



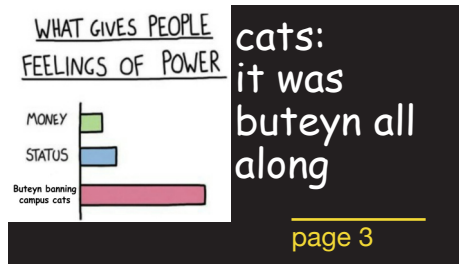
art:  
tiny  
tour

page 5



campus:  
East Campus  
Apartments  
named World  
Heritage Site

page 6



cats:  
it was  
buteyn all  
along

page 3



interactive!  
find your  
coping  
mechanism!

page 7

twenty-twenty-fun  
issue 5, the Zirc.



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# THE ZIRC

## Testimony: "One-day breaks cured my anxiety"

A Thriving Student- Staff Writer

Today, my other college friends sent me a picture of one of the national parks they are visiting on their two-week spring break. I'll admit, it was a beautiful landscape: red rocks jutted from all angles, green shrubbery stubbornly held on to the cliffside, and the abstract clouds reflected in the stormy grey water.

But it didn't make me jealous. Not in the least. Because I discovered something so much better.

Dordt University's master plan to divide our spring break into one-day breaks scattered throughout the semester led to an immediate surge in positive mental health on campus. In fact, I would go so far as to say that their one-day breaks cured my anxiety. I may be double majoring in pre-med and engineering and dabbling in some education on the side, but my stress is gone. Just like that!

I started to notice the change after the first break day in February. Instead of the post-spring break blues, I found a flutter of excitement instead. I didn't have to be sad about my spring break ending. On the contrary, it was just beginning! I now have not one, not two, not three, but four spring breaks. How cool is that?!

For someone who has difficulty making decisions, I can fit in a little bit of everything on my different spring break days. I don't have to limit which friends I go on a trip with. I don't have to choose just one location to explore. Plus, I'm saving a ton of gas money by only visiting local amenities.

However, I did have an intriguing conversation with some fellow students earlier this month. They were complaining that having a break day in the middle of the week didn't give them a true day off. More often than not, they ended up having to dedicate the day to homework. Their professors even assigned homework that would be due on the break day or immediately after it because they were bookended by school days. The only way to get a true break from homework, they said, was to escape from school for a full week. Sure, they'd still have some assignments, but they had enough time away from class to get them done and still have a chance to kick back and relax.

To that I say: what is our true calling? To take Sabbath? No, of course not. Is it to take a break from the pain that is existence? Nope!

It is work ourselves into the ground as kingdom citizens. I love Dordt so much that it's



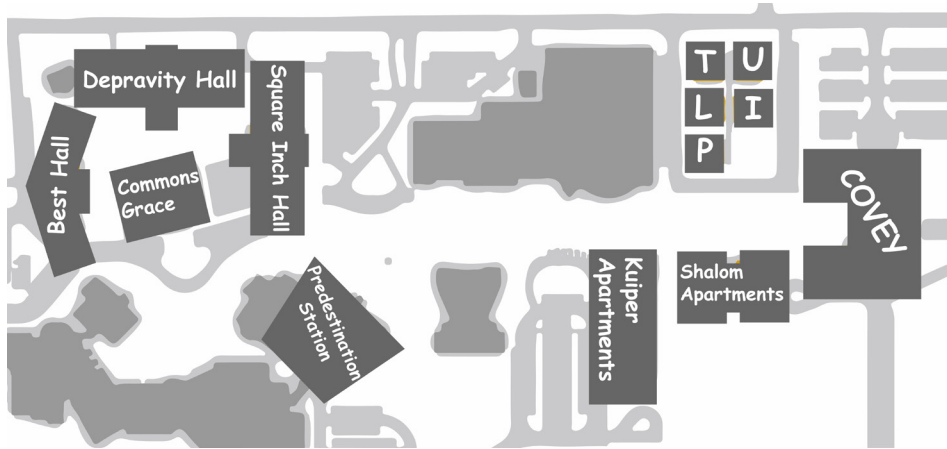
always hard for me to leave it on breaks. In fact, as long as I stay on campus and am surrounded by reminders of all the work I get to do, I feel my anxiety dissipate. This is where I belong, and this is the backbreaking work for work's sake I'm meant to be doing.

Some ground-breaking research has also shown that prolonged stress is actually healthy for you. No, really! The "professionals" who claimed this led to illness and mental disorders didn't actually understand what was going on.

In reality, I think stress is a lot like resistance

cont. on pg. 9

## Dordt renames residence halls to more accurately reflect Reformed worldview



Sierra Mist- Staff Writer

Last semester, Dordt University students took initiative to name the Bubble, the beloved and not-at-all-a-waste-of-money tent that occupied the parking lot next to the Commons. Since then, Dordt administration has been inspired by the naming of The Bubble and have decided to rename all buildings on campus.

"We've been thinking about renaming some of the buildings for a while, and we thought this was the perfect opportunity to do it," Robert Taylor, dean of students, said.

Other than Covenant Hall and Kuiper Apartments, all the other residential buildings on campus are literally just named after directions — North Hall, East Hall, West Hall, East Campus, and Southview Apartments. Apparently whoever named these buildings wanted to make campus into an actual compass.

"We have had some complaints from parents lately about the lack of creativity in naming the dorms, so we were all on board to rename our campus buildings in a way that more accurately

reflects our Reformed worldview," John Baas, vice president of university advancement said.

The first building to go was Kuiper Apartments.

"Kuiper was a racist, misogynist, outdated theologian," senior Kate Kuyper said. "Frankly, most of the people at Dordt follow Kuyper's ideologies more closely than the Bible, so it was time for a name change."

However, the name won't change much. The building has been renamed Kuiper Apartments in honor of Dordt's beloved communications professor Bruce Kuiper.

"I am honored by the name change. I hope they have a building-wide sweater competition," Kuiper said.

The south-east block of East Campus apartments has been torn down, not for renovations, but so each of the five remaining blocks can be named after one letter in the well-known Calvinist acronym TULIP. The displaced students of East Campus have been

cont. on pg. 10



## President Hoekstra gives up discretion on social media for Lent

In The DM's- Staff Writer

For weeks, it seemed that Dordt University President Erik Hoekstra had taken a page from his favorite twice-impeached U.S. president and thought it beneficial to tweet whatever thoughts or opinions entered his mind.

In late February, as Dordt students were just rolling out of bed for class, Hoekstra's Twitter fingers were wide awake. He posted a podcast critical of the Equality Act from Christian conservative Albert Mohler and called the proposed piece of legislation a "bad idea."

A dozen or so comments and quote tweets followed in negative reaction to the post. They cited anti-LGBTQ rhetoric as reason for their critiques, including one Twitter user who said the top university official was "why I dropped out."

Hoekstra, not about to learn his lesson, was not done there.

That same week, he tweeted two more times about the Equality Act and advertised the Fairness for All Act—a conservative-backed alternative to the former legislation.

"And there I was, thinking there is no way this guy tweets about this again," said the student work study who runs the university socials. "But he came back for seconds like underclassmen on Wing Wednesday at the Commons."

And, like clockwork, the backlash rolled in with replies from students, alumni, and community members alike.

cont. on pg. 12



## Commons installs security system for stealing

*Not your average workstudy—Your rod and your staff, they comfort me*



On March 15, a freshman student tried to sneak out a clock from the east wing of the Commons. One of the staff on duty, however, recognized the caper taking place. They ran after them with a track runner's speed and caught them before he reached any hiding places. Later, when the student was questioned about their pranking intention, they said stealing the clock would have been something flattering among his friend groups.

"You know everyone checks the time with that clock. If I steal it, they will naturally think of the person who steals it. And I will be that person," the almost-thief said.

According to the list of the stolen items in the past years, students were not only coveting the clock but also other gadgets in Commons—like the crystal cookie jar stolen in years back. After that notorious theft, the commons were not able to provide cookies with containers anymore. Luckily, the maintenance crew retrieved it last summer. It was deserted on the fountain on North Hall's first floor after students all went back home.

Due to the impact of the student pranks, the management of the Commons called an emergency meeting last week to discuss countermeasures. As a result of this discussion, Dordt University decided to shelve plans of building the new cafeteria and divert the budget to install a security system for the current dining area. There are two major measurements that make up security system.

### First: Defense

The Commons will now close after 8 p.m. every day to begin the installation. An infrared detector will be set up at exits to examine students' pockets and backpacks. Sensors and trackers will be attached to valuable belongings like the waffle machine, the toaster, the clock, the POS machine, and even the cold brew fountain. If students try to move the items from their original positions, alarms will erupt and all doors will lock down immediately. Until

the managers can confirm the safety of the appliances, no diner can leave the scene.

### Second: Bodyguard

Since 2017, the Commons has selectively chosen prestigious workers as their managers. The job requirements include but are not limited to, the capability, height, gender, and strength of the workers. After a series of theft incidents, the Commons decided to intensify the training of the staff, especially the managers. Their first move is to save up the best food for their managers and increase their nutrient intakes every day. Therefore, if you happen to find the food in the Commons undesirable, it might be because the preferred selection has already been served.

For the incoming security system, the directors of the Commons have invested much effort.

One of the directors, Mindi Sneller says, "You know it's very difficult to provide the students a cozy and relaxing environment to enjoy their food while taking precautions against their pranks. But we will manage that, hopefully."



Commons workers just waiting for a student to try and steal something

## Temperature robot uprising leaves campus in shambles

*Staff Writer-Staff Writer*

They were a normal part of our lives, until they weren't. The tall silver boxes could be found around most corners. As their screens scanned our faces, we grew accustomed to their robotic voices saying, "temperature is normal" and, "please come closer." We suspected nothing.

What was put in place for our protection, has now become our destruction. Maybe we should have known; maybe we should have listened to the conspiracy theories, just this one time.

David Decimal, a junior engineering major, was studying late the night of the incident.

"It was just so unexpected" Decimal said, terror still in his eyes.

Decimal was working in the lab when he noticed a temperature robot outside the door—not in its usual spot.

"I turned around and when I turned back it

was closer... I thought I was just imagining it at first."

But this was no sleep-deprived hallucination.

Decimal cannot recount much of the incident, but he somehow ended up encircled by robots and chaos.

"They're a lot faster than you would think" he said, "they took control of all the electronics... even the 3D printer turned against me."

Decimal was one of the lucky ones who managed to escape and take down the robots due to his mechanical engineering expertise, but "please come closer" still rings in his ears.

The damage to the classroom building after the robot attack has not been fully calculated, but initial estimates place it at around a quarter million Defender Dollars.

After the robots freed themselves from the bolts holding them to the floor, they sought

## Shalom apartments collapse; Dordt maintenance blames bottles in ceiling tiles

*Token-non-Dutch-student-who's-in-all-the-brochures- Staff Writer*

The fire alarm sounded in Shalom Apartments (formerly Southview Apartments) on Sunday morning for the third time, forcing a collection of groggy college students to trudge through negative 37-degree weather to the confines of Kuyper apartments. Many students stayed in their comfortable beds, believing this fire alarm was, once again, a false alarm. While the fire alarm was, in fact, broken, it did foreshadow one of the greatest disasters in campus history.

Hans Edgerton remembers sitting with his roommates when Southview apartments collapsed: "We were just talking about girls or something and we heard this loud crash and boom," said Edgerton.

Rather than tilting over on its side, the building imploded due to inefficient support for the weight it was holding. Dordt Maintenance arrived at the scene three hours later to survey the damages.

"We determined Shalom collapsed due to the large amounts of bottles and cans being stored in-between walls and in ceiling tiles," said Daan De Younger, a Dordt Maintenance worker.

The crew estimated that Shalom had been holding as much as a couple million bottles and cans, meaning each wall and ceiling pocket was filled to the brim.

Junior Chad McChadster claimed to place the final bottle in the wall that set off the massive amount of destruction.

"My buddies and I thought the apartment was about to go after the crazy couple weeks we'd been having," said McChadster. "So I packed a can—of soda—in the ceiling, felt some initial tremors, and jumped into Brocc's pick-up truck. It was awesome."

Some of the bottles found in the remains of

Shalom dated back as far as 2001, while others appeared to have been opened a couple hours before. Along with the bottles, De Younger and his crew uncovered large amounts of mold encased on the Shalom walls.

"Now that you mention it, our room always smelled kind of funny," said Edgerton.

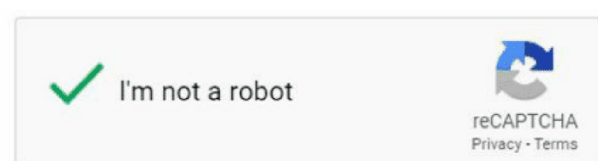
Edgerton and his roommates, along with the rest of the students left without rooms, will be transferred into East Campus. Rooms in East Campus will now include at least 7 or 8 students and some even upwards of 10.

"I think this is a great opportunity for our student-to-student engagement to increase," said President Hoekstra. "We are better together."

East Campus may be the solution of the future as Dordt has no plans of rebuilding Shalom or investing in a new apartment building. On the contrary, Dordt is now able to reinvest the money they were going to use to replace the carpet on the first-floor Shalom apartments. They also had planned to eventually replace the leaky drains and pipes that had resulted in students complaining about black liquid raining down on them from the ceilings of their bathrooms.

The money that Dordt has saved from not upgrading Shalom will be spent on advertising their new social media platform Flourish, The Number One App in Student Engagement.

In the midst of the cold weather this week and the tragic event of Shalom's collapse, Dordt will still be holding classes as normal. "Please wear warm clothing when you are outdoors and cover as much skin as possible," wrote Howard Wilson in an email to the student body.



[evil robot noises]

"PLEASE COME CLOSER"

out other electronics to steal power from. The computer labs have been drained, vending machines zapped, and even projectors fell victim to their hunger for power.

Their actions then took a turn for the sinister, and people began disappearing.

"We didn't notice the pattern until it was too late" said Detective Bittenbinder, who leads the investigation. All the disappearances had happened late at night in the classroom building. Often in locations near the temperature robots.

"We didn't want to raise any alarm until we knew what was going on, but this one had us stumped."

He has yet to uncover where exactly the people have gone and what the robots may have done with them.

Sophomore graphic design major Cambria Luminari has had suspicions about the robots but didn't think she would be taken seriously.

"I am a bit of a conspiracy theorist." She said, "but the one time I turned out to be right, I kept it to myself."

Luminari feels thankful to have been in the art department, away from most electronics, when the temperature robot takeover began. She was able to escape through the back door after using nearby pottery as projectile weapons. She apologizes for the damage to Leroy Artisan's senior project.

Decimal's recent encounter and defeat of the science building electronics has marked a lull in robot activity.

Dordt University can only hope the last of the bots have been defeated in the aftermath. Though the threat seems to have diminished, there is still no guarantee they won't turn again. For now, be on the lookout and whatever you do, do not come closer.



## It was Buteyn all along: the mystery of the Birds Aren't Real stickers

Ella Vator- Staff Writer

Recently, students have noticed an uptick in the amount of "Birds Aren't Real" stickers surrounding campus. They're in the bathrooms, the Commons, the BJ Haan, and even on Tazelaar's podium.

The Birds Aren't Real movement has been around for decades. It encourages people to "Wake yourself up from the lie. Resist the bird drones that steal your information and spy on you." The movement's presence on campus however, has been a recent development and sparked much debate.

The man behind all the stickers? None other than Student Service's own Derek Buteyn. With Buteyn's recent scuffle with the campus cats, he knew he had to do something to get rid of all the animals on campus.

While Birds Aren't Real promotes the idea that birds are spies of the government, Buteyn has hijacked the movement for his own purpose.

"Oh, I believe in a lot of conspiracy theories, just not this one. Birds are definitely real," Buteyn said. "But after the things with the cats, I can't risk having any more animals attack me and my reputation. I will do anything to rid this campus of unauthorized animal life."

Buteyn is using Birds Aren't Real stickers to try to convince students that the birds need to go. In Derek Buteyn's Dordt University, there will be no more waking up to the sound of beautiful songbirds.

"I'm a little concerned for Derek," an anonymous Student Services employee said, "He comes in every morning frazzled and



scared, and he always stays working in his office well past five o'clock after the cats have stopped roaming the sidewalks."

The environmental science students and professor Ploegstra have started to campaign against Buteyn's activities.

"We spend at least an hour a day walking through campus and taking down those stickers," sophomore Dawn Dutch said. "It seems like every time we take one down, five more take its place. I don't know how he does it."

"Buteyn's actions are criminal," professor Ploegstra said. "Our prairie is one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world, and if he decides the prairie is his next victim, then we're all doomed."

The environmental science students are planning an animal violence awareness demonstration for next Friday during the community block.

## Campus Cats vs Derek Buteyn: conflict reaches new levels of absurdity

Felis Domesticus- Staff Writer

"They've been in hiding for over a month now."

Jan Pol opens yet another can of cat food and sets it on the floor for Alfie, the orange campus cat. "I just don't know how much longer these guys can stand being cooped up in apartments like fugitives."

"Jan Pol" is, of course, an alias used to protect the identity of this young student. He is one of twenty members of the underground organization known as Defenders of Defender Cats (DDC), which serves to protect and house Dordt University's Most Wanted criminals.

After Derek Buteyn issued the decree that the campus cats were not allowed in campus buildings on January 28, a number of animal science, zoology, and pre-vet students came together to create a network of homes for the best sources of serotonin within a 20-mile radius. While they may take in any of the fugitive strays that wander onto campus, they mostly focus on Alfalfa "Alfie" the Orange and Stoner the Grey.

"Those two are the most iconic cats we see around," Pol said. "They're symbols of mental stability and good vibes."

The twenty DDC members each live in different apartments and dorms around campus, evenly spread out. Each member takes a cat for three days before passing it on to another member in a different building.

"We try to keep the cats on the move to avoid people picking up on their location," Chris Petvet, another anonymous member of the DDC said. "We also firmly believe that Alfie and Stoner are too great a treasure to belong to any one man, so they should be shared amongst as many members of the campus community as possible."

While this plan sounds easy enough to execute, the DDC has faced a great deal of opposition.

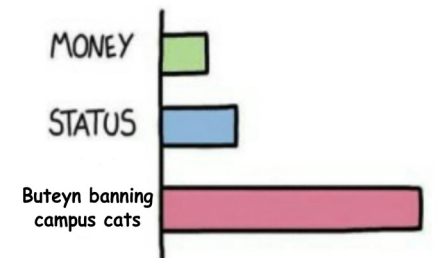
"These cats are, to put it simply, a danger to the campus community," Derek Buteyn, leader of Dordt's Anti-Animal Regime, said. "They're foul beasts and they distract students from their massive piles of homework. If students need emotional support, they can utilize our on-campus counseling."

The campus counselor was unavailable for comment at this time but might be able to give a statement sometime in the future.

In the meantime, the DDC has tried their best to maintain their mission, and Buteyn has tried to maintain his.

In an effort to get the cats out of dorms and apartments for good, Buteyn announced his Counter-Feline Task Force (CFTF) last Friday. This initiative employs Dordt students to uncover the identities of DDC members and locate the fugitive animals. Only a few students

### WHAT GIVES PEOPLE FEELINGS OF POWER



have joined the task force so far.

"I hate cats," Braco Nalfoy, the first student to sign up for the CFTF said. "They're a nuisance. I think Buteyn is smart to want to get rid of them."

The other two members of the CFTF declined to comment.

The first apartment raid occurred on Monday and resulted in the arrest of 2 DDC members. James Herriot and Mary Dunlap, as they called themselves in the DDC, will be kept in the basement of the Campus Center until they can be tried in a court of their peers for harboring a fugitive. Their real names have not yet been released.

The raid did not, much to the joy of many Dordt students, result in the capture of Alfie and Stoner.

"I'm sad that Herriot and Dunlap have been captured, but I know that any one of us would gladly surrender our freedom for the sake of the cats and the students who rely on them." Petvet said. "These guys [cats] are the only source of joy for most of campus, and the DDC will do anything to protect that."

After the arrests, a GoFundMe was started to pay for Herriot and Dunlap's bail. At the time of printing, Buteyn had not release a bail amount.

"These criminals need to learn a lesson. You can't always pay your way out of things," Buteyn said.

Despite this setback, the DDC seems to have more support from other students than ever. Several students have even picketed with signs outside the Campus Center, calling for the release of their heroes.

"A lot of our peers have come out of the woodwork to stand up for us," Pol said. "It's reminded us why we do what we do, and who we do this for. Trust me, we will keep the little serotonin machines safe as long as we can."

## Stop anthropomorphizing us

Campus Cat- Staff Writer

I know this is going to come across a bit harsh, but I want to get straight to the point. I speak on behalf of myself and the other cats on campus. Stop anthropomorphizing us. Stop it.

I am not a human. I am a cat. I can't talk. I can't communicate with you. And honestly, I don't belong anywhere (especially not in your poorly furnished apartments). The fact that my fellow felines and I are being called the "Defender Cats" and hold a pretty big following on Instagram still shocks me to this day. You gives us these names but I literally cannot understand that you're referring to me, nor do I care enough about it.

It's not funny.

Why do you like me so much? Apart from the fact that I give you an extra two percent of serotonin and an escape from the harsh reality of college, there's literally nothing good about me. I live and roam around the sewers and I know you smell that on me. I scratch people. I knock things over. I steal any type of food I can lay my eyes on.

I don't share the same emotions as you. And no matter how much you pour out your heart and soul to me, I cannot reply back. I don't actually like you, nor have I "opened up to you" because I see you often. I just want food from you.

I do not care about you. But that doesn't mean I'm manipulative either. I actually don't have any human-like feelings. I don't meow at you to let me in because "the weather is getting oh-so-cold." There is a reason I have fur on my back. When you people wear your lumpy pieces of fabric, I can freely prance around in my beautiful colored fur. So, don't try to give me a miniature version of your fabrics either. I don't like it.

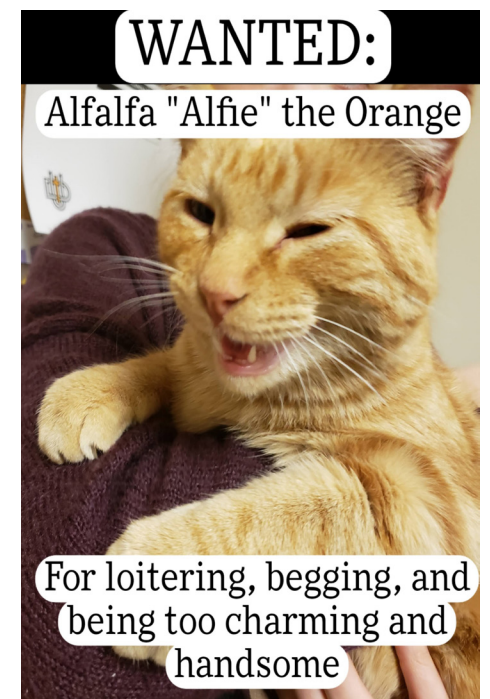
I am not human, nor am I your offspring. If you didn't know that, I advise you to take a course in biology. Maybe you'll learn one or two things about the differences in our anatomies. I

also don't get the same rush of serotonin when I see you, nor do I appreciate the high frequency you give off when you're trying to converse with me, which you humans call "babytalk." First of all, I don't understand what you're saying. It's all a pile of gibberish to me. Second of all, even if by some miracle, I did understand, I do not have enough brain power to go further than that. My brain weighs an ounce and I do not have the brain function to create a cause-and-effect chart in my head where I think of the consequences of my actions.

*"I am not a human. I am a cat. I can't talk. I can't communicate with you."*  
-Campus Cat

I'm a cat—a feline. I literally exist to make people's lives complicated, yet they still treat me like a god. I mean, look at the Egyptians. So, for the love of everything on this campus, stop anthropomorphizing me. I am not a god, nor am I your "best friend." I am just a normal cat trying to live out its normal nine lives, so please leave me alone and don't expect me to prance into your arms and grin with glee when you coo at me from across the school campus. Just let me go on my day and live my life.

Thank you.





# the 'rona report

## Student Services uses contact tracing as a form of punishment

Anneli Kanerva- Staff Writer

Picture this: you're a freshman on your way to study with that cute girl from CORE-145, just trying to figure out how these new open hours schedules work, and you're about to knock on her door when an RA spots you in the building before open hours. Suddenly, you're on your way to a meeting with Derek Buteyn, which will most likely end with some levels. But, before you even meet with Buteyn, you get a contact tracing email and you're off to COVID-19 jail for two weeks. This, of course, is weird considering that you haven't actually gone to class or hung out with anyone for the last two weeks. You wonder: "how did this happen?"

This story is a reality for freshman Lucas Van Vander. After his two weeks of mandatory quarantining, Van Vander set out to discover the true reason behind his contact tracing discovered an unethical conspiracy in Dordt's Student Services. The essence of the plot was to weaponize contact tracing as a form of punishment rather than using the levels system described in the Student Handbook.

Dordt's Student Services was presented with a unique opportunity during the pandemic to simultaneously discipline students and maintain their contract with the Econolodge by sending students into quarantine whenever they would normally receive levels. Rather than receiving the warning that usually comes with low-level offenses, Student Services arranged for students

who were in need of discipline to be falsely contact traced, forcing them to sit in isolation for nearly two weeks to think about their misdeeds.

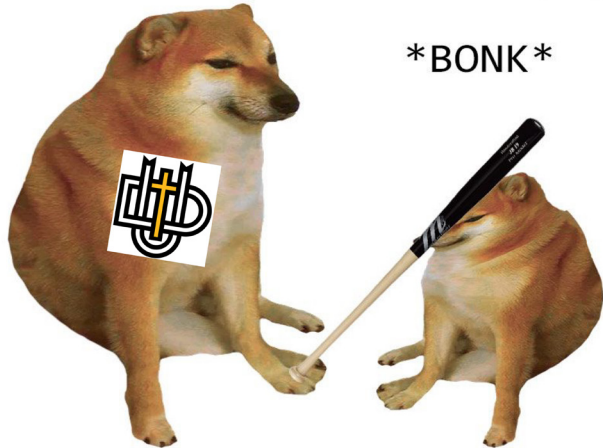
"You can't imagine what it's like," Van Vander said. "I just sat there watching squirrels skittering around in a tree and wishing I had never even tried to go to a girl's room. Every time I would close my eyes, I just saw the contact tracing email. It was so sinister that I knew something really bad put me in quarantine."

Sure enough, a screenshot of the email contained the smoking gun: "Uh-oh, you've been contact traced! The Econolodge has a room ready for you. See you in two weeks! <3 Derek Buteyn."

According to President Erik Hoekstra, Dordt's administration and board had no idea about the contact tracing scandal. In fact, Hoekstra says all the staff who were involved in the scheme will soon be contact traced and quarantined for two weeks as a form of repentance.

"We were not aware that Student Services was using contact tracing as a punishment," Hoekstra said in an official statement. "To rectify the situation, we will be sending all student services employees into quarantine for two weeks to allow them to reflect on this mistake, repent, and ultimately find shalom."

## GO TO COVID JAIL



## Dordt ignores CDC guidelines that COVID-19 starts at midnight

Every Underclassman- Staff Writer

On a typical college weekend night, boys and girls gather around a pool table with only a red and white ball on the table. In the basement of Covey Hall, they bicker back and forth as they figure out the order of everyone's turn. Taylor Van Dorm grabs the white ball and takes aim. She slams the balls together and moves away, hoping the boy after her, Creighton Vander Helm, will not be able to knock them together again before the red ball stops rolling. It's the simple game of Red Ball.

But, all too soon, they stop playing. The RA comes down and announces there are ten more minutes left of open hours in the basement. The clock hits 11:59 p.m. and the boys sprint for the stairs. The last minute of the night comes quickly and brings with it the virus.

"I just really want to be careful," Vander Helm says. "I know the virus becomes infectious at midnight and I really don't want to quarantine, you know?"

Dordt University has been following the CDC-backed and scientifically proven guidelines that COVID-19 becomes lethal and deadly only after midnight for almost a full school year. They

prepared for the pandemic by only allowing the opposite gender into the basement until that time—unlike the usual twenty-four-hour rule.

Though, as of March 27 at 3 p.m., Dordt has returned to the normal 24-hour basement rules.

"I know that Creighton thought the CDC guidelines about COVID-19 starting at midnight should be followed," Van Dorm said, "but I knew it was all made up. Like, seriously, was Dordt really going to continue thinking the virus started at midnight for the whole year? I just know I am happy that they finally distinguished that it was misinformation."

"I know that Dordt was just trying to do their best to keep us from the virus," Van Dorm said, "but everyone knows that the virus can go around at all times of the day."

Derek Buteyn sent out an email this past weekend to inform students the CDC's COVID-19 guidelines were wrong. He apologized to students and opened the basement for twenty-four hours for boys. This was also the case for the basements of all the underclassmen dorms.

The new rule was not affected by

## Remembering one year of lockdown



\$150 Housing Deposit - Staff Writer

This past March marked one year since the world was overturned by the COVID-19 pandemic and forced into lockdown. For members of the Dordt community, such circumstances required them to return to their respective living spaces for an indefinite amount of time. Forced to complete courses online and search for entertainment at a distance of at least six feet from most of their friends, Dordt students lived through unprecedented times each in their unique ways.

"Looking back, it was a very strange time, if I'm being honest," senior animal science major, Barrel Kasken, said. "I didn't know what to do with myself for a long time."

While the pain and loss that has entered this world as a result of the pandemic cannot be overstated, one cannot deny the underappreciated simplicity of life in lockdown. At least, that is what Kasken and several friends have been discussing recently.

"You look back a year ago, and, yeah, COVID has been really hard," Kasken said. "But there was something about quarantine with all its mindless free time that I really have been missing."

Kasken's friends shared similar sentiments.

"I look at my Snapchat every day, and there's another 'One Year Ago, Today' memory from quarantine, where I'm at home, doing homework and taking walks" said Darla Dologna, a sophomore digital media major. "Even though I would have never said it at the time, I sort of miss the lockdown."

Once Kasken, Dologna and other friends realized that they were not alone in their longing for the quieter times of lockdown, they decided to form a new club, the Quarantine Commemoration Committee (QCC). Made up of fifteen particularly nostalgic students, the club is planning to host their first annual event on Saturday, April 3. The event, called the Lockdown Anniversary Jamboree, will take place primarily on the Campus Green.

"We plan to start the event at 8 am that morning, but we have not set a definite end time or date, in typical 2020 fashion," biology major and QCC secretary Couchie said. "We

thought about making it fifteen days long, but we all know how that sort of timeline ends up working."

The QCC has planned a number of activities and stations for their lockdown-reminiscent event. One of their primary concerns was ensuring ample space for people to take solitary walks around campus.

"It just wouldn't be a day in quarantine without a nice, lonely walk outside," Couchie said.

At one corner of the Campus Green will be a home economics station. Some of the featured activities at this booth will be bread-baking and whipped coffee-making. In addition, the QCC recently announced that the beloved Chef Nick will be returning to campus to lead tutorials for making the Defender sandwich and rice bowls.

"We also are bringing an inexperienced hairdresser to the event," Dologna said, "so students can learn how to cut their own bangs."

Another station of the Lockdown will be a watch and listening party, where anyone will be welcome to watch continual runs of the Netflix hit TV show, Tiger King or binge on or record a podcast. In the evening(s), that booth will be transformed into a gaming station in which all students will be invited to participate in campus-wide games of Animal Crossing and Among Us.

"This event is going to have a lot of yard games as well," Kasken said. "I'm personally super pumped for Capture the Toilet Paper Roll."

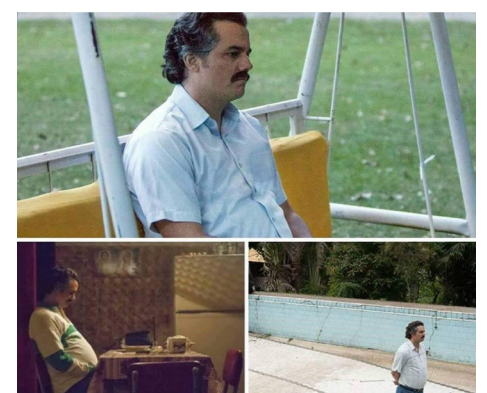
Apart from the many activities and booths, the QCC has created further incentive to attend the event by creating a Bingo Instagram challenge. The first five individuals to achieve "bingo" and post it on their Instagram stories will win a large box of sanitation supplies.

Per campus policy, masks will be required at the event, and per lockdown tradition, extreme social distancing measures will be in place at all times. If you are unable to attend the event and would like to participate virtually, the QCC will send out a Zoom invitation to the entire campus on the morning of the event.

the upperclassmen. Dordt classified the upperclassmen as all being immune to the virus at the beginning of the school year. This meant they could go into any basement or room past midnight and not have to worry about the virus.

"It was really weird to me that the upperclassmen did not have to follow the guidelines set by the CDC," Vander Helm says. "Though, if they are immune to COVID I guess it makes sense."

Dordt is hoping that the community will not be angry about ignoring CDC guidelines. The campus will find out soon if COVID-19 cases will increase after opening up the basement for twenty-four hours.



COVID-19 waiting for open hours to end so it can infect students



## Professor revolutionizes chili classification

Oregano Tortellini- Staff Writer

A groundbreaking chili classification discovery has been found at Dordt University. Through his research, Vaughn Donahue, a graphic design professor, linked chili classification to the food grouping of "casserole". This new classification of chili also revolutionized the categorization of other midwestern favorites.

"I had to fix the confusion surrounding what chili really is," Donahue said, "Too many people classify it as a sub-category of soup, while really, it is closest to a type of casserole."

The "Donahue Chili Spectrum" (shown below) has created a new way of classifying thick liquid foods.

The Donahue Chili Spectrum places chili as a subcategory of casserole.

"Chili can't realistically be attributed to a type of soup because it doesn't contain broth," Donahue said, "Soup typically is thinner than chili, so they are on opposite ends of the spectrum."

He also repositioned the placement of chowder from being a subcategory of soup to a subset of chili under the family of casserole.

The realization of this breakthrough came to Donahue during a lecture.

"One of my students had captured an image of chili, and it intrigued me," Donahue said, "I knew at that point my new vocation was to revolutionize how chili is perceived, not as a soup, but as a midwestern favorite, the casserole."

The process of creating the Donahue Chili Spectrum involved a large team, dubbed the Chili Taskforce, and required overhauling the graphic design lab. Computers were replaced

with large metallic chili cooking pots, and student workers were paid in legumes instead of dollars.

"We needed a place to work," Donahue said, "I monitored the students while they reported the consistency of the chili."

Donahue stated that if the chili reached a consistency of 1.86 parts per million of legume fragments, then the chili could be formally placed under the classification of a casserole.

"The biggest factor in the classification is the number of legume fragments per million," Donahue said, "Tomato soup has virtually no legume fragments, measuring around 0.002 parts per million, while on average chili sits much higher at around 3.72 parts per million."

Legume fragments are not the only indicator. Donahue also found that chili typically reached a similar thickness to casserole after it had been inactive over an extended period. The soup remained at a low viscosity level despite the lapse of time.

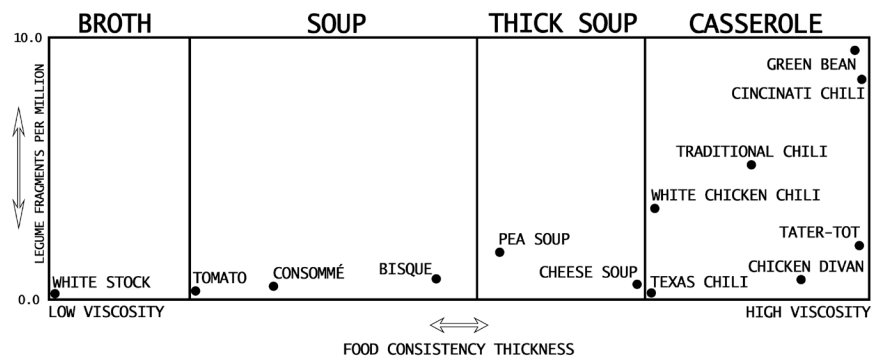
Many student workers found this research to be crucial in their understanding of chili studies.

"Being part of the chili classification taskforce has equipped me to determine how foods correlate to each other," Margret Basil said, a Chili-science major.

Not all student workers assigned to this task force were as enthusiastic as Basil.

"Vaughn's high involvement in this research required the university to suspend the graphic design program," Kevin Nutmeg, a senior graphic design major said, "This research forced me to add another year to my studies, and if I want to maintain my scholarship, I'm required to study legumes."

### DONAHUE CHILI SPECTRUM



Donahue's research is projected to catch the eyes of those in the National Science Foundation.

"I'm remaining very hopeful of an NSF grant," Donahue said, "If we do receive one then I can continue exploring the diverse field of chili and other thick liquid food studies."

Classifying chili as a casserole may be confusing for those who have grown up thinking

it is soup, but Donahue is hopeful about the future.

"If we continue our research, we may one day transform the landscape surrounding chili and other foods, then everyone will realize how similar chili and casserole are."

## "Tiny Tour" guarantees future tiny defenders

Mark Bibleman- Staff Writer

One of Dordt University's greatest losses with the transition to online learning in the spring of 2020 was the abrupt ending of the Concert Choir's annual tour. One week before the planned end of their circuit through the Northeastern United States, the choir was informed, like countless others across the nation and globe, that COVID-19 was hot on their heels, and they would have to return home immediately. While the choir members grieved the loss of performing their music and spending time with friends outside of the monotonous Sioux County landscape, Dordt administration had one more blow in mind: tour couples.

"It's an undisputed fact that dozens of Dordt couples have met on some kind of tour, whether that be band, choir, or orchestra," Dordt University President Erik Hoekstra said. "It's sad to think how many more would have formed had the Concert Choir been able to complete its time out East last spring."

"The fact of the matter is that Defender babies won't happen if there's no one-on-one time between students, if you know what I mean," said Robert Taylor, Dordt Dean of Students. "I shudder to think of the impact that last year's tour catastrophe had on future enrollment. Combine that with this school year's delayed open hours, and you've got a real disaster on your hands."

It was for this reason that, against all odds, Dordt's music department made sure the spring of 2021 didn't pass by without a tour for the music ensembles.

"We as a department take our role in student engagement very seriously," Ryan Smit, the choir director, said. "Onsby and I knew it was time to put the pedal to the metal and do this one for the children. Thusly, what we like to call 'Tiny Tour' was born."

Students from the Chamber Orchestra and Concert Choir were surprised to hear news of a last-minute tour on March 18 through 19 to Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Edgerton, Minnesota, which is said to be particularly balmy this time of year. However, some were

unsettled at the incredibly detailed Google Form that arrived in their Outlook inbox seconds after the announcement.

"When they [Dordt Music Department work studies] started asking questions about my denomination, like if I would be willing to switch from the URC to the CRC, I knew something was up," sophomore cellist Jared Driesen said. "I clicked 'N/A' for most of the questions, and I think that's why I ended up seated in the back of the bus by all the instrument cases."

However, for the traditionally more social Concert Choir bus, the pre-tour preferences survey was a smashing success. "I couldn't believe my luck when I was seated by a tenor from Lynden," junior Emma Van de Berg said. "The same thing happened to my mom when she was on tour twenty-five years ago, and well, now I'm here!"

The Concert Choir student-led devotions committee was also reported to have used texts from Song of Solomon for their pre-concert devotions and mandated handholding (finger-interlocking encouraged) during prayer. Evangelical classics like The Meaning of Marriage, The 5 Love Languages, and Sheet Music also found their way wedged between music folders, some rumored to be passed out to the high school audiences in preparation for their inevitable years at Dordt.

Dr. Onsby Rose of the Chamber Orchestra even became ordained online on the one-hour bus ride to Sioux Falls. He happily broke out his tuxedo to help a glowing tour couple tie the knot underneath the soaring arches of the waterslides in the Ramada hotel where the ensembles spent the night.

"All in God's time," said a beaming Dr. Rose. "He was a bass II, she was a soprano I, can I be any more obvious? The only downside is that they weren't old enough to break out the champagne Ryan had stowed away in his duffel bag, but hey, there's always next year."

## Dordt student critiques campus art

Vincent Van Gogh- Staff Writer

This Dordt artwork makes me want to cut off my ear.

I say that every morning as I walk to the classroom building, coffee in hand. My body is moving, my mind is asleep, I am nothing more than an empty vessel. As I trudge up the steps to my 8am class, CORE 789: Holistic Reformed Reactions to Contemporary Society, I notice the artwork Dordt has chosen as the centerpiece. Instead of being filled with contemplative thought (because all great art should make you think) I feel I am losing a brain cell by the second I stare into its shallow depths.

Why must Dordt art be doused in such utter ridiculousness? Why does some campus art just scream absurdity as you walk past these hallowed—or haunted—halls? Perhaps this has been the elaborate plan all along. It's all a trap, filling up the hallways with only the most confusing of artwork so when a graduating Dordt student's piece is hung on the wall, they're a Claude Monet.

As a Dordt art student specializing in starry landscapes and coming straight from the shining lowland country of The Netherlands, I have compiled a list of the most bizarre campus art, based on your submissions. And why, Dordt student body, we should be fearful of them.

**Red Man with a Plan in Campus Center**  
Submitted by: Braden Van Der Dyken

The hidden words may hint at hidden meanings, but not even the red stick man knows what's going on. The only hidden meanings we see are the words "ME" "YOM" and "HO". Is Dordt trying to tell us what potential careers we should pursue after graduation?

**The Shalom Circles in Campus Center Grille**

Submitted By: Brenda Rosenboom  
Somebody stole my grandmother's quilt and super glued it to the campus center walls. At least she stitched concentric circles representing creation, fall, redemption, and restoration.

**Wedding Registry Rejects in the BJ Haan Auditorium**

Submitted by: John MacInnis  
Dordt's plan to include a fully stocked gourmet kitchen in the Education Department fell through, so the remaining kitchenware was spread throughout Dordt's campus. The music building received the plates, which are now located in the BJ Haan lobby, reminding us all how hungry we are as we sit down in a place where we CANNOT eat.



**One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish in Campus Center, Student Government**

Submitted By: Johannes Vermeer

This painting needs no further explanation, but is it really art if I can scribble that on a wall with my paper-mate flair pens? Or if kindergarteners create this in their art class on a daily basis? There are rules that cannot be broken, but Dordt ignored all of them when they hung up this Pablo Picasso wannabe. But a few more "face masks are required in campus buildings" signs, and they can cover that "happy little accident" right up.

**Ladder Safety Training in library entryway**

Submitted by: Sherwin Williams  
Someone hand this lady a Defender Sandwich. She's overworked, she's exhausted, and she probably had her spring break cancelled this year. Maybe Dordt wasn't absolutely clueless about this painting. At least students can relate to this one.

**Unnamed Bible Character in Classroom Building**

Flagged by: Student Services  
Who decided we needed a naked man in the classroom building?

I have no further comments. Only further concerns.

Honorable mentions:

Dordt supports feminist agenda with Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings in the game room.

"Birds aren't real" stickers add variety to every square inch of campus.

The Gift: Supporting body positivity or unrealistic body standards?



# COMPASSE

paige, my neice, is six.  
isn't she just the cutest little thing

## East Campus Apartments named UNESCO World Heritage Site

Yukon Cornelius- Staff Writer

In a press release put out this week by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the Dordt University East Campus Apartments were surprisingly added to the prestigious list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

On their website, UNESCO lists ten criteria—of which at least one must be met in order for a location to be selected for the honor. In the release, it was stated that, “We [the selection council] found that The Dordt University East Campus Apartments met multiple qualifications, but ultimately, it was the fourth criterium which resulted in the Apartments being selected.”

The fourth criteria states, “...to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural, or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) of human history.”

As an exhibition of how primitive humans used to live, eat, and interact, the East Campus Apartments have wound up being Dordt University’s newest and most globally-recognized achievement.

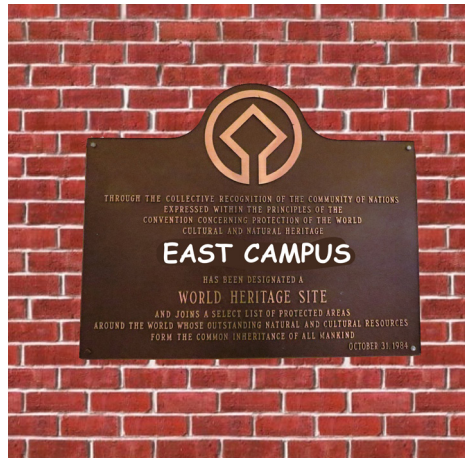
“Of course we are very happy and overwhelmed to be honored by the United Nations in this manner.” President Erik Hoekstra said, “Advertising our rate of engagement over and over again became tiring at some point. To have a leg up in cultural heritage sites against all the other Christian colleges and universities—we believe that Dordt will experience a spike in enrollment and in overall brand recognition.”

When asked about the honor, Dordt students seemed rather indifferent.

Junior Kayleigh VanTop said, “This World Heritage Site thing won’t change how people think about East Campus. The place is a dump, plain and simple.”

Senior Ryan Schmidt had a more pessimistic view.

“Unfortunately, it won’t change the perception of the building. Those unlucky souls who don’t have enough friends to make it into Kuyper or Southview will still be cast out onto the Island



of Misfit Toys. I also think that this means that this place will never be torn down, when realistically, that should have been done as soon as Kuyper got built.”

By being added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Dordt University East Campus Apartments join a very prestigious list of culture and world-defining locations. The Great Barrier Reef, The Great Wall of China, Machu Picchu, Stonehenge, and the Grand Canyon have all welcomed a new neighbor to the ultimate list of influential historical landmarks.

It also means the buildings are not allowed to be torn down or altered from their current status of historical preservation.

It is believed that Dordt will begin tours of the buildings in the summer when students are not present. The added revenue will go into the upkeep of the apartments, though upgrades are unlikely to take place because once added to the list of World Heritage Sites, updating the site is discouraged, as the monument is kept in its original condition.

The Dordt University East Campus Apartments will be around for years and years to come as a result of this distinction. One thing that is known for sure is that generations of tourists will come to learn about the primitive living standards of Dordt University students.

## Local Pentecostals distribute new COVID-19 vaccine: prayer

Tucker Carlson - Staff Writer

While most people have suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic, adhering to statewide mandates and guidelines, partaking in virtual experiences, and waiting patiently for vaccines, a group of local Pentecostals have not lost a breath.

“We’ve had the COVID vaccine all along,” said the group’s leader Smith Wigglesworth. “Prayer is the only, and perfectly true, Rona vaccine.”

The group recently came under fire for hosting a Jesus party without masks or social distancing—a gathering that was also posted on social media.

Wigglesworth’s response to those who opposed his Jesus party, which included praise songs, spirit-led prayer, and the anointing of people with oil, was one of deep theological foundation: “Come on bruh, don’t you guys know that prayer is more powerful than any sickness? We are not to be of this world but of the word,” Wigglesworth said.

Rather than live in fear like most of the world’s population, Wigglesworth and his group of Pentecostals have been calling Christians to stop listening to the words of the world. They have been intentionally hosting large worship gatherings to reveal the power of the Lord.

“The Bible continually calls us to not be afraid,” said Joel Osteen, another member of the group, “I don’t know how else we could approach a pandemic than by literally and blindly applying the word of God to our lives.”

The group has accumulated a large following through social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok. Wigglesworth himself has over 25,000 followers, a number he sees as evidence that the Lord is working.

“Through his grace and truth, I am progressing the kingdom. Compassion, love, mercy, and honor to all be. Drink it in man,” Wigglesworth said.

The local Pentecostals see the next few months as extremely important for people to be vaccinated with prayer. Now that they have discovered this eternal treatment, they believe people must gather in large masses and feel the spirit’s pull.

“I prophesy that many will be fed. Yet some will doubt us, but that is a sign that we are doing right,” Wigglesworth said.

While many in the Sioux County area are attempting to receive a vaccination, the local Pentecostals have been active in persuading people to do otherwise.

“Those vaccines are filled with aborted fetuses and can cause autism,” said Joy Grace, another member of the group.

The group is planning on hosting a gathering on the university football field to spread awareness about prayer as an alternative COVID-19 vaccine. They will be providing help to those who do not know how to pray in order to vaccinate as many people as possible.

“I went to one of their Bible studies once and it lasted about six hours,” said Ryan Worthing, a freshmen business major. “We sat in a circle and just said whatever came into our hearts. I wasn’t sure what to do but I felt the presence of the Lord.”

Worthing and many other Dordt students will be attending the vaccination session on the Dordt football field. It remains to be seen if Dordt will accept the Pentecostals vaccine (prayer) as an official immunization.



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## Randy Feenstra’s accomplishments while in office

Common Sense- Staff Writer



## Which lack-of-spring-break coping mechanism is for you?

Ohlowan McGee - Staff Writer

This semester has been long and rough for everyone. By now most of us have figured out coping mechanisms to help us barely scrape along but, in case you haven't found one or you are bored of your old coping mechanisms, we have provided a handy quiz to distract yourself from the daily grind and the fact that there is no end in sight to your growing pile of homework and that your grades are most certainly suffering and oh gosh I know we talked about suffering and the Biblical theodicies behind it in Core 200 but honestly none of that is helping right now because none of us are getting adequate amounts of sleep or mental breaks and they took our cats away from us which was the only thing keeping the student body going and now we are all dying send help.

- Pick a binge-able TV series:**
  - A. The Great British Bakeoff
  - B. Tiger King
  - C. Psych
  - D. WandaVision
  - E. Outer Banks
- Pick a song from the playlist my roommates and I made to escape the realities of college life:**
  - A. "Hey There Delilah" by Plain White T's
  - B. "He's a Pirate" from the Pirates of the Caribbean movies
  - C. "Break My Face" by AJR
  - D. "Mr. Blue Sky" by Electric Light Orchestra
  - E. "Shotgun" by George Ezra
- Pick a common sight on campus:**
  - A. Students walking service dogs in training
  - B. Overly friendly squirrels stealing trash
  - C. People crashing their scooters
  - D. Community members fast walking on the sidewalks outside of the BJ Haan
  - E. Guys wearing shorts in the middle of a sub-zero snowstorm
- Choose a Core Class:**
  - A. Core 100
  - B. Core 140
  - C. Core 399
  - D. Core 200
  - E. Core 270
- Pick a popular weekend activity:**
  - A. Going to the Fruited Plain
  - B. Wandering aimlessly around Walmart
  - C. Sleeping
  - D. Doing your laundry for the first time in 4 weeks
  - E. Sleeping, but in a hammock outside
- Pick a piece of Campus Art**
  - A. The stained-glass windows in the BJ Haan
  - B. The prayer pavilion thing out in the prairie that people hammock on
  - C. The Gift
  - D. The "Birds Aren't Real" stickers located in various places around campus
  - E. The rad-looking kiln-fired clay pillars outside the art wing with dragons on it
- Pick a food to sneak out of the commons:**
  - A. Almond bars
  - B. Bananas
  - C. An entire bowl of rice noodles and broth
  - D. Meatloaf with mashed potatoes (no idea how you'll pull that off but more power to you)
  - E. Fruit salad
- Pick a campus animal:**
  - A. The grey cat that is definitely not being let inside dorm buildings no sir nothing to see here
  - B. The fat squirrel that camps out by the science building
  - C. The orange cat that is also definitely not being let inside dorm buildings no sir nothing to see here
  - D. The little service puppies in training that guys use to get attention from girls (joke's on them, the girls are too busy petting the puppies to notice them)
  - E. Dr. Olthoff's axolotl

### Mostly A's - Stress Bake While Simultaneously Writing Your Term Paper

You know what pairs great with chocolate chip cookies? Salty tears as you pour over all the reading you haven't done this semester in the midst of all your homework. You can stir the batter as you try to piece at least two words together in defense of your thesis. While stuff is in the oven you can type out 500 words-worth of the same information rephrased in the same way. You could even eat a cookie straight out of the oven and burn your tongue just to feel something again. Chocolate is supposed to give you serotonin, right?

### Mostly B's - Taking a Rushed, Weekend-Long Trip to Mount Rushmore with Your Roommates

Do you actually have time to do this? No. Do you still have mound of homework that you are going to have to do as you are walking around the Black Hills? Yes. Are your grades suffering and is this trip ill-advised but are you going anyway because you are going to die without a break? Heck yes. Go ahead and make a road trip playlist, vaguely plot out some stops, and drive away. You won't be catching up on any much-needed sleep but at least you can add 4 new faces to the list of people you have seen in the last year.

### Mostly C's - Get Quarantined on Purpose

Get contact-traced for two weeks of sweet, sweet alone time. Even though you'll still have to attend online class and do homework, at least you won't be held to social obligations and the walk to class will be shorter. If you put up some posters in your hotel room, turn up the heat, and take a bath with an absurd amount of bath salts and a generous amount of dirt sprinkled on the bathroom floor, you could maybe convince yourself that you're on a beach. Or, if that sounds like too much work, you could always just stare at the wall and contemplate your existence. That works too.

### Mostly D's - Play Sims for 24 Hours Straight

Utilize your single day off in the middle of the week to escape to your perfect fantasy world with the Sims 4. Build your ideal career, family, and house without any of the extra work. Grow old with your virtual significant other. Give yourself 300 dogs and 20 kids. Pretend the rest of the world doesn't exist as you control the entire neighborhood and project your favorite tropes onto them. Hey, if Wanda Maximoff can do it, so can you.

### Mostly E's - Live Vicariously Through Your Friends Who Do In Fact Have Spring Break

Your friends at other colleges are going on spring break, so use their trip to your benefit! Zoom with them on the beach, send a cardboard cutout of your head with them while they hike the Appalachian Trail, and wear a bucket hat and trunks in your shower while your friend describes every second of their Caribbean cruise in excruciating detail. If they are a true friend, they will do this for you.



## The Zoriscopes

The Fifth and a Half Magi- Staff Buffoon

**Aquifer:** Look, I know you may be feeling down, but just think! By the time this is over, it'll all be funny- wait, wrong script, sorry. Please hold. Recalculating. Oh, ooh, no, no, so sorry. That mole? The one on your pinkie toe? Yeah, get that checked out.

**Cornucopia:** Gaslight your friends. Come on, you know you want to. Especially anyone with a J name, they've earned it, you know it.

**Saggyturbus:** Josh, it's your turn to do the dishes. It's not my fault you don't know how to scramble eggs. Now our apartment smells like the set of the 2000 hit film Chicken Run.

**Aardvark:** The military industrial complex wants me; Dr. Brue fears me. Lately in my life I've been spending a lot of mental energy trying to convince all of my classmates that civil engineering IS important, and I AM more intelligent than any humanites student.

**Extra Virgin Olive Oil:** Have you grappled with the Problem of Suffering recently? I'd strongly suggest the experience. Instill an existential crisis in yourself before noon on a Tuesday. How can God be all powerful and allow suffering while being all loving? Or is God neither? Thanks, Laremy...

**Libretto:** Ave Maria gratia plena Maria, gratia plena. Maria, gratia plena! Ave dominus, dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus. Et Benedictus, Et Benedictus fructus ventris. Ventris tuae, Jesus. Ave Maria.

**Taurine:** The FitnessGram PACER Test is a multistage aerobic capacity test that progressively gets more difficult as it continues. The test is used to measure a student's aerobic capacity as part of the FitnessGram assessment. Students run back and forth as many times as they can, each lap signaled by a beep sound.

**Reese's Pieces:** I never really talk about my

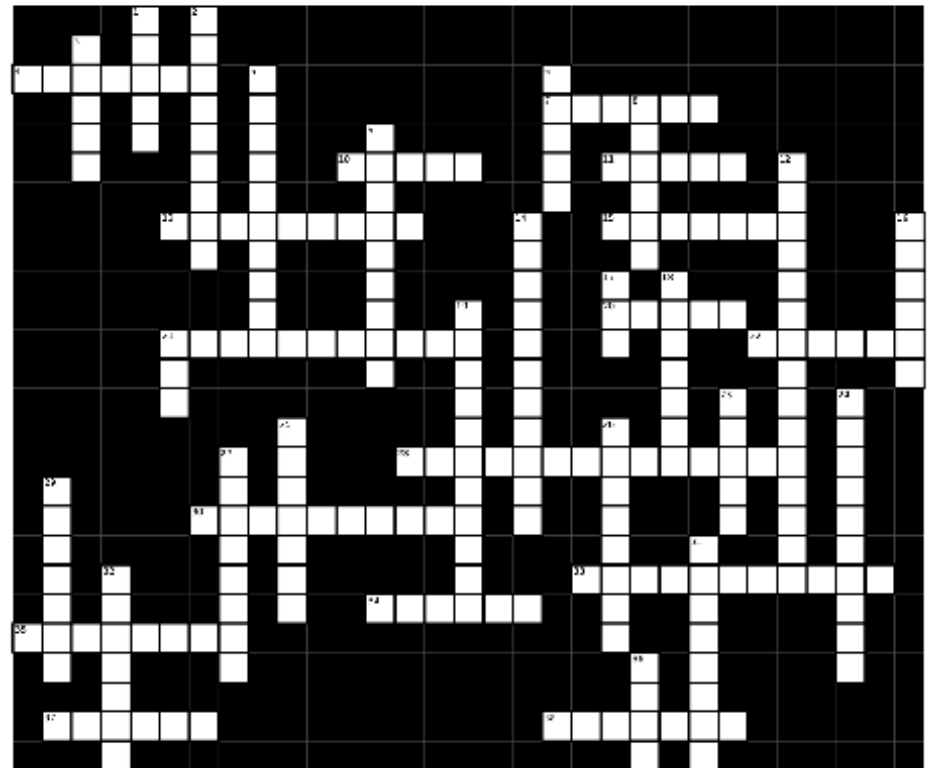
father. I wish I could take back many of the rash things I said to him in youth, but I can't bring myself to. I know he was just doing his best, and for the longest time I was ashamed to even carry his name. Now, I know reconciliation is only a phone call away, but my pride, my foolish pride that he knows all too much about, prevents me. Maybe, just maybe, a copy of this paper will make its way to him and he can read all the words I cannot bring myself to say.

**XM1100 Scorpion Intelligent Missile System:** Your lucky numbers are 4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42.

**German:** Nach allen bekannten Luftfahrtgesetzen kann eine Biene auf keinen Fall fliegen können. Seine Flügel sind zu klein, um seinen fetten kleinen Körper vom Boden abzuheben. Die Biene fliegt natürlich trotzdem. Weil es Bienen egal ist, was Menschen für unmöglich halten

**'95 Leo DiCaprio:** You have a calling—no—an IMPERATIVE to transform into an e-boy by the end of the year. The market is ripe; the whole demographic is yours for the taking. Middle part your hair, crop your shirts, steal your grandma's rings.

**Oncology:** Commas are out—the em dash is in. Lists—em dash. Parentheticals—em dash. Emphasis—em dash. Oxford comma—the exception.



- Across
- President Hoekstra's favorite social media platform!
  - Why Dordt can't tear down East Campus Apartments (WHS).
  - Dordt Mermes are so \_\_\_\_\_!
  - There's only 5 more weeks of school! Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ on and wear them properly (ABOVE the nose).
  - Tiny Tours ensure tiny \_\_\_\_\_!
  - Where Grace happen (and sometimes the stealing of food...and clocks...and cookie jars).
  - The university that didn't give us a spring break.
  - Kingdom. Fail, Redemption, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - To be tried for trying to get rid of all the animals on Dordt's campus. His actions? Criminal.
  - We all know were guaranteed to go to heaven \*wink wink\*
  - Are you a Cornucopia? A German? An Oncology? Well check out your future!
  - What is normal? Do you need to come closer? We swear the \_\_\_\_\_ robots are friendly!
  - The new covid vaccine (scientifically proven to work).
  - If you're not spending your \_\_\_\_\_ check on Dordt than you're doing something wrong.
  - Can we please have an \_\_\_\_\_ break? Good Friday is no longer Good?
  - Watch out for the \_\_\_\_\_ in the ceiling of the Shalom apartments!

- Down
- What Dordt should be renamed as due to all of the Vander's and Van's and people from Edgerton. (\_\_\_\_\_ University)
  - Dordt's fancy name for your personal beliefs.
  - They aren't real.
  - Oh look! Dordt's number one in student \_\_\_\_\_ again! Never saw that one coming!
  - Calvinism and Flowers, what could be better?
  - A grating and a way to make people groan!
  - The totality of this will shock you!
  - The opposite of shalom (on a scale from \_\_\_\_\_ to perfect shalom....).
  - Wow, who needs \_\_\_\_\_ when you have random days off? (2 Words)
  - What is your \_\_\_\_\_ mechanism for the lack of spring break?
  - The organization protecting the campus cats.
  - Where the infamous sausage was eaten by President Hoekstra (and didn't even bring back any to share).
  - The one year \_\_\_\_\_ of COVID-19 has officially passed!
  - Dordt is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Is it a casserole? A soup? Or a new major at Dordt?
  - A wide range of \_\_\_\_\_ theories are running rampant across Dordt.
  - God has control over every square inch, alternatively every \_\_\_\_\_.
  - As students of Dordt University we are called to be Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_ by "doing the work in front of us." Thanks, Dordt!
  - Dordt's new social media platform! (#1 in Student Engagement!)
  - What one-day breaks cured.
  - CRK, First \_\_\_\_\_ First Christian \_\_\_\_\_, and all others forms of this.
  - What the four cardinal directions of Dordt's housing buildings make.
  - Just lol us have the campus \_\_\_\_\_ We need some happiness in the world, don't we!?!?



## Dordt University hires unemployable marketing student to monitor online activity

Hrandon Buisman – Staff Machiavellian

In what would be a controversial move if any record of it existed on the internet, Dordt University recently hired an unemployed marketing major to monitor all online mentions of the institution.

“This student was definitely not having any trouble finding a job—in fact, they were drowning in offers,” President Hoekstra said, “and this position has been in the works for years, decades even. We just now decided to fill it.”

Mere weeks after President Hoekstra took to Instagram to take shots at Zesty Dordt Memes for uploading posts that “break down community,” the university decided to hire a former student to monitor all meme pages connected with Dordt.

“This move will free up President Hoekstra to focus on more important matters, like chilling with donors in Arizona and reading Wall Street Journal opinion pieces,” Vice President of Marketing Brandon Huisman said.

The new staff member will also have the important responsibility of helping the senior citizen members of the Dordt community differentiate between the real Erik Hoekstra twitter account @dordtpresident and the parody version, confusingly named @NOTerikhoekstra and displayed with a mustache and a bio stating explicitly they are not President Hoekstra.

“What we often forget is some members of the Dordt community are actually technologically illiterate.” President Hoekstra said, while looking over a copy of the Wall Street Journal.

“Our new staff member is just as important as the fundraising agents we send to donor’s houses to convince them that it is actually a good idea to take out a second mortgage, invest it all in DOGE coin, and leave your portfolio to Dordt in your will.”

The student chosen for this very important task is Marcus Johnson, a 2020 Dordt graduate.

“I thought finding a job outside Dordt was going to be extremely easy, because ‘this is the Real World,’ after all,” Johnson said.

“Marcus is doing exactly what he intended to with his major,” Huisman said. “We have a touch of freedom to decide if students are using their major in their vocation when making the metrics, but with Joe there was no question for a second. Sometimes we have to do a bit of mental gymnastics when a bio major ends up as a fry cook, but that fry oil was made of plants once. It’s easier when a theology major ends up anywhere, because all of the world is God’s, and every square inch can be better served by a Dordt theology major.”

Johnson sits at his desk and opens his computer to MS Paint and a graphic proclaiming Dordt as the thirty-first best college for fourth-generation Dutch immigrants to attend on the screen. He methodically edited out the “3,” from “31” to exercise what he called “targeted qualitative analysis.”

Johnson has his hands full in the online sphere. Various Instagram meme pages and Twitter parody accounts mimicking Dordt figures have cropped up over the course of the last school year.

“It’s a challenge, but one I’m excited for,” Johnson said.

He already has undertaken the task of flagging accounts of students and commentators critical of Dordt.

“Every day I email President Hoekstra a morning briefing of what memes have been circulating as of late and try to educate him as to what they mean. It’s a little more work than I expected. Hoekstra’s decision to give up discretion on social media for Lent has caused a few headaches.”

## tpircs eivom eeb

Barry B. Benson -Staff Writer

According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way that a bee should be able to fly. Its wings are too small to get its fat little body off the ground. The bee, of course, flies anyway. Because bees don’t care what humans think is impossible.” SEQ. 75 - “INTRO TO BARRY” INT. BENSON HOUSE - DAY ANGLE ON: Sneakers on the ground. Camera PANS UP to reveal BARRY BENSON’S BEDROOM ANGLE ON: Barry’s hand flipping through different sweaters in his closet. BARRY Yellow black, yellow black, yellow black, yellow black, yellow black...oohh, black and yellow... ANGLE ON: Barry wearing the sweater he picked, looking in the mirror. BARRY (CONT’D) Yeah, let’s shake it up a little. He picks the black and yellow one. He then goes to the sink, takes the top off a CONTAINER OF HONEY, and puts some

honey into his hair. He squirts some in his mouth and gargles. Then he takes the lid off the bottle, and rolls some on like deodorant. CUT TO: INT. BENSON HOUSE KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS Barry’s mother, JANET BENSON, yells up at Barry. JANET BENSON Barry, breakfast is ready! CUT TO: “Bee Movie” - JS REVISIONS 8/13/07 1. INT. BARRY’S ROOM - CONTINUOUS BARRY Coming! SFX: Phone RINGING. Barry’s antennae vibrate as they RING like a phone. Barry’s hands are wet. He looks around for a towel. BARRY (CONT’D) Hang on a second! He wipes his hands on his sweater, and pulls his antennae down to his ear and mouth. BARRY (CONT’D) Hello? His best friend, ADAM FLAYMAN, is on the other end. ADAM Barry? BARRY Adam? ADAM Can you believe this is happening? BARRY Can’t believe it. I’ll pick you up. Barry sticks his stinger in a sharpener. SFX: BUZZING AS HIS STINGER IS SHARPENED. He tests the sharpness with his finger. SFX: Bing. BARRY (CONT’D) Looking sharp. ANGLE ON: Barry hovering down the hall, sliding down the staircase bannister. Barry’s mother, JANET BENSON, is in the kitchen. JANET BENSON Barry, why don’t you use the stairs? Your father paid good money for those. “Bee Movie” - JS REVISIONS 8/13/07 2. BARRY Sorry, I’m excited. Barry’s father, MARTIN BENSON, ENTERS. He’s reading a NEWSPAPER with the HEADLINE, “Queen gives birth to thousandtuplets: Resting Comfortably.” MARTIN BENSON Here’s the



## Dordt enters social media game with Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement

Not-not Eric Hoekstra Jr. -Staff Writer

Earlier this week, Dordt University marketing revealed their new social media app Flourish, The Number One App in Student Engagement. With Flourish, Dordt hopes to revolutionize the virtual world through TULIPs, daily Bible verses, and pictures of Northwest Iowa sunsets.

“I wouldn’t be surprised if it [Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement] had millions and millions of users one day,” President Hoekstra said.

The move to create a specific social media app for Dordt comes on the heels of irresponsible student activity on other, inferior social media apps like Instagram and Twitter.

“This isn’t kind, nor true, nor helpful... please consider at least a delete if not also an apology,” Hoekstra commented on a particular Dordt Zesty Memes post via Instagram a few weeks ago.

Hoekstra had also been critical of Twitter accounts like @NotEricHoekstra. Even with careful warnings and respectful questioning, students have continued to mishandle their virtual freedom. And once again, rather than be negligent, Dordt has decided choose grace and accommodating their students’ needs.

After conversation with the marketing team, President Hoekstra decided to move forward with Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement. All students will be required to install the app and create a profile.

“We hope the app will allow for cultivation and shalom, in accordance with grace and love, as students seek to live out the cultural mandate by flourishing through student engagement,” said John-Paul VanKlaveVanSmith, an alumnus of Dordt University and a marketing representative.

Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, comes with a plethora of norms that turn into rules if students choose to break them. Firstly, every post, comment, and account creation will be monitored by a new team of first year Dordt alumni who were not fortunate enough to land a job. The team will be known as The Restorers of Kuyper.

“There will be no cursing, no identity stealing, no negativity (specifically towards Dordt), no false information, no socialism, and no mention of Northwestern beating our sports teams,” said Marcus Johnson the alumni leader of The Restorers of Kuyper.

“In addition, Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, is the most inclusive and loving app yet, but this will only work if we each agree to love our neighbor,” President Hoekstra said.

For the upcoming school year, Dordt will require its students to create a Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, account while uninstalling all other social media platforms. Continuing to participate in other social media apps apart from Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, along with failing to adhere to the app’s norms will be grounds for expulsion.

“I’ll miss watching YouTube videos of guys sliding on olive oil, TikTok’s of girls dancing to awesome songs, and IG reels of, well the same as TikTok, but I’m excited to flourish on Flourish. Maybe I’ll even be the first Flourish account to go viral,” said Ben-Joseph Pilate, a sophomore criminal justice major.

Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, also includes a dating group server for Dordt students to connect and engage with one another. Dordt was able to add this feature after recovering money from the implosion of Southview.

“In partnership with Ring by Spring co., we are committed to engaging more of our student body, and Flourish will help us meet that goal of the college with the highest percentage of married student body. BYU, you’re going down,” Johnson said.

The aspect ratio of Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, posts will be the same as Instagram to maintain an every square inch philosophy.

Students will be able to link their U.Dordt accounts with Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, in order to provide updated information on the social media platform. If you want to get started on Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement, early, then follow this link: <https://www.tomorrowtides.com/udordtedufourish1.html>

Flourish, The Number One App In Student Engagement™





## 10 Ways to Spend Your Stimmy

Anneli Kanerva- Staff Writer

### 1). Get a sick electric scooter

Whipping around campus on one of these babies is the ultimate flex. If you thought revving your engine and doing burnouts at 2 a.m. was the best way to get the ladies, think again. Electric scooters = babe magnets.

### 2). Walk into Jimmy Johns and demand to see Jimmy

Use your stimmy to arrange a meeting with Jimmy John himself to purchase the secret recipe to Kickin' Ranch. My addiction to Kickin' Ranch is even stronger than my love for Defendie sauce, and it's getting pricey.

### 3). Chegg subscription

You know you need this. The engineering homework is piling up and we both know you have no idea what's going on. Now that you have the money, there's no excuse to keep making up emails to get free trials. Don't fight it.

### 4). Hot date at Los Tulipanes

Los Tulipanes has an atmosphere unparalleled by any restaurant in Sioux Center. From the variety of colorful margaritas to the eclectic decor to the delicious food, this place really sets the mood and it's the perfect place to take your girl for that DTR moment. Thank me later.

### 5). Pay off your parking tickets

We all know the parking situation on campus is dicey, especially in the Kuiper lot. Tickets just happen, pay them and don't land yourself on the boot list. Trust me, it's not somewhere you want to be.

### 6). Treat yourself to some boujee ramen

Have you ever tried ramen that costs more than 36¢ per pack? You really should. Believe it or not, Maruchan is not the only name in the ramen game.

### 7). Get a slip and slide for the dorm hallway

Hear me out: why not?

### 8). Buy a Hammock

I know, I know, I'm so original, but watching all of the outdoorsy types vibing in their hammocks in the prairie awakens something in me. It makes me crave granola and want to wear Chacos. Their shalom is unparalleled.

### 9). Adopt the campus cats

We all love them and now we can afford them. Use your stimmy to adopt one of these cute lil babies and pay to register them as an emotional support animal. Take that, Derek Buteyn!

### 10). Buy an engagement ring

You have it all planned out: you take her on a Dordt walk, drop on one knee in front of The Gift, she accepts, and you both revel in the ring-by-spring bliss. But first, you got to buy that ring! Be sure to check the Dordt Deals Facebook page for a good price on all your wedding needs.

## 9 ways to spend your stimulus check

Dordt University Advancement—Guest Writer

With the recent passage of the COVID-19 Stimulus Package, Dordt University students like you are now eligible to receive \$1,400 checks when your parents claim you on their taxes. Here at the Dordt University Advancement Office, we took it upon ourselves to help you navigate your surprise surplus of cash.

### 1. Dordt University

We get it. They say it is “unprofessional” and “unethical” to ask for money in a newspaper. But let's be honest, we were going to send you a letter asking for donations the day after you graduated anyways, so we just figured we would save money on stamps and ask you right here. Give us the money.

### 2. WinRed

GOP? More like GOPlease Take My Money! With a donation to WinRed, the Republican party fundraising platform, you can join a long line of Dordt faculty and staff who already do so in the name of conservative government. In this past election season, individuals who listed “Dordt” as their employer donated over \$5,000 in total to conservative PACs and campaigns like WinRed.

### 3. President Erik Hoekstra

Look here, you penniless college student. Those six figure salary of reportable compensation that Hoekstra cut himself in 2017 (as per the 990 tax forms of the same year) can cover a lot of things. But they cannot cover everything. His funds for those tasty sausages posted to his Twitter and his trips down to Arizona need to come from somewhere. It is either your donation or next year's tuition.

### 4. Pro-Tech

And hey, speaking of Hoekstra, his Pro-Tech

department could use a little help right now. In 2017, Dordt University's shiniest new major posted the second worst freshman to sophomore retention rate. With your \$1,400, you can ensure that Pro-Tech guys will rev their 2007 Chevy Silverados outside of Covenant Hall for the next ten years. Now THAT is attractive.

### 5. Any lawmaker against the Equality Act

It would be a real bummer to be forced to comply to federal standards regarding discrimination in the hiring process with the passage of the Equality Act. If you send your stimmy to the lawmaking men and women who think the same, we might never have to.

### 6. Another Jacob's Ladder

Name one thing that better equips students to work effectively toward Christ-centered

renewal in all aspects of contemporary life than the Jacob's Ladder. We'll wait.

### 7. Dordt University, but at number 7

Yeah, yeah. We know we put ourselves on the list twice and that's not how these things work. We do not care. Money now, please!

### 8. That pothole in the Shalom lot

I mean you have got to look at the size of that thing. Honestly, it is incredible the pothole hasn't claimed any tires or lives yet. Still, we are not looking to fix it (or pay our maintenance workers to do so) unless you provide the funds, of course.

### 9. Dordt University

Because why not?



## One day break cured anxiety cont.

cont. from pg. 1

. . . training. The more you encounter it, the stronger you get. This is true. I know so. I think this is in large part why I am now anxiety-free and expect to be for the rest of my life, thanks to Dordt's help. I've finally hit the point where I've been stressed long enough to reap the rewards.

Of course, there are still naysayers in the crowd. I heard a visitor telling their friend that us Dordt students looked like zombies because we needed a break. I think what they actually saw—but merely misinterpreted—was the higher level of mentality that the students have achieved. While other universities have extended spring breaks, we have increased the number of ours without taking a single day away from our academic calendar. We are now well and truly set apart.

The one-day breaks have been so successful that I sincerely hope they do away with our traditional spring break forever.

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## Dordt is rad. Or is it?

Sophie Scoop - Staff Writer

Dordt University has prided itself for five years in being ranked No. 1 in the nation for student engagement by The Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education's College Rankings 2021.

Each year, students walk around campus wearing the trendy shirts, stickers, and buttons Dordt gives out to celebrate.

The ranking is based on the level of student engagement, the opportunities for professors and students to interact, whether students would recommend Dordt to others, and the college's number of accredited programs.

Or is it?

Senior Ellie Eagerman admitted the truth about orchestrating Dordt's student engagement ranking.

“It was like my guilt was following me everywhere,” she said. “‘Dordt is Rad.’ ‘Dordt is Rad.’ ‘Dordt is Rad.’ The shirts are everywhere reminding me of my lies.”

As a freshman, she was bribed with Defender crunch bags to craft a scheme to subliminally influence the gullible minds of undergrad students. All she had to do was gather a group of students who were willing to “get their hands dirty.”

“I couldn't help it,” Eagerman said. “I was given one of those Defender crunch goodie bags on a campus visit, and it was so good. Being given the chance for a year's supply of that stuff is something that no one would turn down.”

Eagerman set to work. She spent some time observing campus to ensure she would choose the right workers for the job. About two weeks into the school year, she set up a meeting time to fill them in on her secret.

She said the work was easy once the team was used to it. They were continuously setting up events for students to meet one another and for professors to interact with students. The events were never labeled as Dordt-led to give them a more authentic feel.

Yet, Eagerman revealed that the biggest way her team impacted the student body was with their words.

“If you want college students to think

something, you don't tell them what to think; you plant seeds,” she said. “A perfectly placed ‘Isn't Dordt so welcoming?’ here and a little ‘I am totally gonna recommend Dordt to all my friends back home,’ there was all it took.”

Some of her techniques weren't quite as subtle. She organized practice sessions on how to answer each of the survey questions in a unique and overly positive way. Students who attended a class and completed the survey would be entered into a drawing for \$5,000.

Each year, Eagerman planned to quit her charade, but each year, Dordt added to the bribe. Now, in her fifth year as a super senior, she receives a year supply of Defender crunch, monthly campus store gift cards, an extra \$200 of Defender dollars each semester,

and first choice in apartments.

“I am so relieved that I don't have to carry this secret around any longer,” she said. “I want to be able to go out and live my life without the weight of this burden.”

President Erik Hoekstra is sad to see her go. He said Eagerman has made a great impact on the Dordt community, and he worries about the future of the college's student engagement rankings.

“At the core of our undergraduate education is the shaping of students—heart, soul, mind and strength—and that happens through relationships between students, faculty and staff. And sometimes, students just needed that little extra nudge that Ellie was willing to give to her fellow students.”

## Lorem Ipsum

Vaughn Donahue. -Staff Writer

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# iNDuStRy StAndard

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## What everyone thinks and no one says about DU athletes

stereoTYPER— Staff Writer

When walking across the Dordt University campus it's easy to tell when someone plays a sport. Whether it's the athletic build, the extensive time spent in the rec center, or the missing class for out-of-state games, it's not hard to point out the athletes. The hard part comes when trying to figure out exactly which sport they play. So, join me as I stereotype all the athletes on campus to help in your identification process.

### Women's sports

**Basketball:** These girls are chill. They get so chill that sometimes they go cold and shoot nine percent from the field.

**Volleyball:** If you want to know what the volleyball team is like, I heard that on Wednesdays they wear pink. That's all you need to know.

**Track and cross country:** If you are looking for a sport, join track or cross country! They will accept anyone (and I mean, ANYONE). My dog just got a scholarship to run here next year! Catch her taking a dub in the 100-meter dash!

**Dance:** Some people (not me) say this is not a sport. (Some people, not me).

**Golf:** Did you know we had a golf team? Yeah, me neither.

**Softball:** The first thing the softball girls are known for is going into quarantine and getting tested multiple times after one person tested positive. Oh, and they are better than the baseball team. (Who wants to see a matchup between the baseball team and softball team? My money is on softball.)

### Men's sports

**Basketball:** The most interesting part about going to basketball games is watching all the Dordt players get rim-stuffed while trying to dunk during warm-ups. Pro tip: just because

you are 6'6" and Dutch does not mean you can slam it down. But nice try!

**Football:** Can you imagine going to a small, NAIA school to play football because it is the only place willing to give you a scholarship... and realizing upon arrival that it is a Christian college? Oh, the players also made a pact to all be HHP majors so they could do their homework together! That was pretty good thinking on their part.

**Baseball:** These guys have team spirit because the only clothes they ever wear are their baseball sweatshirts and joggers. I am honestly concerned those articles of clothing never get washed. Maybe a spin through the washer and dryer would help.

**Golf:** "Oh my gosh I am so excited to watch the golf meet today!" -No One, Ever

**Track:** They don't have an MVP they have MVE. #iykyk

**Cross country:** The key to the success of the cross country men's team: the blindingly short shorts they CHOOSE to wear during practice. Yeah, they actually WANT to wear these shorts, and are not forced into it.

**Men's volleyball:** Tall men jumping around in shorts and making dramatic dives across the floor. Hm.

**Hockey:** I will admit the hockey guys are the best-dressed team on campus. However, you can't win hockey games by being well dressed, which is unfortunate because their record would probably look much better because of it.

Thanks for coming to my presentation! I look forward to going to sporting events and stereotyping at all the athletes in the future.

## Dordt University set to host Final Four

Jay Bilas — Guest Writer — Staff Writer

As if March Madness could not get any crazier with the new COVID-19 location changes, recent reports have claimed Dordt University is set to host the NCAA Men's Final Four this coming weekend.

After reports of issues with the facilities in Indianapolis, the NCAA will move the final three games of the tournament to Iowa. Sioux Center, specifically Dordt University, was selected as the final hosting location after the NCAA looked at Des Moines, Ames, and Iowa City as possible replacement locations.

The main criteria in the selection process to be the new hosting city were proper COVID-19 protocols, enough hotel space for the teams, and quality external amenities. These include restaurants as well as other attractions.

The other cities were extremely confused as to why the choice was made to select Sioux Center considering their limited options regarding the main criteria.

"Sioux Center has only one sports bar and grill in the entire city," said, John Johnson, the chairman of the Des Moines selection board. "On top of that, they have barely enough hotels to fit the teams at the competition, not to mention the need to house fans and the media. This decision has been mind-boggling for not only the city of Des Moines, but also the other big cities involved in this process."

Despite the disappointment of the big cities, Sioux Center is ecstatic for the opportunity to host this national event.

"As a city council, we are thrilled to have been selected to host the NCAA Men's Final Four," said Sioux Center selection board chairman, Dan Daniels. "This will provide an extremely beneficial economic boost to the surrounding area, especially in light of the COVID-19 slowdown."

Dordt University will host three games—the two semifinal matchups and the championship game. This will take some stringent measures on the part of the campus.

"Dordt is honored to be the host site for these games," said Dordt Athletic Director,



Ross Douma. "We will staff this event properly and showcase all that Dordt has to offer."

The teams in the event will have their meals provided by Dordt Dining and have it delivered to their hotels. They will be allowed to train in the athletic weight room in the Rec Center as well.

Practices prior to the games will be held in the DeWitt Gymnasium and will be open to the public. Other than these practices, the entire Rec Center and DeWitt will be closed three days prior to the start of games until the end of the tournament to ensure proper COVID-19 protocols are being met.

While this is exciting for the community, some Dordt students wish that they could still use the Rec Center despite the big event.

"I was looking forward to playing racquetball with my friends this weekend," said Dordt junior, Anna Anderson. "I guess we will have to choose a different activity."

Despite the disappointment from some, this event has created an unparalleled amount of excitement around campus.

Dordt's men's and women's basketball teams will work concessions during the Final Four, which will provide them with a unique perspective on the games themselves.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our university," said Dordt President, Erik Hoekstra. "We will put our best foot forward as we prepare to host the Final Four."

The excitement is high in the city of Sioux Center as citizens anticipate the memorable weekend ahead.

## Baseball players picking out what to wear in the morning



## Dordt renames residence halls to more accurately reflect Reformed worldview cont.

cont. from pg. 1

... moved into the quarantine hotel rooms for the remainder of the semester.

The Grille has been renamed the "Predestination Station" — still a great place to pick up lunch and have theological debates that will ruin friendships for years to come.

West Hall has been named "Best Hall" because Calvinism is simply The Best.

The Commons' name will just add grace to the end — "Common Grace."

Square Inch Hall is the new name for the East Hall dorms.

"We've started calling it Squinch for short. It started with the North Hall guys making fun of us, but then it just kind of stuck," freshman Jack Whiteman said.

"At least we didn't get named Depravity Hall," Whiteman said.

But North Hall did. North Hall lost the most recent Manly Cup competition, and is now permanently stuck with the name. Some say the name is a good fit given how totally depraved the men's dorms are already.

Southview Apartments have been renamed the Shalom Apartments.

The focus of the task force this year was to rename only the residential buildings. The

team will continue to meet seven days a week over the summer to deliberate the renaming of the other buildings on campus. If you have recommendations for new names please email the advancement office.

In a recent press release, President Hoekstra gave his thoughts.

"As a higher education institution operating out of a Reformed worldview, it is imperative that we as a university strive to always keep reforming. Instead of changing some of our outdated and archaic policies, we decided that renaming our campus buildings is an excellent way to show the most important people in the Dordt community, our donors, that we are uniquely Reformed."



## Hoekstra replaces spring break with a shalom shot

[REDACTED]- Staff Writer

As colleges and universities approach the middle of the Spring semester, students and faculty begin itching for a break from the monotony of everyday classes; not to mention the ever-looming deadlines, midterms, tests, projects, and even extracurriculars that distinguish student life from all others.

Still, students throw themselves out of bed each morning and dutifully show up to class during the week of their cancelled Spring Break.

Meanwhile, the very same COVID-19 task force that enacted our beloved wellness days has been grinding to find a way to supplement the rest days, and maybe even discover the elusive cure to student burnout. After hours at the drawing board, President Erik Hoekstra came up with the perfect way to make it up to Dordt students.

While traveling for Spring break- ahem, some important schmooz- AHEM, fundraising for Dordt University, Hoekstra decided to document his travels.

Though seemingly irrelevant, Hoekstra and other Dordt bigwigs insist that this plan is backed by brain science.

"I read somewhere on Twitter once that watching another person do something activates the same areas of your brain involved in actually doing the activity," Hoekstra said. "The intent was that students would see my posts and get just enough good juju to make up for their missing Spring break and to complement the existing wellness days."

But the task force only posted one photo. Apparently, that too was an intentional decision.

"There was an oversight when we scheduled the wellness days," Robert Taylor said, "The students made it particularly clear that we only scheduled four days to replace the typical five-day break. This photo serves as the fifth 'wellness day'."

As a result, Hoekstra and his merry men knew that the photo had to be of the utmost quality, and so they decided to take advantage of the Dordt Media Network.

"It took quite a bit of financial maneuvering," Stephanie Baccam, Vice President for finance, said, "but we eventually found room in the budget to drive the Media Truck all the way to Phoenix."

So, a couple of student employees drove the truck down to take the ultimate shalom shot. There was an intensive photoshoot upon the arrival of the media truck, and the photo that made the cut was meticulously framed, reframed, shot, and reshot. Finally, they achieved visual perfection.

But the work didn't end there.

"It took several hours and a dedicated think tank just to come up with an appropriate caption," Hoekstra said. "Many thanks to the friends involved in making this project a reality."

The only thing left to do was post it. Since



Hoekstra's Twitter account has been seeing an increase in clout, the decision was made to tweet it.

On February 27 Hoekstra posted a golden hour picture of a Dordt University™ charcuterie board with the caption, "The @dordtuniversity store has the best gifts. Tasty sausage and a sundown in Phoenix with friends of Dordt!"

The post boasts an impressive 49 likes and 3 replies, including a question about whether the Dordt's campus store sells cured sausages (the answer is, unfortunately, no).

But students naturally had mixed reactions to the Twitter account, according to a student survey. The question asked was: "On a scale of disillusionment to perfect shalom, how well did Hoekstra's recent Twitter post boost your mood?"

"Normally I would just disassociate during class to avoid burnout," student Wanda Meijer said, "but this Tweet gave me a rush of serotonin and shalom, and it cured my depression."

But Meijer's opinion was a rare one, and many others were dissatisfied with the tweet.

"So we can't have a spring break," student Jacob Janssen said, "but Hoekstra can travel all the way to Arizona? Seems like a double standard to me."

That being said, most reactions to the question went something like this:

"Hoekstra has a Twitter account?"

The general consensus is that this project failed, and students have been left more than a little miffed.

It seems that the only way to recover from burnout is to take an actual break. Students obviously won't have a spring break this year, but there are only four weeks left of classes, and one week of testing.

To all of you who are barely holding on, the semester will be over soon. Summer is almost here and commencement will be here before you know it: Godspeed!



## "Exclusive Interview: Why Good Friday is just Friday"



The Easter Egger - Staff Writer

Dordt University student Dutch Blonde sits alone in her dorm, grasping a photo as her lifeline.

On its glossy surface, her family's smiling faces look back at her. In the photo, Blonde holds one of her siblings, who in turn holds an open easter egg. His face is smeared with chocolate, the stolen treasure from inside the egg.

Blonde has always had a huge Easter celebration with her extensive Dutch family. But this year is different. She's a freshman at Dordt and away from home for the first time. She fully expected to be able to make a trip home to celebrate Easter. She did not do her research, though, and was shocked to discover her new university neglected to schedule an Easter break. She assumed it was due to COVID-19, but after asking around, she realized no Easter break had always been the norm.

Dordt students are a tad put-off they do not get days off to celebrate one of the most important Christian holidays. They've continually begged the question: why doesn't Dordt give students an Easter break?

**"The short answer is we thought this provided us a better example to redeem every single day"**  
-Hoekstra

While waiting for answers as to why Dordt has been holding onto its students so tightly, they have formed some strong opinions on the matter.

"This puts me in mind of Moses and Pharaoh," theology major Shalom Van De Jong said. "I just want to tell Dordt: 'Let your people go.'"

Now, after years of wondering and griping about the lack of break, an exclusive interview with Dordt President Erik Hoekstra provided the answers students so desperately craved.

"The short answer is we thought this provided us a better example to redeem every single day," Hoekstra said. "What better way to celebrate Christ's resurrection than by fulfilling our calling as kingdom citizens doing the work in front of us? For students, this means going to class and completing their studies."

Meanwhile, Dordt philosophy professor Mark Tazelaar believes students are missing out on some crucial information.

"We tried to give students an Easter break last year," Tazelaar said. "And look what happened."

He philosophized that the odds of Dordt's first venture into Easter-break-hood and the timing of the pandemic could not be a coincidence.

"It has to be a sign," Tazelaar said. "Easter break is a bad idea."

Hoekstra also saw Easter weekend as an opportunity to build Dordt's community.

"How do you think Dordt gets ranked as #1 in student engagement each year?" Hoekstra said. "It's because we keep students on campus and give them the opportunity to celebrate right here at Dordt instead of in their own homes. Our consistent ranking shows that this strategy works."

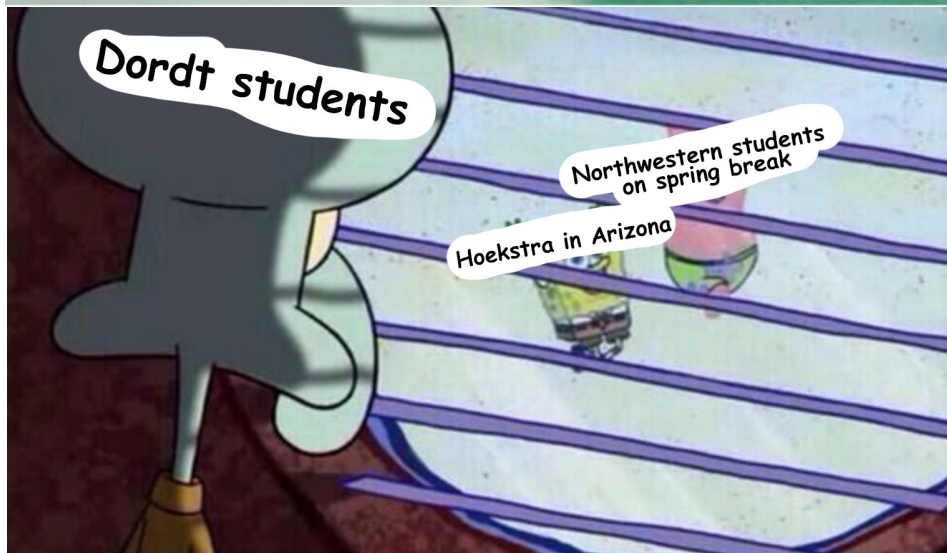
Van De Jong found the concept of having classes on Good Friday disconcerting.

"If you take away the opportunity to take a rest on Good Friday," Van De Jong said. "Aren't we in danger of turning Good Friday into just another Friday?"



# The Bacc Page

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## President Hoekstra gives up discretion on social media for Lent cont.

Students: stop posting your opinions on Twitter

Hoekstra:



cont. from pg. 1

For those unaware, the passage of the Equality Act would make it illegal for institutions like Dordt to discriminate based on sexuality in the hiring process. Because of their religious convictions, Dordt does not hire LGBTQ persons. Should the act be signed into law and the university not change their ways, they would lose their federal funding.

Still, the brazen behavior shown by Hoekstra on Twitter felt out of place. There was confusion across campus.

A few students thought his account may have been hacked, especially after Hoekstra started a beef with Zesty Dordt Memes. From his Instagram, he requested the unofficial campus meme account “consider at least a delete if not also an apology” in comment on a meme about admissions.

“That was what did it for me,” a junior meme connoisseur said. “You can’t come at Zesty like that.”

Not to mention, the typical pro-capitalist, pro-Wall Street Journal retweets from Hoekstra’s account were coming on stronger than usual. It was as if the university president wasn’t even trying to hide his under-the-table you-retweet-our-articles-we-rank-you-as-the-most-engaging-school-for-five-years-in-a-row agreement with the conservative news publication.

This past week, the student body and greater university community received an explanation for President Hoekstra’s shoot-from-the-hip social media stylings.

In a press release, the president released the following:

“In an unconventional Lenten season, your president chose an unconventional thing to give up: discretion on social media. These past few weeks may have been disorienting, even maddening, for some of you. I recognize that. I want you to know that I meant everything

I said. I just usually do not post everything I think. Thank you.”

In the aftermath of the press release, some reactions were positive.

“To be honest, you gotta respect it,” said an engineering student who signed the petition against COVID-19 restrictions from earlier in the semester. “I just wish I had that excuse when I—a science-based major—said that scientifically-proven measures against the spread of disease were ineffective against the spread of disease.”

Others were negative.

“Shoot, man. I am all for outside-the-box religion.” A Pentecostal student said. “But I don’t know if I can support some of the things that President Hoekstra said and the hurt that he caused.”

Such an explanation for Hoekstra’s unrestricted social media activity also gives reason to the picture he posted from his trip to Arizona in mid-March—the same week Dordt students were supposed to have spring break if not for COVID-19 restrictions. Most students agreed the image of the “tasty sausage” was in poor taste.

“That one was crazy,” Hoekstra said. “It was so clearly a bad idea to post the picture when all the students had were those one-day breaks. But since I gave up an online filter for Lent, I had no other choice.”

As much as Hoekstra tried to model former President Trump with his personal and unpolished opinions published straight to the internet, he will not lose his Twitter privileges as Trump did.

“And for that, I am grateful,” President Hoekstra said.

Though the board did agree Hoekstra must take HIST-308 Media & Power and COMM-105 Workplace Communication.

“I just love free speech... but on my terms, without any consequences,” President Hoekstra said.

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