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# THE ZIRCON

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## DORDTLANTIS

G. Pairla - Staff Writer

The higher-ups decided to give an end to the fire.

With the increasing number of fire alarms going off again this year, the fire department had to come and check entire buildings regularly, whether it was popcorn, an electric scooter, or a prank. With the recent transition from College to University, Dordt couldn't spend more money on these incidents.

However, due to the most recent alarm triggering from a real fire, Dordt couldn't just turn the fire alarm system off- it would violate the fire code and put students in danger.

"We want students to be safe but it's hard because some of them thinks it's funny," Dean of Students Robert Taylor said.

Dordtlantis was their solution; and Dordt is now going underwater.

Because of the recent name change, the higher-ups had been keeping Dordtlantis quiet for a while. This was to prevent any backlash from students and alumni, especially those who



Photo by Iris Van Focus

already disliked the fact that Dordt had become a university.

However, with a recent "leak" of information, Zircon and other news companies, along with everyone involved in the change, received passes to attend a private meeting for this change.

"We wanted everyone to know the accurate information before the rumors get out of hand," President Erik Hoekstra said.

With help from the math and business department, Dordtlantis was able to calculate

that the number of fire alarms going off for 20 years added up to more money than putting Dordtlantis underwater for 150 years.

"I didn't know why we had to calculate the financial differences between the expenditure of fire alarms and the expenditure of digging a huge pool or lake. Now knowing about Dordtlantis, it makes more sense... I guess," Senior Business Finance major Gipson Vander Mook said.

Hoekstra also announced a secret project in the works over at the Science and Technology

Center - a machine helping students breath underwater.

"I was called one day to come and help with the project. But when I went in SB 2808, there was nobody except for a computer screen turned on telling me what to do. I first questioned the project but it told me to keep it a secret. I didn't mind because I was getting paid well," Senior engineering major Nela Koowana said.

Koowana explained she had a set time to work in the lab so no one would spot her. She mentioned she wasn't the only one working on this secret project because when she came back for more work, there was more done to the project when how she left it.

The underwater breathing machine will near its completion soon. During the meeting, it was mentioned Dordtlantis would be testing the machine within a couple of weeks.

"Even though we are coming to a great invention, I would recommend that everyone should start practicing swimming and expanding their breathing during this coming

Continued on page 6

## How does President Hoekstra remember names? Secret work-study reveals all

Silence Dogood - Staff Writer

The office is cramped, about the area of an underclassman guy's dorm, or a broom closet. Large computer monitors bathe the room in an eerie light. A lone student wearing a large headset is silhouetted against the screens.

"John Van Johnson: senior engineering major," the figure says as he leans into the monitor. "You talked to him two weeks ago in the science building about his senior project on fish oil batteries."

This is the president's work-study. His name is Mark Van Den Turtlesma, and it's his job to help Hoekstra look like he remembers the name of everyone on campus.

This has been an ongoing mystery at Dordtlantis (formerly Dordt University, formerly Dordt College, formerly Midwest Christian Junior College), as Hoekstra strolls across campus every day greeting students and staff alike by name.

Dordtlantis has a 1,548-strong student body

and over 80 faculty members.

In the campus center, Erik Hoekstra is making small talk with Van Johnson. Hoekstra calls him by name, earnestly asks how the battery project is going, and makes a small joke about busy schedules.

The interaction complete, Hoekstra continues walking down the hallway, greeting a student here and there as the work-study provides names and previous interactions.

This system has been in place since Hoekstra took office in 2012. The president wears a small camera hidden in a Dordtlantis pin that feeds directly to the work-study office monitors. The student then pulls up a file on the individual with their name, major, achievements, and a summary of previous interactions with the president.

There are actually three different students occupying the president's work-study position. This allows them to take shifts as the "man in the chair" for President Hoekstra twelve hours a day, six days a week.

The secret is finally out after an exclusive interview with a disillusioned Van Den Turtlesma.

"We need transparency," the student, Van Den Turtlesma, said in the interview, "the students at Dordtlantis must know the truth. President Hoekstra does not have the memory of an elephant."

Responses to this revelation have been varied. "I think it's commendable actually," said Freshman Jaylen Bravehart, "whenever he asks 'how are you doing Jaylen?' while passing me in the campus center I feel like my day has been instantly made ten times better."

Other students felt let down by the president. "I feel betrayed," Junior Steve Dormammu said, "he should actually try to memorize the

Continued on page 6

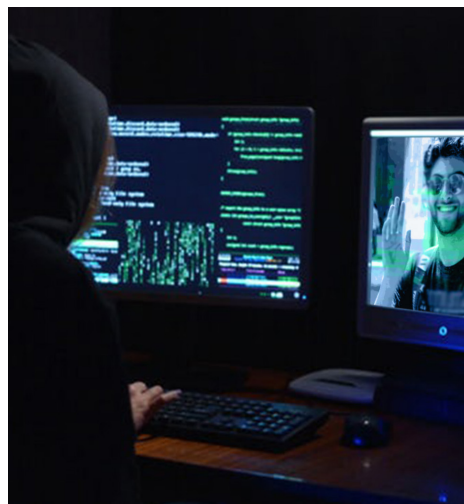


Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Prof. Kuiper to Ban Sweaters: "I Want to Be the Most Fab"

Amanda Lynn - Staff Writer

When the leaves change color and snow prematurely hits the ground, students begin reaching for an article of clothing designed to keep them warm. Enter sweaters, the cotton-spun mascot of "Sweater Weather."

Sweater Weather is an unofficial term for the season where sweaters become the primary option for clothing. But now, that season is in jeopardy.

Communication professor Bruce Kuiper has successfully convinced President Erik Hoekstra to ban all students from wearing sweaters. Now when the cold weather hits, students will be fined \$100 each time their outfit includes the knitted apparel.

"It was surprisingly easy," Kuiper said. "I didn't have to submit any petitions or applications; all I had to do was ask politely and it was done."

Kuiper explains that he doesn't like it when a student walks into class wearing a nicer sweater than him. "I want to be the most stylish, and as long as companies sell hip sweaters to college students, I'm never going to win," he said.

His closet is filled to the brim. The hinges threaten to burst, straining to contain the sheer amount of sweaters Kuiper owns. With around 440 sweaters in a single closet, keeping the clothing in is no easy task.

"It's definitely not fair," junior Jimmy Halbert said. "I own a lot of sweaters too, and now I'm not going to have anything to wear in the winter." Halbert has started a petition to prevent the sweater ban, but only has two signatures so far.

Most students are welcoming the ban with open arms. "No one else can rock a sweater as good as Kuiper can. It makes perfect sense to me, I don't know why they waited so long to do it," Angie Martin said. She was wearing a gray cable knit cardigan, one of the last times she can do so before the ban takes place on January 28.

In northwest Iowa, the average temperature for winter is a chilling 14 degrees. With snowstorms brewing in the north, the inability to wear sweaters is concerning and students may not be warm enough during their hikes to class.

"I feel like I should be mad," said senior Alan Cooper, "but I just can't. The guy wants to wear sweaters, let him wear sweaters."

"We're going to be cold and we're going to have to essentially burn half of our wardrobe," Halbert said. "I'm from California, I can't wear my sweaters back home. It's absolutely outrageous. Does he know how much a Yeezy sweater costs?"

Kuiper responded to the statement made by Halbert: "Of course I know how much a Yeezy sweater costs, I own three of them. He's acting like I don't know what fashion is."

To show everyone how much he appreciates their cooperation, Kuiper is hosting an ugly sweater party at his house on Monday, January 27. Students are encouraged to donate their soon-to-be useless sweaters to him so he can repurpose them.

"It's going to be a - what do the kids call them these days? Oh yes, a rager," Kuiper said.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

# Middle-aged women to take over Dordtlantis track team

Wooden U. Laiktouneau – Staff Disappointment

This past Wednesday, Coach Craig Heynen of Dordtlantis' track team released the updated roster of the 2019-2020 track season. While most of the list contains familiar names, several newcomers are creating a new dynamic within the team.

"It was a spark of the moment decision, really," Heynen said. "Our relay teams had openings, and this opportunity just presented itself."

Coaches and students alike have inevitably acknowledged the group of middle-aged women who regularly use the fitness facilities. Like clockwork, they arrive at the indoor track in the late morning and exit by early afternoon. Together, they make the most of their time on the track, treadmills, and stair-climber.

"Their comradery, motivation, and punctuality immediately stood out," Heynen said, "and those are the characteristics that I expect out of every one of my athletes."

Becky Proudma, a 46-year-old mother of three children, is looking forward to the first track meet in December.

"When Coach Heynen invited me to consider joining the track team, I was simply elated," Proudma said. "In all my 32 years of life, very

few opportunities seemed to be as specifically for me as this one is."

Heynen plans for Proudma to run the first leg of the 4x200 relay. Her speed and initiative promise to get the team far this year. Proudma is also known among the track team for her baked health treats. After practice each day, the runners look forward to having a taste of the legendary "Proudma Paleo Patties."

Another new addition to the team, 39-year-old Karen Chiefstra, also shared her excitement.

"After I signed up for the track team, I immediately asked to speak to the Financial Aid office," Chiefstra said. "Since I am contributing my athletic gifts to this team, I expect to receive the same benefits as my teammates."

While Chiefstra does not receive a scholarship for her team membership, Dordtlantis does award her regular financial compensation.

"Every month, I will receive several gift certificates and a magazine of coupons to my favorite stores," Chiefstra said. "I won't ever have to pay a Fareway bill again."

Proudma and Chiefstra joined the team with their speed-walking partner Brenda Countathree. When asked to share her experience with the track team, Countathree refused to answer, claiming the *Zircon* to be an "untrustworthy source."

After several pre-season workouts with the new team, Coach Heynen has received positive feedback from several returning team members.

"Getting to know Karen, Becky, and Brenda has honestly been very eye-opening," junior Dale Macantire said. "Since we first met, I have been exposed to some pretty interesting e-book and reality TV recommendations."

Sophomore Steph Nielson, who runs the fourth and final leg of the 4x200 relay with the women, has experienced more than just physical benefits as a result of running with them.

"My new teammates have really helped me find my voice," Nielson said. "I am suddenly

not so frightened to voice my opinion anymore, especially when I have Karen to back me up. I guess catching up on the latest Northwest Iowa gossip isn't too bad either."

Indeed, the future of the Dordtlantis track team looks promising with its three new additions. Beyond their undeniable athletic contributions, Proudma, Chiefstra, and Countathree have taken care of transportation for the season. With their convoy of minivans, the entire team will be able to carpool to and from meets.

"They really do have a lot to offer to our team," Heynen said. "I'm just really eager to see how this season unfolds—optimistic, truly."



Photo by Iris Van Focus

# Dordtlantis goes Greek

Lawyer Trailmix - Staff Writer

Now that the nursing department is settled into their new building, many students wonder what will happen to the old nursing building. Lots of changes have happened in the past year with Dordtlantis becoming a university—for instance, the new nursing building on campus, and the theatre building being moved to South Dakota.

With all the changes, having a vacant building on campus didn't seem right for a lot of people. Some even debated about tearing the building down. Instead, at a recent administration meeting Dordtlantis presented another option which had all of campus feeling better about the vacant nursing house—introducing: Dordtlantis' first fraternity house: KEG (Kappa Epsilon Gamma).

It's the 21st century, and Greek life on campuses all over the country are becoming more prestigious and sought out.

"What is a university without frat houses?" said Sam Vanstud, a sophomore transfer student from Iowa State University. "I was a part of a fraternity at my previous school and it was the second-best thing that happened to me."

The school board gathered earlier this week to decide on a name and motto for the first campus frat. During the meeting, there were two important topics covered: East campus rooftop bar weekly drink specials, and names for the new fraternity.

KEG, or KEG for those that are not familiar with Greek, is the name chosen as a remembrance for when Dordtlantis ditched being dry.

The board concluded that opening the first rooftop bar and starting a Greek fraternity on campus are two huge steps for Dordtlantis. Since both are being initiated into the institution around the same time, they should be linked because "everyone knows what frats are really for."

KEG's motto will be: Engaged at class by day, disengaged at parties by night. KEG will be a very prestigious frat that will get students engaged to being engaged at Dordtlantis while bringing together Greek and Dutch life.

"There is too much Dutch in this community," said Derek Buteyn, Director of Residence Life at Dordtlantis. "I think it will be a nice change to spice up campus a bit with Greek life."

KEG will be all about keeping students at Dordtlantis engaged because, according to president Hokestra, "there still isn't enough student engagement".

"I feel like KEG is a very clever name for our first fraternity," said KEGan VanderFrat. "I plan on rushing for this frat when it opens up. Imagine what the initiation will be like." KEG will be Dordtlantis' pioneer into the Greek fraternity life in Sioux Center. If all goes well in the first couple years, Dordtlantis' long term plan will be to buy all of the properties on 4th AVE NE and 7th ST NE. Having access to all of these properties, Dordtlantis will convert every house into fraternities and sororities.

The rush for KEG will begin the week of finals at Dordtlantis for spring semester. KEG will be accepting seven founding members for their frat that will lay the groundwork for what is to come.

# Skywalk left abandoned as students begin to dig

Anneka van Zevenden berggen - Staff Writer

Anyone have a shovel?

A group of Dordtlantis students have united to proactively halt the production of any future skywalks on campus.

They started their revolt by boycotting the skywalk, but soon realized such a small action would not prevent Dordtlantis from building more.

In an effort to stop the skywalks, the Dordtlantis Moles Club was born. They were established on November 2 with a secret plan to connect all the buildings by digging a network of tunnels underneath campus.

"We had to think bigger," said Jake De Ground, president of Dordtlantis Moles Club. "We wanted to really shock people so we could leave a lasting impact."

They plan to begin with a tunnel that connects the two ends of campus: Covenant and West Hall. From there, they will add tunnels to each of the remaining buildings on campus. One group will begin by digging from Covenant basement Practice Room 10 while another group digs from the lodge in West.

"This part of the process needs to be planned out perfectly," junior Alisha Van Under said, a Dordtlantis architecture major who designed the project. "We want the process to go as quickly

as possible, so we have two groups digging from opposite sides. However, that requires precision so that both ends will come together as planned."

Fellow Dordtlantis engineering students are helping to ensure all measurements are exact.

"I thought it was a really cool and unique idea," said senior Sam Pit. "I really hope it works."

Since the beginning of the project, the Dordtlantis Moles have gained support across campus. De Ground was amazed by the impact students can have when they come together.

"It is incredible," De Ground said. "There really is no limit to what we can accomplish when people work together on something they are passionate about. I also recognize that having support from my peers has also pushed this project forward. I am so thankful for everyone's encouragement."

De Ground has created a sign-up sheet for digging shifts. They work in half-hour intervals starting Saturday, November 23. They will run round-the-clock with a goal of completing the project before Thanksgiving break. Sign-up sheets are posted in the entryways of each of the dorms and apartment buildings.

"Who needs to spend millions on skywalks?" De Ground said. "All we need is shovels and a lot of student engagement."

# Dordtlantis prof condemns student to Hades

NotAChemMajor - Staff Writer

After invoking the wrath of the ancient Greek chemistry god of titrations, Dordtlantis student Charred Alf Janae made his best joke ever, resulting in condemnation by Professor Fictorie of the chemistry department. Unlike exams a week before finals, Dordtlantis' code of conduct does not inhibit professors from declaring a student failed in a course and in life.

The chemistry based advanced reformed thought class doubles as a Core requirement and a sleep preventative. The three-hour night class filled with old authors, sleepy students, and an exuberant professor who anticipates a cry of hearsay. The countdown to screams of heathen or heretic is still in place, with the final days of the semester approaching. Several small incidents have arisen through the semester as class periods are full of large words and drowsy eyes.

"The titration god says otherwise," said Charred Alf Janae, in a joking response to a class discussion. At the mention of the titration

god, who is acknowledged and then abandoned after Chemical Analysis, all the students began to writhe in their seats. Appalled at Charred Alf Janae's humor and audacity, Fictorie stood in shock before delivering a condemnation to Hades.

The Greeks have a god for everything, and Charred Alf Janae thought a joke regarding that would bring humor to the class. He was unaware of how opinionated Fictorie was on the Greeks.

"If it's good, it's Augustine," said Fictorie "If it's bad, it's Greek."

Like grading for most Fictorie assignments, the condemnation was brought up, but never followed through on. Charred Alf Janae remained in the class, undisturbed by Fictorie's shouts, as he was more focused on his food and the killer joke that he had just made. With several weeks left of class, Charred Alf Janae hopes to invoke the power of the Greek god of Glycolysis next, in order have a sweet ending to his semester.



Photo by Iris Van Focus



# Dordtlantis Opens Pocket Dimension to Provide More Student Parking

Greetje Van der Leesma - Staff Writer

After numerous complaints by students, Dordtlantis Administration has agreed to open a pocket dimension to provide more student parking. The portal to this separate section of our space-time continuum will open the way to infinite parking for students, faculty, and guests. It is expected that this development will make the Siberia, West Hall, Covenant, and North Hall parking areas less crowded and more maneuverable for students.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

as full, not making new parking spots a mile away that no one will want to use.”

Other students, like freshman Sue Cup, were adamantly in favor of the new parking arrangement.

“We have new parking and it promotes healthy living. What more could we ask for?” she said.

According to Dr. Carl Fictorie, however, healthy living may not be the result of having a pocket dimension in Sioux Center.

“We understand very little about pocket dimensions right now and we still need to do a lot of research to ensure that they are safe,” Fictorie said. “The thing that scares me is all that energy needed to keep the entrance open and what that will mean for the environment. And what about all of the dark matter it will leach into our universe? That can’t be good for our students.”

While Dordtlantis Administration had no comment regarding Fictorie’s dark matter claims, they assured everyone that Dordtlantis is going to remain an energy-efficient campus.

“We have set up the portal into the pocket dimension with a sensor, so it will only turn on when someone is approaching to enter it,” Wilson said. “We are also planning on running it completely on solar power, so it will still be environmentally friendly.”

Despite the controversy, a vast majority of people on campus agree that more parking is a good thing, even if it is far away.

“I’m just thankful that there will be more parking options,” said sophomore Mark Van Truksma. “It’ll be nice to have less people in the way in the West Hall parking lot when I park my Ford F350 dually.”

“We understand that campus parking is a bit of a hassle,” said Vice President Howard Wilson. “We want to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to park safely and conveniently.”

The “Pocket Parking,” as it has been dubbed by Dordtlantis students and staff, is set to open next spring after the thaw. The entrance to the other dimension will be located in the parking lot of Sioux Center Health Clinic. This decision, according to Wilson, was made with student health in mind.

“We put Pocket Parking further from Siberia to encourage students to get more exercise by swimming to and from their cars. We have a feeling they will see this benefit and be pleased with our decision,” Wilson said.

Students, however, have mixed feelings about Pocket Parking.

“I love the idea of more parking,” sophomore Charlot Faraway said. “I just don’t understand why the parking has to be all the way off campus. Isn’t Siberia far enough?”

While many students share the apprehensive optimism of Faraway, several are adamantly against the pocket dimension.

“I mean, come on. There’s several movies, Doctor Who episodes, and YouTube videos explaining why traveling to other dimensions, pocket or not, is a bad idea,” said senior Rory Williams. “Believe me, space and time are tricky things.”

Junior Tyred Valet also disagrees with the changes. “This really doesn’t solve any problems,” she said. “We should be making more parking closer to campus so the lots aren’t

# SCC nails 99 theses to front door of B.J. Haan

Steve Kreftig - Staff Writer

Last October 31st marked the 502nd anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. In celebration, members of the Sioux County Conservatives marched down the middle of Dordtlantis’ campus to the B.J. Haan Auditorium, dressed as monks. One of them took out a drill, proceeding to carve a hole in one of the glass doors leading into the main lobby. Another took out a large sheet of paper, along with some nuts and bolts, and screwed the paper to the door, using one of the bolts to fasten it through the drilled hole as the water surrounding the submerged campus poured inside.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

“I heard the drill going on my way to class, but I didn’t think much about it,” said junior Desiree de Rasmus. “I just figured the grounds crew were adding another layer of waterproofing to the concrete. Then I saw the monks and I’m like, ‘What’s going on? Is this some Dordtlantis event that I’ve never heard of?’”

Curious onlookers gathered around and started reading the paper. Unfortunately, the words were in Dutch, the official language of the Reformed Church. It quickly became clear from the number of bullet points that the paper was intended to imitate the 95 theses that Martin Luther nailed to the door of the Wittenberg Church. This list, however, had four additional points.

One of Dordtlantis’ Dutch professors was called in to help translate the 99 theses later that morning. Turns out, the SCC were protesting a wide range of topics, such as Aaron Baart’s chapel series, Kanye West’s conversion to Christianity, and Randy Feenstra’s (really Steve King in disguise) “too nice” political campaign, among other things.

“We felt like the 31st, which was Reformation Day AND ONLY REFORMATION DAY, NOTHING ELSE, was a good time to send a message to Dordtlantis, calling for new reforms,” said a spokesman for the SCC, ironically known as Luther. “The university’s physical sinking is simply an outward sign of its spiritual sinking. We either act now or not at all.”

Zircon staff later discovered that Luther

had been the one who drilled the hole on the morning of the 31st.

The B.J. Haan was closed within minutes of the incident while maintenance staff worked to patch the hole and prevent further flooding inside. The building will remain closed until after finals week.

“Thankfully, there was no severe damage to the interior structure or to the organ,” said maintenance supervisor Tom Vander Kleen. “We arrived in time to prevent that from happening. However, there was a lot of damage to the carpet and the seats. Fixing those things takes time.”

Dean of Chapel Aaron Baart is optimistic, despite the attempt to ruin his reputation.

“I think their actions give us a reason to update our facilities and make it better able to meet our changing needs within this space,” said Baart. “I feel like we’re being called toward a sort of counter-reformation.”

Baart plans to kick off next semester’s chapel series with a message on the divisiveness that happens when Christianity becomes too political.

“It’s a problem on both sides of the aisle,” said Baart. “We should be listening to what everyone has to say and loving them the way we’re called to.”

Dordtlantis has invited Luther and other members of the SCC to take part in a discussion based on the 99 theses. The debates will take place in the renovated B.J. Haan Auditorium next semester. Since none of the people invited are presidential candidates, the event will not be a gladiatorial fight to the death.

“I’m a bit disappointed that the debates won’t be as exciting,” said de Rasmus. “But at least they’re trying to settle their differences. I hope it goes well.”

# Abraham Kuyper found alive; has a 24/7 Minecraft Twitch channel

Ally Sheedy - Staff Writer

Last week, on a Wednesday night at around 3 A.M., a student, while having an existential crisis about whether or not being a nurse was “really that worth it,” logged on to popular video game streaming site, Twitch, and discovered something shocking.

Abraham Kuyper, the famous Reformed theologian; alive, kicking, and building a freaking sick Minecraft house.

“I just saw his stream pop up in my feed,” said Jahomes Jabronie, a sophomore nursing major here at Dordtlantis. “The title was in Dutch, so I really couldn’t understand what was going on, but his Minecraft house looked really cool, so I decided to hop on and watch what was going on.”

Kuyper, who supposedly died in the Netherlands in 1920, has apparently had a 24/7 stream of Minecraft going since around 2015. Many theorize that since no one outside of Reformed circles know who Kuyper is, and the fact that literally no one speaks Dutch, Kuyper’s stream has flown under the radar until now.

When attempting to reach out to Kuyper for comment on how he has survived this long, it was discovered that he had no email contact information or any other social media connected to his account. He did, however, have a Patreon site linked, a website used for viewers to give monthly donations to their favorite content creators. The only way found to contact him directly was through his Twitch chat, which he rarely noticed or interacted, except for when

people donated money to him.

After multiple hours of trying, for free, to gain comments from Kuyper, the Zircon had to resort to a minimum of five-dollar donations to get him to respond to questioning. We’re sorry, everyone, but the scholarship money for next year was spent to gain this interview. Go actually work for money.

“Oh, yeah, I’ve been streaming Minecraft for almost four years straight now,” said Kuyper, whose quotes were translated by the only actual Dutch speaker anyone knows, Professor Leendert Van Beek. “It’s a really good way to show God’s creation and that every blocky square inch is required for us to attempt to redeem.” Kuyper then proceeded to yawn loudly, wishing his viewers good night, and then lay down in his 900-dollar gaming chair, falling asleep on stream.

“I am extremely shocked that he’s been able to survive this long,” said senior theology student Kuyper Calvinson. “I can’t understand how someone so well-known can be documented as dying at the age of eighty, then disappear for almost a hundred years, just to come back and then play Minecraft all day and night. It really shows that God is all powerful and really does have a plan for all of us.”

The next morning at 8 A.M., or to be more exact, 8 A.M. in the Netherlands, which is seven hours ahead of Iowa, Kuyper sat up, rubbed his eyes, and immediately went back to his keyboard. After a few more donations, we managed to get Kuyper to notice us once again, answering more of our questions about

his current living situation.

“Yeah I definitely didn’t die in 1920. I received a divine revelation that I was supposed to sit and wait in the basement of a friend’s house until God’s Kingdom returned, which I was told would be in the form of something called a video game. Then, after waiting about 95 years, I came out of my friend’s basement and rented an apartment, buying this chair, a computer, and then downloading Minecraft. I’m not sure how I knew how to do any of this stuff, or how I somehow didn’t age at all, but the Lord provided and I’m just doing what I’m predestined to do.”

When asked if he would continue his

theological teachings, Kuyper responded by looking confused for a moment, before seeming to realize about what was being asked. “All that Reformed stuff? Wow, I can’t believe that actually stuck around. Yeah, I built a church on here [Minecraft] and give sermons to all the people on my server. You can come if you want, but I’ll have to whitelist you first.

If you wish to catch Kuyper’s stream, he actively streams from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. Central European time, or what would be 1 A.M. to 3 P.M. in Central Standard Time. At all other hours, Kuyper’s stream can still be viewed, although he will be sleeping.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Look out, boys: Women versus Zombies comes to town

Amanda Lynn - Staff Writer

The ground across Sioux Center shakes. Creatures great and small scurry in fear. Professor Cosgrove dives into his hobbit-hole for safety.

They're coming.

The game Humans versus Zombies graced Dordtlantis for a week this fall. Students ran around and avoided being tagged by a "zombie." However, much to the dismay of women on campus, male students were the only ones allowed to play. In retaliation to this injustice, women have created their own version of the game: Women versus Zombies.

"It's going to be better in every way," said game creator Emma Boulder. "My favorite part about the new game is that we're using actual zombies. We're hoping that adds to the excitement of the game since your life is literally on the line."

On December 11, players will arm themselves with Hydro Flasks and scrunchies to throw at the zombies for protection. Unlike Humans versus Zombies, gameplay is not limited to outdoor areas – there is a chance of turning into

a zombie while a professor is giving a lecture on the Old Testament.

The initial zombie virus was created by biology professor Tony Jelsma. "At first, I had some concerns about using real zombies for the game," he said. "I thought, 'where are we getting the money to do this?' but then I realized Dordtlantis has tons of funding for stuff like this."

President Erik Hoekstra was asked to approve of the activity: "It's disturbing that you'd even have to ask me to sign off on this," he said. "Of course I approve, I find it hilarious! Who wouldn't love to see students try to order brains at the Grille instead of the Defender?"

Boulder herself was asked to be the first zombie to kick the game off. She agreed, saying she doesn't mind sacrificing her humanity if it meant other people could have a good time.

"It'll be weird to see girls running away from me in fear, but hey, boys have been doing that already," she said.

Ninety-three girls have already signed up to play the game, and the deadline for committing to the game will be on December 9. Hydro

*Continued on page 6*



Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Opinion: Not to be political or anything, but the earth is actually an obtuse trapezoid

Ami Stewart - Staff Writer

The shape of the earth has long been a point of contention between its inhabitants. Early Mesopotamian mythology suggested that the earth was like a New York-style pizza slice -- lifeless, drab, and so flat that it's barely in the third dimension. Now, thanks to Pythagoras, Aristotle, and other ancient "thinkers," the current trend in thought is that the shape of the earth is a globe, like a melon. Or a bowling ball. Or that glass marble I ate when I was seven.

But here's the thing — how did Pythagoras or Aristotle "know" that the earth is spherical? Did they launch their Hellenistic bodies into space? Did they float among the stars to see the earth with their own eyes? No, they did not. So, what did they do, you ask? Math. That's it. They said "3 x 4 = glass marble planet" and everyone was like "k." No one really challenged it until recently.

The Flat Earth Society is one of the largest collectives in opposition to spherical earth.

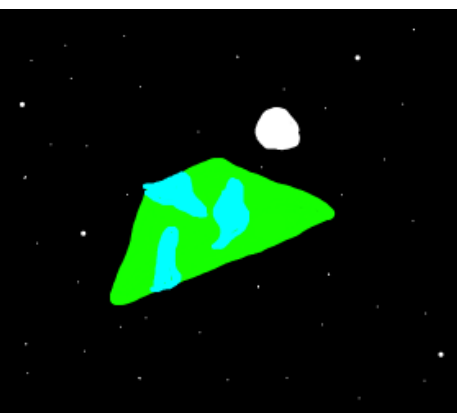


Photo by Iris Van Focus

Since 1884, members of this group purport (as their name implies) that the earth is flat. The official FES Facebook page has over 200,000 likes, with more than 220,000 people following the updates posted on the page. Although I commend the society for gaining such a following in their stand against the spherical earth juggernauts, I simply can't buy into their theories. I mean, come on, the earth is a flat disk, like an unrolled crepe hovering in space? Don't be ridiculous!

When I realized that I didn't quite fit within either of the globe or flat schools of thought, I decided to do my own research. My results? The earth is an obtuse trapezoid.

Now, before you roll your spherical eyes and chuck this flat newspaper into the nearest cylindrical trash bin, just hear me out with your circular ear drums. I've been to outer space as many times as Eratosthenes has. I, too, can do math good, but I'm not going to try to use it to determine the shape of the planet, because numbers aren't real in the first place. Sure, 16 - 3 = 12 — but 12 what? Who knows?

Trapezoids are defined as being a quadrilateral with only one pair of parallel sides. For a trapezoid to be obtuse, it has to have both an acute and obtuse angle on each base. How do I know the earth is an obtuse trapezoid? Well, like Archimedes, I can't prove anything. But who said we must listen to some old dead guy who had a thing for balls? Personally, I'd rather stick to my own keen observations and instincts, which tell me that the phrase "the four corners of the earth" is based in truth, and those corners are alternatingly acute and obtuse. Change my mind.

I also propose that Pangea never broke apart, but that is deserving of its own op-ed entirely.

## Engineering students develop sentient computers: is it really that bad?

Ethel Shrekowski - Staff Writer

In spite of every movie, book, TV show ever made on the subject, Dordtlantis engineering students have developed a sentient computer. Best known by the name "Howard Wilson" – affectionately nicknamed HOWiE – the AI machine might not be the worst idea in the world, as many modern sci-fi movies might have you believe.

Named after our beloved Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer, HOWiE was created by engineering students in early November. Their goal was to create a computer worthy of Mr. Howard Wilson himself. Everyone knows that Howard is the real boss on campus.

"We wanted to create something for the vice president that would make his job a little smoother. An assistant to the vice president, if you will," says sophomore engineering student Kenneth van der den Verjkenhorst.

So far, HOWiE has helped to make things around Dordtlantis more efficient. At the Commons, HOWiE has fixed the dish machine so that the glasses and plates are actually spotless and not covered in leftover food and drink residue. In the classroom, HOWiE has made CORE 100 classes significantly more exciting and worthwhile with his historically accurate commentary on Abraham Kuyper.

Sticking to the Reformed tradition of Dordtlantis, the engineering students programmed the computer to have a worldview worthy of Abraham Kuyper.

"We wanted Howard to reflect the predominant idolization of Abraham Kuyper's viewpoints in Dordtlantis' faculty," said Van der den Verjkenhorst.

In an exclusive interview with HOWiE himself, he opted for silence except for occasional interjections such as "Shalom," "every square inch," and "#1 in Student Engagement."

With the success of HOWiE so far, the engineering department is optimistic that they will be able to create more machines just like him.

"Hopefully," says engineering professor Kevin Timmer, "we'll be able to produce dozens more of them. Our goal is to replace all

the students who have work studies with the AI machines. I know it might put more students into debt, but at least they'll have more time to play video games and not do their homework."

Junior Hannah Dystallitor appreciates this. "I always hated feeling pressured to have a work study," she said in a recent interview. "My friends all had one, and I always felt like I should be working too, just because there were positions available. But with these computers filling the washing machines at the Rec or washing dishes at the Commons, none of us are going to have to work any longer. Now I'll finally have the opportunity to find all 900 Korok seeds in Breath of the Wild without feeling guilty about my laziness."

Dordtlantis President Erik Hoekstra is fascinated by the prospect of this new computer.

"I am so excited about this new technology we have brought to Dordt College... err, University! Oh, I mean Dordtlantis, excuse me! It really shows how worth it is was to spend a \$398,923,089 on changing the logo of the school for no particular reason. Soli Deo Gloria, as I always say!"

Timmer wants to encourage staff, students, and faculty to think positively about the robot.

"After all," he says, with HOWiE mumbling Kuyperian catchphrases behind him, "what could go wrong?"

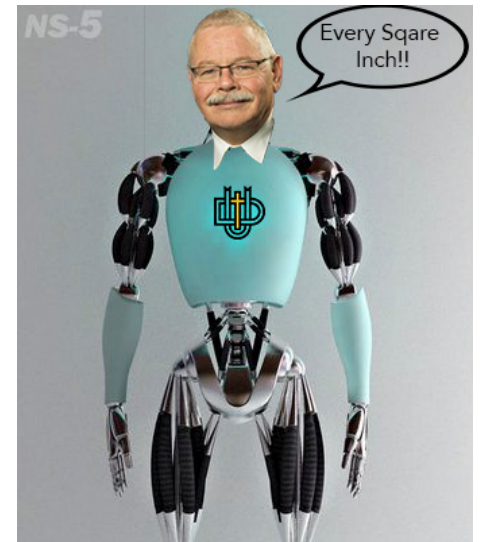


Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Wager over Minnesota vs Wisconsin game gone too far?

Yukon Cornelius - Staff Writer

The University of Minnesota-University of Wisconsin rivalry game stands as the longest running rivalry game in all of the NCAA. With the success that both teams are experiencing this season, the governors of Minnesota and Wisconsin came together to create a wager over the game that will take place in two weeks' time to likely decide the winner of the Big Ten West.

The prize? Full annexation of the other state. Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers announced the bet in a joint press conference. Walz said, "Paul Bunyan's Axe is a valued trophy, no doubt. However, we felt that with the seasons our teams are having, just bragging rights weren't enough." Agreeing, Evers said, "Tim was actually the one who suggested it to me. I was originally planning to turn him down but then I started doing my research and realized that before last year – which by the way, I think was a fluke – Wisconsin had won the trophy for fourteen straight years. I just couldn't argue with the facts."

As news spread, residents of Dordtlantis campus reacted with both excitement and worry. Nathaniel Rybicki, an engineering major from Wisconsin said, "As a proud Wisconsinite, the thought of becoming a Minnesotan makes me want to hurl."

Christian Larsson, son of a third-generation farmer from Minnesota said, "Wisconsin is disgusting. All you really need to know about Wisconsin is that as long as your parent is with you and approves of it, you can legally drink at a bar at any age. Any age. You could quite literally be five years old and you can drink with you parents. Also, Wisconsinites really don't know how to drive."

Fighting words will be exchanged up until game time, where it will finally be decided which state is absorbed into the other and which students will be required to change the way they address their letters home.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Cosgrove summoned to Middle Earth: Dante's Divine Comedy and the Italian Renaissance Class to serve as cover?

Sola Lutrinae - Staff Writer

BREAKING NEWS: Sources confirmed this morning that Dr. Walker Cosgrove will not be returning to Dordtlantis after Christmas break, at least for the first part of the Spring 2020 semester. Many who've taken a Cosgrove class know that he likes to joke, but Cosgrove's frequent jokes about being a hobbit are not jokes! *Diamond* investigators have uncovered communications that prove that Cosgrove has been secretly summoned to Middle Earth for the foreseeable future.

While Cosgrove is (secretly) ecstatic now that his true calling had been realized, President Hoekstra has some different views of the situation.

"I was highly displeased when he came to me with this life update. All I could think was, 'Seriously? First the man-bun, now this?'" said President Hoekstra. "But then Dr. Cosgrove reminded me that 'every square inch' includes

middle earth, too, and I just couldn't argue with that. It was a profound thought, really. Brought tears to my eyes when I realized that little hobbits are people, too.

"The hardest part of this all is not knowing how long this quest will take. When I realized he could be gone for months, even years, I panicked a bit. 'Oh boy,' I thought. 'Who are we going to replace him with? Dr. Paul Fessler?' And then my mind jumped to our rising student numbers and our status as number one in student engagement—Did you know we are number one in student engagement? You did? Four years in a row! Quite an accomplishment. Great marketing ploy (oh, wait, don't write that down!). Anyways, I was analyzing what this replacement could do to those numbers... yeah, we're going to have to find someone else..."

While President Hoekstra scrambles to find someone to replace Cosgrove at Dordtlantis, students have fabricated other theories about this "sudden" summons to his true homeland.

Many of these center around his class, "Dante's Divine Comedy and the Italian Renaissance." This class conveniently has a trip planned to Florence over Christmas break, which is also Cosgrove's set departure time.

"Oh, it's definitely a cover," said Thomas Cynica, a student enrolled in the class, "and if it's a cover, that means Cosgrove at least had an inkling of an idea that this summons could happen. It's gotta be like his seventh sense or something... His sixth sense is powered by the man bun, obviously."

When informed of this news, a freshman psychology major (who wishes to remain anonymous) nodded. "Like, he always jokes about [being a hobbit] in Core 140... but he does it so often that I was definitely suspicious. Add the man bun and you've basically got a telltale combo. I haven't had a psychology class, but I know a true hobbit when I see one... classic case."

"Ain't no way it's just Cosgrove!" said

Virgil Wells, another student in the class. "Dr. Matthews is definitely in on this." Dr. Matthews and Dr. Cosgrove co-teach this course and are both scheduled to go on the trip to Italy.

"What are the odds those two are chosen to teach this course together, hmm?" said Wells. "There has to be some pretty serious shizzle going on in Middle Earth for them to need *two* homies... But, like, do y'all realize who you called? Or are you just playin' with us?"

While many questions are being answered, the most pressing question remains: Out of this dynamic duo, who is Sam, and who is Frodo?

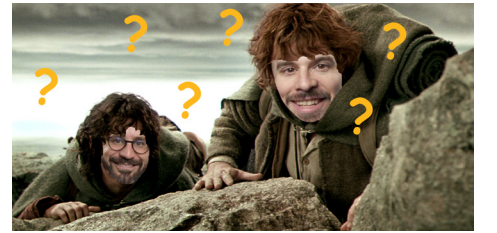


Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Beware, all ye who disturb the sect

Reporter C. Meursault - Staff Writer

Dordtlantis, Sioux Center, IA. Behind two sets of closed doors, down a set of stairs, and another set of doors, a dozen figures in hooded cloaks revolved in a circle slowly, chanting some mantra in a tongue seldom heard. In the middle of the circle sat a handful of candles, burning slowly, with wax dripping down the sides onto the concrete floor beneath the stage of the BJ Haan auditorium.

At the sound of the heavy door slamming shut behind me, the group of worshipers ceased their chanting, and turned to face me. I froze, dropping my recorder that I had intended to practice in this usually unoccupied space. "Identify yourself!" yelled one of the figures, a little shorter than the others, but wearing an ornate robe. I gave my name, and two other figures came forward and took my recorder and backpack from me. "You may stay," the leader said, "but you must leave your worldly

possessions at the door." I turned to see a stack of bags, sport equipment, Advocare bottles, hoverboards, and electric scooters to my right, all tossed haphazardly next to the door I had entered from.

I was stripped of my clothing, and a robe similar to that of the other members was put on my body. The two people who had taken my "worldly possessions" sat me in a chair, and the circle of worshipers gathered around me. The leader began to speak again.

"We are a sect of Living Loved, we serve a master that we cannot understand, so we throw off the things that bind us here." He moved to a corner of the room and flipped a switch. A small salt lamp blinked on, and another figure in a cloak emerged, holding an acoustic guitar. All the worshipers gathered around me and began singing, though the song had three different chords and only two lines, I watched as each member threw themselves to the ground, as if compelled by an otherworldly source. The

leader spoke to me, melodically above the singing:

"We did not find the worship of our brothers and sisters outside Living Loved to be genuine, or an apt expression, so we gather here, in the dark, in secret." An "Amen!" arose from one of the other members, prostrate on the floor. He continued, "In order to achieve a higher level of worship, we throw off the chains of the world, relationships, school work, possessions, and ingenuine worship." Another "Hallelujah" came from the small crowd. "We offer you a choice," the leader continued, "Join us, throw off all that binds you to the mortal plane, and enjoy this worship forever, or leave from here, worse off than when you entered." I mulled this for a bit, glumly. I walked into this room expecting serenity and only the sultry tones of my recorder while I thought of all the reading I wouldn't do for CORE 145, but instead was being offered a daunting choice.

"Can I just leave, and go about life as normal?"

Go back to my dorm, watch some Marvel movies, listen to Drake, and go on with my life?" The members all circled around me hissed and spit when I mentioned Marvel and Drake, especially the supposed leader, who stood on a chair and boomed over me: "NAY! The only media we participate in is Jesus is King, and the God's Not Dead movies! All else is hedonistic pleasures, good only for distancing oneself from the Kingdom!!"

I lunged for the door, avoiding the barrage of Message Bibles, Eugene Peterson literature, and Advocare bottles that were tossed at my head. I sprinted up three flights of stairs, tore through two sets of doors, and took off into the night. Through the darkness I saw the dozen or so members pursuing me on hoverboards and longboards. I ducked off into the one place on campus they wouldn't dare to check: the theology pod, where I hid until daylight.

## Campus cats employed by the bourgeoisie

Rick Harrison's Pawn Shop - Staff Writer

Almost every student has seen the "campus cats" roaming around Dordtlantis' campus over the past few years. However, after a recent discovery by junior Marx de Plebejer, the campus cats have seemingly disappeared. Many have wondered where the cats have disappeared to. de Plebejer may have the answer.

de Plebejer began researching the campus cats when he was a freshman.

"I always knew something was wrong with those cats," de Plebejer said. "They had this tendency to just look at you. They wouldn't do anything, but something told me that they were something... other. Something robotic."

While working during the spring of his freshman year, de Plebejer discovered the conspiracy theory that suggests that birds aren't real, but rather, they are drones issued by the government to spy on the common people of America. de Plebejer believes the campus cats are also drones.

"My roommate Marx would stay up all night performing research on the cats he used to catch with butterfly nets. I don't know what he actually was doing to them," Franz Spion said. "I was very worried and still am. I feel like this has gone too far and he should back off before someone gets hurt."

But de Plebejer won't back down.

"I put up signs all across campus warning people of the danger that these cats were to our community. Unfortunately, Student Services took them all down because I didn't get them stamped as 'Student Services Approved.' I keep

making more though! The Print and Mail Center is very accommodating towards the spread of this information."

Some of de Plebejer's signs read "The government is watching," "Spies are all around us!", and "Cats aren't Real™." These signs were not well-received by the community. de Plebejer's roommate, Spion, particularly did not enjoy these signs.

"I get what he's trying to do, but it's a totally false accusation," Spion said. "Cats are real, without a doubt. He's just being crazy."

The government has also gotten in touch with de Plebejer about his accusations.

"They told me to stop looking into this. I think that just shows that I'm on the right track," de Plebejer said. "I'm not stopping for anything. The CIA can threaten me all they want, but nothing is going to stop me from looking into this."



Photo by Iris Van Focus

## (cont.) D O R D T L A N T I S

Continued from page 1

break," Hoekstra said.

Dordtlantis has announced they will be going underwater during Thanksgiving Break, the time when less students fill campus. Those who are on campus will be drafted to help this process.

"I will be on campus this Thanksgiving Break and I have no idea what to expect," Freshman Yoon-Ju Park said.

In the following weeks before Thanksgiving Break, the Campus Health and the Music Department will open a class session for students to come by to practice breathing. They will also receive a tab on Canvas soon, with assignments of different techniques to expand and hold breath for students to practice over the break as well.

No more fire... Here comes Dordtlantis!

## Cows found in Southview Apartments

Rick Harrison's Pawn Shop - Staff Writer

When Dean of Students Robert Taylor first walked into Southview Apartments, the last thing he expected to see was a small herd of cows peacefully munching on the grass planted in boxes hanging from apartment doors.

"I first got the report from an anonymous source that there were cows in Southview. I didn't believe them, because we obviously have a very strict 'no pet and plant' policy here at Dordtlantis," Taylor said. "For someone to have an entire herd of cows in one of our apartment buildings is so far past okay."

The herd is composed of six Holstein cows who wander the halls of Southview: Winnie the Moo, Moodonna, Mooley Cyrus, Hugh Heifer, Moogan Freeman, and Sir Loin of Ribeye. The cows all belong to Obadiah Wayne, a farmer living just outside of Sioux Center.

"It was cheaper to board the cows at Dordtlantis," Wayne said. "They like it inside too. They add the feel of Sioux Center that all visiting students need when they come check our school out. It really embodies Sioux Center... It also has definitely added morale to students. Everyone always seems happy when I come in with some meds for a few cows that

need them every day. They love those cows."

Dirk Winder Mill, a senior from Pella, IA views the cows as a huge benefit to campus life.

"When I'm needing some milk for my cereal, I just walk around the halls and listen for their bells to find where they are. I squirt some milk in my bowl and mix in my Wheaties - breakfast of champions, you know - and I'm all set for my 8 am class," Winder Mill said. "It also adds a huge element of community. There are always people petting the cows or taking them outside to play in the grass. I actually met my girlfriend, Hettie Udder, when I went to go get my morning milk. I've made lots of friends through the cows and I am so thankful for them."

Other students have formed a club dedicated to the cows, called the Bovine Bunch, led by Bessie Ungula. The Bovine Bunch is currently composed of Ungula and her 19 followers.

"We started with just myself and my roommates. Now we have so many more members," Ungula said. "The cows provide us with so many beautiful things in life, and we are just here to celebrate them."

The Bovine Bunch meets every Thursday

at 8:30 pm in Southview for fresh milk and a variety of baked goods. Visitors are invited to bring their own mug for the milk.

"We are committed to sustainability, and so we drink our milk fresh from the cow," Ungula said. "Anyone and everyone is welcome to join us, whether it is for one meeting or every week. We appreciate those who appreciate the cows with us."

Due to protests from students, Taylor has yielded to letting the cows stay in Southview until the summer, when Wayne will take them back

"We got a lot of angry letters from students and community members who love the cows when we threatened to make the cows leave. Many rely on these cows for free and fresh milk, and we strive to serve the people," Taylor said. "We really think the cows embody Dordtlantis' vision of Christ-centered renewal in all aspects of life. These cows encourage stewardship among students to feed the cows and take care of them. The cows are also part of God's good creation, and what would we be if we took that away from the students?"

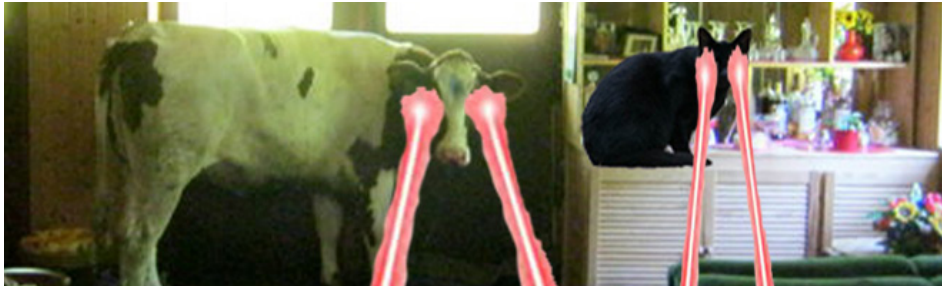


Photo by Iris Van Focus

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## (cont.) how does President Hoekstra remember names?

Continued from page 1

names and personal information of the entire student body and not fake it."

The president himself has not released an official comment on the issue, but several Dordtlantis students have reported being greeted by name since the revealing interview.

Van Den Turtlesma said in the exclusive that, while he believes there should be more transparency about the president's work-study,

he will not quit the position on moral grounds as it "pays extremely well."

Back in the small office lit by monitors, Van Den Turtlesma pulls up another file as Hoekstra steps in line behind a student in the Grille. He makes small talk, congratulating her on doing well in a recent forensics tournament, grabbing a sandwich and walking away, greeting three other students on the way up to his office.

## (cont.) women versus Zombies comes to town

Continued from page 4

Flasks and scrunchies will be sold at the Dordt Bookstore at a discount to members who participate in the game.

Freshman Emileigh Blaque has been preparing for the event since she heard about it in early September. She turned her dorm room into a survival bunker should she need to stay inside for days on end. "I would say I could last about

six months in here without needing to leave," she said while arranging her display of Spam. "There is no way I'm losing this game."

The winner of the game will receive a \$15 gift card to the Bookstore and an extra meal at the Commons for the week they win. "The losers will not have the option to become a human again, but that's the price you pay for glory!" Jelsma said.

## Dr. Hummel cancels Honduras ag trip: "We're going to find Mothman"

Glee Vakenoos - Staff Writer

After months of planning the service-learning trip to Honduras to study farming methods and culture, Dr. Jeremy Hummel has announced that the trip is cancelled. In its place will be a trip to West Virginia to hunt the elusive cryptid known best as "The Mothman."

According to Hummel, the Mothman is a giant, winged, man-shaped creature that is believed to be moth-like in scientific classification. Cryptid hunters have been searching for him since his first appearance in the late '60s. Hummel is proud to be part of the growing group of those who have taken an interest.

"I have been attempting to track him for years," Hummel said. "He is an incredibly resourceful creature, utilizing the best strengths of the insect world."

Hummel, who is a known insect-enthusiast, made the decision to switch the trip after hearing several ag department students discussing the subject.

"Hearing that some of our students share my interest in Mothman and all things insect-related is exciting; I want to make sure these students have the opportunity to pursue their interests," he said. "Hunting Mothman alone is also very dangerous, so it is best if hunters stick

together."

The itinerary for the trip has six Dordtlantis students camping in the woods around Point Pleasant, West Virginia. Before going into the trip, the team will spend time in teambuilding exercises, learn how to operate their highly-scientific cryptid-hunting equipment, and receiving training from Hummel himself on what plant life is edible. Overall, the group is excited to get started.

"I've dreamed of hunting The Mothman since I was a kid. I need to uncover the mystery behind this beautiful creature and see him for myself," said sophomore Deilephila Eleonor. Her love for Mothman has inspired her to double-major in entomology and folklore/mythology.

A couple students who are attending, while excited, have some apprehensions about the trip in general, like junior Actias Luna.

"Of course I want to find Mothman, but what do we do with him when we find him? We don't know what kind of power he possesses," he said.

While the trip does pose some dangers, Hummel reassures that the trip is worth the risk.

"This could be the greatest entomological find of our time. We could uncover all the secrets behind the largest known insect and learn untold information from studying it," he said.

The trip has received the support of Dordtlantis administration, but not everyone agrees that hunting Mothman is the best idea. A small group of Mothman (and other cryptid) enthusiasts have been protesting the hunt, picketing outside of the Ag Pod in the science building as well as the President's House.

"The Mothman, and all other cryptids, are entitled to their privacy," says leader of the movement, senior Attacus Atlas. "To catch Mothman and remove him from his natural

habitat would be endangering one of the most beautiful creatures ever glimpsed by man. The kind of stress that would put him under could potentially kill him. Or, even worse, the government could seize him to study, and we would never see him again."

Despite the naysayers, Hummel is still excited for this opportunity.

"God gave us this big world to explore and discover," he said. "I'm ready to discover the biggest bug ever."



Photo by Iris Van Focus

# Fall girls devastated by lack of prairie flowers blaze new trails with candle vigil

Sola Lutrinae - Staff Writer

This past weekend, fall girls around campus, especially those known as “VSCO girls,” gathered at the back of the Southview apartments with candles in hand.

“We’re having a candle vigil tonight,” sophomore Arie West explained. “We’re primarily mourning our hopes and dreams that died with the prairie flowers. We just...we just weren’t ready, you know?”

Other girls agreed with West’s statement. “I had so many outfits at the ready and captions for posts... I was ready to inspire and for people to be like, ‘Wow, amazing!’ But that’s all over now,” said Daisy Greene, a senior at Dordtlantis. “And the fact that this is my last year at Dordtlantis makes it even more devastating. It’s just really sobering to think of all the opportunities that have been wasted and that life and flowers wait for no one.”

The girls planned to walk with their lit candles on the path that goes through the dry, dead prairie. When asked if they saw any problem at all with carrying a plethora of open flames through a dead field, West said, “People keep asking us this question, and I just don’t get it. They just don’t understand our position!

Like, this has been so hard on us, and the fact that we can’t even hold this vigil without this persecution pressing down on us on all sides. If you don’t want to mourn with us, fine, but at least let us mourn in peace!”

If a candle vigil of VSCO girls through Dordtlantis’s prairie has to include one thing, it’s a photo opportunity. “We’re all going to post this same photo and use the same caption, just to show we’re, like, united, you know?” said West. The photo will be taken by drone over the prairie as we walk through it with our candles. “All the lighting issues we thought we were going to face with this photo have been dealt with; so, when that was completed, we felt as though we had made major progress.”

“All that was left to figure out was our caption, West said. “The girls and I have been searching high and low for a great quote to caption it with, to really capture the spirit of this vigil, and after weeks of work, our efforts finally paid off. We’re using Robert M. Drake’s quote, ‘Death is the easy part, the hard part is living and knowing you could be so much more than you’re willing to be.’ We’re hoping this just really inspires the people out there and that it shows we are committing to living our best lives and being our best selves in spite of the

gaping hole we feel now that the prairie flowers are gone.”

It took only minutes after the walk began for the spectators watching from afar to notice a flame, too large to be a candle, light up the night from within the prairie.

“Veronica and I were trying to take a picture together while walking through the prairie so we could remember this night,” said Sophia Taylor after escaping the blaze. “I tripped, and my candle and phone flew from my hand into the prairie grass and all I could think was, ‘I better not have cracked that screen because I just got that phone, and my parents would be soooooo mad.’ And it was, like, really hard to see since it was night, you know? But my candle ended up lighting the grass on fire, and I was like, ‘Wow, this is perfect! #blessed that I have some light to find my phone with.’ And my phone was like, right there... So perf!”

As the fire quickly licked its way through the prairie, the girls rushed out of harm’s way but not before snapping the “perfect picture” for their VSCO page.

“I mean, it was like a little scary, but I calmed down when I realized there were no fire alarms going off,” said Brittney Brill, a vigil participant. “I was like, ‘Oh, okay, it can’t be too bad if it



Photo by Iris Van Focus

hasn’t even triggered the alarms.’ And since I wasn’t in immediate danger, I obviously paused for the perfect picture. Like, I can’t even tell you the last time the lighting in my photo has ever been that good!”

While we are thankful that, aside from the prairie, no one was injured (#blessed), we wonder if a different quote by Drake could actually be a bit more accurate to describe the vigil. “Somewhere along the way we all go a bit mad. So burn, let go and dive into the horror, because maybe it’s the chaos which helps us find where we belong.”

Nice try fall girls. We’re hopeful this experience has brought you a little closer to “finding where you belong.”

# Covenantal people start embarkment across Dordtlantis

Theresa Gray - Staff Writer

You’ve heard of covenantal theology, now join us as we usher in some covenantal exercise.

Students buzz with excitement as they gather to watch a wondrous event of nature: the great migration of Covenant students across the arctic known as Dordtlantis. As soon as winter hits, students herd together every morning with the same goal in mind: get to the other side of campus. Their peers watch with bated breath as they see the first few bravely stepping out of the doors, fighting to keep them open against the wind. The strong are quickly sorted from the weak as some turn tail at the first freezing caress.

When drawing up the initial plans for the campus, Dordtlantis faculty collaborated with doctors from the area.

“Statistics show that students typically gain weight and live a more sedentary lifestyle once they enter college,” Dr. Cornstalk said.

President Hoekstra of Dordtlantis released a statement issuing that he plans for his university to be the first of many to change this trend. To this end, Hoekstra built Covenant Hall at the furthest possible end of campus to encourage

additional walking. The lucky few to live on the top floor get some extra steps in.

“I’ve lost a lot of weight. I mean, I know people always talk about Freshmen Fifteen, but I never thought I’d actually lose fifteen pounds,” Dordtlantis student Chicken Legs said.

Legs is the first of many success stories, but it’s not a happy ending for everyone.

Many of the students are mounting a rebellion...in a very underhanded way. With dogs. And horses. Maybe even a few reindeer.

“I have always survived this trek by racewalking, but that option has been stripped from me as soon as it gets snowy or icy,” Student Frost Bite angrily said. “I’ve even been blown off the sidewalk a few times. Now I’m turning to man’s best friend to help me.”

Bite has partnered with a nonprofit organization pairing rescue animals with students in need.

“We specialize in animals that are very cold-hardy and will safely get students across campus,” Imma Lifesaver said. “The larger ones have less chance to be blown away, allowing students to cling to them when the worst of the winds hit. They truly do save lives.”

There are rumors of pens being erected in the

Dordtlantis prairie. New manure smells are mixing in the air, but, hey, diversity has never been a bad thing.

“Knowing that my sled dogs are waiting for me gets me out of bed in the morning,” Bite said. When asked what she did when there was no snow on the ground, Bite said, “Obviously I don’t hook up the sled. The dogs are happy for a break and they help get me through this incredibly long winter by their unconditional support. If it’s especially cold and windy, I’ll have them walk by my side to block the wind and conserve body heat.”

This trend also boosts the economy. Walmart sales are soaring as they rush to fill the needs created by animal ownership: brushes, food, and harnesses are all sitting on the racks next to the groceries. Students are stringing their sleds and animals with Christmas lights, all bought from local stores. Not only are these lights festive, they’re practical. Since it gets dark so early, the lights serve to illuminate the pathways.

Dogs aren’t the only companion animals helping their owners embark across the incredibly long distances. Piper Equestrian prefers horses over dogs.

“I ride my horse bareback all the way across



Photo by Iris Van Focus

campus, because she serves as a natural legwarmer, she said. “I even found some fashionable shoes to put on her, equipped with ice picks so she doesn’t slip.”

This also builds community. It’s a great conversation starter to show up with a horse, and the students once more band together on the trek across campus, only now accompanied by their animals. Hoekstra agreed to allow the animals to stay on campus because he believes it will usher in a 5th award in student engagement. The best part? Students are still getting their exercise, even if it’s not on their own two feet.

# Goodbye, DC stalking: it’s DUC hunting season

Ethel Shrekowski - Staff Writer

Need to find that cute girl from your math class? Are you dying to know if the boy in your chem lab is free on Friday? Have no fear, DUC Hunting – the new and improved DCC Directory – is here—and it is officially open season here at Dordtlantis.

Junior Phil Robinson says he really enjoys DUC Hunting’s new name. “Now when I’m trying to find that cute nursing major I pine after in the hallways, I don’t feel like a stalker. I feel more like when I’m up in the deer stand waiting for the perfect doe to walk by.”

Some students on campus were unaware of the change. When asked how she felt about the new DUC Hunting platform, senior Sadie Bush said, “I have never been hunting in my life. I am morally opposed to guns – how dare you ask me a question like that?”

It has been confirmed that the DUC Hunting platform will be further improved to make it even more exciting and personal, beginning in the next academic year. This updated version will include tidbits of information such as phone number, home address, favorite color, preferred undergarment brand, and grandparent contact information.

So how will this information be determined? Next year, students will have to fill out an extensive survey in the registration process where they will be asked questions that include but are not limited to: weight, possibility of carrying genetic disorders, color of toothbrush, shoe size, music taste, preferred type and age of cheese, if they hate the skywalk, preferred sleeping orientation, and eye dominance. Students will also be asked to check a box asking whether they are just here for their MR or MRS degree or whether they actually care about their academics and making something of themselves in the real world.

“I think this is a great idea,” says Tiffany van der Heugelhorstnoff, a sophomore nursing major. “If I was dating someone and found out two months into our relationship that they consistently slept on their back, I would be devastated. The DUC hunting platform would make it possible for me to find this out ahead of time and steer clear.”

Even Dordtlantis’ President Erik Hoekstra approves, “After all, Dordtlantis is #1 in student engagement, so it’s very important for students to be able to find their perfect marital match using the DUC Hunting platform.”

“Having so much information about your

potential future spouse ahead of time would spare the need to make small talk on the first few dates, which is a personal pet peeve of mine,” says Jedidiah Robertson, a freshman in the Pro-Tech program. “It would be just like you knew each other already, so you could get right to the good stuff – real talk and engagement, maybe even before you hit sophomore year. At that rate, you could get married by the time you’re a junior.”

Robinson agrees. “It’s getting close to the holidays, and my parents are really starting to get on my back about finding a wife. If I don’t

get a good one this year, I am hopeful that the new platform will really increase my odds.”

So if you want to know what to get that special someone, whether it be in person or as a secret admirer, head over to the DUC Hunting website and type in their name. Or if you don’t know what their name is, try their height, blood type, or hair color – though be aware that trying “blonde” or “tall” isn’t going to narrow your results down a whole lot. Either way, the new and improved DUC Hunting platform is going to make the dating culture at Dordtlantis zestier than ever before.

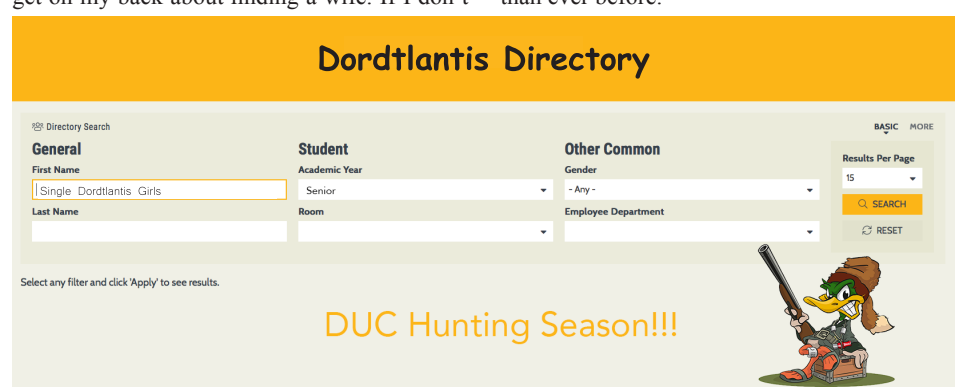


Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Dordtlantis announces MRS degree

Bees? - Staff Writer

Due to popular demand, Dordtlantis has finally declared the MRS degree to be a real major. No longer will prospective wives have to juggle a worship arts minor, psychology major, and stretch themselves to attend any sporting event possible to gain the attention of suitors. With this refined route, MRS majors are promised a husband upon graduation. While admissions continues to put together a complete class list, these are the known offerings at the current time.

### MRS 101: Introduction to Flirtations

Participants in this introductory level course are educated on the basic flirtation methods necessary to attract the attention of a good Dutch husband. Methods include Instagram story posting, the arm brush, the Grille stare, and more. Class members will be expected to fulfill at least 10 hours of practicum for this course.

### MRS 145: First Date Environments

This course will provide participants the resources needed to scout proper locations for a first date: locating emergency exits, bathrooms to disappear into and not return from, and how to finesse free food from unsuspecting dates. Participants expected to fulfill at least 20 practicum hours.

### MRS 201: Dating Upperclassmen

The aspiring underclassman attempting to peruse someone older than them should look into taking this course, which offers methods of dating up the social ladder. An astute student of MRS 201 will be able to pass as an upperclassman after one semester, providing them with a wealth of dating opportunities in the classes above them.

### MRS 222: Dating Underclassmen

Every year, a fresh crop of no less than two hundred available suitors come into

the University, and MRS 222 prepares an upperclassman to tap into this priceless resource. Much like its sister course, MRS 201, upperclassmen will learn to blend seamlessly with their younger counterparts, and explore romantic opportunities with the classes beneath them.

### MRS 280: Ghosting in God's World

Sometimes you talk to a guy for days, weeks, or months, and then decide one day that you no longer have any interest in them. That is ok! The tools given to you in MRS 280 will teach you how to drop a guy quickly, quietly, and discreetly, with only minimal damage to the gentleman's self-esteem.

### MRS 301: Friendzoning Fearlessly

Maybe the lessons taught in MRS 280 are too harsh for your potential dates? MRS 301 will provide you the skills necessary to let the poor guy down easy, and insist that you are "just friends," and "don't want to ruin a good thing."

### MRS 303: Pinterest Methods

Long an unofficial course, where participants would sit in the back of a CORE class and design elaborate Pinterest boards pertinent to their wedding, MRS 303 will provide the tools to allow students to create a variety of unnecessarily complex boards. Final project includes no less than ten boards in content areas ranging from wedding rings to food trucks. Cross-listed as ART 250.

### MRS 399: Marriage Preparation

The final stage in an MRS major's path, MRS 399 is the bow on top of their educational journey. Students are expected to enter the course with a significant other, or she can choose to be assigned a simulation fiancé. Participants will plan a full wedding over the course of the semester, attend marriage counseling with Dean Aaron Baart, and take engagement photos in the prairie with massive amounts of lens flair.

## Hoekstra bans cell phones across campus

Jack Wall - Staff Writer

Can you read this?

Student literacy at Dordtlantis is falling dramatically. Dordtlantis staff think this is due to the rise in hours students spend on their phones. They wonder if these phones are altering the brains of the student population.

"Literacy rates are dropping," Dordtlantis president Erik Hoekstra said. "At this alarming rate of decline, we need to take drastic action to correct this issue."

Professors across campus have been startled by the sudden drop.

"I initially suspected students weren't doing the assigned readings," said Professor Scott Culpepper. "But I didn't realize that anything was wrong until I shuffled through their midterm tests. They were terrible, worse than I have ever seen."

Culpepper reported that this semester's midterm resulted in the lowest average test scores since he started teaching at Dordtlantis. It was obvious the students did not complete the readings throughout the semester. He said the essay portion of the test was of exceptionally low quality.

"The vocabulary used in the essays were what I would expect of middle school children," he said. "What are we—pre-Byzantine empire? They didn't even use punctuation!"

Professor Josh Matthews is also worried about the future of the English department. At first, he was confident that it would continue to flourish even as literacy was falling in many other courses. Yet, he found that his students' scores dove soon thereafter.

"The English department has all but disappeared since the beginning of the school year," said Matthews. "At the end of last year, our department was filled with students

passionate about literature. Now, nearly every English student has switched their major to one that involves a limited amount of reading and writing. Plus, what is a VSCO girl anyway?"

Matthews' curiosity about the sudden change led him to set up meetings with a few of his students. In one session, he bluntly asked them why their grades were plummeting. The student responded by saying, "LOL, idk."

At first, the root of the problem was unclear. However, it took only a few glances across campus to understand the cause of this dilemma.

"It is clearly evident that cell phones are the devil's tool," Culpepper said. "Students are seen running into each other as they walk to class because their eyes are glued to their phones as they Facetime the person walking right next to them."

Junior Audra Phlip agrees. She has watched as her friends transformed from stellar "A" students to ones who are barely scraping by. They haven't stopped making TikTok videos since August.

"The difference between my friends and me is my flip phone," she said. "I am not nearly as connected to my cellular device because there simply isn't much to do on it. I think that is why I am one of the few students across campus not struggling with my grades right now."

Hoekstra deemed that an all-campus ban of cellular devices was necessary to set Dordtlantis back on the right path. He hopes that this will not only solve the problem but prevent it from happening again.

"I only want what is best for this campus," Hoekstra said. "I pray that this action will be one that directs Dordtlantis students to regain an understanding of the importance of literacy once more. I hate to admit it, but these cell phones may be the only square inch of God's world that can't be redeemed."

## Kuyper is sinking and East Campus is here to stay

Anneka van Zevenden berggen - Staff Writer

Kuyper Apartments have always had issues. Some would call it karma. Others call it fate. But Dordtlantis calls it the luck of the Dutch.

Back in 2007, the building now known as the Kuyper apartments was to be "L" shaped building with twice as many apartments as it has now. Because of the 2008 recession, builders, engineers, statisticians, politicians, and Robert Taylor decided to stick with the single row, three story building with the namesake of "Kuyper," because he too, was unlucky and liked to save a quick penny. "We care about the culture of the community but couldn't pinch any more Dutch pennies from the community," Taylor said.

Little did Taylor and the statisticians know,

just 12 years after the economic recession, Kuyper would face much more severe financial and structural issues than even the worst of economic downturns. Engineers have now confirmed that Kuyper apartments is, in fact, sinking. "The integrity of the building and its namesake are in jeopardy," said Josh Wagner, a freshman engineering student at Dordtlantis.

Taylor also said that the current plans for a new dining hall will be put on hold until the year 2025 when Dordtlantis has recovered from the financial hit of the "Kuyper Crisis."

"All upperclassmen living in Kuyper will be moving out immediately. Because we have no other living spaces, we will be filling the East Campus apartments to max capacity of seven people per apartment. Some women have also

opted to triple up in the Covey dorms," said Taylors.

"I just can't believe this," said Anne Hag van Donsel den Schouten. "Dutch people just have the worst of luck sometimes... but God is faithful to provide. East Campus is such a blessing."

Some students have opted to move to Northwestern College because of the crisis. Others have switched to more holy, financially, and structurally stable colleges such as Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona or Calvin in Grand Rapids, Michigan.


"It is so true that the Dutch are unlucky," said Erik Hoekstra, Dutch president of Dordtlantis. "We are sorry to see so many students upset, but we are sure that God will provide."

It is also reported that black mold has been a problem in East Campus for the last few years. "Thankfully, black mold does not impact our finances or our health, and so students can rest their heads with ease. Black mold is only a superficial problem these days."

Others argue that Kuyper is still structurally sound. "Sinking has never been a concern in engineering. Look at the tower of Pisa!" said Wagner.

Students are being sent to the leaning tower of Pisa for an exploratory learning trip this Spring, but in order to save money, some are pushing to just take a tour of the sinking Kuyper as an alternative.

**Dermatologists HATE him!!!**



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# Pick your favorite Grille Sandwich and we'll tell you your Professor Soulmate

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Rice Bowl



**You got: Lynn Nutt!**  
Assistant Football Coach

A MANLY MAN DESERVES THE MEATIEST OF SANDWICHES. We get it, you like tough guys. Can we blame you? A night spent watching film of sending scatter-brained emails about intramurals seems like a match made in heaven. HOOAH! #industrystandard.



**You got: Barb Hoekstra!**  
Professor of Education

A classic woman for a classic sandwich. We all know which Hoekstra really runs this fine institution. Enjoy long conversation over coffee at the Fruited Plain or a fine meal at Four Brothers with the queen of Sioux Center. All hail!



**You got: Walker Cosgrove!**  
Associate Professor of History

Hearty. Wholesome. Italian. You and Cosgrove fit together better than his man bun and tweed jackets. A night of extravagant pastas and breads at candlelight during the Italy trip may be in your future!



**You got: Jeremy Hummel!**  
Professor of Agriculture

Au naturel, baby. You enjoy dining from the Earth's bounty, and Hummel knows how to provide from it. Butterflies may flutter when he shows you his bug collection or takes you for a stroll on the prarie.



**You got: Rebekah Earnshaw!**  
Asst. Professor of Theology

Some people want things they can't have. The rice bowl remains missing in the grille this year and Earnshaw is nowhere to be found on campus. They aren't gone, but most days the Commons seems just as far as Australia. It's time to find a new lover.



**You got: Teresa Ter Haar!**  
Theatre Arts Professor

It just feels right. When you crave comfort food, the grilled cheese tops all. When you need a pick me up chat after a failed test, Ter Haar shines like the streetlights on 6th Ave. A show at the theater followed by a cathartic conversation may be the cure for your gloom.



**You got: Bill Elgersma!**  
Professor of English

The Plain Jane keeps it simple. No beating around the bush here. Just facts. Elgersma is your no nonsense man who says what he thinks. A tv dinner and a prompt discussion on grammar should do the trick.



**You got: Manuela Ayeel!**  
Asst. Professor of Engineering

Your taste in high-class sandwiches match you with a high-brow professor. Ayeel has published nine scientific studies and the cities has nine total ingredients (the most of all grille sandwiches). A coincidence? Our lab results say no.



**You got: Howard Wilson!**  
Vice President & Chief Admin Officer

Howard Wilson isn't your average Dordt professor. He isn't one at all. But the Defender isn't your average sandwich either. The powerhouse of the Defender Grille pairs perfectly with your embodiment of all things shalom. You have peaked in life.

## Alumni found squatting in nursing department house

Scoop McNewsman - Staff Writer

The house-like building on the Northwest corner of campus has had many functions: President's House, Nursing Department, and housing for Graduate Assistants. But, as it transitions to a new function, that of Dordtlantis' first fraternity, an interesting, albeit troubling, discovery was made.

Maintenance got an early start on renovations last Thursday, as they began work in the basement. There, to their surprise, they stumbled across a makeshift shelter, complete with the modern necessities: bedding, a space heater, and a laptop.

"We were shocked to find all that stuff," said maintenance supervisor Duane Bajema. "For a second we thought that it may have been a Graduate Assistant who wanted to be away from the rest. Or maybe some nursing simulation that didn't get taken out."

The truth, however, was far more unsettling. Minutes later, the crew ran into a disheveled, unkempt man as he shambled his way down the basement stairs.

"Truth be told, I wasn't expecting them," the man, Kevin Peterson, told the *Zircon*. "On the one hand I was excited to see new people, but

on the other hand I was afraid they'd kick me out. Luckily, I had a plan for that."

Within seconds of seeing the crew, Peterson had dropped to the ground and handcuffed himself to a pipe. Peterson then proceeded to yell "Squatter's Rights!" repeatedly until the crew backed off.

Peterson graduated from Dordt College (formerly Dordt University, now Dordtlantis) in 2017, majoring in Digital Media Production.

"I loved that major, but I was garbage at it," Peterson says. "I graduated and couldn't find work, and, because I couldn't find work, I couldn't leave Sioux County, so I ended up homeless. However, I managed to swipe a fob and I hunkered down here in the basement. It's really not that bad."

Peterson, while vocal about his lack of skills, also blames Dordtlantis for getting his hopes up.

"They used to have this statistic plastered everywhere about how a high percentage of Dordtlantis students get employed post-graduation. I figured that I could just graduate and go from there. Guess I was wrong."

Although he's been caught, Peterson has no plans to move from his makeshift home.

"I've been here for 2 ½ years and I'm not

gonna be moved. If they want me out of here, they'll have to give me a good reason!" Peterson claims.

"We can't legally move him," Duane Bajema tells the *Zircon*. "He's claimed Squatter's rights. That's the adult equivalent of Finder's Keepers. No backsies."

Despite all the new developments, Peterson remains hopeful about his future. "They can't just leave me here. Sooner or later there'll be a maintenance or marketing position opened, and I'll be here, waiting."

Dordtlantis representative Jake Brouwer refused to comment on the record but did leave Peterson with his business card.

"I remember Jake," Peterson says. "Hey, maybe he can get me a job. Dordtlantis! Hire me!"

Dordtlantis currently has no plans to hire Kevin Peterson, but Peterson persists- scrawling out applications and resumes with his left hand (the right is still cuffed to a pipe).

"I'm not leaving here until I get a job! It's only a matter of time!" Peterson went on.

With the fraternity due to move in a couple months, Peterson plans to welcome them with open arm.

"I'm excited to have more people around. It



Photo by Iris Van Focus

can get lonely down here. I'm ready to get back into that dorm life. I miss it," Peterson says emotionally. "Can't wait to have a good bunch of boys in here."

For now, Peterson remains chained to the pipe in the house's basement.

## East Campus to open new rooftop bar: the last square inch

Anneli Kanerva - Staff Writer

Dordtlantis has moved to embrace party-life on campus by opening a rooftop bar on top of East Campus. The new bar—The Last Square Inch—will open tomorrow in an attempt to capitalize on student's consumption of alcohol. JUST KIDDING! You really thought Dordtlantis would serve alcoholic beverages? No, friends: this bar serves Fresca, juice, and La Croix ONLY.

"The dry campus thing is going great! But, we need some more revenue," said Derek Buteyn. "So, we're offering the best drinks we could find, all without the devil's juice."

Part of the decision to open The Last Square Inch was to prevent the Campus Bookstore from being overrun at the end of every semester. Every finals week, the bookstore is overrun by students looking to use up their Defender Dollars, which results in absolute chaos and sometimes stampedes. The Last Square Inch plans to accept Defender Dollars to ease this problem, but drinks will cost more when students use their Defender Dollars.

The Last Square Inch is gearing up for their opening weekend to occur at the beginning of second semester, but they are still hiring servers. Because all servers will be work-study positions, servers are already becoming extremely competitive.

"I am dying to get that server position because, like, I'm a psych major, you know?" said senior Kasey Kasum. "I would love to hear people's deep trauma and analyze them. Plus, I'm totally great at giving advice."

Although The Last Square Inch is not officially open, the bar is already receiving support from Dordtlantis' first on-campus fraternity Kappa Epsilon Gamma (KEG). The Last Square Inch had a pre-opening event for the fraternity members to sample drinks and appetizers. KEG members have already spread their recommendations around campus and all members are planning to have Last Square Inch rewards cards within the first week of opening.

"I hate to admit that I like 'girly' drinks but I gotta say it: that Ring by Spring Spritzer is the best drink I've ever had," KEG member Chad DeLame said. "It's literally liquid skittles combined with LaCroix."

The Last Square Inch's menu will be limited to drinks and appetizers but the bar plans to expand their menu after the first month. For the opening weekend, The Last Square Inch is planning to experiment with new drink combinations before setting their menu. Some of the non-alcoholic feature drinks this week include: The Siouland Mule, Ring by Spring Spritzer, the C.S. Lewis Mocktail, the MRS Not-A-Margarita, the John Calvin Julep, and Don't Date 'Til Tristate Daquiri.



Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Starbucks buys out FLAME

Theresa Gray - Staff Writer

After months of complaints, Dordtlantis coffee shops have bowed to the demands of their people. 55th and Bunsen Brew have submitted to the higher power: Starbucks.

"I was worried my Starbucks lingo was getting rusty," Dordtlantis senior Brittany Caramel said. "It was so confusing going up to the counter at 55th and asking for a grande. They were like, 'we only have one size.'"

Caramel admitted that she could be a coffee snob sometimes.

"But that doesn't mean we should have to suffer," Caramel said.

Other students rally behind her.

"It was really intimidating looking at their menu and all the normal coffee language was absent," Freshman Chloe Cinnamon said. "I asked for a mocha and I only got a blank stare. I panicked and ordered the simplest drink I could think of - a latte. It's literally espresso and milk. But they didn't get that either."

Dordtlantis professors are concerned that the students' IQ will significantly drop once they start writing out names on drinks.

"We actually put a lot of thought into how we train our employees," Starbucks manager Mr. Bean said. "By encouraging unique spellings of customer names, those with less aptitude for spelling can relax and do their job well without fear of retribution."

"I feel like I'm coming home when I get my hands around that piping hot cup of sweet, caffeinated goodness and see my name spelled in the most creative ways!" Caramel said.

Of course, there are going to be changes with the Starbucks takeover. Prices will have to be raised to a minimum of \$5 per drink.

"I'm glad I have a worthy place to spend my money," Dordtlantis student Kyle Espresso said. "I had a lot of pocket money left over even



Photo by Iris Van Focus

after paying tuition, groceries, and laundry."

The management also has plans to install a new ice machine.

"They were, like, always out of ice," Cinnamon said. "I can't wait to be able to order a Frappuccino when I want one."

Prices will have to be raised even further to cover this cost, but Espresso fully supports this plan.

"It's time Dordtlantis students start paying some money to this institution," Espresso said.

Once launched as a creative idea to keep Dordtlantis students' hands warm during the cold, harsh winters, management at the business club decided to abandon the use of coffee sleeves. Instead, they believed the searing heat filtering through the thin paper was an efficient, environmentally friendly way to generate heat.

Unfortunately, Starbucks plans to once more implement the use of cardboard sleeves. Bean believes it will lessen the amount of blisters students have reported.

"My mom always told me it built character, but I can't say I'm going to miss all those burns," Cinnamon said. "Now I can play the organ without enormous pain."

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## Ice cream's not doing it: FLAME backs East Campus rooftop bar

*Wooden U. Laiktouneau - Staff Disappointment*

It's no secret that Dordtlantis' business club, FLAME, has been searching for new and refreshing ways to attract more customers to the 55th coffee shop. From extending its hours to even opening on Saturdays, the 55th staff has been doing its best to increase interest and business.

"We even started dishing out ice cream to our customers," senior Les Tarea said, "on cones and everything...My hands have gotten so sore from all that."

Despite the business club's strenuous efforts, their financial needs have not been met. Such pressuring circumstances have been causing both the members and guiding business professors varying levels of stress.

"We can keep saying that this sort of situation gives our students authentic, applicable experience, which it does," Business Professor Tim Klein said, "but there comes a point where we have to take action and reconsider the audience we are serving...That's part of what business is."

"Serving ice cream was a nice idea, but I don't think it was unique enough," junior Kylie Sanderson said. "Honestly, we [FLAME] have just been searching for products that will continually appeal to the students on campus."

Hence the search for alternative solutions began for FLAME. By interacting with students of all sorts of interests, the club members began to formulate a course of action that would boost their sales. By doing so, they came across a surprising opportunity.

"I was just chatting with another upperclassman, when they mentioned the plans for a rooftop bar in East Campus," Sanderson said. "I didn't think too much of it at the time, but then I later realized that FLAME could possibly take advantage of this."

Rumors have been flying around campus of a bar being placed atop an East Campus unit, named The Last Square Inch. Although many members of FLAME presented their

speculation toward the idea of capitalizing on a juice-centric franchise, the guaranteed income seemed to outweigh the potential loss of a good reputation. Even Professor Klein had to admit that this choice could expose his students to invaluable business experience.

"You hear about it all of the time with countless successful businesses," Klein said. "They start becoming involved with all different sorts of products, and they learn to cater to a wide, diverse audience."

Once the FLAME committee agreed to support The Last Square Inch, they began to plan how they would advertise their new operation of business.

"Frankly, we have to keep it a bit on the down-low," Tarea said. "Like, we want the students to hear about it, but if the wrong person gets wind of the sheer quantities of La Croix, we may face problems."

Posters, Student Services approved, have appeared on several bulletin boards across campus, discreetly informing readers of the rooftop juice-only bar that will open soon atop East Campus. Excitement among students has been increasing substantially as the news has spread.

"I had no idea that this was happening, but I am so here for it," 22-year old senior Bob Robertson said. "I think it's also pretty neat that a student group like FLAME is getting so involved with it. It makes the sale of that sweet sweet juice so much more personable."

Before the big opening day, though, FLAME members have had to make detailed plans.

"I'm really excited about this, but a lot of questions have to be asked first," Sanderson said. "What drinks are popular? How much of a given drink should we buy? Should we limit the amount of juice a student can buy?"

FLAME plans for The Last Square Inch to open on January 10, 2020, the first Friday of second semester.

"I'm eager to see how this goes," Klein said. "Our business majors have always been bright, but this has to be their most brilliant idea yet."

## Christmas fantasies

*Supercalifragilisticexpialadocious - Staff Writer*

Tragedy struck today at Dordtlantis when a football player was sent sprawling from his scooter trying to avoid his homework. But that was just the start. Getting up from the scene, the player was convinced that his professor of CORE-180, Dr. Bob De Smith, was Santa Claus.

Due to a severe concussion, the deluded student Randy Van Something-Dutch-Sounding started to develop an obsession with his English Professor, claiming that the venerable orator was in fact Santa Claus.

Doctors were unable to treat the crazed student of his fantasy and simply let him return to Dordtlantis to continue as a student of football, with classes on the side.

Walking into his class with De Smith, Van Something-Dutch-Sounding claimed all he could think was that this man had to be Santa Claus, pointing to his jolly expression, white whiskers, and other features that may come to mind when conjuring up the image of Santa Claus.

The frazzled De Smith did his best to convince the student through his knowledge of myth and story, but, alas, the student's confusion only increased after listening to De Smith lecture over A Midsummers Night's Dream. Despite eloquent metaphors and witty euphemisms, Shakespeare only caused the student to descend deeper into madness, giving even Hamlet a run for his money.

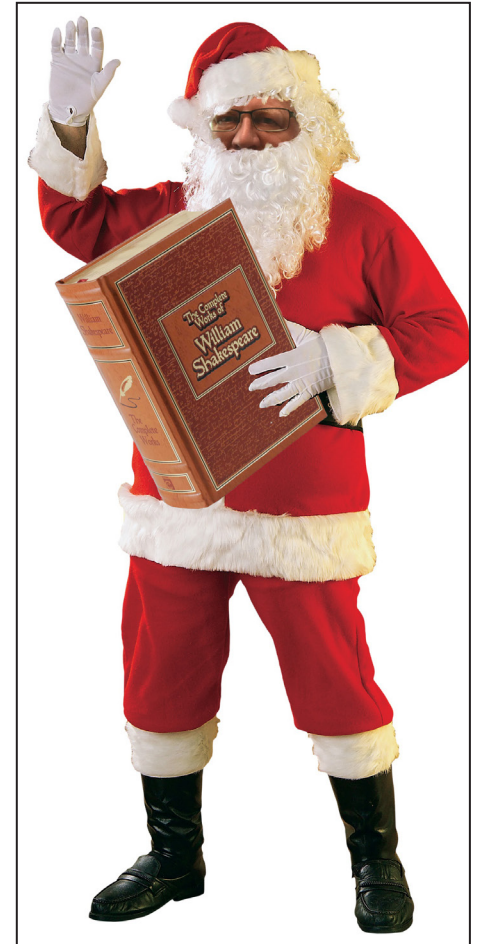
"It's him! It's really him!" the student cried. "Don't you see it?"

After a light tranquilizer from the school nurse, Van Something-Dutch-Sounding was more inclined to sit quietly as De Smith narrated the wonders of Shakespeare. But after about a half-hour, it had an adverse reaction to the steroids the football player was on.

Determined to discover the truth, Van Something-Dutch-Sounding lurked outside De Smith's house.

Scouting the site, Van Something-Dutch-Sounding walked around the house looking for clues as to anything out of place. Little did he know that up on the roof, De Smith was setting up his Christmas decorations.

As Rudolph was going into place, De Smith's



*Photo by Iris Van Focus*

grip loosened and away the reindeer slipped from his grasp, and Rudolph crashed onto the unsuspecting head of Van Something-Dutch-Sounding.

Fortunately, the loose screw in the student's head was knocked into place by the Christmas decoration. Whatever one wishes to call reality suddenly returned to the bruised student's head and all visions of Santa Claus disappeared.

Van Something-Dutch-Sounding returned to his normal jock self and settled back into his routine and status at Dordtlantis.

"I was just relieved he didn't discover my true identity because no one would accept me in my red suit," De Smith said.

What a very merry Christmas. In the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us, every one!"

## Fresca addiction takes over international students

*PleaseDon'tSueMeCoca-Cola - Staff Writer*

Three Dordtlantis students were hospitalized in the past week due to a Fresca overdose. After having severe abdominal pain, they went to the Student Health and Counseling Center, only to be rushed to the Emergency Room. All of these students were international students who had one thing in common: they were addicted to a drink called Fresca.

At first, the doctors could not figure out why these students were experiencing similar effects, but after the third student was rushed to the Emergency Room, they concluded that it was because of the overconsumption of the grapefruit soda drink Fresca. Dordtlantis is currently undergoing an investigation on the drink.

Fresca, Coca-Cola's citrus diet drink has recently become popular in the Dordtlantis community, especially among international students. This zero-calorie, sugar-free, and caffeine-free soft drink has been on the market since the late '60s but did not appeal to Millennials until 2018, when they rebranded their logo and added more flavors. Now Fresca is more popular than ever with their new eye-catching design and different flavors of Original Citrus, Peach Citrus, and Black Cherry Citrus.

"I love drinking soda, but I can't handle the caffeine in them," stated Senior International Student Elayne Pomelo. "I usually bought a 12 pack of Fresca every week because I drank one or two cans every day."

Pomelo was one of the first students to get hospitalized after she drank her fifth bottle of Fresca that day while studying for an exam.

Pomelo, along with the other two Dordtlantis students have been released from the hospital and are slowly trying their best to lessen their consumption of Fresca.

This Fresca addiction has become a problem that even the Administrations could not ignore. But how did it become so popular amongst such a selected group of people?

The answer, like many other addictions, started with one person.

"I was going to The Last Square Inch, the new juice bar on top of East Campus, one day and decided to try [Fresca] out," stated Junior Dereck Ramirez. "I told a couple of people about it, but I never expected so many people to be affected."

Ramirez, although he took precautions while drinking the drink, was the third person to get hospitalized. Doctors were surprised by the amount of chemical build up in his body, as he was drinking Fresca for the past year. During the three days at the hospital, he tried escaping to buy a bottle of Fresca, and had to be handcuffed to his bed to stop him from running.

Ramirez told a couple of his friends about this new drink he found out and would often share it with them. He said that every student he shared his drink with loved the drink and also shared it with their friends too.

The idea of a drink being zero-calorie and zero caffeine created the appeal to drink Fresca for many of the students, but what they did not realize was the significant negative effects Fresca had on them. The mix of too much Aspartame (an artificial sweetener) and EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid) can lead to severe stomach problems as the acids built up

inside the stomach. The mixture of too much acid could also lead to the lining of the stomach burning away.

"I was doing my homework on my desk when I accidentally spilled my can of Fresca on my laptop," stated sophomore Juan Cereza "I smelled something burning and found out it was burning a hole through my keyboard." Thanks to Dordtlantis being underwater, no fires were

caused from the chemical burn.

Since the multiple incidents regarding this drink, Dordtlantis has highly encouraged students to drink Fresca responsibly, and take caution in the amount you drink. Free counseling services have also been provided to the students who are going through severe Fresca withdrawal symptoms.



*Photo by Iris Van Focus*

# ◆ Starving ◆

## PEPPA

*Your Opinon Sucks and mine is right, because I'm an English Major – Staff Writer*

Deep breath in. Breath out. Headphones in. Volume cranked. I haven't slept in three days, I've been in a sensory deprivation tank, with only the sultry notes of *My First Album* by the anthropomorphic swine goddess, Peppa Pig, to keep me company. The sheer artistry of this work rivals even that of Tyler, the Creator in my book. Not in centuries has there been as strong as an innovator in the musical field as Peppa. She rivals the artistry of Beethoven, Kanye, The Wiggles, and whatever other sub-par artist you throw at her. Only god herself could create the masterpieces we have been blessed with in *My First Album*. Move over, Ariana Grande, god is a woman, and that woman is a pig.

The opener track, "It's Peppa Pig," is more telling about the state of affairs all across the globe than any one album I've covered this entire year. We can all see ourselves in the little house on the hill, with Brother George and Mommy and Daddy Pig. There is a childish innocence we all long for in the jumping around in muddy puddles. No other artist truly encapsulates the childlike love for life that Peppa does.

Beyond the lyrics, the instrumental backing is the strongest of its kind I have covered in

my two decades in this field. Chimes meet a rocking piano melody, a flute soars above the rest, and Peppa's siren-esque voice pulls the listener in, soothing all worldly ills, restoring faith in humanity, and making the listener feel as if they could accomplish even the most daunting of tasks.

As a concept album, the narrative of *My First Album* is tighter than any project Kendrick has put out, better than your *Flower Boy's* and *IGOR's*. The listener has the privilege to look into the psyche of Peppa, a fearless, young, British pig challenging the patriarchy and fighting for us, the people. From the opener track to the closer, "Peppa's Lullaby," we blessed listeners are invited on a personal journey with Peppa, where no hill is too tall to climb, adventure is around every corner, and friends are abundantly present to fight the demons of everyday life.

The second stand out track on this beautiful venture into Peppa Pig's world simply have to be "Expert Daddy Pig." Beneath the obviously difficult relationship Peppa has with her father, the artist uncovers the depths of love, lust, the formative importance of a father figure, and precisely why Jeffrey Epstein didn't kill himself. Arriving at these conclusions by use of gratuitous background vocals, sound effects, and triangle. OH LORDY THE TRIANGLE.

NEVER HAS SUCH AN INSTRUMENT GIVEN ME TINGLES WITHIN MY DEPTHS AS THAT DARN TRIANGLE. TWO PIECES OF METAL HAVE CAUSED ME TO QUESTION MY ATTRACTION TO HUMAN BEINGS AS A SPECIES.

Wow ok, blacked out for a bit there.

Wrapping up, Peppa Pig has undoubtedly made a name for herself for centuries to come. Future Dordtlantis students will study her achievements in CORE 160; music students will hope someday to understand the tonal diversity within the album that is *My First Album*.

### SONG BREAKDOWN:

#### Will Listen Again:

It's Peppa Pig  
Bing Bong Zoo  
Let's Get Ready!  
Expert Daddy Pig  
Rainbow, Rainbow  
Super Potato's Theme  
Peppa and Friends  
The Class of Madame Gazelle  
Festival Fun!  
Jumping in Muddy Puddles  
Holidays!  
Traffic



Photo by Iris Van Focus

Balloon Ride  
Busy Miss Rabbit  
Peppa Party Time  
Peppa's Lullaby

#### Burn It Down:

IGOR'S THEME  
How Great Thou Art  
m. A. A. D. City  
Concerto No. 5

#### Delightfully Meh:

The Grey Psalter

#### Dark Horse:

Katy Perry

## Theatre Department moves again; "still too close"

*Zach Steensma - Staff Writer*

Earlier this year, the new Theatre Arts facility took root on the outermost southern part of Dordtlantis' campus. This move provided a much-needed renovated space for the thespians, and—most importantly—it quarantined them off from the rest of us.

Although beloved, the theatre department has begun to get out of control over the past few years. While the department was housed smack dab in between the Ribbens Academic Complex and the Science Building, many passersby witnessed strange incidents. These happenings ranged from poorly executed flash mobs to the hurling of Shakespearean insults, and just about everything in between.

"At least that sword guy is gone," said senior Stephanie Sundheym. An attempt to drop off her Core 160 deposit during her sophomore year nearly ended in tragedy when she opened a closet door and was met with a deluge of authentic Japanese katanas. "I transferred to the music section the next morning."

Before the move, a person needn't even

enter the pod to be subjected to drama. Merely walking past it during the early afternoon put them at risk.

"Tuesdays and Thursdays on my way from Environmental Science to Core 200, without fail, every time I was near the theatre pod, they would start shouting the entire *Hamilton* soundtrack at me," said junior Alexis Hamlington, who claims this recurring confrontation took a heavy toll on her.

"Imagine being the sole target of a swarm of white kids rapping about a founding father," said Hamlington. "I was in the process of legally changing my name when they announced the move."

Despite the initial applause for Dordtlantis' administration for finally doing something about the theatre "artists", some still thought that the move was not far enough away. The new building may be on the farthest possible edge of the property, but several members of the campus community have recently spoken up about a larger issue at hand.

While teaching one of his classes, adjunct

Professor of Science Theo Dur had a rather peculiar experience.

"All I did was ask the students to calculate the number of minutes within one calendar year," said Dur. Much to the dismay of Dur and the other students present, freshman theatre arts scholarship student Drew Webber stood up and sang the answer. "He got it right, but at what cost?"

According to multiple eyewitness accounts, Webber allegedly step-ball-changed all the way out of the Science Building when asked to show his work. "It was incredibly unnerving," said Dur.

This episode and several others like it has lead Dordtlantis' administration to reconsider the building move. Otto Van Kiljoi, head of Sioux County's Dramatic Interferences Committee (DIC), believes that there is a fine line that is being crossed by the department.

"If it were just the feverish choreography and constant vocal projection, we might be able to deal with it," said Van Kiljoi. The line of shows slated for the theatrical season are of concern

to him. "The department is out here treating theatre like it's some kind of 'artistic tool for introspection.' We have got to put a stop to that kind of thinking."

Within the first week of October, Van Kiljoi and the rest of the DIC put forth a proposal to relocate the theatre arts building yet again — this time, to the neighboring state of South Dakota.

"I guess I'll sort of miss the Friday popcorn," said sophomore Philip Tenn, a former theatre arts scholarship holder. "I won't miss them yelling 'thank you, Tenn' whenever I say literally anything at all."

In a formal statement regarding the \$8,000,000 raised for the relocation, the DIC wrote: "May God bless and keep the theatre... far away from us."

The construction of the new building will take place in the spring semester of 2020. Students, staff, and faculty of the theatre arts department are expected to move to South Dakota as well, where they can remotely attend classes and meetings indefinitely.

## Born again Christian Kanye West applying to be Dordtlantis music professor

*Kanye West is Kanye Best - Staff Writer*

American rapper, singer, and songwriter Kanye West has decided to retire from the music industry and take on the role as a professor here at Dordtlantis.

After dropping his new album *Jesus Is King* last October, West has been getting nothing but positive remarks and praises from the Christian community, especially from the Reformed churches.

"I just loved the way he weaved in rap and Christianity into one album because you don't really see that these days," said freshman English major Elizabeth East. "He has such a big platform and I respect him that he's using it to spread the gospel." East had never listened to any of West's music until her friend was listening to the *Jesus Is King* album and immediately fell in love with it.

There were rumors at the beginning of the school year that Kanye West himself contacted President Hoekstra, asking if there was a job position open for him. The rumors were found to be true when Hoekstra retweeted Kanye West's post of retirement - "Now that I'm in service to Christ, my job is to spread the Gospel, to let people know what Jesus has done for me." -with a cryptic message of a clapping hands emoji, a

graduation hat emoji, and the Dordtlantis logo.

Two days after the cryptic text, Dordtlantis published a press release stating that they were in the process of hiring Kanye West as their new music professor. They believed that "Kanye West is a good example of how a Christian can impact the secular world and properly use their platform to spread the kingdom of God to every square inch."

West has been getting a lot of positive reactions toward the younger generations, especially among those in Christian colleges. He felt like these younger Christians were the key to spreading the word of God to places Christians often do not think they can spread the gospel to.

"Jesus is the key to everything, and I want to help these kids find that key," said West in his most recent interview with the Times Magazine.

Despite the positive support West has been receiving throughout the Christian community, there have been a few people in the Dordtlantis community who are skeptical about Kanye West's qualifications for the position. But Dordtlantis students are rooting for the hiring of West because they believe it would be a great experience if West became a music professor.

"As a music major, it would be a mind-opening experience if Kanye West taught me how to



Photo by Mamarazzi

write music and learn the thought process that went behind his latest album," said sophomore Jessica Van Der Wald.

Junior Bob Robert Jr. also commented on the idea of having Kanye West as a professor, stating that "I would love it if he taught us Core 399 because he has real-life experience of what the world is like and would be able to show us

how to handle it in a Christian perspective."

West and his family plan to move down to Sioux Center if he does get the job as a music professor at Dordtlantis.

When asked about her husband's decision on quitting his music industry to become a professor, Kim Kardashian-West stated that "If I've got family, that's all I need."

## Potted plants banned due to missing student found in dorm turned jungle

Woody Wordy – Staff Writer

Last Thursday, Dordtlantis announced a new amendment to the Student Handbook: Students shall no longer be allowed to grow, host, welcome, babysit, or encourage plant habitation in residential halls or apartments.

Maintenance bravely entered West Hall 313 last Tuesday to find Freshman Patty Planterwal entangled in a mass of Fiddle-leaf fig, spider plants, swiss cheese plant, and common ivy. The men had to use a pry bar to open the door, stumbling into a mass of dense greenery. The room had been swallowed in Calathea, peacock plant, Peperomia obtusifolia, and lucky bamboo, obscuring any evidence of wall, ceiling, or floor.

“I guess we really hadn’t seen anyone coming or going from the room across the hall for a couple days now,” said sophomore Daisy den Fleuren, a plant science major. “We just suspected they like to sleep a lot; maybe they are a pack of night owls in there—I dunno.”

Poor Planterwal recounted her sad story: she had been working on homework one night amidst a dim light coming from up above, when all of a sudden, a Zamioculcas zamiifolia shot out of the corner and slapped her in the face. After that, she blacked out until later found by the maintenance men.

“I remember starting my collection the first week of school in August,” said Planterwal,

with a shiver. “It was only one little, itty-bitty succulent! Harmless, I swear!”

Unfortunately for Planterwal, this collection of plants grew as gifts from friends, family, and random community members inhabited her room. They started on the windowsill, but moved to other parts of the room when space ran out—including the bathroom. The steamy air in the bathroom proved beneficial, according to Planterwal, so she just left the shower and sink running.

“I had a roommate, but she finally had enough,

and decided to move out. At least, I think she moved out... I don’t really know. It’s all a blur.”

Other students on campus have chosen to join this cult of plant-hording as well, much to the horror of Dordtlantis’ administration. Out of fear, they recently attempted to sneak the potted plants from the library. Students have reported seeing strangely masked figures, still wearing their office nametags, struggling to stuff an areca palm out the library door. However, unfortunately for these well-meaning officials, the plants seem to have scan bar codes as well.

If you do not check out your item, you may not leave the library with it. So, the plants have, for the moment, remain in their positions looming over study desks from shadow corners.

As a result, Dordtlantis will also abort their plan to take over the Science Building greenhouse and remodel it into a student study space. The risk of losing students is too great.

“Generally, plants are a good thing, and promote a healthier study environment,” said Sam Van Succulent, a researcher for Student Health Services. “What went wrong here, I cannot figure out.”

Before the maintenance begins the long process of plant extraction from West Hall, art professor Matt Drissell has reserved the space for his painting I class to come in with their easels and work.

“There is so much potential for fantastic plant understandings,” said Drissell, ecstatic about the variety of color and texture still life so readily available on campus.

Hopefully all students will be accounted for at the end of the course.

“Please, please, do not give in to this fad!” said Planterwal. “Once you’ve been sucked in, it may be too late.”

Dordt has requested all students to report any sign of suspicious dorm plant life immediately; a link to “report plants” can be found in the Weekly.

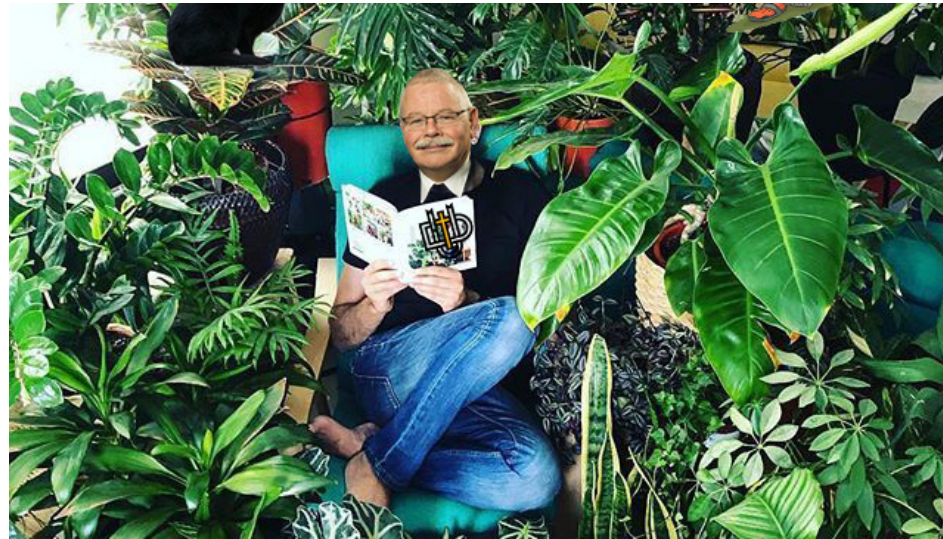


Photo by Iris Van Focus

## DIVINING THE ZODIAC - Horoscopes from Madame Cornelia Q. Scammerstein

**Sagittarius** - Old things have become new, new things have become even newer. The past is disappearing. I can’t remember anything anymore! Mom! Dad! Anybody! It’s so dark, so cold! I need help!!

**Cupofcorn** - Aw jeez, looks like the clouds are a-building! Storm’s a-comin’! Batten down those hatches and stay inside. Might be a good time to read that book your brother bought you. You remember your brother? He’s been texting more often. That’s weird, huh? Maybe you should text him back, but then again, how can you talk to him after what he did?



Photo by Iris Van Focus

**Aquarrrreeeeeeeeus** - REDACTED FOR BEING TOO REVOLUTIONARY.

**Digiorno** - Your normal methods of migraine prevention aren’t working. You should try Digiorno’s Pizza! Now available with deep dish and stuffed crust, the authentic taste of Italy can now be found packaged and frozen in your local grocery store. Does it actually cure migraines? Don’t worry about it! It’s got pepperonis, sometimes. If you want a pepperoni pizza, get Digiorno’s. Do it, or you’re a nerd! Remember: It’s not delivery, It’s Digiorno’s! (This horoscope brought to you by Digiorno’s Frozen Pizzas.)

**Pieces** - You ever think about how the controversy over the word boomer is manufactured by older generations in order to shift focus away from how they [boomers] destroyed the housing market, did nothing as large corporations lobbied for tax breaks and fewer environmental regulations, and gave us participation medals, only to turn around and berate us for having participation medals, disliking capitalism, and not buying property? Well, stop thinking about it, and enjoy Digiorno’s Frozen Pizza! (This

horoscope also brought to you by Digiorno’s.)

**Bellagio** - That’s not a real Zodiac sign, that’s the name of a town in Italy, and the name of one of the real-casinos that the characters in the 2001 version of Ocean’s 11 try to rob. But you didn’t know that, did ya? No! Because you’re always on that phone. Put it down, go outside! \*scoffs\* Wish we could go back.

**Taurus** - (chanting) CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES! CRIMES!

**Spaghetti** - Imagine being an engineering major in current year! (This meme brought to you by the Humanities Gang.)

**Gemini** - Did anyone see the 2019 Will Smith movie Gemini Man? The word Gemini made me think of it and I never heard if it was good or bad. Does anyone know? Hello? Hello? Anyone?

**Cancer** - Cancer?! I hardly know her! - You see, this joke doesn’t necessarily work as well in a written medium. So much of comedy is dependent on inflection, subversion, and assumption that presenting jokes in a written format often makes them fall flat. In this essay, I will...

**Leonardo DiCaprio** - When the inevitable apocalypse comes, you’ll be left with a choice. Do you save your dog, or your cat? You cannot save them both. Choose carefully, as one will save you and the other will destroy you. I cannot tell you which is the best choice, I can only warn you of what’s to come. This is my lot in life. The end is nigh.

**Pantswet** - Pants, and I really, truly, cannot stress this enough: Wet.

**Scorpio** - Look into the eyes of a child. Get real deep in there. Deeper. Deeper. There! Do you see it? It’s a little man in there! Wait a minute! This isn’t a real kid! It’s a robot disguised as a child, piloted by a crew smaller people. Too bad no one will ever believe you.

## To heck with it, Zircon film reviewer says, here’s an overly complicated Mac 'n Cheese recipe

Zach n’ Cheese – Staff Writer

Oh, you wanted a review of *Doctor Sleep*? More like Doctor Cheap, as in the way all you dumb stupid idiot normies go for that good good pasta-and-cheese snack. Here’s how to do it right.

You’ll need:

- 6 Tablespoons of Butter
- 4 Tablespoons of All-Purpose Flour
- 4 oz. Mild Cheddar Cheese (Shredded)
- 4 oz. Colby Jack Cheese (Shredded)
- 4 oz. Parmesan Cheese (Shredded)
- 1 ½ cup Whole Milk
- 8 oz. of Pasta (your choice, I recommend Penne or Shells)
- 1 cup of Panko Breadcrumbs
- A pinch of Thyme

First, you’ll want to get your water boiling. Once you’ve achieved a rolling boil, add your pasta. Boil your pasta for about 6-8 minutes, undercooking it a little. Strain and set boiled pasta aside. Pre-heat your oven to 450 °F.

Next, melt 4 Tbsp. of butter in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Once completely melted, add 4 Tbsp. of flour. Mix until combined. Slowly drizzle in 1 ½ cups of milk until fully homogeneous, stirring the whole time. Continue to stir until a thick sauce forms. This is called bechamel (pronounced BAE-shuh-MEL).

Next, stir in 4 oz each of shredded Cheddar and Colby Jack Cheese. (Feel free to switch up your preferred cheeses. Pepper Jack works really good too.) Shred the cheese yourself to get the best melting. Add 2 oz. of Parmesan

cheese and stir until a thick queso-esque sauce forms. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Mix in boiled pasta.

Pour the pasta/sauce mixture into a greased 9x13 casserole pan.

Toast 1 cup of Panko breadcrumbs with 2 tbs of melted butter and a pinch of thyme. Once evenly browned, coat the top of the pasta in the casserole pan with breadcrumbs. Shred remaining 2 oz. of Parmesan directly on top of breadcrumbs. Cover with aluminum foil and bake in the oven for 15 minutes.

After 15 minutes, remove the foil and bake for an additional 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and let cool for 10 minutes.

And then you got some dang good mac n’ cheese, babyyyyy. You’re welcome. Go



Photo by Iris Van Focus

watch *The Last Jedi* again, it’s better than you remember.

# Hoekstra invites presidential candidates for gladiatorial debate to the death

Harry Flames - Staff Writer

With the Democratic Primary well underway, Dordtlantis President Erik Hoekstra announced an additional democratic debate to be hosted in B.J. Haan auditorium.

Not only is this the first presidential debate to be hosted by Dordtlantis, it is also the first presidential debate in US history in the format of a Gladiatorial battle to the death.

"We needed a unique pitch so the networks would agree to Dordtlantis hosting a debate," said Hoekstra. "And with everyone's exhaustion with this election cycle, what could be more attractive than a debate that would end the primary in one night!"

The night will commence with opening statements where each candidate will try to mentally intimidate their opponents. After this, the candidates will commence battling in the caged-off stage of the B.J. Haan.

Many of the candidates have expressed excitement for the gladiatorial style, particularly the lower-tier candidates struggling to gain traction. Marianne Williamson posted special crystal earrings she will be wearing during the battle. "Getting ready for the Presidential Death Match next week! These crystals will open my battle Chakra and release my ferocious inner cheetah!"

Cory Booker's aides have reported their boss has locked himself in his office with Spartacus playing on rerun. His new campaign slogan is "We are all Spartacus."

Bernie Sanders has not changed his campaign's anti-corruption focus despite the unprecedented debate. "I will not be accepting any weapon contributions from millionaires or billionaires and instead will defeat my opponents with my own bare hands."

Biden refused to answer any questions concerning the debate but was heard shouting

over reporters, "If I could take on Corn Pop back in the day, then I am certainly not scared of fighting my colleagues."

While some legal scholars have raised concerns that the Gladiatorial format may breach manslaughter laws and will undermine the democratic process, the proposed debate has strong bi-partisan support. With 76% support from Republicans and 65% from Democrats, it seems voters on both sides desire a swift and violent end to the chaotic primary process.

"I am sick of the internal fighting within the democratic party. The sooner we can start focusing on beating Trump the better and this debate to the death seems like the quickest opportunity to do just that" said junior Crabby Buttercups, a registered Democrat.

And though not officially running in the 2020 race, Hillary Clinton once again leapt into the discussion surrounding the gladiatorial-style debate, "Many, many, many, many, many,

many, many, I mean many people are telling me to participate in this gladiatorial debate. I have no plans at this time, but my motto is never say never," Clinton said at a book promotion.

This sudden change in how the democratic nominee is chosen has disrupted the stock market and overhauled the 2020 betting in Vegas. Oddsmakers now have Pete Buttigieg and Tulsi Gabbard tied for most likely to be the Democratic Nominee, due to their previous military training.

Even President Trump has shown enthusiasm for the upcoming Dordtlantis debate, posting a tier list of all the candidates on his Twitter feed. But when asked at a press conference whether he would like the general election to be decided by a similar fight to the death, Trump said he definitely would fight if not for the bone spurs in his heels.

# Men's cross-country team arrested for indecent exposure

I Didn't Give a Name so This is my Name Now - Staff Writer

Earlier this September, the Dordtlantis Men's cross-country squad got into some trouble with local authorities for indecent exposure on one of their practice runs. Multiple reports of pale skeletons running across the town of Sioux Center alerted authorities to stop members of the team wearing nothing but running shoes and short shorts.

"You know, they got shorts on that most women wear when they go on a jog," one officer reported. "I mean does putting on

normal jogging clothes really slow you down that much? We're talking about NAIA D2 cross country here, not the Olympics."

Many of the locals reported that this was not the first time that the men's team has paraded around in scandalous clothing. Some drivers have even become distracted by the light being reflected off the pale, light skin of some of the Dutch runners. Some have even been linked to the cause of some car accidents around town.

"The sun just shines off their bones so brightly it's enough to cause anyone to drive off the road!" stated one onlooker.

Despite the arrests and the many, many

complaints, a lot of the male runners plan on continuing to essentially go streaking across the lovely neighborhoods and schools of Sioux Center despite public outrage. A lot of them stated that it is essential to their way of life despite normal people across the nation doing marathons and other long-distance events with the proper clothing.

"Do you have any idea how much a shirt would weigh me down?" questioned one cross country runner; "it's pretty much like asking me to run with weights around my ankles, and don't get me started on shorts that come down below the knees."

Local police and citizens plan on counteractive measures to prevent any more traumatic events from occurring to people just minding their own business who did not ask to see full grown college students trek around in booty shorts.

"Next time I see any of those sickos parade around my children, I'm calling the cops," one stressed out parent stated.

The men's cross-country coach thinks it is a great idea for the citizens of Sioux Center to go out on a full scale witch hunt, stating that "a good dosage of fear and adrenaline would be great for improving running times."

# Scooby Doo & Mystery Inc. Gang Unmask Randy Feenstra as Steve King in Disguise

Greetje Van der Leesma - Staff Writer

The congressional campaigns of two Iowa candidates met their abrupt end last week. Representative Steve King (R) and challenger Randy Feenstra (R) announced their resignation after Scooby Doo and the Mystery Inc. Gang uncovered that the two were actually the same person. In an unprecedented case of political catfishing, King invented the alter ego of Feenstra as an attempt to secure his reelection.

After an extensive investigation, Scooby Doo and friends cornered Feenstra (King) in his office at Dordt University and coerced a confession with race-baiting tactics. Head detective Fred Jones exalted the merits of open borders while associate Daphne Blake voiced an admiration for Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and her minority representation in Congress.

Feenstra could take it no more. He burst into a tirade mourning the degradation of America

by immigrants.

"They invaded our cities, our towns, and stole our jobs!" Feenstra said. "I took this office to drain the swamp, not leave this country in darkness!"

Ruh-Roh. The moment of weakness allowed the Jones to pull the mask off Feenstra, revealing a huffy King inside.

"I would have gotten away with it if it weren't for you Do Nothing Democrats!" King said.

The impersonation grew from an attempt to attract a wider voter base as many Iowa citizens have voiced their discontent with the controversial rhetoric of Steve King. In January, King stirred the pot when he aligned himself with racist ideology.

"White nationalist, white supremacist, Western civilization — how did that language become offensive?" King said last winter.

A near loss to democratic nominee J.D. Scholten in 2018 proved to be the drop of water that opened the floodgates to the fake character.

The persona of Feenstra presented King with a clean slate, a chance to build a new rapport with constituents while holding true to the same values.

The scandal now gives explanation to Feenstra's markedly odd behavior during his campaign kickoff at Dordt University last month. Feenstra appeared to grab at his neck and make adjusting movements during his speech. Observers noticed a droopiness in his face.

When asked about his nervous behavior, Feenstra changed the topic to his support of the impeachment of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He tweeted, "CONGRESSIONAL HARASSMENT" from his Twitter later that night.

The legal representation of King claims Scooby Doo and the Mystery Inc. gang were once again triumphant.

Official hearings for the Feenstra-King trial will take place in one month.

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Graphic Design Is My Passion - Staff Writer

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Photo by Iris Van Focus

## Chemistry majors caught making meth to pay for tuition

Harry Flames - Staff Writer

Three Dordtlantis chemistry students were arrested this past weekend on charges of drug manufacturing and possession when their methamphetamine lab was discovered in the North Hall laundry room.

As American college tuition continues to rise, students across the country are resorting to more extreme methods of dealing with student loans. Dordtlantis University is not immune to this escalation and the sudden emergence of a drug operation on campus is just one example of the desperation caused by overbearing debt.

"I was already stressed about how much money I would owe by the time I graduate, and then I realized the interest on many of my loans would start accruing soon," said senior Balter Bhite, one of the three students arrested. "When I added all the debt together, well, it felt like I was just told I had inoperable lung cancer or something. I just couldn't handle it."

Bhite had converted the North Hall laundry room into a makeshift meth laboratory. After covering the door in hazard tape, Bhite put a sign outside indicating that the room was undergoing termite extermination. It seems the ruse worked for over two months, as no students made a fuss until an RA investigated and eventually called the police.

Bhite was the mastermind of the operation, recruiting junior Bertha Bucko and freshman Swigg-McDigg Van Dutch at the beginning of

the semester.

"I just came to Dordtlantis because my family told me to. I didn't find out, I mean I didn't check the price until the second week of classes," Van Dutch said from the Sioux County jail where he is being held without bond. "Don't get me wrong, Dordtlantis's great and all but I needed some serious income seriously quick. Like, more than what my maintenance position pays."

The arrest results from a long line of scandals for the newly re-imagined University, which has an already complicated PR situation after the sudden change to Dordtlantis.

"We understand times are tough, but we urge students not to resort to illegal and frankly idiotic get-rich schemes," said Robert Taylor, Dean of Students. "I hope it is self-evident that making meth is not a God-honoring vocation."

The black-and-gold-colored meth didn't rake in the mountains of cash that Bhite had initially hoped for, as none of the other debt-heavy students had any money to buy the destructive drug. In fact, the operation eventually began accepting Defender Dollars in order to boost sales.

A business major herself, Bucko operated the sales end of the scheme, laundering money and Defender Dollars through the Defender Grille. Local authorities are still investigating the Grille's connection to the case to see if Bucko acted alone in the laundering.

## DUC to launch video streaming service

NetflixHuluDisneyPlusPrimeVideoHBOMaxDCUniversePeacockAppleTVCrackleQuibiEpix - Staff Writer

Mixed reactions abound across campus, and cyberspace at large, as yet another video streaming service stands ready to compete for the hard-earned dollars and free time of the average college student.

Indeed, on the backs of the recent launches of AppleTV and Disney+, Dordtlantis University Central has launched their own streaming service: Dordtflix. The service, which launches on January 1st, is poised to either achieve streaming dominance, or complete obscurity.

"I don't know if I'd use it, ya know?" said sophomore Ag Major Shane Muckboots. "Does it have *Family Guy*? I don't really want to watch anything else. I love that show, it's very funny. Probably the funniest thing I've ever seen. Peter is fat, and that's funny. And Stewie is a baby, but he's smart, and that's downright revolutionary."

Unfortunately, Dordtflix won't offer popular titles like *Friends* or *The Office* at launch. It will, however, offer a wide range of titles, each produced by Prairie Grass Productions and the Digital Media/Communications Department. This includes every student-directed production in recent years, including award-winning short films like *Pre-Mortem* and *Wilder*. The service will also offer an extensive back catalog of Prairie Grass Film Challenge Entries and Winners.

"We had all these videos and shorts, and we figured we ought to do something with them," says Digital Media Professor Mark Volkers. "Then, one night I was watching the *Great British Baking Show* and I was like Whoa! We could do this, but for Dordtlantis!"

Volkers spent the next couple months working with the Business Department and Computer Services to set up the ugliest, least intuitive user interface possible. Early mockups for the site's homepage include bright, neon yellow banners and large blocky white text.

"The general idea was to make it something that would hurt people's eyes," says web designer and Computer Services Staff Member Mark Dadisman. "That way people would just desperately click whichever video comes up first so they don't have to look at the bright colors anymore. It's the part of the whole thing that I'm proudest of."

Leading up to its launch, DordtFlix has rocked with controversy. Perhaps the biggest story entailed the legal disputes surrounding the content offered. Multiple former student directors have come forward, claiming they'd prefer not having their work displayed on the site, or at least demanding some sort of compensation or licensing fee.

"I haven't seen a cent from Dordtflix," said

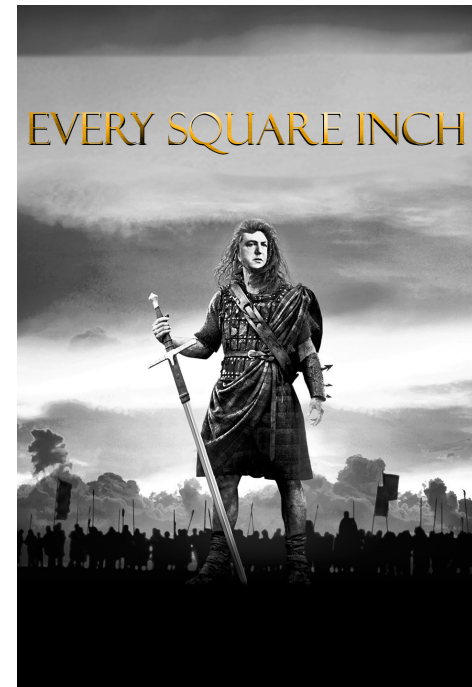


Photo by Iris Van Focus

Carlo Darbo, director of *Danny Duckling's Dreadful Dirigible*, one the shorts to be offered on Dordtflix. "I expected that short film to be a hit, and there's been nothing for 7 years. Now this thing comes along? I want my money back."

Despite the controversy, Volkens claims the service will launch with the full catalog: "If you look at the fine print in your enrollment agreement, you'll see that Dordtlantis claims sole ownership to any narrative video work produced and presented on campus. What better way to exploit this loophole?"

Volkers is also excited for the future of Dordtflix, as multiple original series and features are in development. Most notably, a dark, gritty series on the life of Abraham Kuyper, which Volkens claims will be in the vein of epics like *Braveheart*. Also, while not widely reported, Dordtflix also acquired the rights to the non-Narnia works of C.S. Lewis, so expect announcements pertaining to live-action adaptations of *The Screwtape Letters* and *The Pilgrim's Regress* in the near future.

"We're very excited for Dordtflix," Volkens concluded. "But what we're even more excited about is reforming the Video Streaming landscape in Christ's image!"

Dordtflix will launch on January 1. Subscriptions will be free to all Dordt faculty, staff, and students, although the yearly subscription cost will be added to students' overall tuition fee, leading to a cost of approximately \$120 extra. The subscription has no opt-out option. Monthly subscriptions for non-Dordtlantis personnel will start at \$9 per month.

## Feenstra kidnapped due to "Iowa niceness"

Ricky McRichard the "Rickface" Tator - Staff Writer

In case you haven't heard, Scooby Doo and the Mystery Gang recently caught Iowa incumbent congressman Steve King impersonating challenger Randy Feenstra. While this explains why Feenstra's campaign is off to such a slow start, it doesn't explain what happened to the real Randy Feenstra.

"And, believe me, there is a real Randy Feenstra," says Sioux Center police captain, Mike Halma.

However, despite police's repeated interrogation tactics, King has refused to release the location of the longtime state senator.

"Although it was only 7:30pm and Feenstra was already asleep, I was able to wake him up with the sound of empty campaign promises and lure him away from home with the sight of Iowa

Hawkeye football tickets," said King. "When I told him to get in the car, he said, 'Great! Go Hawks, am I right?'"

In a last-ditch effort to recover Feenstra before Dordt's official transition underwater to Dordtlantis, police brought in rescue dogs able to detect the smell of Under Armor quarter zip pullovers.

"I can't believe anyone would kidnap someone as nice as Feenstra," said Martin Martinface, a senior business major.

After an eight-hour long search, dogs discovered Feenstra curled in the corner of his CA 317 classroom, malnourished and disheveled.

Feenstra's first words to civilization? "Help! Help! Oh. Hello, officer," Feenstra mumbled. "I'm going to win Iowa's 4th District seat."

## Presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders threatens to "literally eat all Reformed people" During Orange City townhall

Marina Diamandis - Staff Writer

Vermont senator and presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders rocked Northwest Iowa when he said: "I will literally eat all Reformed people. Every single one. Of all of them. I will postpone eating rich people to eat Reformed people."

The comment referred to a question that an attendee had previously asked him, asking his position on religious liberty and freedom of schooling, as well as his stance on whether or not it was constitutional for Christian employers to



Photo by Iris Van Focus

opt out of providing certain services to protected groups—such as the LGBTQ+ community.

"I realize that was a well thought out and serious question," Sanders said immediately following his previous comment, "and that my answer has nothing to do with it. I just wanted you to know I will literally eat Reformed people."

After some murmurs in the crowd, a few quiet people stating "well, I'm Reformed" caused a large group of attendees to begin leaving. Seeing this loss of potential voters, however, Sanders quickly backtracked, waving his arms above his head and yelling loudly into his microphone, asking them to stop.

"I meant," said Sanders, "that I will help Reformed people eat. I'm not going to actually literally eat them. Who would want to eat anyone? I'm totally all for this weird Dutch denomination I have literally no connection to, that is part of a religion I don't even follow."

After standing there for a moment, waiting for a response from the people attending, and

receiving none, Sanders leaned over into his mic, loudly proclaiming for everyone to "VOTE SANDERS!" before grabbing his podium, flipping it off the stage, and running out the back fire exit, causing the alarm to sound and requiring everyone to leave. Grumbling ensued.

"I think this is all just a bunch of boomer liberal nonsense," said Steve King, after admitting he does not know what "Boomer" means. "You know what we should do? We should eat all commies, that's what we should do. He's obviously just trying some cheap tricks to try and get voters."

Then King, after walking into a broom closet, returned moments later, dressed as Randy Feenstra, a Dordtlantis professor who is currently running against King for the Representative position.

"I uh... have to agree with my colleague here," Feenstra said, pulling his mask on a little tighter. "Although I don't think we should, as one would say, 'eat,' anyone, we shouldn't be putting people like this in power. Although, if

he does win, I will gladly treat him with the respect and...hey, can you guys help me with this zipper?"

Overall, voters seem confused on what to make of Sanders' words during the rally. In a recent poll, done by *Zircon* writers of Orange City and Sioux Center citizens, there seems to be a three-way tie between the options of "Eat the rich," "eat the commies," and "can someone please just 'eat' me instead, I'm sick and tired of all this political stuff."

The jury is out on where this next presidential election will go. With so many Democratic candidates to choose from and Trump being the only Republican candidate, emotions are already running hot and there's still over a year left. While all the Americans are fighting one another, attempting to cobble back this 'great nation,' Canadian students are sitting there, laughing, plotting, and scheming on how to give our country back to the Queen. Don't trust them.

# ◆ The Bacc Page ◆

## The Zircon is going paper

*Silence Dogood - Staff Writer*

Look at the paper in your hands. No, really look at it, this hodge-podge of ink, paper, and satirical fictional nonsense put together by fellow students for your enjoyment. It's all about to change.

Except, not really. The *Zircon* itself will remain the same, continuing to bring you joy and amusement. However, we are about to become even more exclusive.

That's right folks, Dordt's satirical paper will exist as simply that. Paper. Remember, that thing made out of trees? Yeah. We're only using that now, not that technology you kids are so fond of.

The *Zircon* is going to be an

exclusive, secret, and just-for-Dordtlantis-students publication. That makes you special. There will be no Facebook posting. No Twitter tweeting. No website-linking to online content. The *Zircon* is now and will from here on be a physical, farcical, newspaper.

'What does this mean for me?' You may ask. Well, not much really. That is, except for the fact that this paper is now worth its weight in gold. Cherish each copy of the *Zircon*. Cover your walls in it as wallpaper.

There will be no reprint or online copies. This piece of paper is the only copy of the Fall 2019 issue of the *Zircon* that you'll see in your natural-burn life.

Happy reading.

Dordtlantis Jazz presents:



## Aaron Baart in need of VIVID eyebrows!!1!1!

