Dordt College Rates In Tri-State Speech Contest

Dordt College won two superior ratings and two excellent ratings in its first participation in the Tri-State Speech Contest held at Northwestern College, Saturday, April 25. Participants in the contest were required to adapt their entries in manuscript reading in public address, oral interpretation of poetry and group interpretative reading of a drama to the theme "The American Negro." Glenda Hart-born won a superior rating for her original manuscript reading entitled "The Threat of Hatred." Alan Huisman received a superior rating for his oral interpretation program, "White Man's World." Dick Leehoff's oral interpretation program, "Enslaved Pride" won an excellent rating. The group interpretative reading of EM- PEROR JONES, consisting of Jerelyn Brower, narrator; Bob Boedeje, Brutus Jones; Dave Bloemendal, Smithers; Stuart Williams, Len, received an excellent rating on the basis of one superior and two excellent ratings rendered by the three judges involved. Dordt hopes to become more active in the Tri-State Speech Conference in the future.

Student Piano Recital

A pleasant evening for music lovers is planned for Tuesday, May 12 at 8:00 P.M. The Dordt students, who study piano with Mrs. Reimers Hull, have a recital planned. These students have studied piano all year and now have a chance to perform some of the compositions they have learned. A variety of composers and performers should make the evening very enjoyable. As a climax to the recital, Brahms' "Variations on a Theme by Haydn" for two pianos, will be performed.

Elmer Den Herder

Addresses Infant Club

The infant Political Science club convened on May 29 at the appointed time. The proposition was stated and debated that it was difficult for the club to sponsor speakers since the club's treasury was low. Unfortunately, the club receives no stipend from the student activity fund.

Despite these adverse circumstances, the club was privileged to sponsor Iowa State Representative Elmer Den Herder. The Honorable Mr. Den Herder addressed us on the controversial subject of Iowa Reapportionment.

In the temporary reapportionment plan the House is constituted of 124 members. The permanent plan, to be passed by the interim legislature, provides for a House of 114 members. It was Mr. Herder's stated opinion that this bill would have "rough sledding." Very few legislators will vote themselves out of the General Assembly for the next term.

Although many aspirants for public office claim that this country is going on the rocks, there seem to be a great number who are willing to provide the wreck. For example, in Polk county there are 44 candidates for 11 representative positions.

Dordt Students Report

Chemical Research

Four Dordt College chemistry students reported their chemical research results to the South Dakota Academy of Science at its annual meeting April 24 and 25. The Academy, which hears papers in all the sciences from area colleges and industries, held its two-day meeting at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. The Dordt group reported results showing that although solutions of salts can cause some disintegration of certain mixed-oxide solids, this breakdown is very limited. Studies of this type may eventually aid in a better understanding of these solids, materials widely used in the refining of petroleum.

The Dordt participants, active in research all of the current school year, are Deanna Ledebor, Wesley Brux-voort, Rodney De Jong, and Elroy Post.

The work was financed by the Atomic Energy Commission and other granting agencies.
Editorial

Deanna, our assistant editor, is a sophomore from Prinsburg, Minnesota.

A bad attitude is taking over Dordt. No longer can the girls leave their purses in the girls’ rest room. No longer can the cooks permit the food line to go unwatched.

Too many of us no longer feel that stealing is wrong. This is the attitude that lets so many of us take an extra salad, an extra glass of milk, or even a free meal; this is the attitude that lets a girl skip chapel every week to empty the purses in the girls’ rest room; this is the attitude that lets some Dordt students to go to the local clothing store and wear a new trousers out under his own.

We have sacrificed our principles for that needed paperback lying there on the shelf, for money, for food, for a pair of trousers. Or, maybe some of us have not sacrificed our principles; maybe there are some who never had any.

We victims and potential victims will have to recognize the fact that Dordt is no longer one big happy family, that some do steal and therefore, we must keep all our belongings with us all the time.

We also have to discard the idea pounded into us in grade school that squealing is wrong. Indiscriminate silence is just as bad as indiscriminate tattling. Those who know their acquaintances have stolen and have not reported it to the authorities share the guilt of the offenders.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

College years are important to everyone concerned and everything connected with the college is important— even the mode of interior design.

I was very disappointed when I first noticed the choice of pictures adorning the Commons walls, disappointed because they are entirely out of keeping with the design of the building—the building is modern, the pictures represent a previous age; the building is expensive, the pictures are poor quality cardboard prints; the building copes with a realistic contemporary life, the pictures deal with a romantic, idealistic one.

As a whole, the student body is proud of the campus and wants to maintain its healthy spirit, but we cannot take pride in these prints. Good original art work of masters is expensive but good originals or reprints of recognized lesser artists are within easy range. “Americans in general have at long last discovered that the possession of art need not be the exclusive privilege of the rich…” (Norman Kent, AMERICAN ARTIST, Feb. 1964.) Let’s include ourselves in the calibre of “Americans in general” and take this statement to heart.

For a college such as ours I suggest we choose some classic, realistic or contemporary paintings by figures such as Thompson, Jan Nielson, Doris White, Reitzal or Grabuch. Picasso, Pascin or Modigliani reprints would be excellent; if we must look to a previous era why not a reprint of Rembrandt, Van Dyk or Rabeas?

If funds are short, I suggest we have an Art Benefit Program or drive if it’s merely a matter of choice we should select a committee to investigate various art shows and exhibits to purchase a few suitable impressionist paintings.

Jo Ann Salmons

REPLY OF LETTER TO EDITOR

Whether the criticism of the art work in the commons is valid depends solely on the critic’s appreciation and taste.

The merits and demerits of the above mentioned reproductions cannot be debated objectively, since art conforms to no objective standards.

Art work can only be evaluated by the individual in terms of its impression upon him.

That which pleases one person may offend another.

One negative opinion has now been expressed in writing. Although no praising statements have been submitted to us, this does not mean that they are non-existent.

Paul Vos

Another academic pilgrimage has almost reached its culmination. Before memories fade and hope turns to ashes, let’s take a critical look at our campus and realize our progress.

The academic curriculum has been expanded and intensified. The upward struggle over mountains of books has challenged every Dordt student. After another year of Christian education, the ultimate goal of the glory of God should stand out much clearer before students, teachers, and administration.

As our college continues to grow intellectually and physically, it must not starve its spiritual life. Many “Christian” colleges have committed this sin of spiritual laxity, and have emphasized the importance of knowledge mainly on an academic level. But wait a minute, I am not talking only about colleges, but about the direction in which the vital organs, and the students, are maturing.

The organs must do their own growing if the complete organism is to mature. College can enforce its totalitarian authority and state that everyone must attend church twice, but this does not change the individual student’s will. If Dordt College is to maintain its strict orthodoxy, its students must also desire this spiritual growth.

(Continued on page 4, column 3)
RING ARRIVAL DELAYED

Originally scheduled to arrive in May, the Dordt College Rings will be mailed to the purchasers in mid-June. In order to have the rings exactly as the student representatives decided, it was necessary to modify the original sketches and this has delayed production of the initial order of rings.

To date, 35 students have ordered the standard yellow gold ring, while a few have chosen white or green gold. Those who ordered while or green gold must pay slightly more than the standard $27 for the man's ring or $22 for the ladies' ring (plus taxes).

Those students who are eligible, but did not order a ring this Spring, or returning students who will be seniors, may purchase their rings early next fall.

MOVIE ATTENDANCE

What is the stand of the Christian Reformed Church in the matter of movie attendance? No one seems to know for sure except that there is some kind of a "no" attached to movies. Are movies, per se, condemned? Is it the place where they are shown, or the Institution at Hollywood?

From a poll taken at breakfast one morning, the general results weren't surprising. Out of 107 polled, only two have never been to the theatre or even seen films at Dordt. More revealing was that 17% of the 107 have seen Dordt films only. This seems to indicate that it is the place where the movies are shown that they feel Synod objected to. The minutes of Synod dealing with the matter, both in the statement of 1928 and in the clarification of 1951, are rather ambiguous.

The following selected passages will give you an idea of what Synod says about movies.

From the Recommendations by Synod of 1928: The first point covers the doctrinal and ethical principles which should guide the Christian in regards to worldly amusements:

1. The Honor of God requires:
   a) That we . . . should be keenly aware . . . of our covenant relation to God as his peculiar people;
   b) That the Christian's amusements should at the very least not conflict with any commandment of God;
   c) That the Christian shall deem it a matter of loyalty to God not to further the interests of an institution which is manifestly an instrument of Satan for attack on the Kingdom of God. (Does this refer to the place or the Hollywood institution?)

2. From the consideration of the welfare of man we conclude:
   a) That there is a legitimate place in life for such amusements as are recreative for body and mind;
   b) That no . . . mental diversion should be tolerated which is in any way . . . or degree subservient of our spiritual and moral well-being;
   c) That our amusements . . . should not be allowed to occupy more than a secondary, subordinate place in life.

The third principle deals with Spiritual Separation from the world; and the fourth deals with Christian liberty which "consists in . . . liberty of conscience with reference to human ordinances and things neither prescribed or condemned, either directly or indirectly, in the Word of God. (This point was clarified in 1951 when the trio of worldly amusements were claimed, "Contrary to the Word of God." bearing the stamp of worldliness and endangering the spiritual and moral welfare.)

The second point "deplores greatly the increasing prevalence among us of these forms of amusement (mentions card playing, theatre attendance, and dancing) urgently warning our members against them." In the third point "Synod exhorts all our leaders to warn unceasingly against the prevailing spirit and forms of worldliness . . . . " The fourth point urges consciences to deal firmly, and if necessary, apply discipline, with all cases of misbehavior and offensive conduct in the matter of worldly amusements.

In the Clarification of 1951, it was emphasized that the three forms of worldly amusement were not the only ones being directed against (but did not hint at any others); and that the trio are WORLDLY evil. "There is nothing in these decisions to offer the faintest justification for the position that theatre attendance . . . is wrong only when indulged in to excess," but it is sinful, per se. Further it adds that "it does not follow from Synod's condemnation of all theatre attendance, that it condemns all moving pictures." (Only the place is (Continued on page 4, column 3)
Athletes’ Feats  
by Dale Claerbaut

Nearly half of the student body and several other interested spectators took an hour break from their normal work during the evening of April 23. The occasion was the presentation by the Dordt gymastics team of a unique and almost breathtaking program of hair-raising expositions of Atlastic (Atlas-like) strength and skill under the direction of Mr. Frank Calsbeek, campus athletic director. (If you have guessed it yet, I was admitted free.)

The cheering onlookers watched John Altena, Sherwood Bouma, Bob Bovenkamp, Elson Haan, Stan Heeringa, Ken Post, Don Rubingh, and Shelly Stremler demonstrate their acquired skill in tumbling. They featured the use of the trampoline and the Swedish box. An injury suffered by Bill Ludwig cancelled the trampoline act.

During a short intermission, Roger Vis, Dennis De Kok, and Stu Velkenkamp demonstrated rope climbing technique and ability. This was followed by a chair weaving race. The winners of the physical education classes competed. They were Dennis De Kok, Don Ver Meer, Bill Eckels, and Aldon Kuiper.

The whole program was directed and executed in a manner worthy of praise. Congratulations, Gymnastics team of 1964!

The baseball team was scheduled to play Estherville May 4. However, the deadline for this article preceded that date so that game can not be reviewed at this time. However, Dr. Rozeboom forecast the starting line to be the following: at first base, Don Ver Meer; second, Larry Meyer; short stop, Ken Faber; third base, Larry Redeker; outfielders, Rod De Boer, Jim Bandstra, and Junior Vander Maten; catcher, Norm Prins; pitcher, Robert Exionedena or Fred Krommen-dyk. Other team members on the traveling squad include Larry Goe maat, Delano De Vries, Gerald Haver hals, and Jim Steelman.

The team has received its new baseball suits; unfiltered reports suggest that the suits are a bit too large but the most important thing is that the "socks look nice."

The schedule of spring intramurals has commenced. It was started off by fourteen ambitious hikers who did not make fifty miles, but who nevertheless completed the planned distance of around ten miles without exception.

Mr. Calsbeek led the first group comprised of Peggy Lengkeek, Marilyn Weg, Cindy Meyer, Mr. De Young, Gregg De Young and Gary De Young. They ambulated through streams and woods, over roads and ridges until meeting the second group of hikers. Its leader, Stan De Vries, had with him Cecilia Drenth, Dorothy Helder, Beula Roose, Lorna Van Gilst, Joan Van Weelden and Ron Rynders. At their "rendezvous point," which was Newton Hills State Park, they stopped for an outdoor type meal and rest.

After packing their equipment on their backs again, the groups separated to enjoy the second half of their hike's natural spring beauty. The groups were aided by the theme song, suggested by Buela Roose, "Children don't get weary till your work is done."

The physical education program is running a partial motor fitness (or unfitness) test. The winners of several tests are as follows: Illinois Agility Run—Dennis De Kok—18.3; Rope climb, Roger Vis—7.3; Chin ups, Peter Leenheer—19; sit ups in five minutes, Dennis De Kok—135; standing broad jump, Glen Rozeboom—9’ 6”. The mile run walk (or better termed run-puff) and the 100-yard dash have yet to be timed. Presently, the classes are practicing archery.

Paintings Donated By Local Merchant

Mr. Art Vander Ploeg, who operates a furniture store in Sioux Center, has presented the two decorative paintings in the commons as a gift to the college. Although there is some adverse comment relative the appropriateness of this type of art in the dining hall, the majority of remarks indicate appreciation not only for the generous gift but also for the nature of the paintings. Dordt College can be grateful for the interest taken in the school by many of the businessmen.

Movies, cont. - - -

Wrong? Further, "a worldly spirit prevades the theatre, the spirit of materialism..." (Seems to mean the place.)

Lastly, are these resolutions advisory or mandatory for the Church? Synod says, "They have the same value or mandatory for the Church? Synod have... (and) shall be considered settled and binding" and that all churches are obligated to adhere to these proposals.

To understand more completely the situation, it is advisable to read the entire section on pages 128-136 of ACTS OF SYNOD AND AGENDA, 1951.