Iowa is full of wind and corn. It is not surprising, then, that Iowa ranks third and first in the nation for wind power output and production of ethanol. According to the Iowa Area Development Group, Iowa wind farms power the equivalent of more than 1.5 million homes each year and Iowa accounts for over 27 percent of the nation’s total ethanol production. Wind and corn are not unique to Iowa, though, even if we have especially high concentrations of these resources. What is responsible for Iowa’s good renewable energy rankings?

Iowa’s renewable energy success is a product of a couple factors, including location and state legislation.

“For wind energy, you want good wind close to a major metropolitan area,” said environmental studies professor Robert De Haan. “States like South Dakota and Nebraska have good wind, but there is no one around.”

Though wind farms in South Dakota or Nebraska may be able to harvest a lot of wind energy, they are not near enough to major cities to make the effort worth their resources. Wind farms in the Midwest need to get their wind energy to Chicago – the largest wind market in the Midwest – and it is impractical to transport wind energy harvested further west of Iowa all the way to Illinois.

Iowa is ideally situated for wind harvest and wind energy transmission: it has plenty of wind and it is relatively close to Chicago.

De Haan also explained that Iowa’s state legislation has played a significant role in the state’s development of wind power. Iowa has legislation which promotes and incentivises the development of renewable energy, particularly wind power. This legislation, combined with access to harvestable wind, proximity to metropolitan areas, and hefty power lines which can transport the electricity the wind farms generate contributes to Iowa’s successful wind farms.

Iowa’s high ethanol yield is self-evident when you look at a United States’ map of corn production by county. As it turns out, Iowa does have an unusually high concentration of corn. This, combined with the state legislation which promotes renewable energy and lots of nearby ethanol refineries, contributes to Iowa’s high national ranking.

Given Iowa’s high concentration of renewable energy resources, the state has been able to capitalize on these resources and produce significant quantities of energy. While Iowa does not have renewable energy completely figured out, it may be on the right track.

**Continued on page 3**
Dordt on display: the openness of college tours (cont.)

Continued from page 1

was,” Van Ravenswaay said. “I had to explain to them Heidelberg and all of that.”

Sometimes this policy of openness leads to awkward and amusing situations. Van Ravenswaay told the story of one of her first tours, when she showed East Hall to some visitors.

“There was a boy walking down the hall in his towel, and he saw me, and I saw him, and I ran out as fast as I could.” Van Ravenswaay said. This was not an isolated event, either. “I’ve seen a few guys in their towels,” she said. “I might’ve seen boxers once.”

Emerson shared that she once walked in on a room full of sleeping males on one tour, but the guys immediately woke up and tried to make a good impression on the visitors.

“Awkward situations and all; Dordt guides love their jobs and strive to be the best they can. They appreciate Dordt’s openness and honesty about campus life.”

“Dordt wants what’s best for the students,” Geels said. “If it’s not the place for you, we understand that, and we’re not going to make you come just to get money.”

While other campuses may be using college tours to trick students into enrolling, Dordt doesn’t follow this trend. Dordt’s campus life isn’t perfect, but it is open about what goes on and what prospective students can expect.

Dordt puts up record performances at indoor nationals

Alli Young – Staff Writer

On March 3-5, 12 women and seven men on the Defender track & field team competed at the 2016 NAIA Indoor National Track & Field Championships in Johnson City, TN. Seven different events earned All-American status—finishing in the top-eight—and two events broke Dordt records.

“We had an excellent trip to nationals with many great performances,” Head Coach Craig Heynen wrote to the team in an email.

The women’s 4x400 meter relay set a new school record of 3 minutes, 54.5 seconds, earning seventh place and All-American status in the finals. Miranda Velgersdyk, Elizabeth Rankus, Janna Wilgenburg and Marisa Broersma passed the baton in that order.

The other school record came as a result of Jacob Moats’ 2.10 meter (6-10.75) performance in the men’s high jump. Moats had an impressive fifth-place finish.

Additional All-American performances:

Sam Wensink: eighth place in the men’s 1,000-meter run
Kelsey Lewis: eighth place in the women’s 4x800 meter relay
Justine Van Zee: sixth place in the women’s 1,000-meter run
Kelley Lewis: Kayla Byl, Nicole Slater and Justine Van Zee: fourth place in the women’s 4x800 meter relay
Mycah Hulst: seventh place in the women’s high jump

The women’s 4x800 team placed highest out of all of Dordt’s events. Despite Lewis, Byl, Slater and Van Zee already running the 4x800 in the preliminary round the previous night, in addition to their individual events, the quartet posted a blistering 9 minutes, 16 seconds in the finals—a full 10 seconds faster than their qualifying time in the prelims.

“Usually, the final times are not as fast as the prelim times because people are tired,” Lewis said.

For the past three years, Lewis has competed in the open-800 at Indoor Nationals. This year marked the first time she made the finals and earned All-American status.

“It was a cool moment,” Lewis said. “I knew I could do it, but to actually do it felt pretty good.”

The past few years, Indoor Nationals has been hosted at a state-of-the-art facility in Ohio. This year’s host facility, David E. Walker Track at Gentry Field, presented less than ideal conditions for the athletes. The indoor track was 280 meters around, as opposed to a standard 200 or 300-meter track.

“It was weird because handoffs were at different places,” Lewis said. “The finish line was actually in the middle of the track, so you had to start kicking it on the curve. You had to run it a few times before you got comfortable with it.”

In spite of the facility downgrade, Dordt athletes made the best of it.

“I don’t know why they chose to host a national event there, but everyone was in the same circumstances as us,” Lewis said.

Dordt’s performances at the Indoor National Championships reflected a strong indoor season that will likely lay the foundation for a successful outdoor track & field season.

“Speaking for the team, everybody has expectations for themselves, and not everybody meets those expectations, so you have victories and disappointments,” Lewis said. “But overall, I think the meet went really well for the team. I think there were a lot more victories than there were disappointments.”

Naps in college and beyond: a thing of the future?

Lauren Bird – Staff Writer

Large corporations around the world have started to implement a scheduled naptime into their employees’ days. These naptimes are said to have numerous health benefits and to increase productivity.

Many businesses—particularly ones that demand a lot of creative thinking, like Google and Facebook—have developed their workplaces to make them not only conducive to napping, but also to other activities that stimulate the brain.

In many Spanish-speaking countries, shops and businesses close down in the afternoon for “siesta” time. This is partially because the temperatures rise during the midday hours in these countries, but it is also a part of the culture: People like to have a long lunch and spend time with their families during the siesta time.

Many students at college are used to finding time in their day for a nap. Dordt even includes a community block hour so that students and staff can get a break and spend time with others.

But is this something that graduates can expect to have the opportunity to do when they get a job? Dordt senior Kyle Roelofs thinks that it’s an idea that employers should consider.

“Businesses are more in tune with how the human body functions. They’re becoming more aware of what their employees need to be productive. Encouraging things like naptime means that employees will be healthier, which gives the company a better name. But naps are just one piece of the puzzle. There are many different ways to improve health that we should consider,” said Roelofs.

As Roelofs says, these scheduled nap times don’t necessarily have to be for naps. The goal is to give workers a time to slow down and get a break from the constant rush of work that comes at them every day. Robin Suing, administrative assistant for the theatre department, says that she enjoys a longer lunch break, which provides a break similar to a naptime.

“I had a job a while back where I got an hour long lunch break, which was really nice to get things, like errands outside of work or different appointments. Then I got a job where I had only a full hour break for lunch, which made me feel more frantic, especially when I was pregnant,” said Suing.

Suing proves that we don’t need to call the time “naptime” in order to implement it into our daily work routines. When you graduate, you may not find yourself in a company that has mandated naptime, but it is likely you’ll find other ways that your employer is looking out for your wellbeing.

Contributed photo

Dordt on display: the openness of college tours (cont.)

Jenna Van Ravenswaay, a student tour guide, introduces a visiting family to life at Dordt.

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Social work month: redefining love

Jaden Vander Berg – Staff Writer

Very few professions get time out of the year dedicated to recognizing those who work in their respective fields. Nurses, teachers and police get a week, administrative professionals are recognized for a day, but the entire month of March is dedicated to the work and service of social workers.

The Practice Methods I class under professor Abby Foreman led Dordt’s chapter of the month’s activities. Breaking away from the National Association of Social Workers’ theme for the month, Forging Solutions Out of Challenges, the Dordt students chose a new topic to base their events around: pornography and redefining love.

“[Pornography] is something a lot of people deal with and has completely invaded our whole society on a large scale, but it is not talked about often. As a society, we have become desensitized to it – the level of sexual content and the overall pervasiveness of sexuality in our society,” said junior Mikaela Drugt, a social work student.

“By tackling pornography and opening it up as a conversation, rather than attacking those who are struggling, we can come at it in such a way that acknowledges the impact that it has on the people who are involved in the industry – those who are struggling – and bring awareness to those who may not understand what it is,” Kornelis said.

The social work majors planned three events for the Dordt community in order to bring light to the profession they are passionate about and educate the campus on the issues surrounding pornography.

The first event promoted healthy relationships. They sold flowers, encouraging people to send them to those they care about with a message of appreciation.

“The flower delivery was to promote community around Dordt College, expressing love towards others in appropriate ways and through acts of kindness,” said junior Natalie Van Essen.

The pancake supper has quickly become a staple for Social Work Month, with this year being no exception. The group decided that the freewill donation would go towards ATLAS, a local non-profit that provides a variety of services to hurting people.

“I loved being able to serve others and interact with people I don’t always have the opportunity to talk to. Being in the apartments and not going to the commons anymore means we don’t always get to talk to others as frequently as we used to. I think this event benefited the upperclassmen because we had the chance to socialize,” junior Jennifer Den Boer said.

Social work is one of the fastest growing professions, increasing by 12% a year according to the U.S. Department of Labor, but why do they deserve an entire month?

“Social work needs its own month because a lot of people don’t know what social work is. It is very broad; you can do many things with a social work degree; you can go into therapy and do counseling, but you can also work with all different groups of people in different settings, helping them be successful in life,” said Professor Foreman, head of the social work department. “Oftentimes, social work is misunderstood to only be child protection work or adoption work, and that is part of it, but not all of it. The purpose of the month then is to highlight the things that social workers do and that there are lots of ways that we help people.”

The final event will be next Monday, March 28 at 6:30 in SH 1606. The group is showing the documentary, “The Porn Pandemic: The Devastating Effects on Children, Families, and Society” along with a discussion. The purpose is to open the conversation on campus and create a safe environment for students to ask questions and learn more about the harmful effects of pornography.

Concert choir spring breaks to Pacific NW

Lauren Bird – Staff Writer

The members of the Concert Choir visited the Pacific Northwest area on their annual spring break tour. Among the cities visited were Lynden, Washington; Boise, Idaho; and Abbotsford, BC. Dr. Ben Kornelis, choir director, explains the reasoning for visiting those cities.

“Our tours are on a six-year rotating plan. We work with the admissions and advancement offices and plan according to where there are constituents and alumni. This year, we have someone in the choir from that area, so we visited their high school, which provided a neat opportunity to make connections,” Kornelis said.

Connecting with donors and alumni is not the only reason to make this trip, however. Kornelis said that it is also a promotional opportunity and a chance to show what a part of Dordt is like.

“Some students may have a certain picture in their minds about what Dordt is like. By touring to schools and performing at assemblies, we can show them that music is a big part of Dordt and we can showcase the quality and excellence of music here,” Kornelis said.

It is not only about raising money and gaining more students. Senior Logan Radde believes it is also about impacting communities in a positive way.

“It’s always interesting to see the ways in which communities are influenced by music. We stay with host families each night after our concerts, and it’s always neat to hear about the ways they reacted to the music we sang.” Radde said.

Even more than impacting communities, a trip like this can also teach the students many things. They gain performance experience that they can’t get from only singing at Dordt.

“When we prepare for a concert at Dordt, we prepare for weeks and then only get one chance to perform the songs,” Kornelis said. “With a tour, we get a chance to live with the music longer and work to improve it even more. The students also have to figure out how to make the music fresh and new with every concert.”

Best assured, the Dordt music department has been well-represented in the Pacific Northwest area.

Continued from page 1

Tennessee bill explores free speech on campus (cont.)

Lauren Estes – Staff Writer

The Tenn. bill serves as an invitation for students to challenge the beliefs of the institution and the broader community of the college as an open expression of their right to free speech. As it was proposed, the bill requires universities to inform their students of this right every school year. The bill was put off notice at the hearing shortly after Rep. Daniel’s comments about ISIS. He intends to revise the bill and present it again after a summer study.

While reflecting on situations when exercising the right to free speech goes too far, senior Ben Vermeer mentioned Dordt’s policy towards pornography. He asked the question why we deny free speech to pornography.

“Free speech is important, but so is morality,” Vermeer said. “It’s always tricky when you try to draw lines with free speech.”

In response to his Islamic State comments, Daniel released a statement confirming his belief that ISIS is evil and affirming the illegality of supporting a terrorist organization. Daniel clarified his intent for the bill.

“The remedy for objectionable non-violent speech is not silence or suppression of speech,” Daniel said, “It is more speech.”
PLA teams once again travel nationwide in annual service trips

Alli Young – Staff Writer

On March 2, 3, and 4, a vacant campus sprang to life with the kickoff of the first ever Global Agriculture Summit. Over 600 attendees flew and drove to Sioux Center, representing 22 states, 14 different organizations, and two groups. Several dozen agricultural students, along with a sprinkling of other students, stayed to assist with the conference. Those students had the privilege of extending a warm welcome to Sioux Center. Jill Schouten, a leader of the group in Denver, recounts the one time she filled the van up with gas and she forgot to put the cap back on. She faced the brunt of a heavy load of teasing with community members almost every night. He mentioned he enjoyed having daily devotions with community members almost every night.

Joerger, a professor in the agriculture department, has been planning and praying for the success of this conference since he came to Dordt in October 2014. Aside from having disappointingly low numbers of local producers at the summit, Joerger believes the conference sparks the organization they worked with to enable a diverse body of people who share a passion for agriculture and farm operations within Sioux County.

The format of the conference consisted of breakfast, workshop sessions, key note lectures with discussion panels, Agi-Ed Talks, open networking, and banquet-style meals. Activities kicked off on Wednesday night with praise & worship, a trade fair, a discussion with chapel speaker Sarah Thebarge, and a showing of the documentary Poverty, Inc. On Saturday, March 5, conference attendees who were not familiar with American agriculture were given a tour of several dairies and farm operations within Sioux County.

“(The people who came here said) ‘You know what? I feel safe, I can talk, I can interact, I can meet new people,’” Joerger said. “That’s exactly one of the things we were trying to accomplish, and I think we did.”

Planning, organizing and funding an event of this magnitude took a great deal of time and energy from Dordt College and its co-host for the summit, Partners Worldwide. Other major sponsors included World Renew, Bread for the World, and In All Things. Now that the conference is over, the biggest question is, will Dordt be able to host another similar event?

“We’re happy that it’s past, but we’re really happy that it had an impact,” Joerger said. “And we think it’s going to continue to reach. We are continuing to get feedback about connections people are making.”
The case for home-grown compassion

Ashley Blohmof – Staff Writer

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan took the CPAC stage on Thursday morning to discuss the Left’s efforts to win the “war on poverty.” Ryan spoke unfavourably towards the current administration’s efforts, claiming that the “war on poverty” has been distorted by government programs that continue to absorb taxpayer money without producing substantial economic growth. Success, argued Ryan, must be measured by the amount of people who are able to escape poverty and not by the amount of funds poured into ineffective programs. Such programs result in what Ryan called the “poverty trap.” When the federal government creates restrictions to make it harder for people to afford housing, food, and healthcare, the result is a higher cost of living, which makes it harder for people to afford basic needs. The government should not be a friend to the poor but local communities. The institution to address those needs, argues Ryan, is not the federal government but local leaders, those operating within civil society. The government should not be a friend to everyone, but instead move aside so that local leaders have the means to accomplish far more than that of a check in the mail. Like Ryan, Olasky believes in the power of family and non-governmental institutions. The author therefore encourages local community leaders and organizations to step into the civil sphere and transform their environments using resources as efficiently as possible.

According to Ryans, in order to “go to the route cause to break the cycle of poverty,” this space must be defended. On Friday, a panel discussion proposed strong marriages and family stability as the solution to attacking poverty at the source. In a conversation addressing the findings of the Family Prosperity Initiative, a joint effort by the American Conservative Union Foundation, economists and “state-based leaders across the country,” economist Larry Kudlow expressed strong arguments in favor of family unity and its impact on economic prosperity.

Kudlow offered a four-step process to guide a young person down a positive societal path. Finish school; get a job; find a person to spend the rest of your life with; “the real lesson here is not to just jump into bed together” - and, then, “you have the kid.”

Kudlow argued that society is accomplishing these goals in the wrong order and that traditional family values regarding child-rearing have been lost. Part of the blame, he conceded, fell to the federal government’s intervention in the economy and the negative impact of the welfare state. With the end goal of increasing America’s annual growth rate, the economist suggested that a return to traditional values is the ultimate answer to increasing the nation’s economic prosperity. In a closing round of questions, Kudlow claimed marriage rates should be used to determine success in regards to decreasing American poverty and increasing economic growth. “In respect to poverty” and its link to declining marriage, Kudlow argued the correlation is undeniable. He encouraged the audience to discuss the issue and share his disappointment that, with the “possible exception of Ben Carson, the Republican candidates have not talked about this issue.”

Lo and behold, Carson took the stage later that evening and professed the need for compassion in a conservative sense. Compassion, he said, is not providing for an individual’s every need but instead creating avenues for people to become “part of the productive side of America.”

“Our pillars of strength are our family,” he said.

Yet the struggle to redeem America’s view of conservatives’ poverty policy continues. On the Democratic side, agendas offering more and more money to federal programs sound like the perfect solution to impoverished individuals who are enabled by programs that disincentivize hard work. Do Ryan and Kudlow’s proposals effectively address the lives of the impoverished?

According to Marvin Olasky in Compassionate Conservatism (2000), they do. Olasky defines compassion as “afflicting with” someone, walking alongside them in order to restore their personal well-being. He states that increasing government funding for large programs fails to show true compassion because the effort is void of a personal relationship as well as an understanding of a person’s needs. The institution to address those needs, argues Olasky, is not the federal government but local leaders, those operating within civil society. The government should not be a friend to everyone, but instead move aside so that local leaders have the means to accomplish far more than that of a check in the mail. Like Ryan, Olasky recognizes the importance of a government that works the supply line, and, like Kudlow, Olasky believes in the power of family and non-governmental institutions. The author therefore encourages local community leaders and organizations to step into the civil sphere and transform their environments using resources as efficiently as possible.

As organizations constantly move money overseas to help the sick and disadvantaged, thousands of citizens within our own communities desperately need someone to suffer through a crisis with them. Heaven knows Social Security can’t do it, neither can food stamps; neither can Medicaid. There is a difference between enabling and empowering, and though neither party has constructed the perfect strategy to deal with poverty, conversations held at CPAC may prove valuable if given the chance to materialize.
Spring break trips for Dordt athletics

Christian Zyfozka – Staff Writer

While MLB teams spent Spring Training in Arizona and Florida, multiple Dordt athletic teams escaped the cooler Northwest Iowa temperatures for southern air and the desert sun. Continuing the trend of the past several years, Dordt baseball and softball traveled to Arizona for spring break to enjoy sunny skies and 80-degree temperatures. Dordt golf, after a year off owing to COVID, returned to California, closer to home, playing numerous golf courses in the Kansas City area.

Temperatures and weather patterns in Northwestern Iowa are unpredictable in the month of March. By traveling south for break, players and teams have ample opportunities to hit the course or field and gain valuable reps. “The game slows down a lot,” said Dordt catcher Josh Van Eps. “With several games under your belt, the game slows down and starts to feel like regular baseball, which is obviously a good thing.”

Making a 27-hour trip down south isn’t to be taken lightly. It’s a bust for the players and coaches, but in the end, it’s a business trip with specific goals to accomplish. “My biggest goal was to simply to learn,” said Dordt baseball pitcher Taima Top. “For me, this is the beginning of college softball, and I knew I was going to find out what I do well and what I need to improve on.”

For both baseball and softball, the opportunities to learn and grow were nearly limitless. Softball played 14 games in seven days and baseball laced up the spikes for 10 games in seven days. With no class during this weekend stretch, there was ample time for baseball and softball. “It’s the only week out of the year that we get to focus solely on softball, so we took full advantage of that,” Top said.

Both baseball and softball went .500 during their trip down south, going 5-5 and 7-7, respectively, under the desert sun. Dordt College softball started its slate of GPAC games this week when it hosted a doubleheader against Nebraska Wesleyan on Tuesday. Dordt baseball picked up conference play at Doane on April 1.

Dordt golf had slightly different intentions during its spring break trip to Kansas City. Rather than squaring off against other teams, the team used spring break to play as much golf as possible, in a six-day stretch as possible, all with the goal of preparing for the spring portion of the golf season.

“Only goals heading into this spring break trip were to get back into golf and find a rhythm,” said senior golfer Micah Roos. “If you take too much time off, it can be hard to find the timing of the swing back.”

Winters in Northwest Iowa leave golfers with large quantities of “off-season.” Shaking off the winter rust is a key goal each golfer heads into break trying to accomplish.

Q: What was the biggest factor for you coming to Dordt?
A: The biggest factor is a tie between the people and the opportunity. People are what make jobs and experiences special. It’s not the shiny and pretty new weight rooms, or the 14 different jersey combinations or the National Champion banners that make something special – it’s the people IN those buildings and jerseys. The people here at Dordt are not only genuine in the way they interact and socialize; they are all professionals within their department. There is an expectation and a standard here that raises everyone’s level of work and desire to impact. And the opportunity here is great because there aren’t those barriers hanging all over the place. This is a young program, so the opportunity to do something that no one has ever done here at Dordt is exciting to me. Some people are scared by how hard they might have to work to set records, or how scary it might be being the first to do the thing, but that excites me! I’m ready to get this train rolling and represent Dordt college on the football field.

Q: What are your plans to improve the defense?
A: Our defensive will continually play fast, tough and focused. We will be fundamentally sound, we will run to the football, we will play with (and bring) emotion and we will play with unity – “family above everything.” This game is about setting new “bests” for yourself while playing for the guy next you to you. Defense is an especially selfless job. And when we are fast, tough and focused, and we play fundamentally sound and with passion, we stop the man, turn the man and then pressure the QB. This will be a very fun defense to watch.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?
A: My life verse would be Esther 4:14b. “Who knows that you have been chosen for such a time as this?” I don’t know where the Lord will take me in the future. But I do believe He has chosen me here—for now—on purpose. And I plan to glorify Him in all I do (Eph. 6:7 and Col. 3:23).

Q: What do you look forward to most?
A: I look forward to my wife and me getting settled here in the community and officially becoming part of the family. I look forward to seeing those players flying around during spring ball and seeing the looks on their faces when they see how good we’re going to be. I look forward to enjoying and embracing the process every day.

Women’s rugby takes home trophy

Eric Rowe – Staff Writer

After benefiting from a forfeit in its first match due to snowy conditions, the Northwestern-Dordt Women’s Sevens Rugby team won every game except the final at the March 19 tournament at Southwest Minnesota State University.

Even though they were playing their first tournament ever, the women were the best college team and got second place after losing to the Sioux Falls Phantom, a post-college team. Rugby sevens is a faster version of the game. Each match takes 15 minutes instead of the 80 minute long matches for traditional rugby.

Northwestern student Teagan Hill-Norby was the top scorer for the women with five tries. “When she was gone, no one could catch her,” said freshman Rebecca Groninga, who scored two tries herself. “She was so fast.”

Groninga went on to say that the entire team was smaller than their opponents, but their speed gave them an advantage over bigger teams. The biggest challenge for Groninga was the mental aspect of the game. “It’s knowing what to do when people are charging you,” Groninga said. “You’re being so physical, but you need to think about how to get the ball back and score tries.”

The women’s team experienced camaraderie from their opponents and talked with each other in between games. They even received tips and advice during game play from more experienced players. “You really feel a sense of community playing with those people,” Groninga said. “As soon as we got there, everyone was so nice.”

March Madness virus spreads

Aaron Ludzieski – Staff Writer

March Madness is home to countless shocking upsets, but college basketball fans should not be shocked; these upsets continue to happen every year.

This year’s bracket was like walking into a room full of scorpions. Your significant other could have picked the games based on each team’s mascot and predicted with more accuracy through the Round of 64. Even the Round of 32 was insane; multiple teams not expected to win a single game made it there or beyond. There are no remaining perfect brackets. Experts estimate the odds of predicting a perfect bracket between 1 in 128 billion and 1 in 9.2 quintillion.

The major upset was a 15-seed Middle Tennessee State over 2-seed Michigan State, where the Blue Raiders defeated the Spartans, 90-81. 22 percent of 13 million brackets submitted in the ESPN Tournament Challenge picked the Spartans to win the title. This upset ravaged many brackets.

Other games have been extremely close, with as many as half of the games going down to the last minute. Two of the three Iowa teams in the NCAA Tournament, Northern Iowa and Iowa, was won via the buzzer-beater. UNI won with a half court miracle at the buzzer, and Iowa won on an Adam Woodbury tip-in at the buzzer.
I've never seen the original “Cloverfield” movie, but at no point during this movie did I have to look it up. I do, however, remember the character Tenet and how he stood out. There was also the feeling of being constantly watched and under observation.

In a world where technology has advanced, it's possible that the government or some other entity could be monitoring and controlling people's actions and thoughts. The paranoia and fear that comes with this kind of surveillance is something that I think a lot of people can relate to.

The movie's message seems to be about the human condition and the possibility of being controlled by an unseen force. It's a thought-provoking and disturbing film that leaves a lasting impact on the viewer.
Humans of Dordt College

We started [Muffin]s because we wanted to build community in different ways.

In apartment living you don’t see many people, so it is a really great way to catch up with other people, take a break away from studying and other stresses.

We want to serve the community of Dordt in some way and this is one way we can do that.

Marette Gallagher, senior

Savor the Flavor of Food

- Make half of your plate sandy. Buy discount candy at Walmart after major holidays, but buy “fun size” candy is a great substitute.
- Soft is an organic mineral that is found in the earth’s crust. Plunk it on your next meal for added flavor!
- Make sure to be snacking constantly throughout the day. You never know which meal will be your last.
- Cooking for yourself costs you time and energy. Just order a pizza and reap the rewards of efficiency.
- Enjoy indulging in a half gallon or two of your favorite ice cream once or twice a week. We suggest Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough!

Learn more at https://youtu.be/BkJSHOUlJMA

Women’s rugby takes home trophy (cont.)

Continued from page 6

The men’s team placed 6th out of eight teams. Though the men lost all four of their games, they were able to improve towards the end of the tournament. They scored their two tries in each of their last two games after getting shut out of the first two.

Andrew Yoon, a freshman player from Dordt, saw the team taking more initiative as the tournament went on. In the first two games, there was a lot of hesitation in terms of tackling and passing the ball.

Yoon didn’t expect to play any games with snow still on the ground.

“My hands were cold so I couldn’t hold the ball properly,” Yoon said. “I couldn’t communicate because my mouth was cold.”

Though both teams were bruised and sore after the tough games, they finished the first club tournament of the season and were able to experience what sevens rugby will be like in future tournaments.

March Madness virus spreads (cont.)

Continued from page 6

overtime.

Some Dordt students bring the madness of March to their athletic teams. One that stands out is the baseball team, which likes everyone to be involved and join in on a bracket challenge.

Brandon Fokkema had this to say: “It’s a great time,” said sophomore pitcher Brandon Fokkema. “It helps us to come together and bond, watch some of the games together.”

People can’t even walk through the dorms without seeing one of the games on. This time of year can bring out the best and worst of the dorms as people like to cheer against each other’s brackets. Some wings even organize a bracket challenge.

“Me and my roommate go back and forth with who is going to and what person is going to have the better bracket,” said sophomore David Davelaar. “It’s a bit of a rivalry between us.”

The brackets are a mess after the first weekend. They have the potential to be a whole lot more muddled from here on out.

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