordt has currently completed five games, Marly, a guard, and Bernie, a forward, have seen limited action, but their hustling play has evidenced their potential and desire to win.

An informal conversation was held with these two frosh to divulge some of their opinions concerning different aspects of college basketball.

What are some of the biggest changes involved in making the transition from high school basketball (continued on next page)
Once upon a time there was a group of stars who formed a constellation named Trod. Now this constellation was not very large, but it was very important. It was a training place for young stars who would someday have to go out on their own, and be able to shine brightly no matter where they went. The purpose of Trod was to glorify and to be a witness to the Brightest Star, and the songs of Trod would be a glory and perfect salvation of that Unmatchable Wonderful Star.

You would expect, therefore, that Trod would be a very bright constellation indeed. And so it was! Oh, of course, there were the usual assortment and types of stars in Trod. There were the leading stars who were naturally a bit larger and brighter than the new stars; there were stars who were big and small, fat and thin, and some who were a bit dimmer. But they were all learning, and when they were all together, shining, it made a beautiful sight.

Now there was one season of the year when Trod seemed to shine more brightly than ever before. All the stars played together, talked together, laughed together, shone together and sang together: "Glory to God; Glory to God!" It was a strange thing, but it seemed as if all the hundreds of constellations and millions of stars in the sky grew brighter and reflected some of the same joy and happiness of Trod. It was a wonderful season. "Joy to the World." The Bright and Morning Star has come!

And then it was over. All through the sky the laughter and the joy and the singing stopped. The millions of bright stars grew dim and shone faintly far off. The constellations were cold and bleak and only the sharpest eyes could see their faintest pricks of light. Except one! The constellation Trod did not dim. No, it stood out clearly in the darkening sky while all around it lights were fading and going out.

Trod seemed brighter now because it shone almost alone in the sky. All the stars in Trod felt the urgency—their light must not go out! They had to shine and shine and sing and laugh...and they did! And little by little there were other stars in the big sky that flickered on and began to shine again and sing the song that Trod sang every day of the year: "Glory to God; Glory to God! And on earth—peace, good will toward men!"

A PROFESSOR’S EYE VIEW

Professors need not boast of eyesight keen
To admit that they have often seen,
Neath mini-skirts flapping in the breeze,
Stove-pipe uppers topping ambient soup-bone knees.

In a seated row the view is most pathetic.
By all esthetic rules, most unesthetic.
A variety of thin and thickest thighs
Invariably meet one’s reluctant eyes,
To say nothing of the varied display
Of current fashions in lingerie.

With these "facts" in view, we’d proceed to suggest
That Dort coeds should always be dressed
In clothes of modest length and becoming array,
Shunning the sensual emphasis of our day.

The bared thigh and calf-length boot
Befit the peripatetic London prostitute.
Can Christians then adopt the trends
Which a transocean Beatle country sends?
If consistent Christian Defenders you would be
Then come to the defense of feminine modesty.

Anonymous

Just Before Christmas
by Betty Vreeman

'Twas two weeks before Christmas when all through the school
The teachers began trying to live by the rule—
That is to get just as far in the course
As the teachers last year had gone (quite by force).

From the quizzes and tests and the essays galore
You’d never have thought we had studied before.

All the lights in our dorm rooms burned late and so bright;
The housemother would question why
So late at night.
And we’d answer with smiles that were cold as the snow,
"Why really, it’s almost Christmas, you know!"

And so every night when I heard the sharp rap
I’d retire after midnight to catch a short nap.

When out of the darkness I’d hear
Such a clatter,
I’d know in an instant just what was matter.

I’d leap out of bed with my eyes wide
With shock
And catch just a glimpse of my old alarm clock.

I’d be right; the clock would say just half past four,
'Twould be time to start studying, couldn’t sleep anymore!
And often in school when I spoke not peep

I’d be dreaming of Christmas, and
Sleep and more sleep.
And finally when Christmas began to draw near,
I just couldn’t wait for that old Christmas cheer.
All the teachers would say with big smiles of delight,
"So long for two weeks!"—then drop out of sight.

And then I’d quote Santa, who said it just right,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night."
The Intramurals' new bulletin board, built by Mr. Sjaerdsma, is the latest addition to our halls.

Information placed on the board will be divided into three sections. The middle section, representing general information, will include the purpose and aims of the organization, and will display an example of a trophy that will be awarded to each member of the winning teams in every activity. There will also be an awards plaque on which the class receiving the most participation points each year will be acknowledged.

One side section of the board will have announcements and team standings of the present activities; the other, advanced information pertaining to future sports and their tentative dates.

The new bulletin board should greatly facilitate intramural interest and co-ordination.

**Inversion On Campus**

Would you believe that there is in this hallowed institution an hour—one totally uninterrupted hour—during which certain traditional brow-beating professors have subjugated their coxcombery to ingest certain gems of understanding from the lips of their underlings?

Every Wednesday evening, students Frank Pott and Orlan Hogan conduct an intensified course in Spanish. Their "students" are Drs. Kistemaker, Mennega, and Woudstra, and Professor J. Van Dyke. The purpose of the course is an introduction to Spanish grammar with the emphasis on speaking and understanding the language.

Mr. Hogan and Mr. Pott are well qualified for the task. Mr. Pott was raised in Mexico City, while Mr. Hogan has worked with Mexican immigrants and has had extensive college training in the language.

Who said you couldn't teach old pros new languages?

**PAINTINGS ADDED TO LIBRARY**

Two new pictures will soon be placed in the library. One of them is a 16"x20" copy of Rembrandt's painting "Christ," which was given to the library by the Rev. John Piersma of Pella, who did the framing himself. Presently the picture is in Miss Hollaar's office, but a permanent location will soon be selected.

Mrs. Herman Kuiper is donating a framed 21"x40" copy of Leonardo da Vinci's painting, "The Last Supper," in memory of her husband, the late Dr. Herman Kuiper. It will be placed on the northeast wall of the library.

**Freshmen Hold Mixer**

On the first evening in December, the members of the freshmen class met informally for another "Freshmen Mixer." One had been held earlier during freshman orientation.

Upon entering the dining hall the students were greeted by a bare room. All of the tables and chairs had been removed to provide the necessary foot room for the 200 freshmen that were expected.

Entertainment for the evening consisted of various group games introduced by several of the program committee members. Three short skits were also executed with remarkable success at irregular intervals throughout the evening.

The freshmen's advisor, Mr. Groenhuis, who happened to have a birthday on December 1, was appropriately "honored" by having the privilege of being the object of an organized prank.

At the conclusion of the evening, refreshments were served and the party immediately turned to conversation.

**BORED BULL ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sam Van Dyken thanks supporters at Dordt.

Religion - freedom - vengeance - what you will
A word's enough to raise mankind to kill. —Byron

---

**Merry Christmas**
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
by Jeri Brower

She thought she was my mother, and I let her think it because mine was far away and she'd always wanted to be one. The day she heard she wasn't, she died. She had no relatives that I knew of and since she claimed me once, I claimed her then. I arranged the simple grave-side rites generously given to those who can afford not even them, and I bought her some flowers. They were roses, white ones, and on the ribbon was written "Mother." It was a lie, I knew, but it didn't matter—she had died and there was no one around who knew how she thought it was.

She was old and a spinster, but she wouldn't have had to be, for even in her eightieth year, the year I met and got to know her, she possessed an indescribable beauty and a nature that demanded "you be happy, too." I was working that year as an orderly in the hospital where she was living. She wasn't physically sick at all, but she was rather senile, and her mind wasn't nearly as strong as it once had been.

About my second week at the hospital I met her. As soon as she saw me she said with definitude, "My son." Lots of people, especially old ones, address young men like that so, of course, I thought her intention no different. But she never called me anything but son, and she called me that a lot, and it seemed strange to me every time she looked at me her eyes smiled. The room was dark, but on her table was a cake written across the top. The room was dark, but on her table was a cake with one big candle.

"How nice—we're going to have a Christmas party with cake and the works," she said.

"Go look at it," she said.

I walked to the table and saw that it wasn't a Christmas cake at all but a birthday cake with "Happy Birthday" written across the top.

"Happy Birthday, Son," she said, and her eyes smiled.

"But it's not even my birthday."

"Yes, it is, Son— I remember—it was so cold that night you were born, and there was no place for me to..." Her eyes were giving her away. I realized what she had been thinking all these years.

I guess I yelled at her. She had to know things couldn't be that way—Jesus and Mary lived a long time ago. I couldn't take it—not on Christmas Eve. This was the Savior's birthday, not mine. I ran out of the room—astonished and wretchedly sad.

That night she died, not knowing in life—but knowing more than 'I, now that she was dead.

In Blue
by Norman Bomer

Everyone was there as usual, but it just seemed twisted somehow. We were solemn in a new way, grasped now by a shaken solemnity. The unexpected became to us the impossible as it rose to actuality. The loss itself was a sad loss, but we had mourned before. It was the rites that were silent now, and the words. Was this procession over now at its beginning? This time it was Pastor Wiley lying up there in the hearse. We all thought the dream would end before the silent burial. It had to.

Then like a rude alarm, a car not from our town met the black carriage at the cemetery crossing. We had wanted to wake up, but horror struck our souls. The crashing jerked down the side road crying death back to our jolted minds. The coffin had fallen miraculously, and lay open but unmarred in the grass near us.

We were all there with the driver, Mrs. Wiley, the child. The three graves lay hungry while Pastor Wiley read the words. Pastor Wiley: catalepsy they called it. We just wouldn't have known what to do.
How Shall They Know?

Everyone happily thought aloud how nice it was that the baby was born on Christmas day. No one thought of the consequences of another life begun—the travail of mother contagiously implanted in child to produce and endure travail's kin.

Neither did anyone think about the birth's solution given in part by its equal. Everyone only thought enviously how coincidentally nice it was that the baby was born on Christmas day.

December 25, and the thought raged up in everyone's mind—why did it have to happen on Christmas day? It only made the tears hotter and the emptiness more empty. The non-immediates thought of the spoiling effect it would have on the Christmas fun. And the doomind words of the prophetic D.J. to have a safe holiday, pierced to the guts. Not many thought of the consequences of another death continued—the crashing contagiously transmitting a gnashing.

And other than to punish drunks more heavily, no one thought of its cure supplied in part by its equal. Everyone only hopelessly thought how bitterly coincidental it was that it had to happen on Christmas day.

How shall they know the solution and cure if no one will radiate more than the warmth of Claus's fur, and the joy of Virginia's faith in a myth?

How shall the real warmth and only joy be radiated if the knower's heart is clammy inside and out?

The spiritual Mr. Clean is knocking. He carries replacements—the whiteness of Christmas and the fire of love.

God, break this clam!

Father, we confess our deathliness and our deadliness.
Father, we ask for the solution and cure.
Father, we thank You for Life!
Father, the greatest!

To joy the world.