

Signs of Spring

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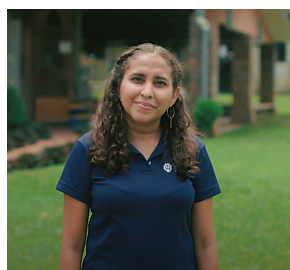


JAMIN VER VELDE (99)

FOR THE RECORD...

Dordt Worship gives students the chance to record and release new albums and singles. Students learn to use recording software and studio equipment, and they get to partner with on-campus recording professionals like Director of Production Arts Alex Priore. Dordt Worship music is available on Spotify and other music streaming services.

IN THIS ISSUE



4 Wendy Gómez Matamoros ('12) has been awarded the 2023 Young Alumni Award by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.

6 Men's cross country take home the national championship title and more.

8 Dordt received high marks in the HLC accreditation process.

10 An art major places first in poster design contest.

11 Once again, students embark on short-term mission trips through PLIA.

12 Dr. Mark Christians has taught Lifespan Development more than 110 times since 2000.



16 What has Dordt accomplished in the first 11 years of Dr. Erik Hoekstra's presidency?

24 Every day, Dordt faculty participate in research and scholarship.



SIGNS OF SPRING

It's been a long winter in Northwest Iowa. Snow came in November and still hasn't fully gone away. There are massive snow piles on campus, including a rather prominent one sitting west of the Ribbens Academic Complex.



Back in February, the huge snow pile caught President Erik Hoekstra's eye and gave him an idea. In a campuswide update video about upcoming construction projects, he posed an unrelated question: when will that snow pile fully melt? He asked students and employees to fill out a survey to submit their guesses as to what date the snow pile might disappear. More than 340 people filled out the survey, with guesses ranging from February 15 to June 11. A simple question turned into a fun activity for campus, which helped make the cold weather more tolerable.

Sometimes it takes looking at things from a different angle to gain a new perspective. In this issue, you'll find examples of faculty pursuing research and scholarship to solve important problems and live out Dordt's mission in their own unique ways. You'll see how President Hoekstra brings business acumen and innovation to his role. You'll also see how perseverance through trials, whether as an alumna leading a non-profit organization in Nicaragua or as a student training for an important cross country race, can lead to growth.

It's now April, and the snow pile hangs on. But there are signs of spring—the robins have returned, and green grass is slowly emerging on campus—so it's just a matter of time before the snow pile melts away.

SARAH MOSS ('10), EDITOR