

The Dordt College Diamond

Inside this Issue:

April 9, 1998

Volume XLI, Number 10

Students called to share, but scared

by Lydia Boer
Staff Reporter

Being at a Christian College you wouldn't expect the Christian students to have serious difficulties with sharing their faith. However, this assumption is not quite true. Many students here at Dordt College, are scared to go out into the world and witness.

Fear of rejection and misunderstanding are the most common reason why Christian students are scared to share their faith with non-Christians around them.

Surely, in this world that seems to be rushing away from God, ears that are willing to hear are fewer and the barriers to effective witnessing certainly seem greater. But we are living in a world of the spiritually lost. Only the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ can offer what they are seeking. We are called to be the instruments of the Holy Spirit by sharing our faith with others.

Sharing your faith is one of the hardest things to do as a Christian, yet God has given us clear orders to go out into the world and preach the gospel. Christians are called to witness their faith in Christ. In 1 Peter 3:15 it says; "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have; but do this with gentleness and respect."

Many students are reluctant to respond to the call to faith sharing. Some think faith sharing is the job of pastors or only a few gifted people. Some think faith is a private matter and do not want to push their views on others. Others assume that most people already have faith and so faith sharing is not necessary; but one of the most important reasons why students don't go out into the world to witness is the fear.

When asking different Dordt students, they all answered that the strongest fear is the fear of being rejected or laughed at. "Sharing your faith is a deeply personal action that makes you very vulnerable to personal attack or rejection," said junior Russ Smies.

Another common fear among the students is that they are afraid that they are not where

they should be in their faith life and they don't want to share their faith because that would expose their weakness. Students feel unqualified to do the sharing. Maybe we really are not that qualified, but God's power works in us and through us anyway.

Faith sharing, what is that actually? It is not a call to be a "crusader, a religious fanatic," but it is the telling of our faith story, it is to tell the good news of what God has done for us. In fact it's simply telling the truth; the story of Jesus Christ.

Many students learned about faith sharing while at Dordt. Sharing with roommates and close friends is fortunately pretty common. But from here it is still a very big step to share faith in the "real" world, with people who are skeptical towards what you have to say and people who do not share the same belief as you do.

Dordt teaches about sharing faith in many courses. For example about how to incorporate your faith into the job you might have after you graduate. On the other hand, students are told they need to share, but teaching about how to share is often missing.

No blame can be placed on the parents either. All students I talked to agree that they learned a lot about sharing faith just from watching their parents. Most parents didn't really talk about sharing faith or witnessing, but students saw their parents living their faith which was for them even more powerful than anything they could have told their children in words.

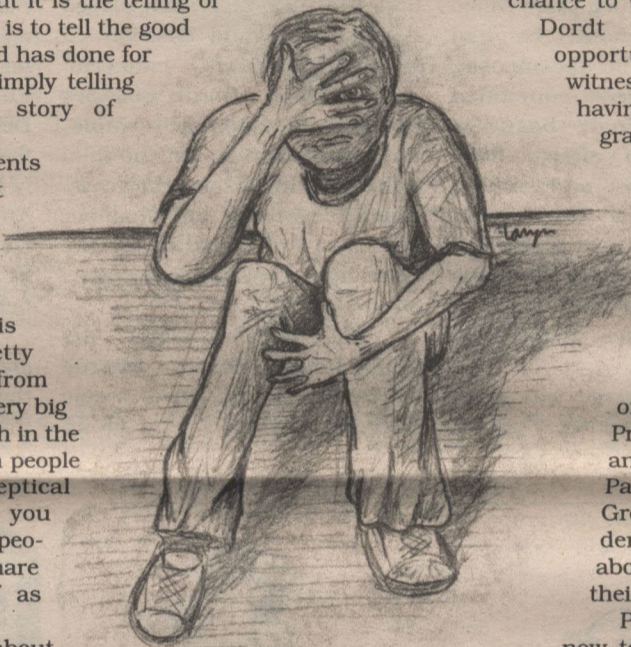
But still there is the problem that students are scared to witness. An important cause may be that most students have grown up in a very safe, Christian environment. Leading a very sheltered life without ever experiencing the hard and real world. Many of them don't even have non-Christian friends. So there was never the challenge or chance to witness.... Should Dordt provide more opportunities to really witness, for example by having outreach programs going to prisons?

On Tuesday night, March 31, there was a panel meeting about Sharing Faith at Dordt. The panel, consisting of Sandi Altena, Prof. Tom Soerens and Covenant CRC Pastor Dan de Groot, gave the students some advice about how to share their faith.

Professor Soerens, now teaching Theology, worked for over 15 years as a missionary in Honduras. He said we should have eyes of compassion. We need to notice people who are not in Him or people who only have a very weak faith. We need to have a sense of how people are living and place ourselves in their situation and talk about real issues in their life, without compromising the truth of the Gospel though. Developing relationships is key in this.

Another thing that became very clear from the panel meeting was that we as Christian students need to be standing stones so

Continued on page 3
SCARED



News

If you missed the performance of Haydn's *Creation* by the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus, be sure to check out Jamey Clapp's senior recital, or NISO's final show of the season.

Page 2

Variety

Want to know why we need to take student assessments? Find out the official reasons.

Next year's PC's and RA's learn more about being servant leaders at Northwestern College.

Page 3

Feature

Junior art majors display the results of long hour of preparation for their art show.

Pages 6-7

Entertainment

The first five senior artists display their work in show to open Monday.

Senior Sarah Bliss prepares for production of puppet show, *The Honorable Urashima Taro*.

Pages 10-11

Sports

The track team dominates the meet in Storm Lake. Find out the details inside.

Pages 8-9

Pro Life rally asks: How bad does it have to get?

by Sean Gregg
Opinion Editor

The fourteenth annual Northwest Iowa Pro Life rally, sponsored by several organizations including the Dordt Defenders of Life (DDL), was held on Monday, April 6, in the B J Haan Auditorium. Several events led up to the keynote speech by Virginia Hamm, the director of the Alpha Center in Sioux City.

The MOC/Floyd Valley Elementary strings played several songs prelude to the program. After an opening prayer

and welcome by members of the DDL, there was a memorial to 25 years of abortion. Twenty-five people, each representing the year they were born, stood for each of the twenty five years since the legalization of abortion.

After a testimony by a woman introduced as Kim, Virginia Hamm spoke, asking those in attendance "How bad does it have to get, anyway?" Hamm thanked those in attendance for their efforts in the battle against abortion, saying that those in positions like hers could not do what they do with-

out the help of so many others.

Hamm hammered the inconsistencies of the pro choice movement, citing several instances where people have been tried for murder after killing their unborn or newborn babies. She contrasted this to the different types of abortion that are performed in America today.

The theme question of Hamm, "how bad does it have to get," was echoed by those who attended the rally who were saddened by the low turnout. However, Hamm said that there is "a small light at

the end of the tunnel." She talked briefly about a government program which has tagged \$250 million over the next five years for abstinence education. She said that it is much easier to get into the public schools and teach the children abstinence than it was several years ago. She said that we owe this education to young people. Hamm also said that it is encouraging to remember that the battle is the Lord's and thanked the members of DDL for helping her to remember that.

This Week in Music at Dordt

by Kevin Maas
"High-art" music critic

This past weekend, the BJHaan Auditorium hosted two excellent musical performances. The Concert Band and the Chamber Orchestra finished off their year with their spring concert on Friday night, titled "The Flavor of France." Despite a smaller-than-normal crowd, the musicians started off with a stately but subdued piece called "Homage to Machaut." Inspired by a French Medieval composer, this stately piece concluded with a hauntingly beautiful combination of effects from chimes, voices, and muted trumpets. The band then played a suite based on French provincial folk tunes and concluded the first half with an entertaining piece inspired by the city of Paris.

After the stage was reset during intermission, a septet

drawn from the Chamber Orchestra played a lively selection by Saint-Saens. The rest of the Chamber Orchestra joined them to play three more pieces, each featuring talented soloists. Jennifer Van Den Hul and Jennifer Duitman showed their skill on the violin along with Jeremy Jongsma on the cello in a Vivaldi concerto. The audience enjoyed more high quality Baroque music as Kate Oppliger and Melanie Elgersma played flawless oboe and bassoon on another Vivaldi concerto. Jamey Clapp, Dordt College's eminent trombonist, complemented the strings on the final number of the soloist showcase. Another piece by the Chamber orchestra and a return by the Band for a final march completed the evening.

The following night, the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus (SCOC) performed Haydn's epic work "The Creation." The group

is open to anyone from the area— a number of Dordt professors and staff have taken advantage of this singing opportunity— and have taken on many choral masterworks. "The Creation" is an oratorio dominated by recitatives, or portions of Scripture sung by soloists. Dordt professors Benjamin Kornelis and Debora Vogel were featured respectively as tenor and soprano soloists. An orchestra including several Dordt musicians joined the SCOC for several powerful and beloved choruses.

Even after these two programs, there is no need to worry that the musical year is over. In the next weeks, two more wor-



Travis Bonnema

Concert Band performed a variety of selections for their Spring Concert last Friday night.

thy musical events are scheduled at the BJHaan. On Wednesday the fifteenth of April, Jamey Clapp will be giving his senior trombone recital. This beautiful and varied performance, the product of four years of instrumental study here at Dordt, should not be missed. Then, on Tuesday the

twenty-first of April, the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra will be putting on its third and final show of the season. This too is a performance that should not be missed. For those who appreciate the high art form of "classical" music, this has been *This Week in Music at Dordt*.

by Seth Koerner

"So you're trying to tell me that the reason you flunked the test is 'El Nino'?"

**50% off
Selected
Engagement
Rings**

Located in Centre Mall

Opinions expressed are not necessarily the view of the *Diamond* or of Dordt College, but represent the views of the individual writers. The *Diamond* reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution. The *Diamond* is published by students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond. Any letters, comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be signed and received before 5:00pm the Monday before publication to be printed in that issue.

Send contributions to:
Diamond
Dordt College,
Box 116
Sioux Center, IA
51250

STAFF

Editor-in-Chief:
Jon Postma
Assistant Editor:
Laryn Bakker
Features Editor:
Susan Vandermeer
News Editor:
Cheryl Wierda
Opinion Editor:
Sean Gregg

Freelance Editor:
Paula Treick
Sports Editor:
James De Boer
Photo Editors:
Heidi Bartholomew
Travis Bonnema
Copy Editors:
Pages 1-3,12
Robin Vis
Heather Kuipers

Pages 4,5,10
Sue Vander May
Kay Kleinjan
Pages 6,7,11
Jill Vossen
Matthew McNatt
Columnists:
Jamie Stoy
Sarah Walsh
Rob Reitsma

**Advertising
Manager:**
Rachel Heikes
**Advertising
Design:**
Ryan Breems
Konstantin Kekhaev
Cartoonists:
Laryn Bakker
Seth Koerner

Art Critics:
Kirstin Vander
Giessen
Ryan Vande Kraats
James VanDyk
Justin Westerhof
Staff:
Lydia Boer
Elizabeth Boerema
Craig Broek
Martin Dam

Karen den Boer
Grant Elgersma
Brady Fopma
Lieschen Hoeksema
Tim Kobes
Janel Kragt
Kevin Maas
Jon Moss
Ryan Punt
Josh Visser
Tami Van Kooten

Assessments: What's the point?

by Cheryl Wierda
News Editor

Every year across Dordt's campus students can be heard complaining about taking assessments. Whether it is taking the Academic Profile and writing the Social Challenges essay at the beginning of freshman year, or writing the Profile again as a junior and the social challenges essay as a senior, like many did a week and a half ago, or any of the other surveys given to us to fill out, questions remain about this ritual. Why exactly do we have to do this anyway, and what does Dordt do with the pages of information it collects about us?

The main reason we have to do this is so that Dordt can remain an accredited school under the North Central Association. Legislators in the past wanted some way to know that we, as students, are actually learning something at the college we attend. A bonus to these assessments though, is that the U.S. government pays for it. The Department of Education gives Dordt a grant to pay for it, so it does not come out of our tuition.

Another reason Dordt assesses its students is to see how they are doing in comparison to other schools in the Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities. "The whole goal is to improve what we do. To find where the weak spots are, where we can do better," says Dr. Paul Moes, director of student assessment.

So, how well are we doing as students, and in which areas does Dordt need to improve our education?

What these assessments have found is that we are good

critical thinkers, but we do not always back up what we say. We know what we believe, but we do not always prove it.

Another interesting thing is the gender differences between Dordt students. Women are typically better at expressing their beliefs through written expression, and men are better doing this in standardized tests. But a high percentage of women, as seniors, do not always know what they believe and why, in comparison with the men.

During their time at Dordt, students have become more socially aware in comparison with their freshman year, and other Christian colleges that participate in the surveys. Students have become more concerned about the environment, and do more volunteer work than as freshmen.

Dordt is working to improve some of the weak areas it has found in the assessments. The college is attempting to hire more minorities and women, although Dordt is having a difficult time recruiting qualified people for the job, in comparison with other colleges. But it is seen as a necessary step to provide role models for many students here at Dordt.

Another proposal is to improve our social problem solving by creating a general education social science course that would include economics, psychology and sociology.

These proposals may not be the whole answer, but they are a step by the assessment committee in the right direction. The assessments we take are an important part of making Dordt an even better place to be!

Student leaders attend conference at Northwestern

by Lieschen Hoeksema
Staff Reporter

Though the start of next school year seems to be a long way off, many Dordt students have already begun to prepare for its arrival. RA's and peer counselors attended the Leadership Conference at Northwestern College to train for their positions beginning in

Friday evening with a banquet and a keynote address given by Dr. Louis Lotz, senior pastor of the Morningside Reformed Church in Sioux City. The topic of Lotz's address was; "Where's Your Towel?" referring to John 13 when Christ humbled himself and washed the feet of his disciples. Lotz emphasized that the greatest leader that walked this earth lowered himself to the sta-

from a position of weakness, yet Christ was an example of this.

Students attended three workshops on Saturday and were able to choose from 17. Following lunch, all attended Interest Sessions which focused on Resident Life, Peer Counseling and Student Ministry. Workshops and Interest Sessions were led by Student Services, Resident Life

The Art of Servant Leadership

August.

The Leadership Conference is an annual event held the first weekend in April sponsored by Northwestern College. The theme of the conference was "The Art of Servant Leadership" and was emphasized through speakers and workshops. Attendees of the conference represented Buena Vista University, The University of Sioux Falls, Northwestern and Dordt sent a delegation of more than 80 students. Ron Rynders felt that Dordt was able to bring quite a bit to the conference because of the faculty and the large amount of students that attended. Close to 200 students were present from all four schools.

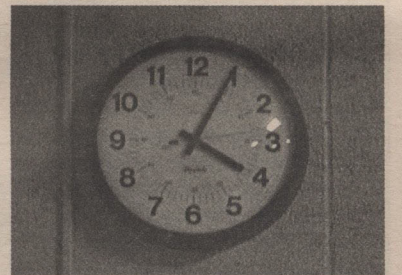
The conference began

with a servant. As student leaders on campus, we must serve others as Christ gave us the example in his life.

Dr. Fred Van Dyke, professor of Biology at Northwestern, opened Saturday morning in Northwestern's Bogaard Theatre. He challenged students with his address, "Leadership for Life." He reminded us that leadership is a calling from God, a way in which we are able to serve him. In that respect the role of leadership should not be taken lightly. Leadership requires perseverance for a lifetime- not just one school year. A strong point Van Dyke made was a position of leadership does not make you a qualified leader. One of the toughest things is to lead

staff and professors from Northwestern, USF and Dordt.

Rynders believes the Leadership Conference was beneficial for all who attended. Dordt students received valuable and applicable knowledge pertaining to their leadership positions. Students also had an opportunity to interact and gain insights from students with similar positions at other colleges.



SCARED Continued from page 1

people will recognize you as an unique person since God is living inside of you.

Being yourself is the best ingredient you have to offer when it comes to witnessing. The fact that you are a caring, loving, serving kind of person who is known to be a Christian can often say far more than any amount of words. Students agree with this; sometimes you can just see and feel a person is different. Randy Eilders, a 22-year old student, said, "Jesus Christ is what revolves around my life and world view. If I didn't have Christ in my heart I couldn't be who I am today. I persevere daily to have Christ be evident in my life."

God won't let you do the witness all by yourself. He has given us some principles that will enable us to effectively lead others to Christ. God will never ask us to do anything He will not give us the power to do. God will help us, we are only the instruments of the Holy Spirit.

Christians are called to witness, let's go out into the world and share the Good News!



**50% off any PIZZA PURCHASE
TO GO ONLY
722-3988**

Monday thru Saturday
9 pm 'til close

Coupon good for the month of April

Responses to Returning the GIFT

Dear Editor:

In the last issue of the *Diamond*, Matt Nelson and Dan Droog voiced their concerns regarding GIFT and students' attitude toward it. While I applaud them for opening conversation about GIFT, having the guts to print their dissent in the *Diamond*, and being willing to swallow any potential heat, I do not share their point of view. Though they raised some legitimate concerns regarding our motive for worship and attitudes toward the church, their critique of GIFT left out some important considerations.

Seeing GIFT as a Mickey Mouse imitation of a true "church" service reflects a narrow definition of worship, Sunday observance and church. The argument has been raised that people are using GIFT as a replacement for attending the evening church service. It is only an issue because we have created a quota of church attendance. "All good Christians go to church twice on Sundays." God calls us to keep the Sabbath day holy, commune with the church, study his word, and worship him, but is our "twice or else" mandate God ordained?

We also fall victim to a penance attitude regarding church attendance. We feel that no matter how far away we are from the Lord, if we meet our "church" quota, everything will be squared up with God. Though a common attitude, it should not be motive for worshipping God either in a traditional church setting, or at GIFT. Using GIFT or church attendance as penance is a huge problem area to be addressed, but GIFT really has nothing to do with it.

GIFT also turns knots in

some dissenting students because of its "untraditional" nature. Consumerist culture has pushed its way into the church, and into worship, they say. We bow to our own needs and wants and disregard how God calls us to worship. Jesus' words in John 4:24 call us to worship in spirit and truth. Can this be said of the worship that takes place at GIFT?

Yes, the institutional church, its doctrine, and its history are fundamentally important to Christianity and in the life of each believer. The body of Christ is bigger than our generation and college community. For these reasons and others, worshipping outside of GIFT is crucial to our walk with God. However, besides making our needs and wants into gods, we can also bow to the god of tradition. We do not need to be afraid of hearing a message from someone who is not ordained, worshipping in a way that also ministers to our needs, and singing praise songs led by our peers with guitars in T-shirts. Because the worship that goes on at GIFT is outside of a traditional CRC church setting, is it unsanctioned worship? Worship can include, but is not bound to hymns, liturgy and organ accompaniment. What happened to the Reformed principle that all of life is worship?

GIFT is not meant to be entertainment, therapy, or a social bonding session. GIFT, intended for the purpose of worshipping God and Growing In Faith Together, involves a legitimate community of believers. It is sometimes hard for us to address personal and communal spirituality collectively in our Dordt community. Our spiritual-

ity often goes unsaid, even among friends. For this reason, GIFT is a step in the right direction. GIFT promotes vulnerability, honesty, confession, accountability and community. It is an attempt to follow Paul's call in the epistles to confess our sins to each other, encourage one another, and share our suffering and joys.

Neither is GIFT some sort of opiate. The songs, dances, dramas and speakers are not chosen for their potential ability to evoke a tear, allow escape from the real world, or make people feel warm and fuzzy inside. Each GIFT service is a result of much prayer and planning. The services aim to be coherent, musically sound, meaningful, challenging and Biblical. They incorporate the various elements of worship, and they aim to foster spiritual growth.

GIFT, like everything else, is affected by sin. For this reason, GIFT, along with our attitudes toward it, should be critically examined. Seeking to reform and be transformed is intrinsic to our calling as Reformed Christians. We must not neglect worshipping with the greater body of believers; neither should we succumb to a consumerist mentality of worship nor withdraw from the world into the "Dordt bubble." But GIFT does not deserve the punishment for these human frailties.

If something needs to be returned, let it be the orange linoleum in our bathrooms or the slander that frequently escapes our mouths. Keep the GIFT. In fact, go ahead and throw out the receipt.

In Christ,
Janel Kragt

and not everyone enjoys the structured services of a lot of churches in Sioux Center. The contemporary style of GIFT gives such students a chance to worship God in a way they are familiar with, grew up with, and enjoy. I feel the GIFT alone can not fulfill students' worship needs, but I personally have benefited greatly from the messages, prayer, and praise I have shared with my fellow students at GIFT services. Please be considerate to those like myself who enjoy a contemporary worship style and find GIFT a wonderful time to praise God, worship Him, and have fellowship with other students.

Mike Elenbaas

NOT attend church sometimes. Some probably don't go to church 3 out of 4 Sundays. Just because some of those people start attending GIFT doesn't give you the right to stereotype GIFT attendees as people that stop attending church.

Yes, some students are misusing GIFT in terms of its original intent, and I hope that your editorial and the discussion thereof helps them realize that they need to find a church where they can worship God and grow closer to Him.

I feel GIFT is HELPING fulfill students' needs as far as finding a comfortable worship style to praise God with. Not everyone that attends Dordt grew up in a Reformed tradition

Informed discussion promotes understanding

One of the wiser choices I made in high school was to write for the school paper, and as an editor I learned how difficult writing for one's peers can be. Any student reading the *Diamond* could easily find both professional and off-the-cuff articles, and that's the way it should be. The role of our campus paper is not to keep the college community updated on world events but to report on our activities and interests.

The *Diamond* contains a variety of styles, from the Hockey Guy to the reviews of Grant Elgersma and Kirstin Vander Giessen. The *Diamond* has also opened its format to allow space for editorials which promote discussion. What better atmosphere for such challenges than the campus of a Christian college? While we won't always agree, we can speak to each other in brotherly love. We don't need to "agree to disagree" because together we are seeking the ultimate Truth.

Articles such as Randy Boer's about the spring play hurt the *Diamond's* readers. Obviously the preview Mr. Boer read gave him a false impression. Too bad he didn't see the show; the experience may have prevented him from jumping to conclusions.

The theatre department encourages people to apply

principles of the Christian worldview, and, confident in that worldview, we need not fear discussing other ideas.

Sarah Walsh's Free Press articles, while written from a biased position (what article isn't?), tend to initiate discussion and debate. This is the format for those articles and that debate. I tend not to agree with her opinions, yet I respect her for not being afraid to express herself publicly. She demonstrates that we have no reason to fear criticism from each other because we all seek to serve the same God.

The opinions of those outside the community should not intimidate us. Because we stand on a solid foundation of Truth, we are in a position to positively influence those around us. We are not fulfilling our Reformational calling if Dordt is closed to opposing views. How can we change anything if we don't understand what we're attempting to change?

Thanks to the *Diamond* staff. You have paved the way for intelligent discussion and spiritual growth. Further proof that learning isn't limited to the classroom.

Coram Deo,
Livija Shannon

No freshman columnists?

I am responding to one of your writers, Robert Reitsma. I was wondering if you need to fill up space and that's why you are printing his article in the college newspaper. Is all he can do is complain about every little policy here at Dordt and have it printed in the *Diamond*? Is the *Diamond* a paper we can complain and gripe to about what we don't like about Dordt? I don't think there is place in a college newspaper for all of our complaints of what we think is wrong with this college. I, for one, think this is a very good college. Granted, there are some things the college does and some of the policies I don't agree with but that's just the way things are going to be. We just need to learn to deal with these things because they aren't going to change them just for us. We can go to someone to try and get them changed but com-

plaining about them to the college newspaper isn't going to help. We don't need to know what everyone doesn't like and what they think should be changed. Do we really need to listen to the gripes and complaints someone has? I don't think so.

In response to the latest article written by Robert Reitsma: did he ever think about the noise a bird may cause which would be very annoying? It would be distracting for people living near this room. Did Robert ever think about the smell from the biosolids it would create? Did Robert think about what happens if it would ever get loose? Did Robert ever think about whether the person can really afford to buy all the supplies for it or all of it's food? That's fine

Continued on page 12
FRESHMAN



FOCUS

by Jamie Stoy

Mutilated Roses, Half-eaten Apples

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

Hebrews 13:4 - "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral."

Roses are incredibly beautiful flowers; they smell nice and are soft to the touch. Imagine for a moment that you are a rose. You journey into

your very first dating relationship as a beautiful rose, unspoiled and pure (hopefully). In that relationship there are various degrees of intimacy ranging from holding hands and hugging to sex, and you get involved to the degree that you feel is right. Every time you get somehow involved in that intimacy, you give a petal of your rose to that other person, whether that be a small petal of a kiss to a big outside petal of sex (it's a huge rose).

After one relationship, what does the rose look like? What about after 5 relationships? 10 relationships? 20...and so on. However, many relationships that are gone through before reaching THE ONE. What does your rose look like then? Are all the petals still there? Are they torn and falling off? Are there any petals left at all? When you reach your wedding night and, with a pounding heart and sweaty palms, hand your rose over to THE ONE who has waited for it and deserves it, what are you handing over?

Let's have a look at this from a different perspective. Imagine now that you are an apple; a big, round, juicy apple. Going along the same lines as the rose, you enter a relationship and with the level of intimacy attained comes

varying degrees of bites or nibbles on that apple. I know, it's graphic.

The relationships come and go and finally you reach THE ONE. The wedding night comes and with a pounding heart and sweaty palms you offer your apple to the beloved who has been waiting for it and deserves it. Get the picture? Okay, so what. What does it matter what kind of rose I am or how I look as an apple? I want to have my fun and besides, it is just too hard to wait for anything. A kiss won't hurt.

Here is one more perspective on this topic. As a beautiful rose, you have waited and kept hold of the major petals, letting a few smaller kissing petals slip away. You have been nurturing that rose and protecting it through all the relationships or even through none. You finally reach THE ONE and rejoice to be able to give your rose away. FINALLY! It is your wedding night and, with pounding hearts and sweaty palms, you both present your roses or apples to each other...well, don't just think about the condition of the rose you are giving, but also the condition of the rose you are getting. Does it matter to you what it looks like? Personally, on my wedding night I don't want to be handed a half eaten apple. Is there any hope? Yes, by His mercy God restores mutilated roses and half-eaten apples.

quasi from the real students. At one time on Dordt's campus, more students attended the faculty readings than the Indiana Jones Trilogy. Times have changed and so have the students. Dordt College could be much more demanding on their students, and the students could choose to be an engaging audience.

The Rec Center isn't evil. The way admissions draws students isn't completely corrupt—the Rec Center is part of the Dordt experience. As a community, however, we may have gotten our priorities slightly out of order. We are here primarily to learn, to prepare for life beyond Dordt. A significant amount of that preparation comes to us through studying.

Many of the lessons we have learned since being at Dordt—how to successfully live with others, how to budget our spending until the next paycheck, how to get enough sleep, how to do our own laundry—have all helped us in our overall growth, but weren't learned in the classroom. We could learn these lessons anywhere, and although Dordt would be incomplete without the residence hall experience, that is not why we are here.

We need to rediscover what our number one priority is, while not ignoring the importance of other activities and how those other activities accentuate and complement what we learn in our classes.

'That's just the way some things are going to be'

by Robert Rietsma
with guest Justin Westerhoff

"I don't have the money for an indulgence, so I guess I'm not going to get to heaven. Oh well. Martin, that's just the way some things are going to be."

"Well, sure the slaves are raped, beaten and abused. We really can't do anything about that, Harriet. That's just the way some things are going to be."

"Well, Dietrich, you shouldn't be so angry about the Nazis killing off millions of Jews. Stop complaining about it; that's just the way some things are going to be."

"So Nelson, you got yourself in jail over absolutely nothing. You have to realize that apartheid is apartheid, and there's nothing you can do about it. That's just the way some things are going to be."

While Dordt's policies probably shouldn't be placed on the same plane as the corrupt Roman Catholic Church, the evils of the slave trade, the atrocities of the Holocaust or the once depraved state of South Africa, the attitude displayed in Mr. De Kok's letter to the editor is completely fatalistic and runs completely against the grain of our Reformed worldview. Situations like the ones above occur because of people who think like him. But I'll get to this a little later.

I've included my roommate, Justin, in writing this article because he, too, was appalled by the sentiments within your letter and is also a freshman columnist for the Diamond. We have both been writing columns for our school publications since our junior year in high school and are both on substantial scholarships here at Dordt to continue doing so. I will first address the two issues briefly discussed in my former columns and in your letter.

You seem to have a problem with birds, so let's start there, shall we? Justin and I have had birds in our North Hall room for a better part of this semester, so we are fully cognizant of the wiles of owning them. Yes, our finches make noise, but it isn't that voluminous of a sound that it detracts from our neighbors study habits. The smell from the birds' waste is also irrelevant because, in comparison with some of the North Hall rooms I've smelled this year, it isn't even half as putrid. We also realize that when one has pets, certain responsibilities coincide with that, such as feeding the animals and keeping them contained. Your argument concerning financial woes is made void by the fact that it costs approximately \$5 every month and a half to feed our six finches. We're pretty sure any college student could afford a pet at that rate. In addition, I never asked that the entire campus be forced into buying birds, as you seem to imply. It was simply a suggestion.

You also seem to think me completely ignorant. I know where my money is going. I didn't address the work of the maintenance staff in my column concerning housing because I was limited by space in the column. That's the only reason. I hope that clears up some confusion for both you and the maintenance staff. I don't want to sound ungrateful for the work they do. We are both fully aware of the incredible work the cleaning ladies in North Hall do, kudos to them! We don't know anyone else who would do such a good and thankless job, cleaning up pubic hair on toilets and ice cream cones dropped from the third floor to the helpless basement floor. We are also very grateful for the property maintenance, from snow removal to tree trimming. I wasn't complaining because of the services included within my monthly rent fees, I was complaining because Dordt students aren't even given the option to do these things themselves, thereby saving money. Why should we be forced into paying someone else for these services when we would be happy to do them?

I am also quite aware of the financial obligations involved with renting an apartment; however, utilities such as heat, water and electricity are usually covered in the monthly rent which, according to personal research, would run us about the same amount of money as one North Hall room would at Dordt (\$400). As for the other "necessities" you mention, we pay telephone bills now and we also get along quite well without cable. We already own almost all the furniture we would need to live com-

fortably and closets are usually conveniently attached to an apartment for clothing storage. Your point about cleaning supplies and toilet paper is almost ridiculous. Of course we realize minor expenses such as these exist, but the overall costs of such supplies would not be an incredible financial burden. Gas? I pay for gas and car insurance now.

Oh, and I also realize that my on-campus job wouldn't cover rent and food. It doesn't now. Most people pay for their food and housing expenses with money they have earned over the summer, so your point is mute. We wouldn't be paying Dordt the \$3,030 we pay them now for room and board (21 meal plan), so we could use that money for those same expenses elsewhere. It has been proven by those living in East Campus or Southview that one can save up to \$1000 a year on food costs alone by not eating in the Commons and doing his/her own grocery shopping.

Another point, which seemed similar to a racial slur, was the comment about not renting an apartment to people "like that." As a rule, one shouldn't make careless generalizations. It can be very dangerous. We are so happy to be lumped into the stereotypical view of an 18-year old teenager. Every human who is 18 isn't necessarily an irresponsible, careless, party-loving creature who needs a babysitter. Anyone who is 18 and has a substantial job can legally rent an apartment and can't, by law, be discriminated against because of age. Seeing as I own and operate a small business, I probably have the credit history needed to rent an apartment in Sioux Center, Iowa.

So, does Dordt really prepare it's students for life in the ominous "real world" by having their policy which requires students to stay on campus until they are 22 or married? After reading your letter, I know of at least one person who still needs to learn a lot.

Now, with those two issues cleared up a bit, I'll continue.

You seem to know a lot about journalism. You suggest that the paper is not for complaints, but for articles. This is very interesting to Justin and me, both former editors of our high school newspaper, which was probably better than most college newspapers are today (this isn't just our opinion). Seeing as you are a communication major, you should know that opinion sells more advertisements than fact. For years in Chicago, for example, many people bought the *Chicago Sun-Times* and later, the *Chicago Tribune*, just because Mike Royko wrote a column in them, and, suffice it to say, not all of his opinions were positive. Newspapers are forums for ideas, whether positive or negative. And if I want other people to read my ideas, to think about my ideas and perhaps reevaluate theirs, what better place to do it than a newspaper?

The main gist of your harangue makes freshman out to be some sort of sub-standard form of life who don't have fully formed opinions yet. We're not stupid. It won't take all of us a year to begin understanding college life. You seem to forget, throughout your entire letter, that people are individuals with individual experiences that have shaped and formed them individually. Please don't assume that all people are as ignorant as you appear in your letter; it isn't becoming of a college senior. Just because it took you a year to begin maturing doesn't mean it takes everyone else that long. And, if you'd really break it down, you'd realize that I really wouldn't even have to attend Dordt to write about some of its policies, such as housing. They're all written in the catalog. I can see how much money I'm spending in the catalogue. I don't have to experience anything on campus to realize that I'm spending almost \$15,000 a year to go here or to request that my \$15,000 be used efficiently.

You begin and end your letter by saying that "we just need to learn to deal [with things we don't agree with] because they aren't going to change them just for us" and that I should "talk to someone who knows why things are done the way they are." Well, I'm asking why things are done the way they are. I'm asking the campus in the college newspaper. As proven by the fictitious quotes at the beginning of this column, the world would be a much

Continued on page 12
THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING TO BE



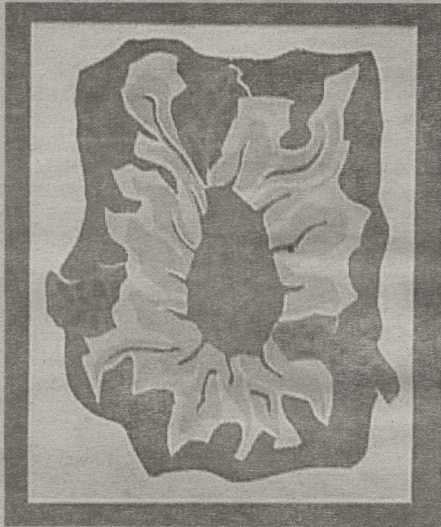
Free Press

by Sarah Walsh

Come to Dordt College, where you can...work out? Hey, wait a minute, that's not what we're here for, is it? Judging from the campus tours culminating in the Rec Center as well as the amount of pictures attributed to the Rec Center on display near the admissions office, the confusion is understandable. Of course, all colleges, in one way or another, attempt to entice potential students to attend their college, not on the merits of academics, but on the merits of other activities to take part in while enduring classes. Most students are spending their parents' money and going to a college their parents have chosen anyway, so it's the least we can do to keep things from being unruly. Right?

Think, for instance, about the amount of dedication students have at grad school—reading two or three books a week and then pumping out 25 page papers. At some schools, the general education courses are so difficult that they are actually used to weed out the

Marja-Lynn Beukema



*Sunflower
Silkscreen*



*Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World
Acrylic Painting*

The best thing about art is being able to use so many colors. I love colors. Colors have the ability to make an artwork happy, somber, heavy or warm-looking. Color can do so much. I try to use a lot of color in my work.

I also like to keep my artwork simple-looking; straight-to-the-point, without a whole lot of frills. That way the viewers can focus all their attention on the "center-piece" without being distracted by the things around it.

Seth Koerner



*Going, Going, Gone
Acrylic Painting*



*Nagana Yah
Woodcut*

Opinions about art are many and varied. What some would say is high quality others would say is not art at all. In my work, I have tried to be mindful of the relationship that the viewer has to the piece so that he/she may find pleasure in looking at it. As a Christian artist, I feel it is wrong to make offensive art for the sake of being offensive. Yet, some art can offend someone in a way that the artist did not intend, so I believe it is important to keep in mind the viewer's relationship when making art, while at the same time keeping one's integrity as an artist.

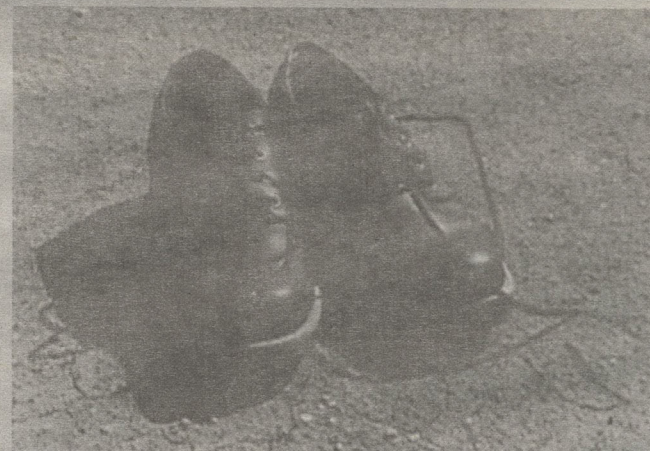
I have learned a great deal throughout my three years at Dordt. I was introduced to new media in my printmaking class, which proved to be at the same time tedious and enjoyable. Two of my pieces exhibited here are from that class. Another of my pieces, "Melt," is from a class on Graphic Design, where we incorporate a more commercialized form of art. Doing painting and sculpture were not new experiences for me, but I have learned new techniques which have improved my skill level in these areas also.

the Junior Art Show

Amy Lynn Wielinga



*Final Applause
Photography*



*Journey's End
Photography*

As an artist, I like to portray nature and my love for it. I have grown up surrounded by the serenity of trees, lakes, rivers, and wildlife. I feel this has helped shape my personality. Through my art, I want to take the things I see around me everyday and the things others see everyday and help people realize what a beautiful and intricate creation we live in.

I also like to add symbolism to some of my art pieces. There is not only a surface appearance to all art, there is often a deeper thought or emotion. Art often acts as a window that opens up new meaning to objects.

God has expressed Himself to mankind through two revelations--general and special. I believe my calling as an artist is to bring general revelation to focus. Special revelation seems to be pretty straightforward: there are words. It's easy to read words. I like to show general revelation in a tangible way.

I strongly believe that God's creation holds the ultimate beauty and thought. Psalm 89 is a psalm that truly relates to what I have been trying to do in some of my art works.

Elizabeth Boerema



Fantasy Landscape
Oil Pastel

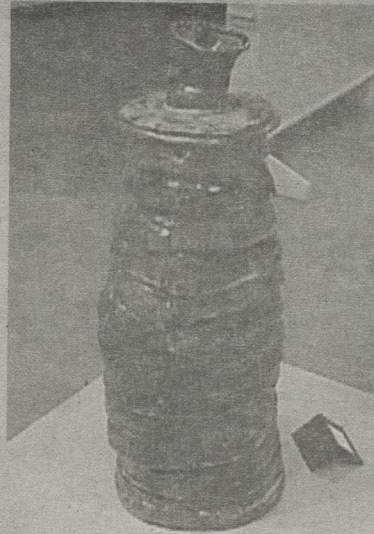


Detail at Tynehead
Photography

There are two things I especially like about art. Painting and drawing with pastels are the mediums that I like most because with them I can work with bright colors and am able to manipulate the texture. I also really like to draw or paint portraits and the human figure.

I usually work intuitively. I seldom know at the beginning what my work will look like, so I am delighted and surprised when I finish and see my idea on a piece of paper. With experience, I am beginning to understand what it is that makes a piece of work and how to achieve it.

Christina Talstra



Untitled
Stoneware



Living Tree, Amstelveen
Oil Pastel

"You can pass in imagination among them, wonder what mysteries lie in their quiet fastness, what creeping living things, what God-filled spaces totally untrod, what voices in an unknown tongue."

—Emily Carr, on trees

Upon looking over all of my selections for this art show, I realized that over half of my pieces portrayed trees in a variety of ways using different mediums. I am continuously being impressed and amazed at the wonder and beauty of trees, a wonder that Emily Carr was able to put into words better than I ever could. I have tried to record, transcribe and share the lines and feel of trees in my artwork. The rest of my pieces deal with other aspects of nature and people. There are different degrees of intent behind them: some carry meaning behind the image, and others were done "just because." "Why?" is often a difficult question to answer.

Carmen Zonnefeld

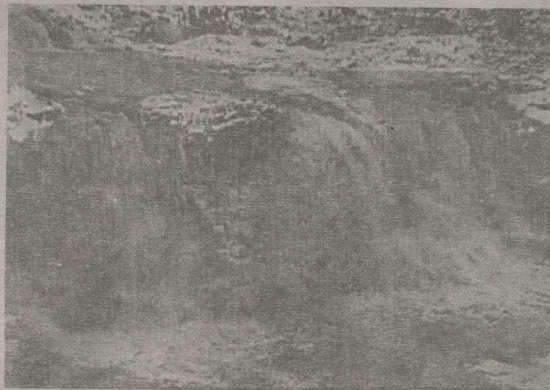
At the age of eight I was very interested in art and decided that I wanted to be an artist. I also wanted to teach. Now, thirteen years later, I am still pursuing my dreams to be an artist and a teacher.

As a Christian I feel I have an extra-special challenge. I want to serve my Lord not only in my art, but in all that I do. I have a responsibility to use and develop the talents He has given me.

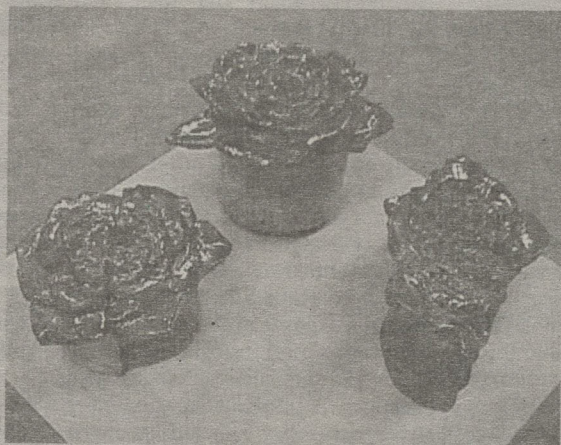
I have been involved in a variety of mediums; oil, acrylic and watercolor painting, chalk, oil pastel and pencil drawings, wheel based and hand-built ceramic and sculptural work, metal sculptures, photography, collagraphs, etching, woodcuts, silkscreen and computer and hand generated graphic design work. This broad base of experience has been full of challenges. I have developed a special affinity to clay and photography. These two media are totally different from each other in their methodologies; however, each has its own character which has drawn out my artistic passion in a unique way.

As a Christian community, we are lacking in our ability to respond to and appreciate art. This appreciation is something that is learned. It is my hope that as an artist and a teacher I will be able to encourage and help my students develop an appreciation for art, a discerning appreciation.

In all that I do, Christ is the potter, and I am the clay. As I am molded by Him, I hope and pray that others may see that I am filled with Christ, that I seek to honor and glorify Him in all that I do, including my artwork.

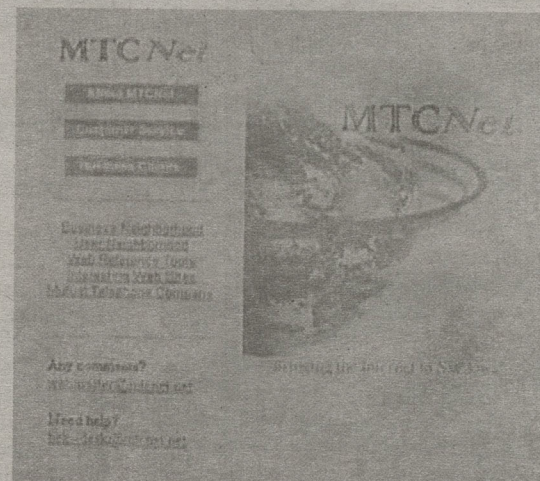


Falls Park I
Photography

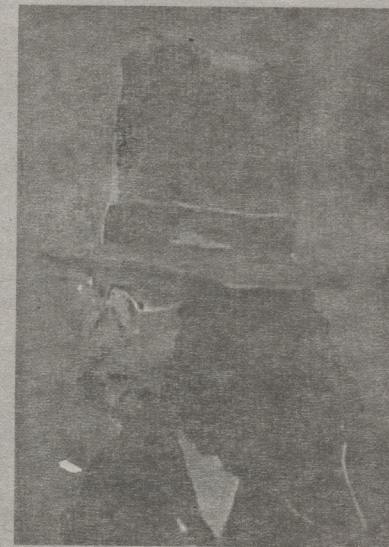


Floral Expressions
Raku

David Dykshoorn



MTCNet Homepage
HTML, Photoshop



Lennon
Acrylic Painting

Combining technology, art, and business is the underlying idea that influences my art work. As a double major in business and management information systems for three years, I found that I didn't enjoy programming or accounting as much as working on Dordt's homepage in the summer of 1996. In my spare time I began working with Photoshop to create headers and artwork for the MTCNet.

During the summer of '96, I had the privilege of working with Jim De Young, director of public relations. At the end of the summer he suggested pursuing a graphic arts major. So in the fall I began my third major!

I feel that graphic art is a natural extension to MIS and business majors because a knowledge of all three is needed to work with internet development and website design.

Young Lady Defenders learning the racquet

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

Dordt's tennis women weathered a rocky start to their season. After three lop-sided losses, the Lady Defenders came together Monday to top Martin Luther on the road for their first win.

The women opened their year with a tough assignment in NCAA Div. II Morningside. It was a quick loss for Dordt, as Morningside won 9-0. Jill Faber pushed her #1 singles opponent before losing 11-9.

The Lady Defenders came home last Thursday to host Northwestern. The women made progress but fell 7-2. Faber took a 6-1 and 6-3 win in #1 singles. Lisa

De Jong grabbed #4 singles in a 6-1, 6-7 and 6-4 battle.

Sioux Falls' Lady Cougars were in town Saturday and displayed their talent in a 9-0 sweep. Faber was the only Lady Defender to win a set. She won the middle set, 6-3, in her three-set loss.

By Monday, Dordt's women were ready to claim a win on the court. They travelled to New Ulm, Minn., to take on Martin Luther College and took home a 7-2 win.

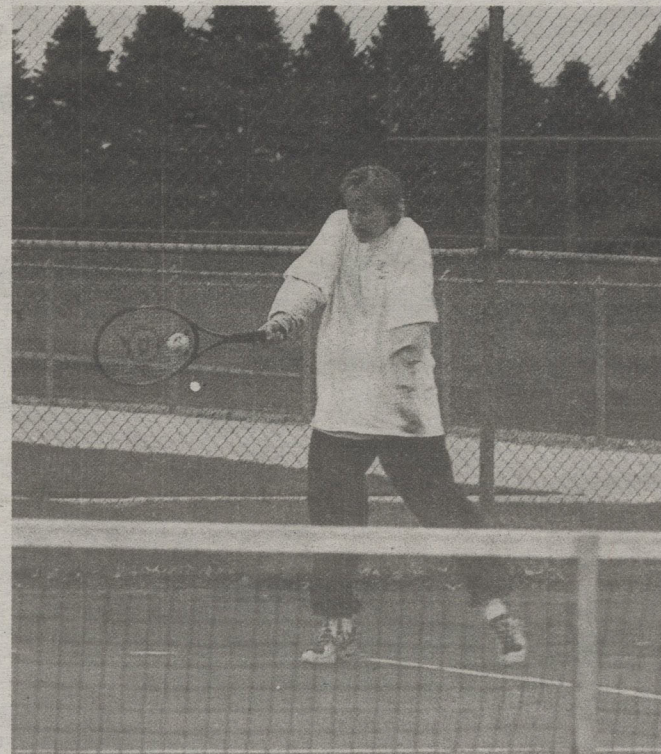
"We had a strong doubles effort for our first win of the year," said Coach Joel Visker.

Dordt swept the three doubles matches. Melissa Graanstra and Rachel Horlings battled through a three set win.

In singles, Faber took the #1 match 6-0 and 6-1. Lisa Lubbers won #3 singles 6-1 and 7-6 while De Jong grabbed #4, 6-4 and 6-1. Horlings also had a singles victory in #6, winning 6-4, 1-6 and 6-1. Katie Haak was slipped with a three-set loss. Ann Dykstra also took a loss in the #2 singles.

The Lady Defenders take their 1-3 record on the road for the remainder of the year with no more home meets scheduled. Monday, the women play at the College of St. Mary in Omaha, Nebraska.

The closest Dordt will play to Sioux Center the rest of the season will be a Thursday, April 23, meeting against Northwestern in Orange City.



Travis Bonema

(right) Rachel Horlings fires back this shot in tennis action against Northwestern's Red Raiders last Thursday. The women lost the match, 2-7, and are 1-3 so far this season. On the men's courts, the Defenders are 3-0.

Track off to sizzling start

by Karen den Boer
Sports Reporter

Spring is here, whether the weather acts like it or not, and so track has made its transition from indoors to outdoors.

Another herald of spring was the team's spring break trip to Washington State, where the weather was great. Coach Syne Altena felt the team did well for their first outdoor meets of the season, which were held in Richland and Tacoma. At the Richland meet there were 33 teams from the Northwest.

A highlight of the trip was Service Day, during which students painted two houses in Sunnyside, and worked on landscaping and a shed roof at Sunnyside Christian School. The trip also brought unity to the team; almost nightly, the team would have devotions of singing and games that really "brought the team together," said Altena.

The weekend after the return from spring break, the team had another outdoor meet in Madison, South Dakota. Dan Altena, Troy Ten Napel, Joel Van Soelen, and Roger Smit set a school record for the 4x100m relay, at :43.5 seconds.

Rachelle Walhof won the 200m event, at :27.7 seconds, and Jackie Eekhof won the 400m hurdles at :69.8 seconds. The men's 4x800m relay team, consisting of Jason De Weerd, Scott De Weerd, Jeff Summerhays and Ron Kingma also won their event. The women's 4x400m relay team, which includes Jackie Eekhof, Rachelle Walhof, Juli Rouw and Lisa Cannegieter won as well.

This past Saturday, April 4, in Storm Lake, the women

placed third, with one gold, three silvers, two bronzes, and four fourth place finishes. Becky Van De Griend won gold in the 3000m, at 11:50, and Julie Huizinga placed second in high jump with 5'0". Eekhof took silver in the sprint hurdles, as did Kristen Schemmerhorn in the 5000m, at 20:31. Cannegieter won bronze in the 800m.

In the 4x100m, Rouw, Alyssa Howerzyl, Kalie Gaskill, and Walhof placed third.

This was the first time ever the men won a meet away from home, as they swept up over half the 24 medals and beat rivals Buena Vista and Northwestern. Said Coach Ross Goheen, it was "one of their best meets in the history of Dordt." The men obtained golds in the 400m, 800m, 1500m and 5000m events. Steve Holwerda placed first in the 400m with :50.38, and Summerhays likewise with 4:07 in the 1500m. Kingma, Summerhays and Jason De Weerd took the gold, silver, and bronze in the 800m, finishing with 1:56, 1:57 and 1:57.

Another 1-2-3 finish was that of Matt Van Essen, Jon Vander Kooy and Matt Oostra in the 5000m with 15:58, 16:00 and 16:06. Other highlights included Eric Vander Kooy placing second in the steeplechase at 10:01, Ten Napel, Kingma, Holwerda, and Jason DeWeerd placing second in the 4x400m relay, and Dan Altena, Ten Napel, Holwerda and Smit setting a school record in the 4x100m relay. Van Soelen placed fourth in high jump, with the second highest height, 6'4".

Dordt is hosting this year's Dordt Invitational Saturday. Events start at 11:00.

Women gathering steam on softball field

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

Dordt started out slowly on the softball diamond this year, but the women have been picking up the pace since the spring break trip. The Lady Defenders have gone 6-4 since the break, including a 4-2 record last week. **at Hastings Tournament**

The tourney two weekends ago was supposed to start on Friday, but the weather postponed the event a full day. The participating teams then decided to just play out their normal pool play schedules on Saturday and let that be it for the weekend.

Dordt opened Saturday with Iowa Wesleyan, and the women struggled to get their offense on track. Iowa Wesleyan opened the scoring in the fourth with four runs and added one in the fifth.

The Lady Defenders finally cracked through in the sixth. Angie Oostenink ripped a two-out double and Faith Baas followed with a single. But that was it for the women, as Iowa Wesleyan took the 5-1 win.

Wendy Poppema took the pitching loss. Dordt had only three hits—one each from Oostenink, Baas and Renae Van Kooten.

Dordt turned around to face the host team, Hastings. After three innings, the teams were locked up at 2-2. The Lady Defenders scored once in the fourth, but the Broncos scored three in their half of the fourth.

The fifth inning was the

turning point for Dordt, as the women scored five runs to grab an 8-5 lead. Oostenink had a bases loaded triple in the attack. Hastings tacked in single runs in the bottom of the fifth and sixth innings, but the Lady Defenders held on for the win, 8-7.

Karla Vander Leest went the distance for the pitching win. She and Baas each had three hits to pace a 14-hit attack.

Next on tap was William Woods, a team that entered the game with a 23-4 record. The women found out why the opponent had such a good record, as Dordt was limited to just two hits and suffered an 8-0 loss.

Oostenink allowed five earned runs in the loss. The freshman teamed with Vander Leest for the only hits.

The offense was in full swing when Dordt hooked up with Doane. After watching Doane skip to a 7-1 lead after 1-1/2 innings, the Lady Defenders blew home four runs in the second. Baas had a two-run single.

In the third, Dordt sent 15 batters to plate with nine of them scoring. Oostenink had three RBIs on a pair of singles. Carla Geleynse scored twice in the inning. The game was called after three innings, so the women grabbed the 14-7 win.

Poppema allowed just two earned runs, as she took the win on the mound. Baas finished with three hits with four RBIs. Geleynse was 3-3 from the plate with three runs. The Lady

Defenders ripped 16 hits. **vs. Northwestern**

Dordt came home with a 3-6 record to face rival Northwestern in Sioux Center last Thursday. After three innings of the first game, the two teams were tied at 2-2.

The Raiders scored twice in the fourth and added one more in the sixth to sneak a 5-2 win.

Poppema was miffed with the loss. Oostenink was the lone Lady Defender with two hits. Vander Leest and Kris Huenink both scored.

The nightcap looked to be similar to the early game with a quick-moving 1-1 tie after three innings. The Red Raiders tapped one home in the fourth, but Dordt answered with two in the bottom of the frame.

In the fifth, Northwestern scored once to re-tie the game at 3-3. Oostenink led off the bottom of the fifth with a double, and that triggered Dordt to score three runs. Oostenink scored again in the sixth, as the Lady Defenders went up 7-3.

The Raiders came back with two runs in the seventh, but the rally fell short as Dordt won 7-5.

Vander Leest was the winning pitcher. Oostenink and Marlene Van Wingerden each had three hits and Geleynse charted a pair of RBIs.

vs. Sioux Falls

Friday saw cool weather and

SOFTBALL cont. on page 9

Tennis men scorch to 3-0 start

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

Dordt's tennis men haven't had too many chances to get out on the tennis courts since the season started, but when they have, the Defenders have done well. Very well.

The men opened the season March 30 with a singles meet at home against rival Northwestern. Most Defender/Raider matchups are close, but Dordt ran away with a 5-1 win.

Last Saturday, the men hosted Sioux Falls and met up with their toughest competition of the year. Dordt came away with a 6-3 win, but the match scores were much closer. The total game scores of the top six singles were only 72-68 in favor of the Defenders.

Pablo Capizzani, Mike van der Wolf, Andrew Brand and Mark Van Klompenburg took singles wins, with van der Wolf and Brand's coming in three sets. Dordt also got wins out of Capizzani and Brad Veenstra in #1 doubles and van der Wolf and Van Klompenburg in #3 doubles.

"The scores indicate this was a close team match," said Coach Len Rhoda.

Dordt was at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minn., Monday. The men got a strong start in doubles and won 7-2, pushing their winning streak to three.

"We started the match by winning all three doubles," said Coach Rhoda. "And we had good balance in singles."

Capizzani and Veenstra cruised in the #1 and #2 singles matches. In the #4 and #5 singles, van der Wolf and Brand took wins.

The Defenders are at 3-0 and open until a weekend tournament hosted by Central College next weekend. The men had a home meet Tuesday against Buena Vista rained out.

Baseball Defenders blame it on the rain

by James De Boer
Sports Editor

Sure, it's been raining the last few days, but we all know the sun will shine again. So goes it with Dordt's baseball team. They've weathered a tough slide to start the season and now hope things will clear up and turn around.

The Defenders went 0-4 against tough competition during a spring break trip to southern California. Coming home for the "regular season," Dordt was greeted by opponents that weren't any easier.

at Briar Cliff

Dordt scored two runs in the top of the first in the Defenders' first game back in the Midwest. But the Chargers came right back with ten runs in the next two innings.

The Defenders came back with a four-spot in the top of the third, but Briar Cliff bolted in four more in the bottom of the frame to lead 14-6. Dordt's offense couldn't keep the pace, as the Chargers ran away with a 20-8 win.

Mick Vande Griend started for Dordt, but lasted only 2-1/3 innings and took the loss. Tom Roose and Tim De Jong each had homeruns for the Defenders.

The nightcap in Sioux City wasn't much better, as Briar Cliff opened the scoring with seven runs in the bottom of the first. Dordt returned fire with five tallies in the top of the second, but nine runs in the Chargers' half of the third iced the game.

Five runs in the second was it for the Defenders, as Briar Cliff won 21-5.

Mike Bruxvoort started and took the loss. Dan Blom and Kevin Merritt also took their turns on the mound. Craig Broek unleashed a two-run homer to highlight Dordt's offense. The Defenders were limited to four hits.

at Tiger Classic

Dordt played in Mitchell, South Dakota, at the Tiger Classic the last weekend in March. The men opened against Northwestern and battled early before pulling away for the win.

The Defenders scored one in the top of the first, but the Raiders brought home two in the bottom of the frame. That ended up being Northwestern's only lead of the game, as Dordt tied the game in the second and added two in the third. A big five runs in the sixth gave the Defenders a comfortable win, 10-3.

Ryan Rietkerk pitched a complete game for Dordt's first win of the year. He scattered nine hits. Dordt defense had only one error.

Dave Dreessen led the offense with a 3-4 game. De Jong had three RBIs and two runs on a pair of hits. Seth Oostenink scored four runs.

The Defenders moved on to play the University of Mary. The Marauders tagged in three runs in the first two innings before Dordt started to come back. By the fifth, the Defenders were down 4-1. The men erupted with four runs to grab the lead, 5-4.

The score remained the same until the top of the seventh when Mary skipped into the lead with two runs. Dordt was held scoreless in the bottom of the frame and suffered the 6-5 loss.

Bruxvoort started for Dordt, but was relieved by Dan Blom in the second. Blom allowed just three runs in six innings of work,

but was slipped with the loss. Chad Van Ginkel was 3-4 at the plate. Brent De Ruyter was 2-3 with two runs.

vs. Huron

Dordt played Huron in Sioux Center Friday, but since Huron's field was wet with snow, the Screaming Eagles played the home team. The teams traded runs in the first inning, but Huron pushed to a 5-2 lead after three.

Broek cranked a lead-off homer in the fourth to make it 5-3, but that was as close as the Defenders would get. The Eagles attacked and dented the plate en route to a 13-3 win.

Vande Griend was on the mound for the loss. Roose was the lone Defender with two hits.

In the late game, Dordt again scored first with a single run in the first. But the Eagles worked back and led after four innings, 6-1. Van Ginkel singled home Blom in the fifth, but Huron cruised to an 11-2 win.

Rietkerk took the pitching loss although he allowed only four earned runs. Dordt's defense committed seven errors. Van Ginkel was 1-4 with a run and an RBI. The Defenders were held to five hits.

The two teams met up again on Saturday, this time with Dordt as the home team. Huron continued the pattern of the visitor scoring first, as the Eagles brought home six in the first. The Defenders stuck with it, though, scoring twice in both their first and second frames.

In the fourth, Huron tacked on two runs to lead 8-4. But Dordt came back in the bottom of the sixth. Oostenink had a big two-out double that scored two runs, as the Defenders brought in three to get within one, 8-7.

The Eagles weren't in favor of a comeback, though, tacking on five scores in the seventh. Dordt managed a pair on the bottom of the inning, but lost 13-9.

Bruxvoort took the loss for the men. The offense was a team effort, with Jason Dorhout being the Defender to score twice. Roose had three RBIs while Oostenink and Broek each had two.

In the nightcap of Saturday's doubleheader, Dordt again played catch-up, falling behind 6-1 after two innings. The men got within 6-4 and 9-7, but Huron prevailed with the 12-7 win.

Blom started for the Defenders and suffered the loss. De Jong was 3-4 with a home-run, two runs and two RBIs. Broek teamed with De Jong for back-to-back homers in the fifth and finished with two hits and a pair of RBIs.

Rainouts

The Defenders have already lost a doubleheader from their schedule when a March 31 game with Buena Vista was snowed out. The men were supposed to play Northwestern in Orange City in a twinbill this past Tuesday. Because of the possibility of rain, the two schools decided to play one game Monday afternoon. However, that game was rained out after just three innings, so it will have to be replayed on a different date.

Dordt's record stands at 1-11 with University of Sioux Falls on the slate. Today, the men were scheduled to play the Cougars in Sioux Center, but because of the weather, it will be played Friday starting at 4:00. Saturday's doubleheader is in Sioux Falls.

SOFTBALL cont. from page 8

the Lady Cougars in town. Sioux Falls jumped ahead in game one 7-2 after three innings.

But Dordt scored five in the fourth to tie the game and then Vander Leest ripped a three-run double in the fifth to take the lead, 10-7. The Cougars chipped back and tied the game at 10-10.

The Lady Defenders came firing in the bottom of the seventh, though, loading the bases with one out. Poppema walked, bringing home Oostenink for the winning run, 11-10.

Oostenink also picked up the win from the mound. She pitched the last 4-2/3 innings in relief of Vander Leest, who had a big game at the plate, going 3-4 with six RBIs. Baas scored three runs.

The Cougars protested the game because of a Lady Defender substitution. The protest was declined, so the result stands as a Dordt win.

Sioux Falls opened the nightcap with four runs in the first. After five innings, the Cougars led 5-1. The visitors added one more in the sixth before Dordt got the gears oiled.

The Lady Defenders loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the sixth. Three runs scored as Dordt pulled within two, 6-4. The teams traded runs in the seventh, and Sioux Falls earned the split with a 7-5 victory.

Poppema took the loss while allowing six earned runs. Van Wingerden scored twice on two hits.

Kelly Van Arendonk and Van Kooten each had two RBIs.

vs. Huron

Dordt hosted a young Screaming Eagle team Saturday and swept the twinbill by a combined score of 26-1.

In first game, Baas, the second batter in the lineup, made the first out of the first inning. Unfortunately for Huron, the out came on Baas' second time to the plate. The first eight batters for Dordt scored in the first and the women finished with 12 in the frame.

The women added a few more runs en route to a 15-1 victory. Poppema allowed two hits and struck out seven to get the win. She also scored three runs. Geleyse knocked in three. Dordt had nine hits and nine walks in the game.

The nightcap was a little slower, but the Lady Defenders still cruised to a 11-0 win. Vander Leest allowed two hits and took the mound win. Oostenink scored three runs.

Back to business

The women now hold a 7-8 record for the year. A Wednesday doubleheader at Briar Cliff was rained out. On tap for the weekend in the Northwest Iowa Softball Classic.

Dordt opens with Grand View at 1:00 Friday and then plays Briar Cliff at 3:00. Saturday, the Lady Defenders match up with Northwestern at 9:00 in the morning and follow with Dakota Wesleyan.

The championship games will be played Saturday afternoon.

The Finishing Touch

Senior art show consists of many Graphic Design majors

by Elizabeth Boerema
Staff Reporter

The group of six students contributing their work to the first of two senior art shows are mostly involved in applied design. Several of the seniors are graphic design majors and have interned at businesses in design related areas. "These individuals have been exciting to work with because of the many changes and developments in the graphic design industry that they've been involved with," said Art Professor Jake Van Wyk. "These students have really positive attitudes to learning and developing new techniques."

The art show, made up of the work of Anita Christie, Jon Moss, Jamie Mouw, Jamey Schiebout, Sara Statema and Josh Visser, will open April 10 on the mezzanine level of the B. J. Haan Auditorium. The art show will open officially with a reception on April 13, when the artists will talk about their work.

"The senior art show is the capstone experience for graduating seniors to take their best work that embodies their ideas and skills and professionally display them," says Van Wyk.

All art majors are required to do both a junior and a senior art show. The junior show is a lot of work, but seniors are now grateful that they did it, Jon Moss said. "The preparation for the senior art show takes a lot of time, but it is easier after the junior art show because I have had practice at matting and framing."

The junior and senior art shows differ in that seniors should have a higher number of personal works, and more advanced skills and imagery in their works. Pieces in the show will consist of larger and more technically demanding pieces, according to Van Wyk.

In contrast to the juniors, who must say something small to introduce and tie their work together, seniors are expected to have developed reasons for why they do their art and to state their goals for the future. Each senior majoring in art will have just completed an eight page paper, which is an extended artist statement.

Senior art students will have to spend many hours and dollars preparing their pieces for the show, which includes matting and framing. The students cut their own matt board and purchase their own frames. One piece of matt board can cost from five to seven dollars, depending on colors. One piece is enough to mat four eight by ten photographs if they are carefully positioned. Frames cost seven dollars or more. Any photograph or print must be matted with plexi-glass or glass in front of it and then framed. Paintings are framed, with or without a mat around them.

The students in the senior art show, not only need to choose the best possible presentation of their own work, but they also need to figure out how to present each of their diverse styles in one cohesive show.

Anita Christie

Anita Christie is majoring in Elementary Education and has a minor in Art. All of Christie's entries to the senior art show are ceramics: a combination of sculpture and wheel-thrown pieces. She is excited about her pieces, particularly a hexagonal wall display

made of tile and ceramics. This piece can be arranged in different ways to use negative space in ways unique from each other. "I really enjoy working in this medium, because it gives me a chance to make three dimensional pieces." Christie also likes to experiment with different stains and glazes, using dipping and spraying techniques.

Jon Moss

Jon Moss is a Graphic Design major. Moss is pleased with the work that will go into the show. In contrast to the selection of fine arts pieces in his junior show, his senior show will include a combination of graphic design pieces and of fine art pieces. Moss is currently working on web designs and layout. He is helping other senior art majors establish their own home pages.

Jamie Mouw

Jamie Mouw is a Communication /Art double major. This past year, Mouw has been taking courses at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Mouw says that Augustana emphasizes the Abstract Expressionism style of painting. "I try to play with colors that fight against each other, but still work together." Mouw sees a contrast between the style of teaching art between Dordt and Augustana. "Dordt has taught me how to create art 'Christianly.' This is more important to me than any other element of art and I believe that this is an incredible challenge for me to be a witness in God's world," said Mouw. "I am glad that I have gotten to experience new teachers and different viewpoints and ideas, because I have been able to learn an important element from each one of them." In her painting courses at Augustana, Mouw generally paints still lifes instead of painting

from photographs.

Jamey Schiebout

Jamey Schiebout has been interested in art his whole life. Schiebout started out as a Communications major, but changed his major to Graphic Design his sophomore year. Schiebout feels positively about Dordt's art program. "Every year the graphic design aspect is coming along further; and fine arts are strong and getting stronger every year."

Schiebout has used a variety of mediums for his art that will go in his show: graphics, paintings, drawings and photography.

Sara Statema

Sara Statema is a Graphic Design major, although her selections for the art show are primarily fine arts. Statema says, "It's nice to have the opportunity to express myself in fine arts before I go onto a job of art for the purpose of advertising." Statema came out of high school planning to major in Art and says that Dordt has provided a strong art program, with a wide range of mediums and a lot of freedom of expression.

Statema recently designed the cover for Endorphin's new CD.

Josh Visser

Josh Visser is majoring in Graphic Design. His selections for the show include painting, photography, and pencil drawing. Visser is involved with doing graphic design for a local plastic agriculture business called Plastics Processors, a company which produces plastic hog gates. Visser designed both a company logo and product logos for them.

REVIEWS

MOVIE REVIEW Primary Colors

by David Schaap
Art Critic

I was a bit disappointed this weekend when I went to Sioux Falls to see a movie. There were a few good movies opening up, but none of them were being shown at any of the three theaters. So fate forced me settle for something I had only a small interest in, *Primary Colors*. Not being something that I would normally want to see, the only intriguing factor for me was that it so closely correlated the

history of President Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, which the film definitely played up. John Travolta plays the presidential hopeful Jack Stanton and speaks with an accent that bears an eerie likeness to our current president. This obvious Clinton-based character moves his way up the political ladder with the help of a few of his odd friends, including Libby, a crass lesbian damage control specialist with a overbearing but good nature, Richard Jemmons, a brilliant redneck political strategist who bears a recognizable resemblance to his real-life counterpart, George Carvill. We watch Jack Stanton's ride to the top from the point of view of his young campaign manager, Henry Burton, who, along with

the audience, begins to understand more and more about what makes this presidential hopeful tick. Stanton did indeed live a wild life, lie about some things, and chase after women, but he is also a man who cares, someone who takes the time to listen to the average person, a man who wants to be president to actually do good, not just be in power. One loses some faith in the election process, but the film shows that politicians are not just rats sniffing out power and money. They make mistakes, they do bad things, but they can also genuinely care and feel pain. That is what makes the film worth seeing: it's about humans and about humans

in politics. So I am recommending this film because of its story, not because of its cinematography. Also, I felt that the script itself had a few bugs in it, but the story and the characters make up for that. It won't win any Academy Awards, but it's good and worth seeing.



photo courtesy of Time Magazine

Attention:

Applications are now being accepted for the position of DIAMOND EDITOR for the 1998-99 academic year. Contact Tim Vos, Diamond Advisor, for a job description and/or application or if you have questions about the position.

Completed applications are due April 20, 1998.

Tim Vos

722-6363

tvos@dordt.edu

Senior project culminates in beautiful show

by Kirstin Vander Giessen
Art Critic

Although it's labeled as a children's show, *The Honorable Urashima Taro*, written by Coleman A. Jennings and directed by senior Sarah Bliss, promises to visually entertain and present a subtle moral theme to "big kids" as well.

The play is the result of Bliss' individual study in theatre directing, which also included extensive puppetry work. "My sophomore year, I toured with repertory theatre class and we worked with puppets," said Bliss. "It was a lot of fun and I thought I would like to do some more with puppetry."

The opportunity presented itself when Bliss had to modify her individual study because the student she was planning on working with didn't return to Dordt.

In addition to being a play that's conducive to pup-



Jon Postma

Urashima Taro (Larry Post) dances with the puppet Sea Princess (Billie Draper) in the fantasy undersea world.

meaning I'll be graduating and all of my friends and I will be scattering across the country," Bliss said.

Promoting the subtle theme of the value of family, the story follows the adventures of Urashima Taro as he

petry, Bliss chose to do *The Honorable Urashima Taro* because she liked the story, which is a combination of two Japanese folk tales.

"I ended up picking this play because it was one of the few that I found that didn't talk down to children or have a huge obvious moral at the end," said Bliss. She has found that the theme of valuing family has relevance to her own life right now. "It would be nice if people could realize the value of those they love. It's fitting since it's the end of the year,

travels to the underwater world of the sea. While in this foreign world he finds himself battling a giant Sea Scorpion alongside an old Turtle, the Sea Princess and other sea creatures. After an unexpected twist at the end, Taro finds himself faced with a serious decision: should he spend the rest of his life growing older on land or enjoy eternal youth and beauty in the sea?

The Honorable Urashima Taro

by Coleman A. Jennings
directed by Sarah Bliss

Saturday, April 18
2 and 7:30 p.m.

New World Theatre

\$1.00 adults
\$0.50 students

Bliss uses puppets for every character except Taro in the underwater scenes "so that we can show the difference between this fantastical underwater world and the plainness of everyday life." The puppets, built by John Hofland and the scene shop crew, are made with such things as foam, lace, glitter, paper, cardboard and wood. The stage is built to resemble a Japanese house and in the background are waves that come from an Asian drawing.

"I think it will be a beautiful show and a lot of fun to watch. It's a good story," said Bliss, adding, "The more I work with it, the more I like it."

Conference 98 fills big shoes, whets appetites for 2000

by Paula Treick
Freelance Editor

Last Wednesday, ten Dordt students and three professors packed their bags for an overnight trip to Grand Rapids, Michigan, for Calvin College's third Festival of Faith and Writing. The festival, dubbed "Conference '98", attracted around 1,400 participants from the U.S. and foreign countries. A prerequisite for the conference was the love of reading and writing and the belief that faith is integral to both. Many of the attendees expressed delight to be in the company of fellow bookworms. Sarah Vriend, a sophomore from Guelph, Ontario, remarked, "I loved being surrounded by hundreds of avid readers and writers who shared a common love of language and words."

Conference '98 had big shoes to fill—

Conference '96 boasted big names such as Annie Dillard, Lee Smith, and Madeleine L'Engle. But Conference '98 was not to be outdone; it included such notable authors as Elie Wiesel, Katherine Paterson, and John Updike.

During the days, attendees went to workshops, academic sessions, and interviews. Conference '98 dealt with many aspects of writing, from poetry to fiction, from essay to songwriting. Representatives from publishing firms such as Doubleday, Balantine, Eerdman's, and many more were also on hand.

Poets included Jim Heynen, Irina

Ratushinskaya, and the beloved Luci Shaw. Ratushinskaya, imprisoned in her native Russia for being a poet, had perhaps the most inspiring story. In labor camp, she scratched poems into bars of soap with matches, memorized the words, and then washed the evidence down the drain. Ratushinskaya said, "We were taught not to believe in God. But all the adults kept talking about Him, so I was suspicious."

Junior English major Melissa Phaneuf especially enjoyed Luci Shaw's poetry workshop. Shaw, a ceaseless promoter of journaling, mirrored the statement of British poet and playwright Oscar Wilde, when he said, "I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read on the train." Shaw also supported the saying, "If I should die before I wake, please throw my journal in the lake."

Essayist and journalist Philip Yancey spoke, was interviewed, and pressed some blunt questions to John Updike in his interview with the author.

Fiction writers included former Dordt professor Hugh Cook, authors Daniel Taylor, Virginia Stem Owens, David James Duncan, Diane Glancy, Joy Kogowa and our very own James Schaap. Duncan, although young and little known, brought down a very crowded house with his tales of Deborha. Many felt Duncan's reading and presentation style was the highlight of the whole conference.

Songwriters included Bruce

Cockburn, Charlie Peacock, and Linford Detweiler of *Over the Rhine*. Grant Elgersma, a junior philosophy major, was especially impressed with Bruce Cockburn. "He was so real," says Elgersma, after a workshop where Cockburn took his audience through the pages of his own writing journal. Elgersma says, "I also enjoyed the poetry readings. . . the words in common language used with such precision."

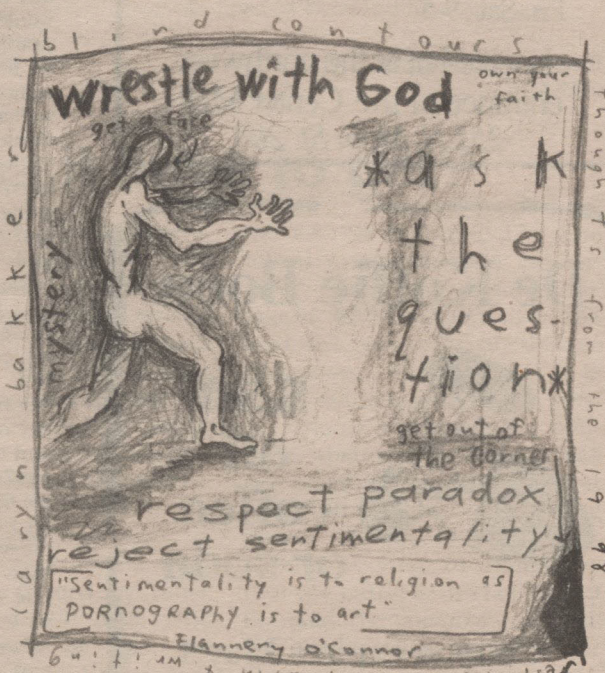
The nightly speeches, featuring the conference's biggest names, drew the largest crowds. More than 2000 people crowded Calvin's Fieldhouse to hear Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, author of numerous books and winner of the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize. He is perhaps best known for his *Night* Trilogy, which includes the novels *Night*, *Dawn*, and *Day*.

The following night, Friday, Katherine Paterson began her speech with the humble words, "Take a piece of paper and write your name on it. Above it, write Elie Wiesel. Below it, write John Updike. Now that I have your complete sympathy. . ." Paterson, a children's literature author, wrote such favorites as *Bridge to Terabithia* and *Jacob Have I Loved*. Paterson is the winner of the National Book Award, two Newberry Medals, and recently, the Hans Christian Anderson Award. Despite her expressed inferiority at being compared to Wiesel and Updike, many felt Paterson's presentation

was the best of the three.

Saturday's grand finale was John Updike, who has won, among other awards, the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics' Circle Award. Despite Updike's protests that most of his books didn't "count," he is the author of more than sixty titles. Updike's interview and presentation, following David James Duncan, hung in the air as a sort of anticlimax.

Readers and writers alike are hereby strongly encouraged to look into Calvin's Conference 2000. Rumors abound that the next Festival of Faith and Writing will include such notables as Toni Morrison, Chaim Potok, and Maya Angelou.



Debaters impress Model Arab League

by Martin Dam
Saudi Arabian Foreign Correspondent

I know what you're thinking already. What the heck is Model Arab League? The Great Plains Model Arab League is when college teams from all over the area come together to pretend they're Arabs and debate Arab Issues. Each delegation is supposed to take up the position of their country and argue for what is in their best interests.

So the Syrians are progressive, the Saudi Arabians are conservative, the Libyans are just plain crazy and Egyptians abstain on almost all votes. All discussions run under the guidelines of parliamentary procedure.

The purpose of the conference is to give westerners an idea of the complexity of Arab issues, and give them a chance to hone their debating skills while trying to argue from a perspective that is totally foreign to them.

Each school is assigned countries to represent, so the delegations can do the research necessary to take the proper positions. Dordt, for example, represented Syria, Saudi Arabia and tiny Bahrain. USD had Egypt, Kuwait and Libya. Northwestern had Oman, Jordan and Iraq. People also came from places like the University of Kansas and Augustana College in Indiana. The conference

took place at Northwestern.

Students were divided up into committees with representatives from each delegation. Committees dealt with things like political, economic, social, Palestinian and security affairs. Resolutions were written by delegates ahead of time, and debated and voted on in committee, then voted on again in mass meetings.

After all the voting was done, awards were handed out. Dordt did phenomenally well, picking up 3 out of the 5 best delegation awards, 3 out of the 5 honorable mentions, as well as best chair and honorable mention for best chair. Dordt also tied for best delegation between the Syrian and Saudi Arabian teams.

After wowing the other delegates with his thorough knowledge of parliamentary procedure, Matt Nelson was elected as next year's chairman. Livija Shannon was elected as an assistant. Congratulations to both of them.

And in closing, let me make a personal plug for the conference. I made the mistake of waiting until I was a senior to go. Now that I know what it is about, I would love to go again. It is a great chance to learn about Arab issues, discovering insights from other colleges and evaluating what kind of students Dordt puts out. It is a good exercise for anyone interested in Arab affairs.



True Vine Grand Opening April 23

Prizes Given Away All Day

*Release & 7-Ball
magazines available

*Coupons available for
Michael W. Smith's
new single, coming out
April 28

*Covenant band
performing in evening

*Other in-store specials

FRESHMAN Continued from page 4

if the person could afford it, but most people living on campus (or off campus for that matter) don't have all that much money to spend on extra stuff. I am speaking from experience as a senior who has gone here for four years to know these kind of things. Mr. Reitsma happens to be a freshman who has been here what, not even a year yet. Does Mr. Reitsma think about these types of things before he writes his articles or are his articles quickly written the night before?

In response to Mr. Robert Reitsma's article on Dordt housing, I would like to ask some of the same questions which the cleaning staff had. Mr. Reitsma has failed to take into consideration that renting a house would mean there is no one to clean the bathroom for him or whoever would live with him. This would mean they need to buy their own cleaning supplies. Also, they would need to buy their own toilet paper. Another long list of things which would not be included in renting a house would be someone to shovel the driveway and sidewalks in the winter for them, gas which would get used to get to the campus for classes and other activities, food to eat, heat for the house (which, if it's electric heat, is going to run the electric bill up), bedding and other furniture for storing clothes in, tables, chairs, couch, sewage, telephone, cable, etc. I could go on but I'll stop there.

It seems that Mr. Reitsma hasn't taken these things into consideration or has conveniently left these things out to make it look like he is getting screwed over by Dordt. Does he realize that the money he is paying goes to help keep Dordt looking nice and upgrading things like the security system? Does he even think that there are people that get paid for cleaning the bathrooms for him? Does he realize that if he rents a house someplace that he would need more than an on campus job? Working on campus doesn't pay enough a month to pay rent. Even if it would, would there be any left over to pay for gas for the car, food, heat, and all the other things I've listed earlier? Has Mr. Reitsma thought about his age and

if someone would rent a place to him? Think about it. Someone who's 18 years old, just out of high school, and away from the parents. Do you really think someone would want to rent a house to someone like that? I know I wouldn't unless I wanted the place trashed. If I would rent a place out to someone like that, I would probably charge them a huge damage deposit.

In conclusion to all I have said, I don't think the *Diamond* should have freshmen as columnists. Speaking as a senior, I say this because I have been here for four years and have experienced college enough to understand why the college has some of the rules it has. As freshmen, they haven't been here long enough to really experience college life and what the college is all about. Only being here for less than a year doesn't give a person much of an experience. After a full year of college, one begins to understand what some things are for and why they are done this way. To have a freshmen come in and write about all their little gripes about what needs to be changed can be kept out of a college newspaper because we've had to deal with some of the same things Mr. Reitsma has. We don't need to hear about them in the newspaper. Complain to your friends about your problems, not the whole campus. We don't want to listen to them.

I would like to suggest that you evaluate whether freshmen should be allowed to be columnists in the paper. That's fine if they want to write in articles to the paper, but the paper isn't for writing all your complaints to, to have everyone read them.

Mr. Reitsma hasn't had enough of a taste of college life. The same goes for all freshmen. I have absolutely nothing against freshmen. I was one myself. I'm just saying that during this time, they don't know all of what goes on at Dordt and why they do things the way they do. Most freshmen have a lot of maturing to do this first year. I did a lot of maturing myself. I, too, did a lot of complaining about things at Dordt my freshman year. There seems to be a lot of complaining as freshmen because we want things our way and don't understand some things and think they are stupid. This is why I feel freshmen shouldn't be allowed to

be columnists for the *Diamond*.

In regards to Mr. Reitsma and his articles, he can quit his complaining to all of campus and complain to his friends instead and go talk to someone who knows why things are done the way they are. Don't complain to all of campus because we've been through it too and don't feel like listening to it in the newspaper. There are a lot of people sick of Mr. Reitsma's articles in the paper. Please keep the gripes and complaints out of the paper. The paper is for articles, not complaints. If you are desperate for an article and not a gripe session or complaint, I'd be more than happy, and I'm sure there are others that would be more than happy, to fill the space Mr. Reitsma takes up.

Bradley De Kok

THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING TO BE Continued from page 5

different place if everyone just accepted things the way they are. I, personally, don't want to live in a world like that. I'm extremely happy for people who saw things that could be changed for the better and set out to change them, eventually succeeding. Dordt has too many robot-like students who simply go through the motions, accept whatever they're force-fed and don't ask questions. So many Christians do the same thing, and what results? Dead churches, lifeless Christians and a world that is completely turned off by Christianity. I'm quite positive that it is not Dordt's mission to churn out Christians who can't think for themselves, so what's gone wrong? I don't know, but I'd like to find out.

In conclusion, if you ever do write for the *Diamond*, run spell check and learn simple English grammar first. I plan to continue writing my column and addressing issues which I feel need to be addressed. And freshman will continue writing columns. You should probably accept that and stop complaining about it because that's just the way some things are going to be.

-Renae's-
Renae Visscher, Owner/Stylist
-Missy Driesen, Stylist-
-Janelle Meendering, Stylist-
-Paula Oostenink, Stylist-
-Alissa Roetman, Stylist-
-Julie Ten Napel, Stylist-
-Gwen Van Roekel, Stylist-
-Greta Van Zee, Stylist-

Hours:
Mon.-Thur.: 9-9 **722-0008**
Fri.-Sat.: 9-5

Located near the northwest
entrance of the Center Mall
251 N. Main St. 208

De Koffie Boon

**\$.50
off
coffee
or soda**

Coupon expires May 1