

THE ZIRCON

This publication is sponsored and approved by Donald Trump.

A letter from the editors

As representatives of The Diamond publication, we are pleased to inform you that presidential candidate Donald Trump voluntarily sponsored this semester's issue of The Zircon. While we are thrilled to have Trump's support, we assure you that his unrivaled performance and political mind have in no way compromised the integrity of the paper. Our joint efforts with our future president will further allow us to bring fact-based, objective news reporting to Dordt College's campus.

As always, we welcome any compliments to be sent to diamond@dordt.edu, and anyone with criticism can learn from our glorious leader: "Sometimes your best investments are the ones you don't make."

With your help, we can Make America Great Again™
Ashley Bloemhof & Jonathan Janssen
Editors-In-Chief

Longboard lane keeps Sioux Center rollin'

Sarah Michelle Gellar – Staff Writer

Sioux Center may not be able to pass a three to four lane expansion project, but recent consideration for our fellow boarders may be what the town truly needs.

Last week on Tuesday, Nov. 3, the Highway 75 Enhancement Project came up short with only 56.45% in support of the proposition. The vote needed a 60% approval rating in order for the project to continue.

"We were disappointed, to say the least, in how the voting turned out on Tuesday," City Manager Paul Clousing said. "But we are still looking for ways to make our city more efficient, inspiring and inviting."

City Council members have recently talked with Dordt College board members to discuss plans for allowing a single small lane on both sides of Highway 75 for longboarders. Many opposed to the Highway 75 Enhancement Project worried about safety concerns and the road taking out the trees and homes of those living along the highway. However, a longboard lane would be much smaller, less invasive and safer was the returning argument.

Down-to-earth values, small-town people, home-style cooking and agriculture are all



With new longboard lanes, students like these would not be in danger.

accurate and perceivable descriptors of the Sioux Center community. Although these perceptions and values may have previously defined the essence of Sioux Center, the City Council's proposition may change those assumptions with their bold proposal for this community. This change might do more to attract visitors to Sioux Center than any Casey's

Bakery or small-town campaign yet.

"We see the growing trends in young adults," Clousing said. "One of those trends seems to be longboarding."

The City Council examined Dordt College's intrigue with the longboard for a few days

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Dordt adds new study abroad option at Northwestern



Dordt students find solace among the adversary.

Leighton Van Mooi – Staff Writer

With the success of Dordt's study abroad programs, such as the Studies Program in Contemporary Europe (SPICE) and the Studies Program in Nicaragua (SPIN), the college is looking to take a big risk and offer students the experience to travel to the exotic Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa.

After years of planning and scoping out the campus, the International Studies department is confident students participating in SPAN, Studies Program at Northwestern, will have a unique and challenging experience.

Last semester, the department sent out a pilot group of 10 students for six weeks to test the waters. The group had only positive things to say when they returned.

"I was nervous before leaving on SPAN because I had never left Sioux Center before,"

Susie Thuis said. "I was really worried about how I was going to be able to adapt, but I loved my time at Northwestern. The campus maintains such a strong sense of community."

Greg Wanderson and Pete Travelberg decided to participate in SPAN to enjoy a 'typical Dutch experience' without having to leave the United States.

"Orange City has a Dutch vibe that Sioux Center could never capture," Wanderson said.

"Dordt always claims to be such a Dutch community, but they don't have any of Dutch-looking buildings," Travelberg said. "In Orange City, you feel as if you are in the Netherlands every time you stroll downtown. Plus, they have miniature windmills in the park."

SPAN students will take multiple excursions around the city. Destinations include the

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Man posing as statue rewarded with world record

Eddy Longshanks – Staff Writer

Ever since he could spell his name, Maximus Leven Standbeeld knew he was destined for greatness. On Nov. 10, Guinness World Record officials gifted Standbeeld the award for Longest Continual Hold of a Motionless Position. This recognition was well-earned considering Standbeeld endured the occasional shoddy application of T-shirts and was forced to hold rolls of toilet paper at the expense of immature college students for hours on end.

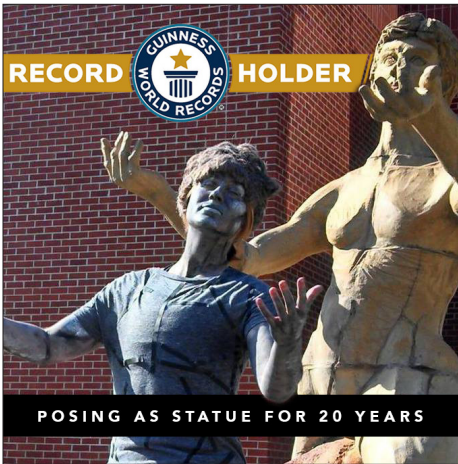
Before his 20 year stint as The Gift, Leven Standbeeld had been classically trained as a living-statue street performer at Boston College. In the 90's, he came to Dordt with hopes to spark interest in a living statue major. Upon repulsion, Leven Standbeeld met up with Jake Van Wyke, the art professor at the time.

Van Wyke, only because he was intrigued by the idea, agreed to let Leven Standbeeld pose as a contorted semi-androgynous creature. Van Wyke had already made grand plans for the space in front of the classroom building, and therefore he wanted to make sure Leven Standbeeld's physique would be adequate for the task.

"As soon as I saw his chiseled buttocks, I knew that he was the only man in the world who could make my vision come alive," Van Wyke said. "Or, at the very least, he could maintain a still, lifelike position and effectively fool each random passersby."

Standbeeld had no qualms about his ability to do justice to Van Wyke's design.

"I knew that my froggish limbs would come in handy someday," Leven Standbeeld said. "The Trump man himself says there's nothing bankrupt about my legs. I don't think we can



question the future president of the United States. "

Standbeeld was originally only required to hold his position for three years, five months, six days and 11 seconds to win the record. In 1997, two years into Leven Standbeeld's undertaking, Spaniard Estatua Viviente extended the record to twenty years, one month, ten days and 11 seconds.

"When I realized that I had to stand still for another 18 years, I was conflicted and almost stepped down," Standbeeld said. "Fortunately, I had plenty of time to think about it."

Standbeeld stuck it out and was rewarded by an appearance in the 2016 Guinness World Record book, on sale now.

When asked which of his physical attributes he found to be most useful in portraying the GIFT, Standbeeld attributed his success to his inability to grow facial hair.

"I've never been so happy with my baby

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◆ News ◆

Dordt whistle-blower exposes pizza corruption

Edward Snowden – Staff Writer

For 60 years, Dordt has told students and supporters alike they care about providing a Christ-centered education. The website itself states Dordt designed their curriculum to “give each student a complete comprehensive education from a solid, Reformed, Christian perspective.”

These are blatant lies. Dordt does not care about doctrine; Dordt cares about pizza.

Senior Jacob Frostman brought the truth to light in a recent interview with the Zircon.

“Pizza Ranch is behind the whole thing; it’s terrible!” Frostman said.

Instead of carefully selecting classes that would benefit students and the world at large, Dordt Administration has, instead, been bribed with free pizza to offer classes Pizza Ranch wants students to learn. This is not a recent development, either. This bribery has been going on since the establishment of Pizza Ranch’s Sioux Center branch.

“I first figured out that something weird was going on when I saw a bunch of pizza boxes in President Hoekstra’s office,” Frostman said. “It wasn’t just a one-time thing, either; they were always there.”

Pizza Ranch has been bribing administration

to teach specific classes and subtly insert phrases that will convince students to go to their restaurants. One example of this underhanded persuasion is the course list for the spring 2016 semester: ENVR 151, HIST 222, COMM 333, CORE 274, EGR 351, CHEM 122, OFFC 100, EDUC 317, CORE 145, ENVR 202, NURS 330, and HIST 214 are all offered. This seems innocent, but with the information we have on Pizza Ranch, we can make the connection that the first letters of all those class titles spell out, “ORDER OUT MORE.” There is no escaping the food chain’s treachery, even in course registration.

When interviewed, President Hoekstra tried to deny Dordt’s system of pizza and lies.

“Just finding pizza boxes in someone’s office doesn’t mean they’re taking bribes,” Hoekstra claimed, sliding a stack of papers into a trash can. “We’ve all watched crime shows, right? You can’t build a case on circumstantial evidence.”

The Zircon dumpster diving crew later unearthed these papers, all of which were Pizza Ranch receipts with no charges on them. These receipts had writing on the back which appeared to be encoded. We presume this is how Pizza Ranch’s demands are being made.

Pizza Ranch management revealed very little



President Hoekstra caught in secret dealing with Pizza Ranch owners.

when questioned directly.

“We’re just concerned about running a successful business here,” manager Sarah Smith said. “We don’t know anything about this bribing you’re talking about. Would you be interested in getting a free pizza or two?”

Bribery is a real threat to Dordt’s academics. Thanks to Frostman the conspiracy has been

uncovered, but students should still be wary. Presidential candidate Donald Trump said it best: “These are not the nice, sweet little people you think. You’re living in a world of make-believe.”

Be careful. Be cautious. Look out for subliminal pizza messaging.

Students come to grips with using the library correctly

“Slink” Johnson – Staff Writer

For 365 days of the year, the John and Louise Hulst Library serves as a common area for students to complain about overly dramatic relationships, have “chill time” with professors and check out cute chicks while checking out seven seasons of Star Trek: The Next Generation. But not this Friday! Dordt’s first ever observance of “Use the Library the Way It’s Supposed to Be Used Day” (UtLtWIStBUD) falls on November 13.

On Friday, unsuspecting students will be required to speak in hushed tones, read 17 books for every movie checked out and retire to a distance of 25’ from the entrance of the library in order to talk about your roommate’s relationship scandal.

This obscure national holiday is sweeping the nation and Interim Library Director Jenni Breems is looking forward to forcing students to appreciate the fact that there are actual real

life books in the library as well as kinesthetic “study” chairs.

“We’ve been feeding our students mints and coffee in order to mask the truth,” Breems said. “This is no library; it is a tomb, a tomb where we lay authors to die while students check out Lego Star Wars: The Video Game instead of reading good literature.”

The student reaction to the imminent observance of UtLtWIStBUD has largely been negative and apathetic. Sophomore Sora Block was shell-shocked when she heard the news.

“I just love complaining about my life in front of a backdrop of books,” Block said. “I guess that I will have to go to the commons in order to socialize while pretending to do something else.”

Once carefree students are coming to the realization that every time they have tried to use the library, they have been surrounded by high quality literature.

“Every time I try to find a nice cozy nook to

talk unnecessarily loudly with my friends, I come to the realization that I am surrounded by books,” Senior Dan Woudenberg said. “It kind of kills the mood.”

Library patrons who are not Dordt students are appalled at the lack of respect for the library as an institution for the borrowing of books. Jedi master Obi Wan Kenobi noticed that some people’s only experience with the library is when they come in to get last-minute movies for the weekend.

“You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villainy than the library 10 minutes before close on a Friday evening,” Kenobi said.

Breems outlined the culture shift she hopes to enact by acknowledging the true purpose of the library.

“I just want people to read books,” Breems said. “The moving bookshelves are more popular than their contents.”

Sophomore Travis Konig supported this claim when he admitted that he only looks for

books in the library so that he can move the bookshelves back and forth.

“That’s the reason I came to Dordt, man,” Konig said. “I saw it on my campus tour and I was hooked.”

Though the librarians’ work is cut out for them, they are up to the task. Presidential candidate Donald Trump spoke several words of encouragement.

“Part of being a winner is knowing when enough is enough,” Trump said. “Sometimes you have to give up the fight and walk away, and move on to something that’s more productive.”

“The difference between creating a space that is enjoyable and creating a place where students feel free to shake up grill salads and play Axis and Allies in full view of everyone is not complicated at all,” Breems said. “UtLtWIStBUD will be a much-needed slap in the face for anyone who says anything different.”

Repeal on dry campus status; boozed-up students rejoice

Joe Six-Pack – Staff Writer

In an unprecedented leap of judgment, Dordt College administrators reversed the campus’ alcohol-free status in an attempt to appeal to a wider audience of potential students. Starting in November, Dean of Students Robert Taylor has ordered the wide-eyed residence life staff and smirking campus security personnel to cease all documentation of alcohol infractions.

“After sixty successful years of operation with students growing and maturing in an alcohol-free environment, it seems a bit rash to reverse our stance this quickly,” Taylor said. “But I have the utmost faith in our administrators. They know what is best for our student body.”

Just last year, Dordt claimed first place in the state of Iowa in the category of “Lamest Party Schools” according to rankings at eCollegeFinder, an online college ranking site. When asked if this title played a factor in the administration’s decision, President Erik Hoekstra confirmed suspicions.

“I’d be lying if I said [the ranking] didn’t have an effect on the decision,” Hoekstra said. “Being known as the ‘Lamest Party School’ isn’t the most glamorous achievement. The idea of repealing our dry-campus status had been in the books for a while, but we were careful to be

sure we were making a wise decision.”

From 2012-14, Dordt College had 37 referrals for disciplinary action due to alcohol-related violations, the largest infraction by a wide margin. Campus security and residence life staff may be scratching their heads as to their current purpose, but Taylor was more optimistic.

“There are plenty of open-hours violations still waiting to get busted,” Taylor said.

Already, students have started taking advantage of the rule change, offering alcohol on campus to those of the legal age. Juniors Ian and Elli Taylor put their former bartending skills to use when they transformed the living room of their LCA apartment into a bar.

“It’s called ‘Covenant Cocktails,’” Ian said. “Elli and I wanted to create a place for guys and girls to get to know each other in a safe, yet liquefied environment,” Ian said.

“I’ve known Ian since we were little, but ladies, you could definitely find your perfect man across the bar at ‘Cocktails,’” Elli added.

Rumors of crazy parties have begun to make the rounds on campus. An average eavesdropper would likely hear stories of 3 minute keg stands and endless rounds of ‘Edward Fortyhands’, a party game where players duct tape 40 oz bottles of alcohol to their hands and are not allowed to remove them until they are empty.

Despite all this, some students are still having trouble adjusting to the rule change.

“I keep hearing about all these massive ragers, but I can’t find a single one,” Junior Jonathan Janssen said. “Seriously, I thought this wet campus thing would be awesome, but how do I keep missing out on these? I usually just end up pulling a few shots in my room and watching prank YouTube videos.”

The main opposition to the policy shift remains those who now see no discernable difference between Dordt College and most other universities. One such opponent was presidential candidate Donald Trump, who, after hearing about the new policy, loudly vocalized his criticism.

“I’ve never taken drugs of any kind, never had a glass of alcohol,” Trump said. “Never had a cigarette, never had a cup of coffee.”

Various students voiced concerns to administration over the past week.

“We have received several noise complaints, especially from students in the Kuyper Apartment Building,” Taylor said. “[The students] should know that we take their comments very seriously and take appropriate action based on these claims. We can only ask for patience in the meanwhile.”

As for now, Residence Life advises all students



Presidential candidate Donald Trump: “Dordt wants alcohol? I’ve never had a glass, myself...”

to pound a few water bottles before going to bed, to consider buying some Pedialyte and Alka-Seltzer for the morning and to continue taking their studies seriously.

Basic Girlz Club comes to Dordt

Johanna van Katje – Staff Writer

Starbucks-drinking, Ugg-wearing and Instagramming students of Dordt “can’t even.” The Basic Girlz Club has recently been approved by Student Symposium, making it Dordt’s newest club. Although sign-ups do not begin until next week, the campus is already buzzing with excitement.

Chairgirlz Tiffany van Latte and Sierra Valencia are thrilled to see their idea finally coming to life.

“When Student Symposium told us the club was approved, we, like, literally died!” van Latte said.

“The minute we heard, we took a selfie, each put on our favorite pair of Uggs and drove to the nearest Starbucks to celebrate,” Valencia said. “The nearest one is, like, 45 minutes away, so our first club meeting will be about getting a Starbs to come to Sioux Center.”

Once the club has enough members, van Latte and Valencia plan to create smaller, more specific groups within the club to include other girlz, such as hipsters and athletes. The Basic Girlz Club also aspires to one day have their very own sorority house somewhere on campus where meetings can be held and any club member can hang out and chill whenever they would like.

“The sorority house is going to be so fetch,” Valencia gushed. “We already know exactly how we would decorate the place. Even though Dordt doesn’t know about our plans, Tiffany’s daddy, like, knows that presidential candidate guy Donald Trump and he said he would build us whatever house we need to, like, make this campus great again. #sorrynotsorry.”



Although the name is deceiving, van Latte made it clear the Basic Girlz Club is open to guyz as well, not just girlz.

“Of course anyone can join. We are, like, totally into the whole Dordt community thing and want that same cute atmosphere going on in the club, too,” van Latte said.

The attitude of Dordt students and what they have to say about the Basic Girlz Club is positive.

“I think it’s really cool that someone is finally embracing the basic side of life,” sophomore Jaymie de Kaas said. “It’s cool to see similar people from all over the country come together as one. Isn’t that what Dordt is all about?”

Senior David De Jongen spoke from a male-

student perspective on how successful he believes the club will be.

“The Basic Girlz Club isn’t going to be the most popular club, but I’d say it’s earned its spot as a Dordt organization,” De Jongen said. “I’m not saying I’m going to join it myself, but talk about a perfect way to meet girls and help them fulfill their MRS degrees.”

Basic Girlz Club meetings will be held once a week, though the exact day is still to be announced. Meetings will involve activities such as internet shopping, selfie advice, Instagram filter training and monthly Starbucks runs.

New electives major to boost student GPA and morale

Leighton Van Mooi – Staff Writer

Due to an overwhelming increase of extra classes taken by students, Dordt is now offering a major in electives.

Sophomore Samantha Van Art could not be more excited.

“I never knew what I wanted to study and now it doesn’t matter,” Van Art said.

Classes range from poetry to calculus with everything in between. As long as each student gets 120 credits and completes the required core program, they can graduate with a degree in electives.

Grace Ontwerp, a junior Graphic Design major, has taken all of the classes offered in her major and now has to take a year and a half worth of electives. “I have learned all that I need to know for my major. Now all I have to do is learn everything else. My goal is to take engineering, business and agriculture classes to scope out a future husband.”

Dordt faculty hope this new major will

increase enrollment and diversify the campus population. Dordt is also adding new classes such as Beyoncé 101 and Obscure Russian Art. On a recent visit to Dordt, presidential candidate Donald Trump expressed particular delight with a new architectural class that focuses on building walls.

“A nation without borders is not a nation at all. We must have a wall. I am more than excited to help make America great again, and I hope that Dordt students want to help,” Trump said.

Students such as Joey Slacker have been struggling with their current major and hope switching to an electives major will boost their grades.

“My general studies degree was getting to be too difficult. My grades were suffering, so I decided that taking only classes that were easy would improve my GPA and really prepare me for life after Dordt,” Slacker said.

With the job market not looking as promising as it used to be, faculty advisor Marie Van Randomson hopes the new major will help

students be well-versed in a variety of subjects and become more marketable when it comes to hiring time.

“Graduates of the major will be prepared for every job from lawyers to dog walkers and beyond,” Randomson said. “We want well-rounded students to leave Dordt.”

The Electives major will also help students who come to Dordt for the sole purpose of obtaining an MRS degree. They are often lost when it comes to choosing an actually area of study, meaning the new electives major is perfect for them.

“I only came to Dordt to find a husband so I haven’t declared a major yet. I have just been taking electives, so this new major fits perfectly for my plan,” Susie De Vrouw, an undecided sophomore, said.

There will also be class tailored to Dordt’s ever-growing engaged and married population. Next semester, classes such as Perfect Proposal and Engagement Rings 101 will set the stage for the new era of Dordt married life.

Refugees refuse to stay in Sioux Center

Rita Skeeter – Staff Writer

Sixty-two refugees arrived at Sioux Falls Airport on Thursday, Nov. 5 only to fly back to Syria two days later. After months of dealing with endless hurdles and red tape, Pastor John Lee and project leader Martha Hulshof were relieved to finally welcome the long-anticipated Syrian refugees into Iowa, but they were immediately disappointed when all of the refugees refused to stay in Sioux Center.

“The farm smell in the air made them nauseous,” Lee said. “And they couldn’t stand the thought of dealing with bitter Iowa winters after getting off the plane.”

After only an hour of exposure to the climate – and the people – one particular refugee was ready to pack it in.

“The weather reminds me of how cold human hearts can be,” she said, describing her shock to find that humans are essentially the same everywhere in the world. “I’d rather live in a place where people shot bullets at my face, instead of behind my back.”

When speaking on their motivation for bringing refugees to Sioux Center, Lee and Hulshof became uneasy. After several more questions, Hulshof came clean.

“I’ll be honest, I thought it was kind of weird,” Hulshof said. “But one night, a few months ago, we received a call from presidential candidate Donald Trump’s campaign manager. He told us that Trump was willing to spend a significant sum of money to get more Syrians to Iowa, with the condition that we only choose the most beautiful ones.”

Lee corroborated the story, but saw the upside of the issue.

“It’s quite a bit of money,” Lee said. “We didn’t really understand Mr. Trump’s intentions, but we got many more refugees to safety with the money he provided. He also promised he would cut down on the process, costing us even less.”

“It was definitely a moral dilemma, but we decided it was for the best,” Hulshof added.

When pressed on the reasoning behind his sudden charity, Trump was interestingly vague. A call to his campaign headquarters was returned with a dubbed-over audio recording from a Trump interview from 2004.

“All of the refugees flirted with me—consciously or unconsciously,” Trump said. “That’s to be expected.”

Unfortunately, our future president will not get to see his plans come to fruition. After every refugee had boarded a plane back to Syria, Lee and Hulshof expressed their simultaneous relief and worry.

“On the one hand, I’m disappointed that we couldn’t do more to help these immigrants,” Lee said. “But I’ll admit, I’m relieved that the Syrians escaped some strange fate at the hands of Mr. Trump.”

“We let the money become a main concern,” added Hulshof, shaking her head in concern.

(Notice: In no way do the views expressed by those in this article reflect those of the Zircon. The Zircon would like to clarify that we neither endorse, nor share any concerns regarding President Trump. We recognize that President Trump has only the best intentions in everything he does and is the candidate most fit to run our country.)

Dordt celebrates 60 years, and it’s a big deal

Daffy Duck – Staff Writer

While some colleges rejoice in hundreds of years of academic excellence, Dordt College revels in its ability to stay open for 60 years this semester. The celebration is unmatched by any other school and students can hardly contain the excitement bursting from the idea of their college being open for such a long time.

“I bet Harvard didn’t have these cool posters when they had their 350th anniversary,” said an incredulous freshman, wide-eyed in wonder at the 10 to 15 8” x 10” cardstock printouts hanging around campus.

Many of the students have suggested painting

the number 60 on every building, but others argued that it would seem like they were bragging about the many years Dordt has been open. Those supporting the project noted how it was humble to throw such a giant celebration – not on an important year like 25, 50 or 100 – but on 60.

“I think it’s just really cool how Dordt cares so much about an unpopular number like 60 years,” one supporter said. “I mean, like, it’s a given that we celebrate mile markers like 5 or 10, but usually by 60, people don’t really care anymore.”

Some students went to extensive lengths in order to participate in the incredible celebration

60 years in the making, with some holding off on attending college until they were able to participate.

“I just really wanted to be able to graduate during this important year in Dordt College history,” said 81-year-old senior Edmund Kuyper.

Some graduates, especially ones who were around for the other anniversary celebrations, planned the birth of their children in an effort to allow them the privilege of celebrating 60 years at Dordt. One couple, the Van Hollanders, met at Dordt as freshmen. They were married by the time of Dordt’s 35th anniversary celebration, but waited a few years before having children

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Wall panels filled with beer cans

Hammered Hannah – Staff Writer

Colleges like to brag about the incredible history behind their campuses, but Dordt College only recently opened the floodgates and released the truth about the school’s hidden past.

Students have been searching their Southview apartments lately for a way to aesthetically modify the walls without breaking college rules, but a few students found something unexpected. Hidden in the walls between the apartment bathrooms, they found a mountain of beer cans.

“We knew there was something wrong when the walls rattled every time the toilet flushed,” said a Southview apartment dweller who made the discovery after looking down from above the ceiling.

He immediately went to the apartments of all his neighbors and was stunned to find beer cans in every wall he checked.

Of course, the students went directly to President Erik Hoekstra in hopes of blackmailing him for free tuition. The President just laughed in their faces, immediately explaining away the scandal.

“Every square inch of Southview is filled with the cans, which help to shape the worldview of students so they can become successful beer-drinking adults,” Hoekstra said.

Around the time Dordt College was first founded, the institution needed a way to insulate the walls. Real insulation is an expensive commodity, and the founders, being Dutch, refused to pay the price.

Presidential candidate Donald Trump, our great future leader, once said, “Sometimes your best investments are the ones you don’t make.”

Obviously the builders felt the same way when creating Southview’s walls.

So Dordt’s founders requested that students think of a unique way to insulate the walls. It was in their best interest, considering they might freeze to death during an Iowa winter without a form of insulation.

One student came up with a brilliant idea that could benefit multiple parties. He never knew what to do with his beer cans, so he proposed he and others simply put their empty cans into the wall.

At first, all that resulted was a faint smell of old beer, but as the impressive collection grew, the aluminum within its structure left Southview well-insulated. The building was more structurally sound than ever, and the rooms were warmer.

The students, thrilled with their newfound ability to drink beer on campus and get praised for it, began the Dordt College Drinking Club. Dordt, proud of all its clubs, supported the drinking team wholeheartedly. The President even paid for t-shirts for all the students involved as a thanks offering for all their hard work.

Beer is a staple for some college students, but can they say their school stands because of it? Only Dordt students can thank beer for the warmth of the building they live in. Some speculate the miracle of the beer cans is what keeps Southview standing.

Red meat is a red flag, health experts say

Al Beit – Staff Writer

Bacon lovers now fear for their lives after the World Health Organization (WHO) recently declared that processed red meat is carcinogenic. Researchers believe that 34,000 deaths each year can be attributed to diets that are high in processed meat.

“America is facing a crisis that it has never dealt with before,” said presidential candidate Donald Trump. “Do we continue to indulge in our Sausage McMuffins and New York Strips and risk a premature funeral, or do we wait for the next cancer scare to be revealed?” Processed meat continues to kill off more of the human population, perhaps even more so than cancer-causing cell phones and Diet Coke.

Based on a series of studies, the likelihood of contracting colorectal cancer increases by 18 percent with every 50 grams of processed meat consumed daily. In other words, eating just 11 slices of bacon will guarantee the onset of cancerous cells. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has encouraged the WHO to categorize processed meat in the same hazard level as plutonium, a radioactive chemical element. But while plutonium is formed by decay, processed meat causes decay.

The restaurant industry expects to take a major hit now that their customers are dying off. Burger King’s bacon sundae craze recently eliminated 16,000 hungry Americans in a matter of months. In Monday’s press release, Burger King CEO Daniel Schwartz apologized for the company’s irresponsible marketing of death traps.

“I never dreamed the bacon sundae would be so popular,” Schwartz said. “I am mourning alongside the loved ones of this world’s most dedicated, deceased bacon lovers.”

Elementary schools will begin to teach about the dangers of red meat as part of their core curriculum next year. This wave of food-safety education will also be implemented as part of Michelle Obama’s school lunch reform. Beginning in January 2016, red meat products will no longer be served in school cafeterias across the country.

“I always thought tacos and hamburgers were disgusting anyway,” said Sioux Center Christian 5th grader Emma Bradley. “I’m really excited to eat cheese sandwiches and lettuce wraps instead.”

Vegetarians are smug as they watch their carnivorous counterparts die of cancer. Country superstar Carrie Underwood knows her vegetarian status will help her literally outlive the competition. Meat-eating Miranda Lambert might not fare as well.

“I ain’t giving up my pork chop on a stick for nothin’!” Lambert told Entertainment Today.

Most Americans are taking the announcement seriously. For many fearful meat-lovers, it’s only a matter a time before their unhealthy diet seals their fate.

“I’m seriously regretting that bacon cheeseburger I ate yesterday,” said Dordt economics professor Jan van Vliet. “I was looking forward to retirement, but now I’m worried about writing my will before the cancer invades my blood stream.”

Commons quality: the real reason behind the freshman fifteen

Loquita Vander van Den Haansma – Staff Writer

Food is an important part of college life. Pizza and cookies are used to bribe students to attend educational events, and meal times provide students with an opportunity to socialize and relax throughout a busy day. Students who rely on the dining hall for food often find themselves planning their day around meal times. Typically, underclassmen complain about the quality of dining hall food. “It’s just not the same as Mom’s cooking,” after all. In Dordt’s case, though, students do not complain; they compliment.

“The freshman fifteen is a real thing because the Commons food is so excellent,” said freshman Dirkje Vander Bruggen.

Many freshman students treat Commons meals as a welcomed change when compared to the fare they ate at home.

“It is just so nice to have fully cooked meat and fresh fruit available at almost every meal,” said freshman Tim McCarty. “My family doesn’t cook really well, and food poisoning is a pretty regular occurrence. The inability to cook is in our genes, I guess. But it has been really nice to eat every meal without having to worry about finding the nearest bathroom or waste basket in case of sudden nausea.”

The Commons prides itself on its food poisoning-free record, but it also takes pleasure in its ability to provide an elegant assortment of meals.

“The variety is excellent,” said freshman Rachel von Tebben. “My dad only knows how to cook one meal, tuna casserole, so we had that at least three times a week. I don’t mind tuna casserole, but it can get to be a bit much. The



Commons has different food available at every mealtime. It has been such a treat.”

Freshman students seem to agree that the impressive variety of food the Commons serves is a positive change from home cooking. Some students have even found that eating at the Commons has been as educational as other aspects of college life.

“At first, I thought the Commons food was too exotic,” said Zach Smit. “My family usually eats just meat and potatoes. For us, even pizza is adventurous. The Commons serves stuff like authentic Chinese and Mexican food, which is pretty cool. I didn’t realize not everyone ate meat and potatoes at every meal, so eating at the Commons has been a real learning experience.”

Dordt is right to be proud of its high quality dining hall. Visitors to the college have been so impressed that some have decided to invest in a Commons restaurant chain.

“This kind of food should be available to more people, people who are no longer college students,” said presidential candidate Donald Trump. “I will join with other slightly-less successful individuals to start up a Dordt Commons restaurant chain. The public deserves to enjoy the kind of meals available to Dordt students.”

Change comes to Centre Mall

Loquita Vander van Den Haansma – Staff Writer

Changes are coming to Centre Mall and they’re going to be huge.

On Dec. 12, 2016, Vander Dyken Construction Company will begin work on a 59-story addition to Centre Mall, a project projected to take two years. The additions are a part of Trump Enterprises’ plan to reimagine Sioux Center and “make it great again.”

“I think Sioux Center has great potential to be a shopping destination,” said presidential candidate Donald Trump. “Trump Enterprises will really help Sioux Center realize that potential.”

Many of the 59 additional floors will be dedicated to retail. This amount of retail space will allow for a wide variety of new vendors. Hank’s Hockey Shop, Sergeant’s Organic Alpaca Wool and Donald’s Toupee & Tan are among the most anticipated additions. A dozen floors will be reserved for office space, and the top stories will house two new churches, Centre CRC and Tower RCA.

Bob Arkemaa, a life-long Sioux Center resident and retired farmer, believes that this expansion of Centre Mall is one of the best things to happen in Sioux Center since Walmart.

“Sioux Center is rich in the great American virtues of perseverance and hard work, but its sense of materialism is embarrassingly backward,” Arkemaa said. “One might say that we’re reactionary materialists. An underdeveloped sense of the importance of stuff is common in America, but Sioux Center should hold itself to a higher standard.”

Sioux Center residents generally seem to agree with Arkemaa’s summation.

“I’ve always felt Sioux Center’s true calling is

the tourism industry,” said Geraldine Kopsma, a teacher at Sioux Center Christian School. “Of course, this whole renovation comes at rather short notice. Usually large projects like this are planned and announced long in advance, not the month before building begins. Hopefully that won’t be an issue.”

City officials believe this ambitious expansion project is for the best.

“High-end stores do great in college towns, typically,” said city planner Mike Versluismaan. “College students are big spenders—most of them spend over 10 grand a year. Why not tap into these spending trends and provide Dordt students with another place to spend all their money? It just makes sense.”

Dordt College students, however, seem less convinced.

“I guess it is okay,” said sophomore Jaydin Van der Herema. “More stores will be nice, but I don’t know why we need to add 59 stories. That is kind of excessive. It is not like college students spend lots of time shopping, so I hope they’re able to draw enough people to make this whole thing worthwhile.”

Other students have expressed concern about the practicality of a lone 60-story building in the middle of farm country.

“We get some pretty powerful winds here,” said senior Taylor Derkennin. “And it’s not that I don’t trust Vander Dyken Construction Company, but they only have experience building barns and houses, not skyscrapers. I just hope the building holds up alright.”

The expansion of Centre Mall will undoubtedly change the dynamic of Sioux Center. But, as Kopsma said, “We really don’t have much say in the matter. All we can do is make the most of it and hope for the best.”

The disease you cannot escape

Wyun O. Askerout – Staff Writer

Dordt College survived a host of infectious diseases this year, from the usual strains of cold and flu to the contagious zombie-like virus that left a third of the campus sporting green headbands. In past semesters, Dordt students have lived through malaria, typhoid, pneumonia, broken bones, bear attacks, you name it. Probably. I’m not saying I personally know anyone who has survived a bear attack, but the event is likely on a campus this size. This semester, the campus faces something much worse- a disease students have caught and fought off, time and again, for years. Coincidentally, it always disappears at the end of second semester, only to reappear at the beginning of the first semester. College campuses, especially Christian college campuses, act as the perfect host for this disease. It preys on freshman and seniors in particular, though not even junior engineering majors locked in their apartments with mounds of design homework can think themselves “safe.” There is no such thing.

What is this terror, you wonder. You feel the suspense mounting, and a subtle sense of fear dries the roof of your mouth. Suddenly, you hear a voice from behind a trash can nearby. “Friend-zone syndrome,” the voice whispers. No, that’s not me, you think. Ignore the person behind the trash can. Seriously. Ok, anyway... Symptoms are vast and widespread, but it’s typically fairly easy to spot someone battling this disease. Infected individuals usually spend their time surfing through Facebook links to articles tagged “dating” and “finding the one,” looking up Bible verses about marriage and complaining about the 101 newly-engaged couples on campus. Fear no longer! This disease is definitely curable. To ease the pain of the “friend-zone,” follow these five simple steps:

- 1) Complain about everything. By ranting about the weather or the smell or your friends your demeanor will become noticeably lighter and people will want to be around you.

- 2) Listen to music that makes you want to punch something. Instead of indulging in the same sappy love songs you’ve been playing all week, find the darkest heavy metal song available and play it on repeat until your roommates pin you down and steal your iPod.
- 3) Force your affection onto the campus cat. Or buy a fish. Plants are also great sources to absorb your attention. When you’re at home, curl up with your dog or cat or force a younger sibling to watch chick flicks and “The Bachelorette” with you.
- 4) Facebook stalk daily. DC stalking is not thorough. You must dedicate yourself to the task of sorting through hundreds of puppy photos and Iowan landscapes to look for the devastating high-school selfie. If you dig hard enough, you will find a multitude of bad pictures of this person who broke your heart, and when you do, share them among your friends and laugh hysterically behind this person’s back. Better yet, like or share that photo on your Facebook page.

- 5) Immediately develop a crush on someone else. That one girl who smiled at you in that one class two weeks ago? She probably likes you. She even asked to borrow your stapler one time. Yeah, she definitely likes you. Invite her to go see the new Bond movie with you, but make sure she takes her friends along. Always assume at least two girls in the same friend group want to date you.
- 6) Make that “six simple steps.” I’ve just been informed that exercising your right to vote can help catch the perfect girlfriend or boyfriend, if you vote correctly. This is, I’m not saying you have to vote Trump or anything, but the ladies do dig his wavy hair. I would actually consider purchasing a toupee while you’re at it.

Good luck with finding “the one!” After all, if you don’t find the perfect spouse while you’re in college, you have failed. May you be smitten with loneliness for the rest of eternity.

Mass media hysteria

An Uninformed Voter – Staff Writer

Let me tell you something you won’t hear anywhere else. We need the mainstream media and you all are killing it! We need the media to cut through all of the political bias. Without reporters, who will keep the politicians in line and focus on the real problems facing this country? We need the media to make America great again.

You may have noticed that ever since Trump dropped out of the race for President, the media has been starving to death. With nothing mind-blowing to talk about, the media is desperate. People have lost interest. No Trump, no show.

This is simply terrible. Headlines about plane crashes, natural disasters, and the economy now take the place of images portraying beautiful self-gloating politicians in action as they effortlessly dodge “gotcha” questions about frivolous matters.

How can American’s ever hope to judge a person’s character without the media exposing his or her deeply hidden secrets? For instance, without the major news networks how would we ever have discovered that Ben Carson told the truth about a scholarship opportunity at West Point that was offered to him 50 years ago?

Without clear and honest reporting by networks like Faux News, CNN, and MSNBC, political bias will reign free.

Did you know that Scott Walker jumped back in the race for POTUS? Neither did I, not until I received an email from his campaign manager asking me for a donation to help cover an outstanding debt to clear the line of credit and continue spending. Without the media covering true conservative moves like this, how could this country possibly know who to vote for?

Have you heard anything about the laws Congress passed since the media went black? We the people need the media to tell us what is going on in Washington.

Sure, they may not be perfect—but who is these days?

So do your part to keep this industry afloat: Sit on your couch and soak in everything they pipeline into your brain. Believe every word they say, read every click-bait article, stay tuned during every scandalous interview and, when conflict arises, stick your head in the sand.

Dating 101

Sue Denim – Staff Writer

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches, you’re looking forward to returning home to your family. What you’re not looking forward to is being asked the same old stinging question: “So, have you found a boyfriend/girlfriend yet?” For many students, college dating can be a frustrating experience. After all, dating is tough stuff. Finding the right person, experiencing mutual attraction, and progressing to the point of a serious relationship can be a long, uphill battle.

As a seasoned veteran of the dating minefield, I would like to impart my wisdom upon those of you still calling your Casey’s pizza “bae.” If you follow these instructions, you’re bound to bring home a winner to Thanksgiving dinner.

First of all, ignore the “Don’t date before Tri-State” rule. That’s just a line to tell the freshmen to scare them into abstinence. Ladies,

why wouldn’t you want a ring before spring? You’ll find yourself fitting in much better with the herd of engaged and married women here on campus. And fellas, if you want to avoid Senior Scramble, you’d better get busy now.

Now that we have established a sense of confidence, let’s move on to the basics: hygiene. Rinse yourself off once a week in the shower, and you’ll be golden. It’s currently No-Shave November, so shaving is totally off-limits. Guys, don’t hesitate to completely douse yourselves in cologne. Every girl loves a man with a musk. Ladies, toss that foundation out. The natural glow of your oily skin will be sure to get those hearts fluttering.

If you’re still wondering how or where to meet someone, don’t fret. Join the Swing Dance club if you want to take the Dirty Dancing route to romance. If you’re into social media, Yik Yak provides a great platform for some godly, wholesome interactions between the

sexes. Ladies, if boots and ball caps suit your fancy, there are plenty of ag majors who’d like to take you for a ride on their jacked-up trucks. If those tinted windows are simply too big of a barrier between you and the love of your life, farmersonly.com is a good backup.

Once you’ve got your heart set on someone and their digits are in your phone, it’s game on. The intricate art of texting takes skill and experience. Your relationship status dangles precariously over that unsent text when you fell asleep or that winky face you forgot to add after a snide remark.

Fellas, be ruthless. If she quits texting back or politely asks you to bug off, don’t take it seriously. She’s probably playing hard-to-get. Don’t give up hope. Continue texting her good morning and goodnight every day for a month, maybe two, just to be safe. If you’re still not seeing results, consider Plan B: text her best friend.

Longboard lane keeps Sioux Center rollin’ (cont.)

Continued from page 1

last week. With 90% of the campus capable of longboarding and the other 10% still in training through the use of scooters, the culture of the college has been transformed by the longboard. The City Council would like to propose the “Longboard Lane” campaign as a subordinate feature to the popular “Share the Road” agenda. Furthermore, the skinny stigma of longboarders leaves one to believe health benefits must be in store for those who choose to participate.

The proposition has the potential to bring a new crowd into Sioux Center. Hipsters and millennials from around the country would be drawn to the unique community, culture, and lifestyle of Sioux Center residents. The “Longboard Lane” might even be a simple act of recreational fun serving as an every square inch proposal to bring outsiders into the redeemed community of Sioux Center.

“I’m all for the ‘Longboard Lane’ proposal,” wide-eyed junior Jonathan Janssen said. “It would be really cool to spread the Fruited Plain vibe throughout the entire town. It would bring in visitors and be an asset to Sioux Center’s community for sure.”

Most recently, Dordt’s student newspaper, the Zircon, was bought out by the all-too-clever presidential candidate Donald Trump. Although this may upset some, his support and funding for the “Longboard Lane” proposition is incredible. Trump sat in on the City Council meeting to discuss their newest proposition. His comments were overwhelming and accompanied with encouragement through his promised financial support.

“Most people think small, because most people are afraid of success, afraid of making decisions, afraid of winning,” Trump said in response to possible hesitation brought about by the City Council. “That gives people like me a great advantage.”

Greater planning, evaluation and positive public opinion are still concerns for the City Council’s new recommendation, but steps are being taken to answer the community’s interests and questions regarding the matter. If the “Longboard Lane” proposal gains enough support, the Sioux Center community could be a post-modern paradoxical platform for incorporating both the young and old with a love for what is new and past.

Man posing as statue rewarded with world record (cont.)

Continued from page 1

face,” Standbeeld said. “The GIFT with a seven foot long beard? It would have been a dead giveaway.”

In the wake of Standbeeld’s stepping down, Van Wyke reluctantly installed a clay statue that he has been working on during his retirement. This new statue is entitled The GIF.

“GIF stands for Graphics Interchange Format,” Van Wyke said. “It’s a form of computer imagery that moves as an animation, because it consists of frames, like a movie with no sound.”

Van Wyke went on to add that it’s not his place to interpret The GIF, but rather the viewers should arrive at their own conclusions.



Stanley Cup making stop at Dordt

Austin Hough Sports Reporter – Staff Writer

Much to the astonishment hockey fans across the country, the Stanley Cup is coming to Dordt College.

The Stanley Cup travels the world, yet it has decided to come to Dordt, to Iowa--the home of cows, pigs and corn--nowhere fit for the glorious Stanley Cup. The Dordt community doesn't even care much, except for the Canadians on campus.

Some of these people are so excited they began to cry upon hearing the news that the Stanley Cup is coming to Dordt. One such student is Thomas Soodsma.

"It's hard to believe that I am going to touch the cup," Soodsma said. "I am overjoyed. I can't even right now. It has been a lifetime goal to feel that silver. To finally kiss where my once beloved Oilers kissed... Oh, sorry. I was remembering the good ol' days."

Soodsma is not the only Canadian excited the Cup is coming to Dordt. The entire population of Dordt's Canadians have decided they will be skipping four days of class due to the Cup's pilgrimage to Dordt.

"I may never to get to see the Cup again," said an anonymous Vancouver Canucks fan. "My team made it so close to winning it all, but we didn't and we burned the city down."

This amazing opportunity is provided by none

other than Timmy Hortons. The company said its job is to make every Canadian happy, no matter where in the world he or she might be. The only thought that came across the company's mind when it heard about these hockey-crazed fans in Iowa was how to help them out.

"Timmy Hortons is great," said 2016 presidential candidate Donald Trump. "It's the only non-American entity I can take. Let Timmy Hortons flood the borders."

For Timmy Hortons, the answer was simple: bring the Stanley Cup to Iowa. Most Canadians are excited to see it, as well as some Americans.

The majority of excited American Dordt students are the Chicagoans who are so used to seeing the Cup in the Blackhawks' hands they have to get a picture with it. The Stanley Cup reminds them of home. According to an anonymous source, Jonathan Toews, a true born Canadian who went to high school and college in the United States, will bring the Cup to Dordt's campus.

The Stanley Cup presentation will take place at the B.J. Haan Auditorium due to the expected large crowd. The biggest leaked secret regarding the presentation was the fact that Aaron Baart will be wearing a Dordt Blades jersey as he brings the Stanley Cup out on stage. He will then proceed to hoist the Cup. This event is nothing less than exciting for our friends from the Great White North.



New winter league allows for non-stop baseball action

Austin Hough Sports Reporter – Staff Writer

The World Series just ended, leaving Dordt students wondering what Dordt baseball will do this winter now that they can no longer practice outside. One could imagine their surprise to find a newly-constituted winter baseball league implemented on campus.

The issue now becomes this: how are baseball teams across the country going to play year-round, especially at Dordt, where winter blankets the ball diamonds in snow? The Great Plains Athletic Conference said it has found a solution for this newfound problem.

"We are going to spray paint the baseballs yellow and the bases orange," said GPAC commissioner Clark Kemert. "These steps will make the game playable this winter season."

It is yet unclear how much this will affect the on-field results.

"I believe this is going to be great for the team," said player-coach Smiley. "Plus, with the yellow baseballs, I will be able to see the ball easier. And it gives me a reason to bring out my pink snow pants."

With all these changes coming to baseball, it's important to break down the brand new rules that will apply.

This first rule is obvious: players are not allowed to throw snowballs at the opponent

during the game. Second, there must be heaters in the dugout at all games so that teams do not freeze to death. Third, if snow is present, players must wear snow pants.

There are also new rules in place to raise the fences. The hope is to keep balls in the park more and increase the amount of running and sliding done in the field and on the base path. Seeing the home run ball is not as entertaining as watching players round 2nd base and slip in the snow.

These changes maintain the underlying goal to make baseball the best sport in the world again. Although it may sting the hands when hitting baseballs in the cold, winter baseball will introduce new ideas to the world of sports.

When asked about his opinion on the innovative move, presidential candidate Donald Trump reflected on his childhood sports aspirations.

"I was supposed to be a professional baseball player," Trump said. "Fortunately, I decided to go into real estate instead. I played first base and I also played catcher. I was a good hitter. I just had a good time."

These new rules and new game are going to be interesting, but the Dordt baseball team is ready to face the new wintry weather. And they're looking forward to traveling to Arizona over Spring Break.

NAIA deems preseason polls 'worthless'

Xander York – Staff Writer

An exciting couple of weeks at the NAIA headquarters in Kansas City, MO continued Saturday, Nov. 10 when NAIA president Tim Barr made another staggering statement, this time regarding preseason polls.

"Preseason polls are worthless," Barr said. "I don't even know why we do them. The coaches are almost always wrong, and they have no bearing on the season. Let's stop pretending like we're the NCAA."

President Barr dove the NAIA in some hot water with comments made last Wednesday regarding the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

"This isn't something we normally do, but let's be honest, we all know it's true," Barr said. "So what the heck? The Great Plains Athletic Conference is the best conference in NAIA. Hands down."

Something troubling seems to be brewing at NAIA headquarters, and many collegiate officials across the country are vouching for Barr's job, even those outside of the NAIA's watch.

"The NAIA should be disgusted with itself," said Trudy Tense, NCAA-Division II Presidents Council Chair. "President Barr should be removed immediately from office. How an atmosphere at an intercollegiate association can become so disparaging is beyond me."

Other officials at the NCAA offices in Indianapolis, IN are repulsed by President Barr's recent comments as well.

"It's one thing for President Barr to make comments like he did, but it's a completely different issue to drag the NCAA into this matter," said NCAA President and CEO Clark Merit. "We here at the NCAA do much more

than just preseason polls."

Yet some celebrities on the national landscape support President Barr and his comments. 2016 presidential candidate Donald Trump made the news for the first time in 12 hours when his helicopter was spotted circling NAIA headquarters. He subsequently landed and gave an impromptu press conference.

"I have the utmost respect for President Barr," Trump said. "It takes a rare breed to truly share his opinions. It's no surprise a man like that is a president."

If colleges and universities under the NAIA were not contemplating leaving the NAIA earlier, they sure are now.

After President Barr's commented on the GPAC's apparent excellence, several institutions and conferences now ponder the reality of life outside the NAIA's rule. No official word has been given as of yet in regards to schools leaving the NAIA.

Despite much support for President Barr within NAIA offices, the dissent on President Barr's tenure grows.

No official action is expected from the NAIA over the coming days, but a press conference is rumored to take place on Friday, Nov. 13.

"After the controversy from the latest NAIA press conference, you can expect the Association to take its time in preparing a statement and deciding the next course of action," said Jan Reinders, Morningside College president.

There is a growing consensus among NAIA school presidents: President Barr's tenure as NAIA president and CEO is nearly up.

"I don't think he makes it past this week. How could he?" said William Penn University president Jon Rotterdam.

GPAC ranked best conference in NAIA

Xander York – Staff Writer

In a shocking, yet unsurprising, announcement, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics named the Great Plains Athletic Conference the best conference in athletics.

NAIA officials met for their semi-annual conference at its headquarters in Kansas City, Mo. While what was discussed at the meeting still remains a mystery, it's clear one unorthodox subject was brought up.

"This isn't something we normally do, but let's be honest, we all know it's true," NAIA president Tim Barr said. "So, what the heck? The Great Plains Athletic Conference is the best conference in NAIA, hands down."

Announcements, such as this, are a rarity in collegiate athletics and the manner with which it was done is even more perplexing.

Wednesday's press conference, when the announcement was made, was unscheduled. President Barr called the conference into action 20 minutes after the NAIA officials meeting was held. The conference was short, with Barr speaking less than three minutes and taking no questions.

"While the NAIA's statement caught us off-guard, we are honored by this prestigious recognition," GPAC commissioner Tori Westraw said.

Schools within the GPAC are grateful as well. Hastings President Ron Jackson said in an email statement, "It's a blessing and an honor, and certainly a well-deserved one."

2016 presidential candidate Donald Trump voiced his pleasure with NAIA President Tim Barr.

"I have the utmost respect for President Barr," Trump said. "It takes a rare breed to truly share his opinions. It's no surprise a man like that is

a president."

Not all schools under the NAIA's banner are pleased with this sudden announcement.

"I'm at a loss for words," William Penn University president Jon Rotterdam said. "For the NAIA to come out and release a statement such as this, it's an atrocity."

President Rotterdam was not the only school president to mince words about the NAIA's recent actions.

"I guess something as unprecedented and wild as this shouldn't surprise us anymore," Dakota State University president Dr. Juan-Maria Griffin said. "Just look at where they place the championships for each sports--mostly all Midwestern states."

It's only a matter of time before other schools and athletic conferences begin to take action. Both the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference and California Pacific Conference are rumored to split from the NAIA and make a push for NCAA-Division III. Other conferences could be in the works to take similar actions as well.

"We have no comment on any rumors about the Appalachian Athletic Conference, its member schools, or its cessation from the NAIA," Col. Jack Roman said via an online press release on the AAC website.

Since the astonishing press conference where President Barr shocked the country, the NAIA offices remain quiet. President Barr has not responded to requests for comment, and it does not appear as if he will speak on his previous statements any time in the near future.

As of now, the NAIA is letting its statement concerning the GPAC's dominance stand. How long it will stand is unclear, but other conferences choosing to remain in the NAIA will be coming for that unofficial title.

Single frame videos overtake Dordt campus

Ctzn. K – Staff Writer

The new “partially-initiated clip,” or P.I.C. for short, boasts a total running time of a single film frame.

The P.I.C. was developed by Chinese filmmaker Wei Tu-Long to appeal to a today’s audiences. In a work-driven age where attention spans are scarcely surpassing those of goldfish and Chihuahuas, the trend of shortened forms of entertainment is inevitable.

“We watched three-hour movies shorten to half that length, YouTube become a sensation of millions of less than two-minute videos, and, eventually, Vines of a mere 6 seconds,” Tu-Long said. “But with work overtaking the general populace, who has time to watch 6 seconds of film?”

This new media is expected to take the internet by storm in the next year, with hundreds of thousands of viewers already using the format to share P.I.C.’s with their friends.

“The best thing about P.I.C.’s are that you can watch them for as long as you want,” “Tu-Long said. “It’s like watching your favorite video over and over without it ever moving. That way you can stare at the screen as long or as short as you want to.”

Presidential candidate Donald Trump was enthusiastic about the forward-thinking media design.

“If you’re going to be thinking anything, you might as well think big,” said Trump, when asked about the development of the medium.

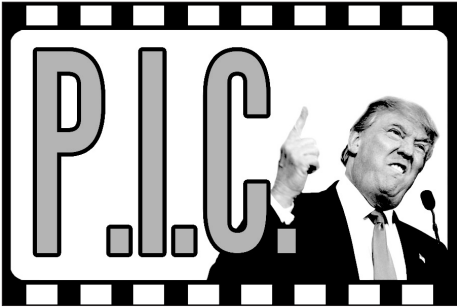
The art department at Dordt College was so impressed with the new media they are considering replacing their photography and filmmaking courses with P.I.C. courses.

“I don’t know why we never thought of this before,” Doug Berg, professor of photography at Dordt College, said. “Now we can teach students to make films and take photos at the same time – it’s the best blend of photography and filmmaking we’ve ever had.”

Mark Volkers, professor of digital media production classes, said, “It makes so much sense to make a film medium that doesn’t move. It’s the single most convenient way to watch a movie. You watch the industry. In a few years, professionals will all be moving this way – Tarantino, Ridley Scott – they’ll all be making films made up of single-frame clips.”

However, not everyone has taken the new craze so well. Some students say it is simply a form of pandering to modern audiences.

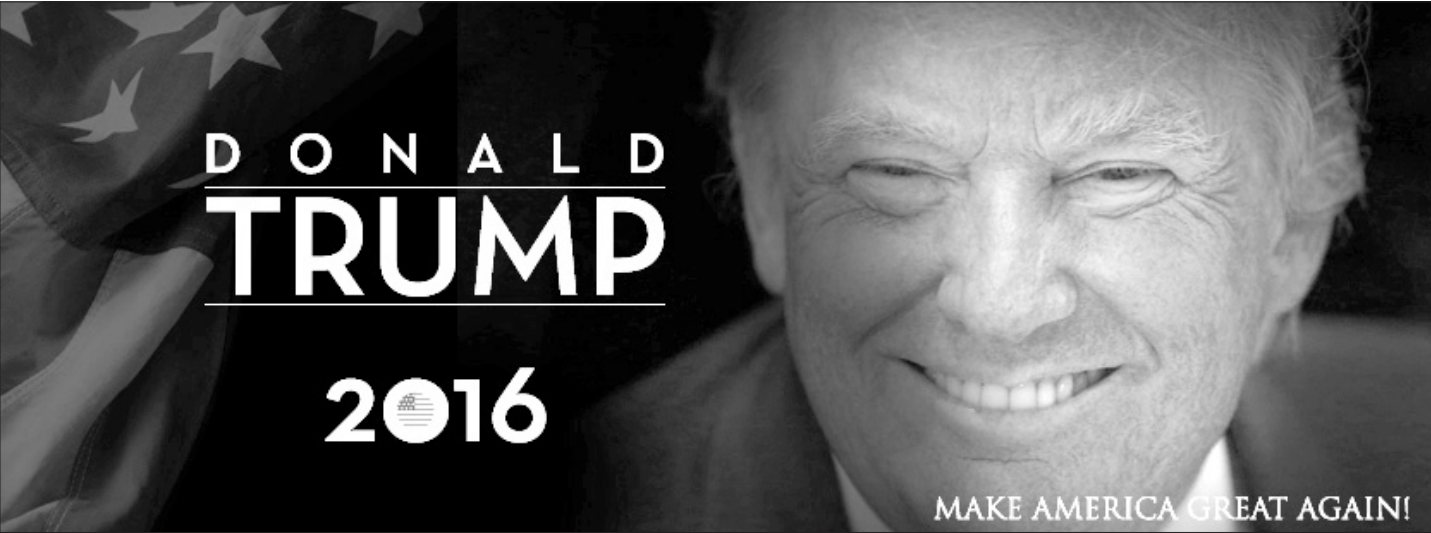
“You mean a photograph?” Professor Versluis



said, who teaches art at Dordt College. He was skeptical of the switch, saying the only result was eliminating the film production medium from Dordt’s course list.

Whether or not single-frame videos are truly the future of digital media and photography is yet to be seen. In Sweden, recent developments have seen cameras which take blank photos – no information means no need to look, which means less time and attention is wasted.

This follows a recent trend of “blank media” throughout the world – blank books, for example, which look good on shelves, but don’t demand any valuable time, were developed in 2009. According to U.S. librarians, no-one has noticed yet.



Jeff Bridges: lyrical mastermind in “Sleeping Tapes”

Choose Goose – Staff Writer

If you ever have trouble sleeping, fear no longer. Jeff Bridges, the actor well known for The Big Lebowski and True Grit, has created a 15-song album entitled Sleeping Tapes.

The album begins with an introduction from Bridges. At this point, it is already evident that Bridges’ deep, rumbling voice alone is enough to put anyone to sleep. Paired with the subtle but dreamlike ambient noises in the background, Bridges’ eloquent words about his tape are poetically written, especially when he coughs, sighs, adjusts his mic and then says, “Sleeping tapes. I love that idea.”

The album only gets better from here on out. The next track on the album, entitled “Sleep. Dream. Wake Up.” walks us through the thought process of sleeping. Bridges repeatedly chants, “You need to sleep so you can dream so you can wake up.” Truer words were never spoken. It takes a genius like Bridges to come to such a mind-blowing conclusion.

I find the next track, “Chimes for Dreams,” to be severely lacking in Bridges’ melodious vocals, but the orchestration of the chimes is simply remarkable. As chimes sound in what are probably extremely complex chords, a slight distortion can be heard, adding to the dreamlike quality of the entire album.

One thing that I appreciate about this album is the amount of stories it contains. Stories such as the one in “See You at the Dreaming Tree” lift the spirits and put the listener in the right mindset for a relaxing, peaceful sleep. In the longest track of the album, a whopping 11-minute track entitled “Temescal Canyon,” Bridges asks us to imagine a journey through the canyon with him as he narrates. This is practically as if Bridges is asking us to dream, especially when he indicates that he’s going to check out an office chair in the middle of the canyon.

Other noteworthy tracks include “Hummmmm.” “Ikea.” and “Feeling Good.” My favorite lyrics in “Feeling Good” are when

Bridges tells the listener, “I like your haircut” and then later, when he adds, “You order well at restaurants.” In no other album will you find such positive vibes and such affirmation from the artist.

When I heard that presidential candidate Donald Trump listens to “Sleeping Tapes” every night as he falls asleep, I knew that this album was going to be the next big thing on the radio. When asked about the album, Trump said, “Wow, I am giving a speech on OAN. Much more exciting than debate!” These are truly cryptic words from a man who is obviously on a much higher level of intellect than the rest of us.

I believe that Bridges’ “Sleeping Tapes” is a much-needed break from the garbage that flows through our radio stations these days. I highly recommend this album that is chock full of the most glorious sounds to grace our ears in centuries. To listen to “Sleeping Tapes,” go to www.dreamingwithjeff.com. Sweet dreams!

Theatre department spells God

Mr. Meeseeks – Staff Writer

The art of running a theatre company is a grueling process that takes a lot of time and effort. Dordt’s recent theatre production is a clear example of the hard work that must be put in to a show.

The theatre faculty decided they wanted to put on the show Godspell, but with a twist. Theatre professor Teresa Ter Haar describes the show’s concept statement as being “mind-blowing.”

“I’ve decided to do an ultra-minimalistic version of Godspell,” Ter Haar said. “I have some really great plans for it, and I know that our audiences are going to love it.”

Ter Haar’s idea for this show is for the cast of ten actors to spend two and a half hours spelling “God.” The cast and crew have been working on this project since the beginning of the school year. Cast member Lucas Simonson says that the process has been exhausting.

“At rehearsals, Teresa would give us all pieces of paper and pencils, and we would all sit down and write ‘God’ over and over again,” Simonson said. “It was so much work and it took us a long time to get to a point that Teresa felt was show-worthy.”

The show opened to a small audience on October 30th. As they found their places, the first thing they saw was a stage covered with blank paper. As soon as the house lights went down, the cast entered the stage armed with pencils, markers, and pens.

For the next two and a half hours, the audience watched the cast write three gigantic letters very, very slowly across the stage. Cast member Logan Radde says that writing the “O” was his favorite part.

“There’s just something about the letter ‘O’ in ‘God’ that gets to me,” Radde said. “Like, it’s at the center of God and at the center of our production, so I think it’s pretty important. And then it’s so encompassing as well. I think it really draws a circle around what Dordt theatre is all about.”

Over the course of the production, cast members nicknamed the play SpellGod because they thought they were being clever.

Ter Haar has wanted to perform SpellGod for the past ten years, but had to get permission from the college’s administration due to the controversial nature of the play. For years, it was seen as disrespectful to portray the name of God on stage.

This production was welcomed by the glorious presence of presidential candidate Donald Trump. Trump (and his toupee) enjoyed the show immensely.

“Sorry, there is no star on the stage tonight,” Trump tweeted after the show. Clearly he was referring to the fact that everyone on the stage was equally fantastic and all deserved equal praise for their good work.

Trump had no comments except for a reminder to his loyal followers.

“Remember, official campaign merchandise (hats, apparel, etc.) can only be bought at donaldjtrump.com. Be careful, don’t get ripped off,” Trump said.

Dordt’s version of Godspell (nicknamed SpellGod by the cast) was very well received and students should plan for more thought provoking shows like this in the future.

Tri Plyus Dva review

Кирилл Паишков – Staff Writer

Is use some Google Translate, so forgive misEnglishes.

“Три Плюс Два”, or how say “Three Plus Two” in English is good comedy film of Russia in 1963. In, three man take beach for to make holiday, but two other lady are coming for to make own holiday. So, for to make war are five people for beach. But later, for to fall love are two man of three! Roma is doctor for animal, Stepan is for numbers and Vadim is other.

War. But like for to say in Russia “Была не была.” For war, lady must make trick to man leaving by play games and annoy. But man are stubborn, and for play games too. So comedy. As war, two man fall for love two woman, and woman for to use to war. Then leave, so man leave to follow. Woman return, so man and fall to love.

As say, is better to catch two stones but one bird, so lady must fall to love for man. In end, when try to make for man leave, all are loving but not to leave. So end movie for happy and

funny.

Film is make for golden age as Russia when Soviet Union. Was good day for Mother Russia when is make film. Have seen director for film as “Priklucheniya Krosha.” Is good director. Camera is move well to form picture of film when other talking for movie. Know how to make engage audience.

Is funny movie! For many dialog and times of faces make funny, are happy times. Actor men are funny people and make for laugh so much? Actor woman are funny people and make for

laugh so much too?

Am encourage any to for see film with family or for make happy date. Americans say “cannot for watch film for because to is Russian.” But I say “follow of example Trump for to say ‘we have very close relation for to with Russian. I love for Russian. Some of good best friend is Russian?’”

I thank for reading, and hope for to watch film is yes. Stay for more, when next paper is release. You.

◆ The Back Page ◆

Humans of Dordt College



Donald Trump, presidential candidate

“What has been your proudest moment during this race so far? Did you notice that a baby was crying through half of my speech and I didn’t get angry? Not once. Did you notice that? That baby was driving me crazy. I didn’t get angry once because I didn’t want to insult the parents for not taking the kid out of the room!

Past, present, or future? What do you focus on the most? I try to learn from the past, but I plan for the future by focusing exclusively on the present. That’s were the fun is.

How has fame affected your romantic relationships? All of the women on The Apprentice flirted with me—consciously or unconsciously. That’s to be expected.

What does it mean to you to be a multi-billionaire? Money was never a big motivation for me, except as a way to keep score. The real excitement is playing the game.

So would you say you are a winner, then? What separates the winners from the losers is how a person reacts to each new twist of fate. Part of being a winner is knowing when enough is enough. Sometimes you have to give up the fight and walk away, and move on to something that’s more productive. In the end, you’re measured not by how much you undertake but by what you finally accomplish.

Dordt celebrates 60 years (cont.)

Continued from page 3

Her parents could not be prouder that their daughter realizes the importance of 60 years. “Presidential candidate Donald Trump once famously said, ‘You have to think anyway, so why not think big?’ And we like to live up to that in all things, including the planning of our daughter’s birth and college life,” said the Van Hollanders when asked why they did all this just to thank the college for 60 years. The Van Hollanders ask that all students call their mothers today and thank them for giving birth at such an opportune time because the 60th anniversary of Dordt College is truly an amazing thing.

New study abroad option at Northwestern (cont.)

Continued from page 1

Dutch Bakery to experience donut runs, De Zoete Winkel to taste incredible frozen yogurt, Windmill Park, Kinderspeelland and out-of-town visits to Alton and Hospers. John Lekker, another pilot student, said he most grew as a person and a student during the excursions.

“Getting a hot, fresh donut at midnight—there is nothing quite like it,” Lekker said.

There are also fewer limitations when it comes to dating at Northwestern as compared to Dordt. “Students aren’t held back by restrictions such as ‘Don’t date before Tri-State,’” Sarah Vande Liefde said. “Getting a ring before spring is so much easier.”

Vande Liefde got engaged to a Northwestern student after studying in Orange City for six weeks.

Academic credibility also draws many students to the program.

“Northwestern offers a certain educational experience you can’t get anywhere else,” said Britt Vande Learn, an electives major. “The professors want you to succeed, and there is such a different worldview here. Education reaches so much farther than every square inch.”

In the future, SPAN administrators hope to offer classes such as Orange City Architecture, Christian Dating and How to Raid. Presidential candidate Donald Trump, honorary head of the International Studies Department, hopes that these classes will provide students with a well-rounded education.

“The more you know, the more you realize how much you don’t know,” Trump said.

Dordt just approved the first full semester of 20 students. One of the 20 students, Jill Van Sing, is most excited about attending Northwestern’s required chapel.

“I love mandatory worship. Twenty minute sessions four times a week really brings me

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closer to the Lord. The one chapel a week at Dordt just wasn’t cutting it anymore,” Van Sing said.

Some students are looking forward to the break their noses will get for a semester.

“Honestly, I am looking forward to walking out of my dorm room and not wanting to vomit every day. Sometimes the stench of Sewer Center was too much to handle,” said Sam Ruikenburg, a junior going on SPAN in 2016.

Jayden Vander Bergson shared some final words on her experience as a pilot student.

“It’s hard to describe how great Northwestern is until you arrive on campus” Vander Bergson said.

Diamond Staff 2015-2016

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