



Volume XLIV
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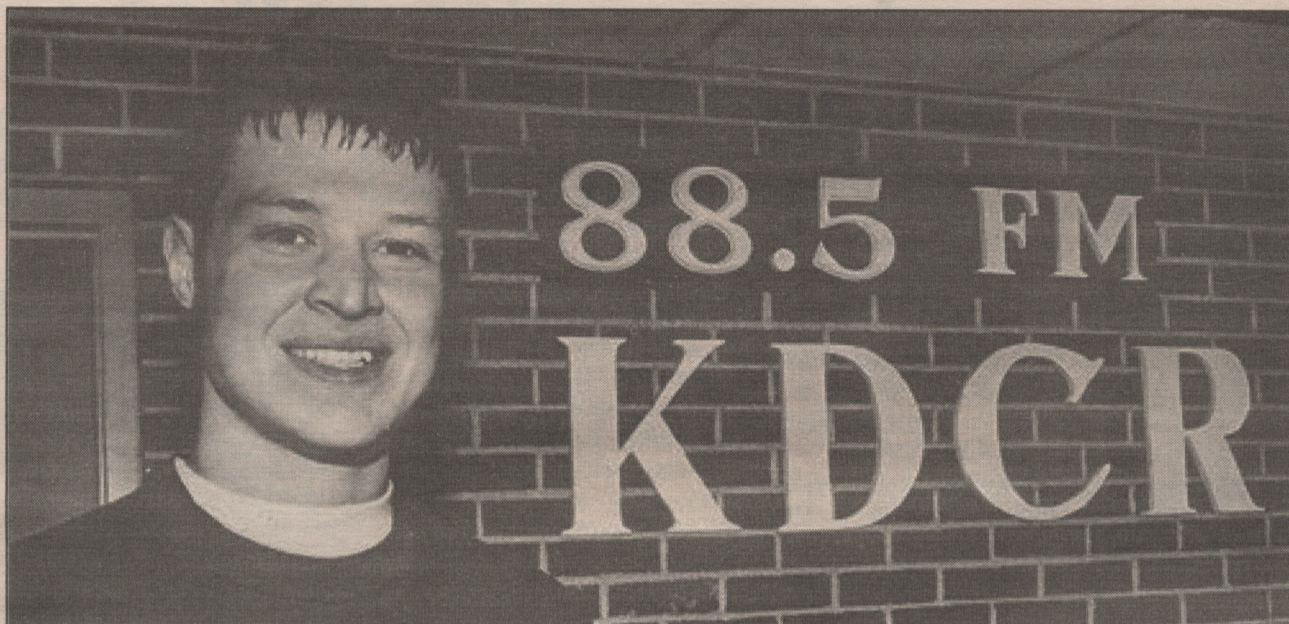
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Andrew Moody

Howard Gorter, shown here outside of KDCR, and Brian Matherly mastered the project and will be housing the new station in their East Campus apartment until they are sure it is free of problems. KDPA will be moved to the KDCR building between two weeks and a month from now.

Positive Airwaves webcasting

by Mitch Beaumont
Assistant Editor

Positive Airwaves, Dordt's premier Christian music club, began a new venture recently. On January 3, 2001, they launched an Internet broadcast of the soon-to-become FM radio station, KDPA. The new station is broadcasting 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Positive Airwaves has been waiting for a temporary freeze on new FM licenses to be lifted by the FCC for more than two years now. "We expect the freeze to be lifted any day now," said Brian Matherly.

The possibility for an Internet broadcast became apparent sometime last semester when Matherly and co-founder Howard Gorter realized that KDCR was already being streamed over the Internet. "When the whole idea for a radio station came up, we were having meetings with Tim Vos and Lyle Gritters," said Matherly. "One of the ideas that came up [from those meetings] was to broadcast over the Internet. We didn't really think there was a market for that. Everyone's got a radio, a few people have a computer, but who's going to tune in their computer [to a radio station]? Then we realized that KDCR was already streaming, so we could use the same equipment."

Vos, an Instructor of Communication at Dordt, advised Matherly and Gorter in a memo sent out toward the beginning of the spring semester last year that seeking an FM license is a "serious institutional commitment that exceeds the bounds of a normal student club. In other words, I don't see this getting board approval and still being the sort of student club that you envision in your proposal." Essentially, Vos didn't feel that pursuing an FM license was the best option, and he recommended broadcasting over the Internet.

According to Vos, the advantages of broadcasting over the Internet were greater than becoming an FM radio station. While Positive Airwaves is still interested in pursuing that license, Vos has several reservations. "I don't want to be accused of trying to sabotage the project, but I do think that these issues should see broader discussion, if these issues haven't been addressed by Positive Airwaves," said Vos in his memo.

Essentially, though, the decision to broadcast over the Internet came down to the money, according to Matherly. "There was a considerable investment. It cleaned out our funds from last semester, and all of our funds for this semester, including [any proceeds that we could

take] from our fundraisers," said Matherly.

KDPA is able to broadcast due to a fairly simple computer network set up Matherly and Gorter. With funds from Positive Airwaves, and approval of club members, Matherly and Gorter bought one computer and some software programs that enable them to stream 24 hours a day over the Internet. Matherly has given one of his computers to the club until they can afford another one. The first computer houses all the songs they have downloaded, a total of 2,872. The songs are then fed into a mixing board that essentially adds more quality to the audio sound. Next, the mixer sends the new sound to the second computer which puts the music through a program called Real Producer and then onto the Internet.

Positive Airwaves was founded in the spring of 1999 by Matherly and Gorter, who are juniors. The club was founded with the purpose, according to Matherly, of "increasing awareness of Christian music." Until now the club has fulfilled that purpose by promoting concerts by Christian bands and by providing a small collection of Christian CDs in the library. Positive Airwaves now has another dimension of their purpose. Positive Airwaves can be found on the DENIS at <http://www.dordt.edu/clubs/airwaves>.

Talent Extravaganza in the works

by Rose Ann Vander Wal
Staff Writer

It is time for the most well-attended event at Dordt, graduation excluded. On February 17, the Talent Extravaganza will be coming to the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The event is made up of various Dordt talent. In the past popular entries have included people repelling from the ceiling, dance numbers, interpretative art and skits. This year will be no different. The SAC committee promises a varied and unique ensemble of acts.

The Extravaganza is always a well-prepared event that combines the skills and talents of

many different individuals to produce an incredible show. The SAC committee plans and coordinates the event under the supervision of Sandi Altena, the Director of Student Life. The B.J. Haan crew and others skilled in technology manage the sound and lighting to create spectacular effects and, of course, there are talented and unusual acts.

Any group or individual is welcome to audition for a place in the show. Acts are due on February 2, and auditions will be held on February 6 and 7. The important role of master of ceremonies has yet to be filled. Anyone can apply. Interested persons can pick up an appli-

cation in Sandi Altena's office in the SUB, and bring it back by January 29.

As of now, no theme has been decided for the show. SAC Co-President Lori Van Driessen explained that the committee is waiting to see who applies for the master of ceremonies position. They want to ask the applicants for their input and ideas. Anyone else with ideas is encouraged to let the SAC committee know.

Tickets for the show will go on sale in the SUB at 6:00 p.m. on February 12 for \$2. Because of the limited seating, students will be allowed to purchase eight tickets a piece as long as they have an ID card for each one.

Three new professors join Dordt

by **Jacque Scoby**
Staff Writer

With the beginning of this new semester, several new faces dot the campus of Dordt College. Those faces belong to Dr. Ethan Brue, Professor Dale Zevenbergen, and Professor Dale Lint, Dordt's three new part-time instructors.

Brue, a Dordt graduate, has returned to Dordt this semester as a professor in the engineering department. Brue is currently teaching two classes this semester, History of Technology and Heat Transfer, and will teach at least two more next fall.

Brue graduated from Dordt in 1992. Two years later, he received his master's degree in mechanical engineering from Iowa State University. He also earned his Ph.D. from Iowa State in 1996.

Before returning to Dordt, Brue worked as an engineer with

Pioneer Hybrid Seed Company in Des Moines, Iowa. "Anything dealing with getting the seed from the plant to the farmer, I probably did it," he said.

Moving his wife and three kids from Grimes, Iowa to Sioux Center "wasn't an easy decision," according to Brue. "But," he said, "I've seen the need for Christians in the field of engineering. I also saw the opportunity to tell others how important that is and what they as Christians can do in engineering."

Besides working at Pioneer, Brue also has other experience in the work force. He wants to take that experience in the industrial field and relate it to the students. "I guess that would be one of my goals," he said.

Brue's experiences so far at Dordt have been positive. "I'm still learning the ropes," he says. But down the road he sees other opportunities to be a part of

God's kingdom.

Another new face on campus belongs to Professor Dale Zevenbergen. Zevenbergen is a part-time professor in the business administration department.

Zevenbergen, a Sioux Center native, is also returning to northwest Iowa from Pella, Iowa. After graduating from Dordt in 1991 with a degree in accounting and business administration, he and his wife moved to Pella, where he worked as an accountant for a company now called Pella Corporation.

Zevenbergen also taught a few accounting classes at Des Moines Area Community College.

When Pella Corp decided to build a new plant in Sioux Center, Zevenbergen saw an opportunity to move back to Sioux Center with his wife and two daughters.

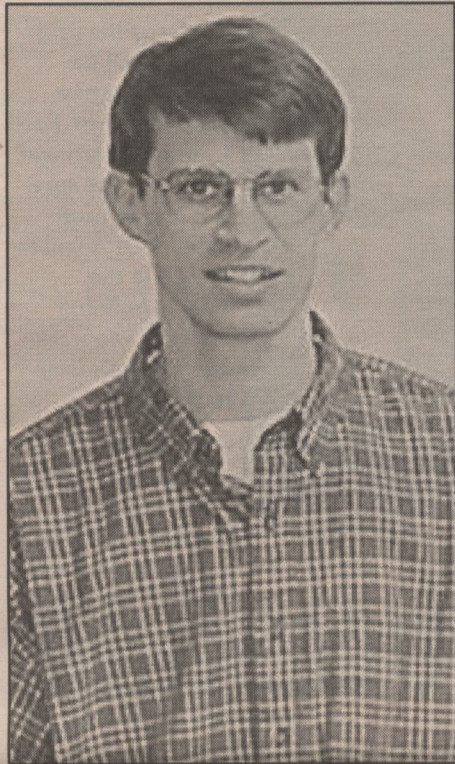
Zevenbergen enjoys his roles both in the work place and as a

professor. "As an adjunct instructor, I can hopefully bring some business experience and background to the class," he said.

Professor Dale Lint is another part-time instructor this semester in the Social Work Department.

Lint comes to Dordt from George, Iowa, where he currently pastors a church. He brings a myriad of degrees and experiences to the classroom. His degrees range from a B.A. in Sociology to master's degrees in Divinity, Counseling, and Social Work. "I can sort of sum up life so far by saying, 'Been there, did that, got a T-shirt,'" he said.

Lint hopes to use those experiences and apply them to the classroom. "If I can share one thing with Social Work Students during my time at Dordt, it will be to share the realities of the world," he said.



John Hansen

Dr. Ethan Brue

St. Olaf Orchestra to perform in B.J. Haan Auditorium

by **Tricia Van Ee**
News Page Editor

The internationally renowned St. Olaf Orchestra of St. Olaf College will perform a concert in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on January 30 at 7:30 p.m. This concert is part of the Sioux County Concert Series and St. Olaf's nine-state winter tour.

The St. Olaf Orchestra was founded in 1906 and has toured annually since 1949, traveling throughout the United States,

Scandinavia and Europe. This winter tour will take the 94-member orchestra to 11 other cities in Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Arizona.

The St. Olaf Orchestra has been conducted by Steven Amundson since 1981. The orchestra, which is considered one of the finest collegiate orchestras in the nation, has performed with renowned conductors Robert Shaw and Sir David

Willcocks and pianists Leon Fleisher and Victor Borge. It has also appeared several times on National Public Television.

Music to be performed includes the virtuosic "Thieving Magpie Overture" by Goachinno Rossini, "Canzona di Centone" by St. Olaf music faculty member Charles Forsberg, the grand "Death and Transfiguration" by Richard Strauss, and Ottorino Respighi's majestic "The Pines of Rome."

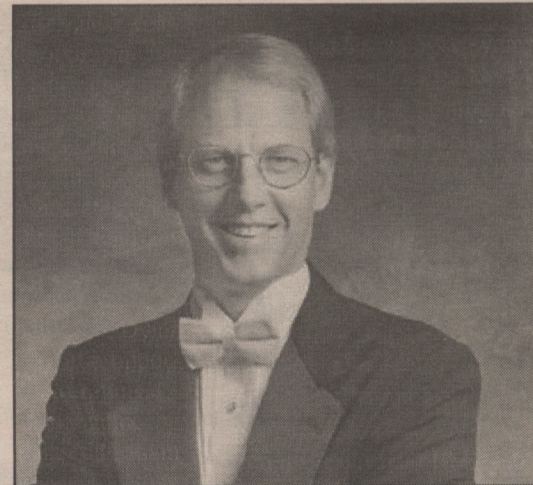


photo submitted

Steven Amundson, conductor of St. Olaf Orchestra.

SAC hosts events

by **Rachelle Vander Werff**
Staff Writer

During the next few weeks, a number of SAC activities will give Dordt students the opportunity to become involved on campus. On January 26, *Mansfield Park* will be showing in the SUB at 8:00 p.m., and on January 27, at the same time and place, *Hurricane* will be showing.

On January 30, SAC will

host Club Day from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the SUB. This will give various Dordt clubs the opportunity to be known and all Dordt students the chance to check out the club opportunities offered here at Dordt. There may be club membership chances you never knew existed.

The Cannon of Dordt hunt will begin on February 5. For those who do not know what the Cannon of Dordt hunt is, Lori Van Driessen sums it up,

"SAC members hide a small replica of a cannon somewhere around campus, and they write clues as to where it is hidden. One clue is printed in the TODAY everyday. Whoever finds it first gets a prize."

Finally, on February 17, SAC will host the Talent Extravaganza at 7:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan. This will give Dordt students the opportunity to let their talents shine! Don't miss any of these upcoming events.

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Do you want to be published? Submit your work to the Canon! Entries are due on Friday, February 2.

Club day brings new opportunities

By Allison Schaap
Staff Writer

An opportunity to get involved in the clubs on campus is being offered to those who are interested. Sandi Altena, Director of Resident Life, says that this Club Day is the first time that clubs have been offered at the beginning of the second semester. She thinks that this will be a positive thing for those interested.

Altena said, "Club Day will be a wonderful opportunity for all students who want to get involved, especially the freshmen. Now that the freshmen have gotten through their first semester of college, they may

begin to realize that they can handle taking on a club, and this is the perfect opportunity for them to sign up."

Club Day will be held in the SUB on January 30 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Altena said that this Club Day will be very informal; there will be tables set up for the different clubs all around the SUB. Altena estimates that there may be approximately 23 clubs at the SUB, and there will be sign-up sheets and pamphlets to pick up for each of them.

"As I have personally found this year, the clubs and activities I am a part of keep me involved with the school. They give me

a better picture of the school I go to, and the students that make it what it is," said Student Activities Committee (SAC) Co-president Heidi Kooiman. "Dordt is an ever-changing entity and, by being involved, I can better acquaint myself with those changes and the people of this school that make them happen."

"If you have a desire to be in a club, we have a diversified amount of clubs, from the photography club, to the game club, to Shamar," said Altena. "It's a really strong list of clubs that represent many different things . . . which I find to be really good."

Dordt offers various clubs

I.J.M. (International Justice Mission) is a new club whose goal is to raise awareness of injustice in the world as well as lobby against sex trafficking in third-world countries.

HANDS LIFTED UP is a club for people interested in learning sign language and using it creatively. The club has received some new resources and are also planning some fun activities including a field trip. Anybody is welcome.

FUTURE PHYSICIANS CLUB works with the pre-med community on campus in preparation for medical school. The club brings in a number of speakers and works on building community with the local doctors. Their purpose is to raise up future doctors of integrity.

REACHING OTHERS FOR CHRIST is a club with the purpose of reaching out in word and deed to bring others to saving faith in Jesus Christ. The club tries to accomplish that goal by putting on chapels in a Sioux Falls prison, working with the Hispanic community, and equipping members to be more effective witnesses.

F.A.C.T. CLUB (Future Active Christian Teachers) focuses on giving education majors channels of information into the education world, including seminars with experienced teachers and professionals discussing a variety of topics. The FACT Club also provides ways to interact with children of all ages.

THE DEVOTIONAL CLUB publishes a campus devotional, entitled *Onesimus*, which is geared specifically to address issues that concern college life at Dordt. Written and designed by students, faculty, and staff, it seeks to challenge those who desire to know God in a more personal and intimate way by strengthening their understanding of God's Word.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB is a club for anyone who wants to learn more about photography. The club meets bi-weekly and promotes an attitude of cooperative learning among club members, but most of all they try to have fun with photography.

I.E.E.E. STUDENT BRANCH (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) seeks to promote the professional development of its students through tours and speakers on Electrical Engineering topics.

POSTIVE AIRWAVES seeks to increase Christian music awareness on Dordt's campus through concerts, activities, and radio.

THE LACROSSE CLUB is a club committed to Christian witness and discipleship through the game of lacrosse. As they begin to plan games and other activities, these goals stand at the forefront of what the club is all about.

THE DANCE TEAM is a club that was formed in 1998 to provide half time entertainment at basketball games throughout the season as well as at the Talent Extravaganza. The team is made up of women in all grades who practice twice a week from September through March.

PLIA 80's dance a success



Andrew Moody

Joyce van Leeuwen, Janelle Saarloos, Amber Fopma, and Cheryl Vos enjoyed the annual PLIA fundraiser dance last Saturday night. This year's theme was the 80s.

Concert Choir tours over Christmas break

by Andrea Voogt
Staff Writer

The Concert Choir and Kantorei went on tour from January 6-15. While on tour, they performed in a variety of places throughout Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa. The choirs performed eight church concerts and eight school assemblies in addition to participating in three church services. On Saturday, January 13, the choirs had a free day in downtown Chicago. Most choir members went to various Chicago museums, Water Tower Place, or Navy Pier.

The choirs performed a large amount of music at each concert. The first half of the concert consisted of religious music which followed the theme of Christ's expectation, His birth, and the changing effect His presence has on us. The second half of the concert consisted mainly of a series of songs from the British Isles.

According to Dr. Benjamin Kornelis, conductor, the choir's performances were well-received. The concerts in Holland and

Grand Rapids were especially gratifying because of the large audiences. Highlights of the tour included singing in some very acoustical and beautiful places such as Dimnent Chapel at Hope College and LaGrave Ave. CRC in Grand Rapids. "The resonance in these places was spectacular, but not without its challenges, for we were forced to rely on our eyes rather than our ears to stay together," said senior Jocelyn Van Vliet.

Organ students were also given the opportunity to experiment on the beautiful pipe organ at LaGrave Ave. CRC.

Kornelis said that although it is very challenging to put together a winter tour, the experience helps to build the ensemble earlier in the year. "The choir is singing together so well now," said Kornelis. "We sang consistently well despite nagging illnesses and fatigue." Kornelis was also thankful for surprisingly good travel weather during the middle of a Midwestern winter.

"Concert Choir tour is something I will miss greatly next year," said Van Vliet. "Tour is more than just singing. It is staying

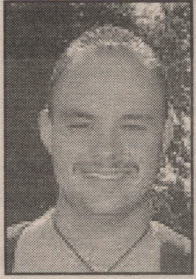
in people's houses, surviving long bus rides, playing cards, discovering who the funny and not so funny people are, and growing together in Christ and camaraderie."

Junior Brent DeJong said, "The best part of choir tour is getting to spend all kinds of time with people you don't always get to. We often learn a lot about each other and basically have a great time. Singing in different places every night can also be an adventure - there are some amazing churches and chapels around. And we sure don't go hungry! The churches always feed us way too much so that we can't sing during our concerts. Spending time with host families is another adventure. Some want to talk all night and play a rousing game of Dutch Bingo, while others just send you to the basement, tell you where the TV is, and let you do your own thing. The host families with the hot tubs are always the cream of the crop."

The Concert Choir and Kantorei wrapped up their tour with a home concert in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on Friday, January 19.

What gets you out of bed?

by Mitch Beaumont
Assistant Editor



It's 6:45 in the morning...already!? I groan as I reach over and search blindly for either the snooze button or the "off" button--anything to shut off that annoying beeping. Once it's off, I try to scrounge up enough gumption and courage to climb down from my bed near the ceiling. When my feet hit the ground there's no turning back--it's time to start my day.

Lately, though, I've been thinking about why I even try to get out of bed in the morning. Why don't I just sleep in until I'm fully rested instead of getting up well before my body is ready? What motivates me to face yet again the daily grind of classes, homework and pressures?

Recently I heard a sermon from Luke 10:1-20 in which Jesus sends out 72 disciples to all the towns around Jerusalem where he would be going soon. He described what the 72 were to do and sent them out with the mission of spreading word about Himself.

He says in verses four through seven, "Do

not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house." The 72 were to rely completely on the people of the towns they were to visit--they were, in essence, to exhibit total reliance on God for their material needs.

While this passage has more to do with the issue of faith in the daily life of Christians rather than motivation, I believe it holds an important lesson that everyone should take a moment to realize and ponder. Today's column isn't one of persuasion but rather one of contemplation and challenge.

The 72 whom Jesus sent to spread word of his ministry to the surrounding towns and villages were embarking on a mission--a mission of good news. The mission on which they were sent by Jesus is the very mission we are encouraged to go on, and live, every day of our lives. The 72 whom Jesus selected for this mission were motivated to spread the word of Jesus' ministry; they didn't go grudgingly--they went because they wanted to.

I would like to point out two things. First,

I think the 72 got out of bed every morning of their journey ready for another day of spreading the news. They didn't groan when they heard the rooster crow, and they didn't slowly make their way out from under their blanket. I can almost guarantee that those men almost jumped out of bed each morning when they realized that were granted another 24 hours in which they could spread the news of Jesus' ministry.

I would also like to point out that we should follow suit. No, we haven't actually been commissioned by Jesus, in person, to commence a mission like the one the 72 embarked on that day almost 2,000 years ago. However, we have been commissioned in an indirect way. In Matthew 28:19-20a, Jesus, after being resurrected from the dead and spending forty days with his disciples, issued the Great Commission, which every generation should take notice of and obey. He said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

The Great Commission, as spoken and commanded by Jesus Christ, should be our motivation for each new day that dawns. I must make clear here that our mission involves much more than making disciples

of all nations (which I'm certainly not undermining here). But it also involves making the most of our time on earth and taking every opportunity that is presented to us. That's well and good, but we are human and more often than not we simply don't want to get out of bed in the morning, and once we do, we don't feel like doing anything. There are many times when I'd rather let my hair down (figuratively of course) than crack open a 500 page textbook and read about Environmental Policy (no offense to my prof). However, after re-learning and realizing once again that we are called to make the most of our time on this earth, I look at my days in a whole new light.

A good friend of mine who has spina bifi-da once told me that he never knows how long he'll be able to walk and move around on his own. "I make the most of every day I have for that reason. God blessed me with the ability to walk one more day, so I take advantage of it." I take the idea to heart every time I think about what a blessing it is to live in a country such as this and to be able to receive an education like the one Dordt College offers. Live everyday like it's your last, love the Lord your God like you'll see him tomorrow, and stop and smell the roses wherever a patch of them happens to grow.

Challenge yourself off-campus

by Sarah Eekhoff
Editor



Last summer I paid over one thousand dollars and boarded an Icelandic Air flight to Amsterdam, Holland.

For three weeks I lived in the Netherlands. I drank Fanta, rode the trams and shopped at Dam Square. I bought my food with guilders and cooked in one of the most unsanitary kitchens I have ever been in. I saw more bicycles lying at Central Station than I even knew were in existence. I viewed the work of Van Gogh, found the Red Light District, and ate the best meal of my life at what I was later informed was the gay pancake house.

And, when I wasn't eating ice cream or scouting out the Rijks Museum, I went to class. Professor Tim Vos taught my four classmates and me about the Dutch media and the differences between their system and ours.

I have never learned more from a class than I did in Amsterdam, and it was not just because of Professor Vos. The experience of another culture, the ability to visit its radio stations and talk with its newspaper editors, was incredible.

Amsterdam gave me not only

another view of the media, but another view of life. It opened my eyes to a culture very different from my own and shattered my ideas of the "conservative Christian Reformed Dutch." I watched another society live, and it was beautiful.

They do have their quirks, of course, and one of them seems to be legalizing the crimes that cause them problems. But Amsterdam is honest, and even my sliver of time there opened my eyes not only to the Dutch culture, but also to my own. I was amazed at what I saw there and was surprised to see, when I got home, that by leaving my country I had been given new vision. The United States no longer looks as it did before I left. Americans dress more conservatively than I had remembered, and the illegal prostitution and drug abuse that I had thought was so prevalent in my country now seemed neatly hidden behind closed doors.

My idea of community was also challenged, as well as my sense of history. The buildings we visited were older than the United States, and the horror stories of war were much more vivid when I was able to stand where they took place.

I found myself in Holland. I have never been too concerned with my Dutch heritage, but somehow seeing the land my ancestors left gave me back a sense of history, of family, of belonging.

Dordt is in the process of instituting a cross-cultural requirement,

which will become final next year. This was instituted, in part, as a response to our scores on student assessment tests, where Dordt students scored consistently lower than other college students in awareness of cultural issues, as a result of minimal or no contact with other cultural groups. Considering our location in a very homogenous part of the country, this is not surprising. The tragedy begins, however, if we do not take the initiative to leave our comfortable pocket of northwest Iowa. And if we never leave, how can we get an accurate look at different cultures? More seriously, how can we get an accurate look at ourselves?

"The single best way to achieve a cross-cultural experience," according to Off-Campus Programs Director Ken Bussema, "is to get away for a semester." Study off campus. The experience will blow you away. What we gain from the textbooks and videos we see here in the classroom building, surrounded by our North American friends and society, does not begin to compare with our cross-culture experiences.

Obviously, this opportunity does not work for everyone. If you cannot get away for a semester, then please take the next step. Leave on a three-week program, go on AMOR, or find another way to leave the country. It is an enormous world out there, and we only have one lifetime to explore it. Let's get started.

Respect authority: leave on time

by Dena Wittmeier
Page Editor

You know those rules they have here at Dordt for open hours? Aren't they stupid? I know that is what most of us underclassmen think. I don't know very many people who had to have boys out of their house by ten when they were a senior in high school. Or how many people still had much of a curfew. It is really easy for us to think these things without realizing why we really have open hours or why it seems like you can't do anything when you are a freshman here. I know when I got to college, it wasn't what I expected.

No matter what we think, it is important for us to remember that these rules do serve a purpose, but more than that, we need to respect the authority figures that have to enforce the rules. This is one thing that was hard for me because many of the authority figures in my hall are close to my age, and more than that, they are my friends. It does make it harder to look at them as having authority over me, but every now and again, I have to remind myself that they do.

These rules do not just apply to certain people, they apply to all of us, and that is why we must respect them. As we learn in political studies, when God made us, He meant for us to live in community. It is not easy to live as a community when there are no rules and no guidelines of how we should live our lives. Authoritative figures have a divine calling from God to

help the rest of us live peaceably as a community, and when something is not right, the consequences have to be dealt with by these people. We must also remember that RA's and CA's do not have the easiest job in the world when it comes to discipline. Many of them are our friends and they are not much older than us. When RAs have to enforce rules that seem childish to someone on their wing that they see every day, or who they are friends with, it is not easy for them to write that person up. They are afraid of hard feelings, or losing wing community that they are trying to build. We need to make it easier on our RA's by following the rules and not putting our relationships with them or the rest of the wing in jeopardy.

No matter how right-wing some of the rules seem, this is a Christian college. We stand for certain things and have certain morals and standards. I know that if people want to have sex they will still find a way, but it won't be as easy if the opposite sex is supposed to be out of the room. The main issue here is respect for ourselves, our authority figures and their role in our lives, and your roommates or the other people on your floor. God has placed us here, and hopefully we are reaping the blessings. Just remember, only a few years and we will be without rules of this type, but there will always be rules in our lives. So give your RA a break this semester. Just smile and get those boys or girls out by ten.

Features

AMOR Winter 2001



Shelly Bolkema holds a little girl named Gretchen when the group visited an orphanage.

photo submitted

Mexico changes lives

Laura Apol
Page Editor

Life changing. As I heard the stories from several students about their trip into Mexico, this is the phrase that comes to mind.

Rebecca De Hoog was the Dordt student leader that organized the trip by setting up the destination, the dates, the airplane tickets, and the transportation to and from the airports. Once the group of 12 Dordt students arrived in Mexico, they were under the care of Youth With A Mission (YWAM) and their leader there was Aldo, an engineering student who grew up in Culiacan, where the AMOR group was assigned to work.

"The Mexican Christians are strong believers in the power of prayer," said Joyce van Leeuwen. On their first day, the group was driven to a hill to pray for the city of Culiacan, the government, the youth, families, drug dealers and Christianity.

Building two houses was the main task for the AMOR members. These houses were a mere 16 x 20 feet, one room, made out of steel studs and sheet rock with white stucco on the outside. It seems small, but it was luxury compared to what they used to live in. "These people live in buildings that looked like they should house cattle," said Erin Dykstra.

It took the group three days to build one house. After the buildings were done, the AMOR members dedicated the houses to the families that would live in them. "The joy you could see on their faces was undescrivable," said Alisha Mushumanski.

The group also traveled to two Indian camps to share God's Word and to communicate with the people. April Crul, a junior, tells about this experience. "At the first camp, very few adults responded and we left the camp feeling very spiritually oppressed. However, at the second camp, the Spirit of God was dancing all over the place. A few men came forward to receive Jesus into their hearts and many people wanted to be prayed for. We left that camp singing and crying for joy and awestruck at the powerful, all-encompassing love of God." Joyce van Leeuwen said, "I had goose bumps and could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. I had never experienced anything like it. It was so incredible. I will never forget it."

I asked the AMOR group if there was any one person that really impacted their group, and most of them said it was their leader, Aldo. "He was such an inspiration and he was such a strong Christian. It was amazing to watch him worship and praise God," said Lanae Mulder. Dykstra said he was "definitely a blessing from God."

Because of the language barrier, communication was difficult. Karsten Finseth said he knew three phrases in Spanish that were important. "Do you have Jesus Christ?" "Do you believe in God?" "And God bless you." Through their work and witnessing, lives in Mexico were touched with the light of Christ. "We all share an incredible part of our lives," said Joyce van Leeuwen.

Students serve in Nicaragua

Blake Walburg
Staff Writer

A group of students ventured out this past Christmas break in Nicaragua for two weeks. The team participated in a wide variety of activities and services ranging from taking a dip in the Pacific to spreading manure over cactus fields. Led by Pastor Draayer and Dordt alumnus Benji Van Donge, the group of 16 students left Omaha on December 29th, stopped off in Houston, and landed in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua and a city of about 1 million people.

For the first part of the trip, the students worked with the Nicaragua Christian Academy (NCA), an English language school, where they helped dig a foundation for a new building. The bulk of the time, however, was spent at a place called Ebenezer farm. Here the students had the opportunity to participate in a unique outreach to the surrounding community. The main task of the farm is to educate local residents on growing crops, raising animals, and eating properly. The farm has helped improve the living conditions for the people by teaching them to breed rabbits. The rabbits are raised and then used as a primary source of meat. This is

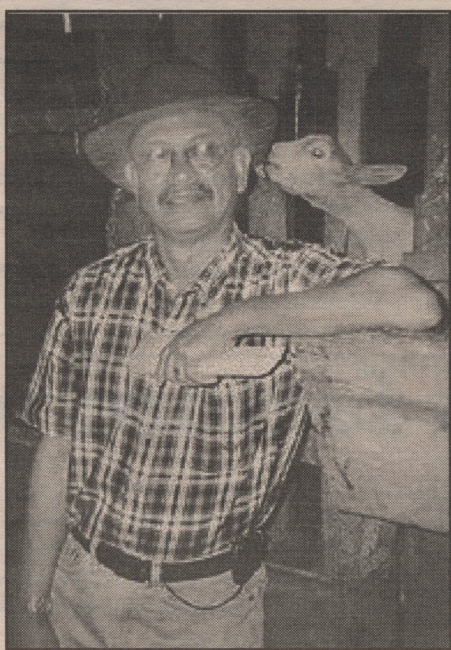


photo submitted

Chico, owner of Ebenezer farm.

important because the average Nicaraguan family eats meat only once every 4-6 months. With this program, families are able to get these nutrients as much as twice a week.

There are so many different things that can transpire over a trip like this, much more than can be related in such a short space. Some of the adventures that took place included a tour of Managua, a visit to a volcano, a boat ride on Lake Nicaragua, a day at the beach, and visits to a couple of Nicaraguan markets. Holly Bonnema and Sandra Faber told of how much they "enjoyed" cleaning out goat stalls and then spreading the manure around cactus trees. "We were covered by the end of the day," said Faber. Bonnema also related some of her misadventures of falling down the steep slopes while picking coffee beans: "I probably fell more than anyone" she said. Katy Mentink had quite a surprise when she chipped open a concrete block and found a scorpion.

Besides all the activity, the students gained life experiences and lessons they will not soon forget. They were able to be a part of a missionary effort in the midst of what is in many ways a radically different culture than their own. "God is the God of everyone and is a God of diversity," said Bonnema. He is the God that overcomes any language, cultural, or racial barrier and is able to draw together those with a heart willing to serve.

Van Den Hul to give recital

Andrew Moody

Junior Erika Van Den Hul will offer a junior violin recital on February 2 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Van Den Hul has been preparing for this event for over a year.



by Tricia Van Ee
News Page Editor

Erika Van Den Hul will perform pieces by Brahms and Sarasate at her junior violin recital at 3:00 p.m. on February 2 in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Van Den Hul, a Violin Performance and Pedagogy major, has been preparing for this recital for over a year.

Van Den Hul will play Brahms's Sonata No. 3 in D minor and Sarasate's "Zapateado." The Brahms piece is the third of his three violin sonatas and is the most involved and grandest of the three. Van Den Hul said that this piece has "really beautiful melodies" and that Brahms "really

pulls out all the stops" on this approximately 20 minute piece. "It doesn't seem terribly difficult when you first play through it," she said, "but the challenge is playing it expressively and naturally with smooth technique and rhythmic accuracy."

"Zapateado" is a showy, energetic, twentieth-century piece that uses extra violin techniques, such as using the left hand to play pizzicato (plucking instead of bowing the strings) rather than using the right hand. It is a quick, lively dance piece with interesting Spanish rhythms.

Van Den Hul, who hails from Sioux Center, has been playing the violin since she was six years old.

She currently takes lessons from husband-and-wife team Margaret Carpenter and Richard Lohmann of Omaha, Nebraska. Carpenter and Lohmann both play for the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, in which Lohmann serves as concertmaster.

Van Den Hul, who is concertmaster of the Dordt Chamber Orchestra and assistant concertmaster of the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra, is very excited for her first recital at Dordt. "I love performing," she said. "It gives you a unique opportunity to communicate ideas through music that aren't as easy to present in words."

ACTF festival enriches Dordt

by Eric Van Wyk
Staff Writer

This past week, twenty-five Dordt students and faculty had the privilege of attending the American College Theatre Festival in Kansas City, KS. Also present were representatives from a plethora of colleges and universities across the Midwest. The festival, held annually, is a myriad of activities, workshops, shows and competitions. One of the first and most anticipated events is the Irene Ryan Acting Competition.

From Dordt there were seven nominees: Kim De Groot, Laura Groen, Heidi Kooiman, Adam Smit, Jason Vande Brake and Amy Vroom. Each was nominated via their acting involvement in a Dordt theatre production in this past year. At the competition each nominee presented a monologue and then a scene with a partner. In the preliminaries there were 285 nominees, of which only 34 were selected to the semifinals, and then that group was narrowed down to 16. Those 16 finalists then compete to go the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Jason Vande Brake advanced to the final round with his monologue about Pinocchio and life, and a scene from "Rosencrutz and Guildenstern are Dead." Unfortunately, Jason was not accepted as a finalist to go to Washington.

After two days of the competition, the festival went into full swing. During the days there were workshops offered on a wide interest scale, from acting out Shakespeare to stage combat, from lighting technology to scenic design. Also offered were workshops on playwriting, directing, costuming and acting techniques. There was a lighting, costume and set design competition in which the Dordt student production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!" was entered. The competition allowed students an incredible opportunity to receive feedback concerning their designs, both things to improve and compliments on what worked well.

Numerous shows were presented throughout the festival, some performed in a smaller space, while at night larger mainstage productions were presented.

Some notable shows were "Kafka's Last Request" and "Marcus is Walking." Another compelling show was Northwestern's production of "When Scott Comes Home," a play that presents the life of a man who grew up in a Christian Reformed home, church and community. He is a homosexual and contracts the AIDS virus, and then comes back to his community to discover harsh judgement and a shunning church.

Coldplay: not ear candy

by Mark Brink
Staff Writer

So there I was. I got done watching a video over break and it was 3:00 a.m. I still wasn't tired, so I went channel surfing and ended up on MTV. I mean, I'm home for a few weeks and what else am I going to do but take advantage of this chance to see something on a music channel besides "Behind the Music"?

But anyway, there was this strange music video on. It just gripped me. The music was so basic, so subtle, and the vocals were so emotional and real; it just drew me in. After the video was over I scrambled to find a pen and paper so I could write down who this band was that had caught my attention so quickly. I then proceeded to do what any self-respecting music reviewer would do: I ran out to Best Buy and bought it!

The band behind that song is named Coldplay. Coldplay is a quartet from the UK that has recently achieved amazing success in England and has now made the jump to the States. The song that had caught my ear is entitled "Yellow" from the album Parachutes. This is the first major label release



from this new band.

The four members joined up in 1998 and recorded a demo which they shopped around to many record companies. After being rejected by almost all of them, they continued to record and perform without a full album. After two more demos and two more unanimous rejections, they found their break at Universal Records. Since then the band has released Parachutes, and it has currently sold more than four million copies in the UK alone.

The sound of the album is certainly inspired by Oasis, Seal, Dave Matthews Band, and Ben Folds Five.

The influences are at times obvious, yet Coldplay is able to pull all these elements into a unique sound. It is very mellow and guided by a stirring piano and a lush acoustic guitar. The music makes this band good, but it's the voice that makes them great. Singer/songwriter Guy Berryman has a voice that is smooth and airy enough to pull off heartfelt ballads like "We Never Change" and "Trouble" and gritty enough to convict with songs like "Don't Panic" and "Shiver."

After giving it a few spins on my player I still find myself drawn to the song that first grabbed my attention. Though there are a few gems in the bunch, I still feel like "Yellow" is Coldplay's masterpiece.

This album is not full of radio hits; most songs are just too slow or quiet. If that scares you away, then it worked. This is not an album of ear candy; these are songs that need to be listened to several times before you can really see the magic. The subtlety hides the depth in the lyrics and the solid composition of voice and instrument. It isn't meant to change the world, or even change your mind; it's just good solid music that requires an interested ear.

NISO to feature folk music

by Josh Christoffels
Staff Writer

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra will be performing its annual Pops Concert in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on Saturday, February 3 at 7:30 in the evening. The theme this year is folk music from other lands.

The Siouxland Boys Choir, led by Joan Van Holland, will be joining the orchestra as a special guest. Van Holland will also be performing as a soprano soloist, along with Norman Grimm, a tenor soloist.

First in the program, the orchestra will perform a number of lighter

pieces including "Broadway on Parade," "Dance of the Comedians," and "New York, New York." Then the Siouxland Boys Choir will perform alone accompanied by Kristin Vanden Bosch.

Together, the orchestra and the Siouxland Boys choir will present musical selections from Korea, Israel and Mexico.

During the intermission, Friends of NISO will be selling home-made truffles and gourmet coffee. Friends helps to manage the funds of NISO, and the proceeds have been designated to pay for student scholarships.

To finish up the program, Grimm

and Van Holland will join the orchestra and Boys Choir to perform several pieces from Fiddler on the Roof.

Dr. Henry Duitman has been in charge of the orchestra for fifteen seasons now. Duitman is enthusiastic about the concert. "These Pops Concerts are the best chance for people who haven't heard the symphony orchestra to come and hear some good music." Duitman is also very excited that this concert is on the weekend rather than during the week like most NISO concerts are. Tickets are available by calling 722-6230. Tickets will also be available at the door, \$9.00 for adults, and \$4.00 for students.

Senior basketball players lead on and off the court



Senior Dylan Haak shoots a free throw against Dana on Wednesday, January 17. Haak's 25 points led Dordt to a 93-87 win.

Jason Mulder Staff Writer

As senior co-captain and second year starter on the varsity basketball team, Mike Ribbens demonstrates leadership both on and off the court. Currently in his third year on varsity, he is averaging seven points and almost four assists per game. Last year he broke the school record for steals in one game with eight versus Midland. By the end of the season, he will have cracked the top ten in career assists after only three seasons of play.

However, Mike Ribbens is about more than just basketball. He is a pre-seminary/history major

aspiring to attend either Calvin or Gordon Conwell seminary after graduating. This summer he hopes to have the privilege of using basketball as an opportunity to witness when he travels to Argentina through a program called Sports Ambassadors.

Mike's parents remember that he loved any game involving a ball since a very young age. He played many sports while growing up, but his true love has always been basketball. However, he did not play basketball his freshmen year at Dordt because he felt burned out after high school. He did not think he could contribute 100% and felt that basketball was taking away

from other areas of his life. Before long, however, his love of the game brought him back.

Coach Greg Van Soelen describes Mike as "one of the team's top guards," and "one of the hardest workers on the team." Mike does not do anything unless he can give 100%. He also has a way of rubbing off on his teammates and making them work harder. Fellow senior player Dylan Haak agrees that Mike is a great leader. He added that Mike always makes sure that the team is ready for every game and gets the guys "pumped up."

Just like the rest of the team, Mike is a fiery competitor who doesn't like to lose. He sets an excellent example and represents Dordt as an ideal student-athlete. He still has one year of eligibility left so he could be back next year. He claims that he is not the one we need to convince, but rather his wife.

Another senior starter this year is Dylan Haak. Like Mike Ribbens, Dylan demonstrates leadership off the basketball court as well as on. Attaining a starting position this year after 3 years of contributing from the bench, Dylan has taken advantage of the opportunity and excelled. Averaging 15 points and 5 rebounds per game, he has become one of Dordt's main offensive weapons this year. He is shooting an incredible 49% from the 3-point line and had a career-high 41 points against Northwestern on January 10. He will be near the top in 3-point percentage in a single season.

Captain Mike Ribbens described him as "a great scorer who plays bigger than he looks." Coach Van Soelen commented that Dylan has "an outgoing personality that keeps the mood of the team upbeat. He has been a pleasure to have around for 4 years!"

Off the court, Dylan is an Ag/Business major who would like to be a field man for a fruit warehouse or a loan officer. He is from an apple farm in Outlook, WA, and has always loved basketball. His parents are not able to attend games very often but faithfully listen to them on the Internet.

Dylan demonstrates a great work ethic with his hustle and determination. He also sets an example through his actions on campus and sets a picture of a great student-athlete at Dordt.

Hockey tour strengthens team

John Hansen Staff Writer

The Dordt Blades have Mark Bentum to thank for this year's 'Tour de'Ontario.' He planned the Hockey Tour over Christmas break in which the Blades spent nine days on the road visiting Grand Rapids, Michigan and Smithville, Drayton, Stratford, Bellville, and Pickton, Ontario. The team played six games, including one contest at Redeemer College and one at Calvin College.

"Hockey Tour is a great part of the Blades heritage," says Coach Scott Quatro. "The tour allows the team to stay fresh and competitive over the holiday break." Hockey Tour also serves to promote Dordt

to prospective students. "A lot of Canadian kids become interested in Dordt by watching us play while we are on tour," says Nate Van Niejenhuis. "This is a great way for them to hear about Dordt, and it helps promote the hockey club as well."

The tour serves to bring the team closer together and helps everybody to become more comfortable with each other. "We become better friends off the ice and that definitely helps us on the ice," says Van Niejenhuis. "Traveling together really gives us a chance to get to know each other better." The tour helps the team "become even closer as teammates and brothers in Christ," says Quatro.

Statistics

Women's Basketball (3-16, 1-9 GPAC)

Dec. 14	Briar Cliff	L (90-48)
	Scoring Leader:	Alexis Smith (12)
29	George Fox Univ.	L (82-62)
	Scoring Leader:	Serena Van Beek (23)
30	Northwestern (MN)	L (65-46)
	Scoring Leader:	Kristen Hoekstra (15)
Jan. 3	Dakota Wesleyan	L (69-51)
	Scoring Leader:	Alexis Smith (21)
6	Midland Lutheran	L (82-61)
	Scoring Leader:	Alexis Smith (21)
10	Northwestern (IA)	L (78-54)
	Scoring Leader:	Serena Van Beek (19)
13	Hastings College	L (75-72)
	Scoring Leader:	Serena Van Beek (22)
17	Dana	W (76-45)
	Scoring Leader:	Serena Van Beek (18)
20	Doane	L (70-49)
	Scoring Leader:	Serena Van Beek (12)

Men's Basketball (10-8, 4-6 GPAC)

Dec. 29	Huron	W (92-81)
	Scoring Leader:	Evan Beimers (23)
30	Presentation	W (80-53)
	Scoring Leader:	Kyle Van Arendonk (14)
Jan. 3	Dakota Wesleyan	L (74-60)
	Scoring Leader:	Dylan Haak (14)
6	Midland Lutheran	W (99-93)
	Scoring Leader:	Dylan Haak (22)
10	Northwestern (IA)	L (95-87)
	Scoring Leader:	Dylan Haak (41)
13	Hastings	L (77-64)
	Scoring Leaders:	Michael Ribbens (13) Dylan Haak (13)
17	Dana	W (93-87)
	Scoring Leader:	Dylan Haak (25)
20	Doane	W (93-75)
	Scoring Leader:	Evan Beimers (23)

HOCKEY (5-15)

Annual Tour
Jan. 8 Smithville W (3-2)
Jan. 9 Drayton Area Church Team L (5-8)
Jan. 10 Redeemer College L (1-3)
Jan. 11 Stratford Area Church Team L (3-8)
Jan. 13 Belleville Area Church Team L (7-11)
Jan. 15 Calvin College L (2-5)

NEWS BRIEFS



compiled by Kristi Mulder

LIBYA-- Libya put 331 people on trial Tuesday for rioting and murder, Tuesday, on charges that stem from four days of deadly September clashes between Libyans and workers from other African countries. The government has not said how many people were killed and wounded. One report said that some 50 workers from Chad and Sudan died. Hospital sources said at the time that the death toll was seven.

INDIA-- More than 30 million Hindu pilgrims are expected to scramble toward the River Ganges Wednesday, eager to pray and wash away their sins. All during the sacred days of Kumbh Mela, long lines of worshippers have gathered at the sacred site in northern India to dip their bodies into the water and pour it over their heads.

CHINA-- Police imposed the tightest security in years around Tiananmen Square to head off protests by the outlawed Falun Gong sect a day after five members set themselves on fire. Fire extinguishers were stacked at points around the area after Tuesday's dramatic protest in which a man and four women doused themselves with petrol and set themselves ablaze. The official Xinhua news agency said one of the women died of her injuries.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS-- Diesel fuel that continues to flow from a crippled tanker already has reached land in several places on the Galapagos Islands, which lie in the Pacific Ocean about 600 miles west of Ecuador. Now, officials say, it's thought the slick will not wash up on additional beaches because of favorable winds and ocean currents that are carrying the spill northward. So far, some 170,000 gallons of diesel fuel has poured from the disabled ship, which last week ran aground. The islands were catapulted to fame in the 19th century when naturalist Charles Darwin studied their exotic and rare wildlife and developed his theory of evolution.

EL SALVADOR-- Salvadorean President Francisco Flores said on Tuesday that he would end the search for survivors of a devastating earthquake within three days if there were no new signs of life. A 7.6-magnitude quake struck San Salvador on January 13, burying part of a middle-class suburb of the nation's capital. The death toll reached 726 on Tuesday, with 4,400 injured, hundreds missing, and 1.1 million homeless.

Lookback

compiled by Kristi Mulder
World Page Editor

January 31, 1973

Several students returned from Christmas break to find that their apartment had been the scene of fire and theft while they were away. Only a bed and several posters were lost in the fire that was quickly spotted and extinguished, but approximately \$300 worth of goods were stolen. Although police were called in, no clues were found. The hall will get a small face lift—new locks and a paint job. However, personal losses will not be reimbursed.

February 2, 1978

Dordt historically defeated Northwestern in Men's Basketball for the first time at home. January 21 in a gym so packed fans were hesitant to even stand up for fear of losing their seats. Dordt came out playing a 2-3 zone defense and stayed in it the entire game. This was the key that allowed NW only nine baskets in the first half and a Dordt victory by the end of the second. The final score of the night was 59-53.

January 31, 1985

The Sioux County Orchestra, composed of Dordt students and community members, performed Sunday night in its best concert yet since officially forming

on September 24. The classical menu served those with a palate for the symphonies of Ludwig von Beethoven. They performed parts of his Symphonies numbers 1 and 5 and his Piano Concerto number 3.

The Student Forum set up a Book Swap in the SUB last week. While there were bulletin boards for sign posting and times for specific class swaps, few students bothered with the formalities and sold whatever they could whenever they could.

January 26, 1989

Responding to student queries on where their housing money is being spent, the following numbers were provided:

- 26% Wages
- 23% Utilities
- 17% Misc.
- 16% Dept. Service
- 13% Repairs
- 5% Repair and Replace Reserve

The Switchboard is now no longer needed to connect off-campus calls directly to dorm rooms. If calling from a different area code, the caller now needs to simply dial 1-712-722 and the extension. Local calls just need dial 722 and the extension.



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Political integrity a thing of the past

by Peter Anderson
Staff Writer

The days of excellent political leadership of such Democrats as William Jennings Bryan and Andrew Jackson are undeniably over. Now the Democratic party boasts such leaders as Bill Clinton and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

As you will remember from the White House scandal involving former President Bill Clinton and intern Monica Lewinsky, Clinton admitted he more or less perjured himself, as well as obstructed justice, when he cut a deal with special prosecutor Robert Ray. Clinton confessed to unknowingly giving false statements during a deposition. His law license was then revoked for five years and he no longer faces the threat of indictment. What was the Democratic leadership's response to the recent "revelations" by Clinton?

"President Clinton should be applauded for meeting Ray more than halfway" and ending "this long national farce over an extramarital affair," said Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee (Peter Yost A.P. writer).

Since when has lying to the nation on national television and to a judge while under oath become just a farce? Lying is what is now applauded, as Rep. Conyers would have us believe. The people who should be applauded, as far as Clinton and the Democrats are concerned, are the Senate Republican

leadership who folded to the President and public opinion during Clinton's trial.

To add credence to the fact that current Democratic leadership is a farce, Rev. Jesse Jackson, who counseled Clinton during the time of his marital problems, recently admitted to fathering a child out of wedlock during the time he was giving spiritual advice to the President. This comes after Republican Rep. Henry Hyde, who helped prosecute Clinton, was accused of hypocrisy for breaking up a marriage years earlier and then marrying the woman whose marriage he had wrought asunder.

Compared with yesterday's Democratic leaders, the leaders of today don't quite measure up. President Andrew Jackson, the founder of the Democratic party, had bullets lodged in him that he had sustained in previous battles. President Clinton dodged the draft and then lied about it. William Jennings Bryan delivered the famous "Cross of Gold" speech to gain the nomination at the 1896 Democratic National Convention. In 2000, Al Gore kissed his wife to rally his followers and show that he is a good leader and family man. If ever politics or political leaders were noble at one time during the short history of the United States, and it is most assuredly that this was the case in the days of Jackson and Bryan, it is no longer. Political integrity is destined to remain in the rear view mirror.

Remember to recycle your Diamond when you have finished reading it!

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