

THE VOLANTE



Back to the pack

Move-in, Olson renovations, and students in lounges

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As the University of South Dakota enters its second week of classes, students have settled into campus and into their new homes away from home.

This year however, was different than previous as Olson Hall is currently closed for renovations. These renovations have led to the consideration of alternative housing options, with the possibility of students residing in resident hall lounges instead of traditional dorm rooms.

USD's official move-in day was Aug. 21. Housing Director Tristan Beck said this year's move-in process was successful, in part because of the help of student volunteers and the proper labeling of belongings on behalf of incoming students.

"We had a lot of help from various student groups, organizations, and a lot of our sororities, fraternities, athletic groups came and helped, AWOL," Beck said. "Also all the staff and faculty that volunteered their time as well to help with that process was very helpful to the university as a whole."

Olson Hall in North Complex began renovations this summer and will remain closed to residents throughout the entirety of the 26' through 27' academic year.

The hall is projected to reopen to residents in the fall of 2027, and will

include updated amenities as well as an elevator.

"From what I can see, it looks like they've been removing a lot of things that need to be removed, and they've been adding a lot of the things that look like they need to be added. So to me it looks like it's progressing on track," Beck said.

With Olson Hall closed, Housing had to account for the loss of residence hall space by increasing the amount of housing exemptions allocated. Beck said the housing exemption process is closely tied to an off-campus lottery system for students looking to bypass the mandatory two-year on-campus residency requirement.

"We're essentially able to do what's called a maximum occupancy exemption through the Board of Regents policies, to allow some people off campus because we knew we would have fewer beds. So that way we weren't bursting at the seams," Beck said.

In previous years, when the university reached a high occupancy, some students were assigned to live in residence hall lounges. This year, Housing prepared several floor lounges for occupancy, but Beck said traditional residence hall rooms were found for all incoming students by move-in day.

Students living in lounges in 2018



Submitted | The Volante

"It is more so just like a tool for helping people have more of a peace of mind, we have a space for you to live. And the goal is that by moving day, nobody's in these spaces," Beck said.

The lounges are currently closed and locked, but Housing is working to deconstruct the makeshift rooms and return the spaces back to communal areas for students.

"To turn them from a lounge into a student room, we put bunk beds in there, which students can choose to

un-bunk, but we just try to give them more space possible. There's armoires in there for storing clothes. And then, we put what's called a micro chill, which is like a mini fridge microwave," Beck said.

Beck said USD's residence halls can currently house about 1,800 students. Once Olson Hall reopens, the university will be able to house roughly 2,100 students.

Students help residents move into North Complex.



Nathan DeGreef | The Volante



Nathan DeGreef | The Volante

Local podcast takes off

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Over two years ago Jose Lira began his podcast Vermillion Unplugged with the idea of getting a closer view into, what he considered an oddity. A college town with only 12,000 residents.

Lira only wanted to focus on a podcast concerned with the people of Vermillion, and although he has kept that spirit, Lira has expanded to local food reviews, looks into South Dakota policy making as well as the broader culture of the small Midwestern town.

Despite the relatively small population of Vermillion, Lira has amassed an impressive following, with several videos of his receiving thousands of views, as well as gaining over 3,000 followers on Tik Tok.

“When I first started, I remember I was getting like seven views and I thought, this is amazing! I got seven people watching me, and then it just got higher, and higher and higher,” Lira said when reflecting on his podcast’s early days.

Beyond the increase in views, Lira said the effect his videos have had on the community, has been even more incredible to see.

“For example when [Stretch Between] opened up with Indian tacos and I covered it, that blew up. Then I went there the next few days and she was saying ‘we sold out, we’re getting slammed, this and that’ and I thought ‘okay this is going somewhere,’” Lira said.

Another big shift for Lira since his platform has grown has been his ability to get guests, which for him has been remarkable. “When I first started I would ask people to come on and I had a lot of people say no, but

now it’s gotten to the point where people are asking me, which is cool,” Lira said.

One area that Lira has been recently getting into that he says excites him, is looking at the real issues that are affecting the people who live in Vermillion year round, as well as the larger South Dakota and Siouxland area.

“It’s different when you’re a student, because students will come and go. But if you live here the political stuff, or the city stuff, it will affect you,” Lira said.

Within the last year Lira has looked at problems ranging from poverty stricken areas of the state to the potential of data centers in local communities.

As of now, Lira has no plans of stopping Vermillion Unplugged, and hopes to continue growing it in new ways. “Will I keep doing this? Yeah. I think I do it mostly for me because I like talking and listening to people, because everyone’s so interesting. You could be walking around town and not realize all the interesting stories around you,” Lira said.

One of the ways Lira is looking to expand his creative interests is with a documentary all about Vermillion. “What I want to do is a Vermillion documentary, there is a lot I’d want to talk about there like the University and the housing shortage,” Lira said.

Lira wants to cover as much of Vermillion as possible and shed light on what he considers “a very unique town.”



Vermillion Unplugged Logo

Submitted | The Volante



Lira interviewing the owner of Duck & Cat for Vermillion Unplugged.



Lira recording an episode of Vermillion Unplugged.

Clay County discusses potential data center

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With the rise of Artificial Intelligence, tech companies are in a race to reach general artificial intelligence. On Monday, Aug.31, Vermillion Planning and Zoning Commission reconvened to propose amendments to Zoning Regulations for data centers.

Conversations with data center developers have been taking place across the Midwest this past year, some of which regarding the potential construction of a data center in Clay County. In late July, Yankton County passed a six-month moratorium to review environmental and economic impacts while discussing the official zoning.

The Volante heard from both Caitlin Collier, a community organizer and Austin Brunick, a candidate for District 17 representative of the South Dakota House.

“Locally, there has been no polling, but judging from the sentiments expressed at city and county governmental meetings and a recent public forum, Clay

County and Vermillion residents also don’t want a data center here and that opinion crosses rural/city, political party and age lines,” Collier said.

Jim Petersen began giving talks about data centers, which led to the public discovering the possibility of a data center being placed in the Vermillion area.

“The biggest concerns are: the amount of light and noise pollution AI data centers create, how much water they will use and if they are going to use a closed-loop system, power usage, and protecting everyday citizens from utility costs from going up,” Brunick said.

These concerns have been voiced by community members throughout the meetings taken place at the City Council Chambers.

“The big incentive for small rural areas is property taxes. With the amount of land used, the data centers have to pay large amounts of property tax, unless the state has created tax incentives which reduce or eliminate the payment of property taxes by data centers,”

Collier said. South Dakota has not created tax incentives at this point of time.

For landowners these incentives may be taken into consideration for giving up their land. However, for students in the area, there are more concerns than there are incentives.

“Students will be forced to live on-campus because they will be priced out of apartments, if any are available. Students and families already living off-campus will see their rent close to double when they sign their new lease,” Brunick said.

Students wanting to voice their perspective can register as a South Dakota voter with their university address and vote in the midterm elections come November. Students can also contact their County Commissioners and City Council members.

The next meeting to evaluate the ordinances is set to take place on Sept. 14.

Brian Wells | The Volante



Clay County reported incident update

Juliana Oltmanns

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The arrival of students back on The University of South Dakota's campus means a large jump in the Clay County population, with 10,405 students currently enrolled for the Fall 2026 semester. In previous years this increase in population has led to a spike in the number of police reports taken place within the Vermillion community. Please see below the enlisted police report press narrative information from Aug. 23, through Aug. 30, 2026.

08/30/2026: Officers arrested a subject for possessing a fake id, underage drinking and an open container.

08/29/2026: Officers responded to a medical emergency at a residence.

08/29/2026: Officers investigated a report of a roadside assault that arose from a driving complaint.

08/29/2026: Caller reported being chased by several subjects as he rode his wheelchair home. Subjects were gone when officers arrived.

08/29/2026: Officers assisted the University Police Department with an investigation.

08/29/2026: Officers cited a subject for open container and underage drinking.

08/28/2026: Officers arrested a subject for possessing a fake id.

08/28/2026: Caller reported that his son had reported being stabbed in the head. Investigation revealed a practical

joke and that no stabbing had occurred. Alcohol was a factor.

08/28/2026: Officers responded to a noise complaint at a residence.

08/28/2026: Officers located and arrested the subject of a parole detainer.

08/28/2026: Officers investigated a report of illegal drug activity at a residence.

08/28/2026: Officers cited a subject for underage drinking.

08/27/2026: Officers arrested a subject for felony assault at a residence.

08/27/2026: Officers responded to a medical emergency at a residence.

08/26/2026: Officers conducted a traffic stop and arrested a subject who had

an active warrant.

08/26/2026: Officers responded to a disturbance at a residence and identified multiple subjects.

08/25/2026: Officers investigated suspicious activity at a city owned facility and determined that no crime occurred.

08/25/2026: Caller reported intruders were attempting to enter their home. Officers investigated and did not locate any other persons.

08/25/2026: Officers responded to a subject who was experiencing a mental health crisis.

08/23/2026: Officers arrested a subject for underage drinking and possessing a fake id.

OVERHEARDS

Here you'll find the weirdest, funniest and stupidest things we've heard during the week. Context is for suckers.

"I need to become more like Larry Bird."

- Leo's

"If it's not a hearse I'm not driving it."

- Walmart

"Oh so we just hate the large community?"

- MUC

"We have bigger toes to tickle."

- Patteron Hall

"Would it be weird if I asked him if I can braid his beard?"

- Norton

"I really wish I had a honey bun right about now."

- Old Main

"I'm sweating like a botched chicken."

- Beacom

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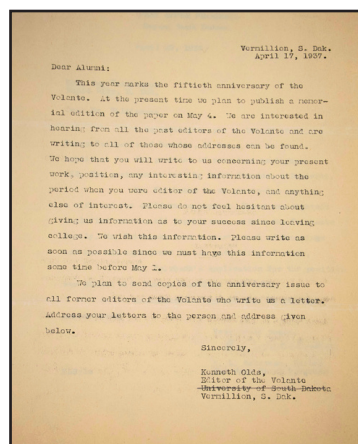
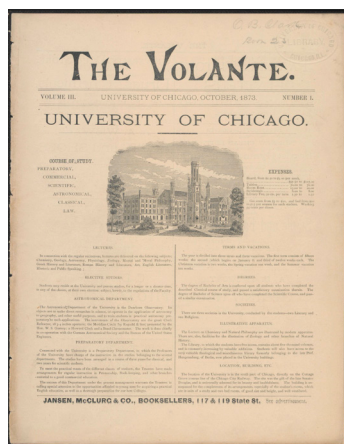
@VolanteOpinion



Left Image: courtesy: Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center at the University of Chicago Library.

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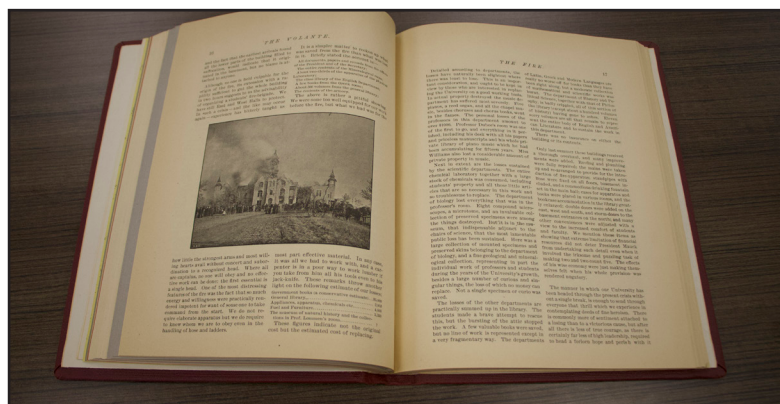
The history of The Volante



Left Image: 1973, 'Old' University of Chicago Volante edition.
Right Image: Original letter sent from Volante Editor Kenneth Olds to former editors.



First edition of The Volante, Published November, 1887. The original copy is binded and archived by USD Archives & Special Collections.



The original copy of The Volante story covering the fire that destroyed Old Main in 1893.

Years before it became the student newspaper of the University of South Dakota, The Volante was being published over 500 miles away at the "Old" University of Chicago.

In 1872, the "Old" University of Chicago published the first edition of what is now The University of South Dakota's newspaper, The Volante.

The Volante (pronounced vuh-LONT) was a student-run publication of the "Old" University of Chicago, which operated from 1857 until 1886.

In 1887, Dr. Edward Olson left Chicago for Dakota to serve as the fourth president of the University of South Dakota. Olson brought with him seven or eight students who became known as the "Chicago Boys," including Herbert S. Houston, the first editor of The Volante.

According to "The University of South Dakota, 1862-1966" by Cedric Cummins, the name Volante is derived from a French word signifying "flying." Olson and the former Chicago students chose the name for nostalgic reasons, as the publication had not been revived when the university reopened.

"The university in the far-off Dakota would have a unique, orphaned title for its paper," Cummins wrote.

Houston was succeeded as editor by Agnes True; the two later married. True was the daughter of Charles H. True, who established the Dakota Republican, a Vermillion newspaper that later merged with Vermillion Plain Talk.

For decades, The Volante was published in the Dakota Republican offices.

Throughout its history, The Volante has reported on nearly every significant event to affect campus, including one of the university's earliest disasters, the infamous Old Main fire in 1893.

In its original coverage, The Volante reported: "The total destruction of the University Hall by fire on the morning of Sunday, the 15th together with almost

everything it contained, lays upon us a strain, the character and extent of which we have not yet measured."

In 1937, The Volante celebrated its 50th anniversary. Editor Kenneth Olds reached out to former editors to gather information about the newspaper's history and what had become of those who had helped shape it.

In a letter, Olds wrote: "We are interested in hearing from all the past editors of the Volante and are writing to all of those whose addresses can be found. We hope that you will write to us concerning your present work, position, any interesting information about the period when you were editor of the Volante and anything else of interest."

The University Archives & Special Collections houses Olds' original letter, responses from former editors and the 50th anniversary edition, which featured several articles celebrating the newspaper's first half-century.

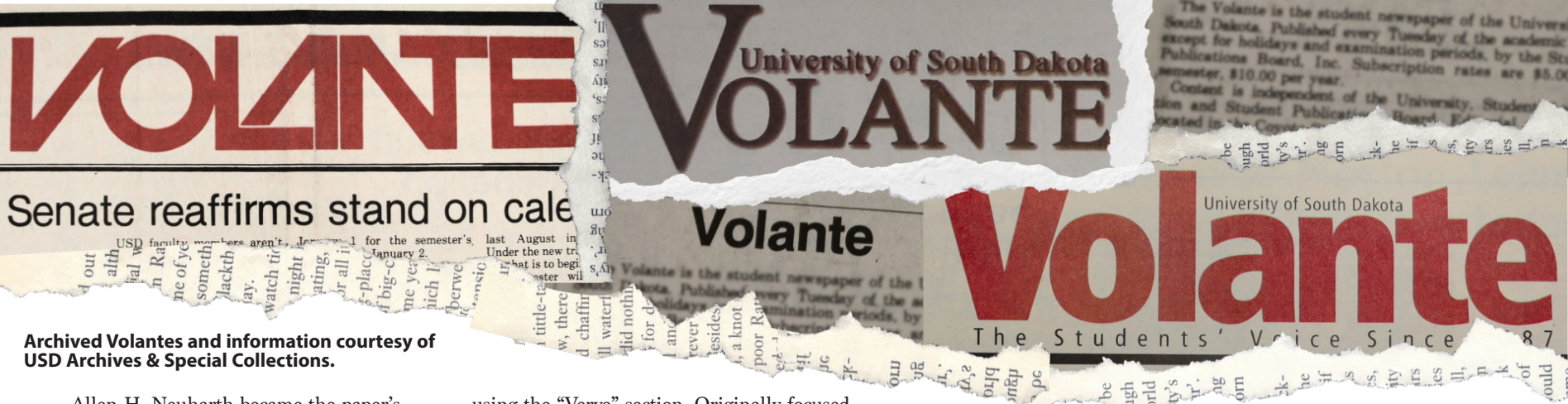
One of those former editors was Herbert B. Rudolph, who went on to serve as a South Dakota Supreme Court justice from 1931 to 1957.

In his response to the newspaper, Rudolph recalled how his time as editor may have saved his and his roommate Gene Vidal's lives.

In 1915, Rudolph had to wake up at 6 a.m. to meet the printers. The night before, he and Vidal had fallen asleep with a coal heater running, and Rudolph had forgotten to open the windows.

"We had both received an overdose of hard coal stove gas, and it took the doctors and much fresh air to finally revive Gene... Gene and I have always said, that were it not for the fact that I was editor of the Volante and had to be at the printing office at six o'clock we both would still be asleep there in Rinnie's room," Rudolph wrote.

Decades later, another Volante editor would go on to have a major impact on American journalism.



Archived Volantes and information courtesy of USD Archives & Special Collections.

Allen H. Neuharth became the paper’s editor in 1949. After his death in 2013 The Volante published an article over Neuharth’s legacy in which they reported:

“A 1950 graduate of USD, Neuharth began his journalism studies after returning from a World War II tour overseas. Originally interested in radio, the South Dakota native was influenced by then-Volante Editor-in-Chief Marilyn Haggerty to consider a career in the newspaper business, telling him “he didn’t have the stuff for radio.”

Neuharth went on to become the founder of USA Today and remained connected to his alma mater throughout his career. In 1988, he created the Al Neuharth Excellence in Journalism Scholarship, which is awarded to USD students pursuing careers in media.

In 2003, the Al Neuharth Media Center opened as the hub for the Department of Media & Journalism and USD’s student media outlets: The Volante newspaper, Coyote Radio KAOR-FM and KYOTV.

Before the media center opened, The Volante had been housed in the Coyote Student Center.

As journalism entered the 21st century, The Volante continued to evolve with changing technology.

Throughout its history, the paper has used a variety of nameplates, often reflecting the design trends of their respective eras. Around 2002, The Volante began using the current nameplate and logo. Nearly 25 years later, the design remains unchanged.

Around the same time, the paper also began

using the “Verve” section. Originally focused primarily on pop culture and entertainment, Verve has evolved into a broader section that combines traditional lifestyle coverage with entertainment.

One of the biggest changes in The Volante’s history came with the incorporation of the internet. As newspapers across the country began moving online in the mid-to-late 1990s, The Volante was not far behind. Volanteonline.com launched in 2001.

Reminders of the website’s earliest iterations can still be found through resources such as the Wayback Machine.

Both the website and physical newspaper continued to receive recognition. In 2019, The Volante was inducted into the Associated Collegiate Press Hall of Fame and named to the Pacemaker 100, a list recognizing the top 100 student publications of all time.

Through all of these changes, one thing has remained constant: The Volante is a publication created by students, for students.

As the demand for physical newspapers has declined and digital media has become increasingly important, The Volante has continued to adapt to the ways students consume news, expanding its presence through its website and social media while maintaining its print publication.

Next November will mark the newspaper’s 140th anniversary.

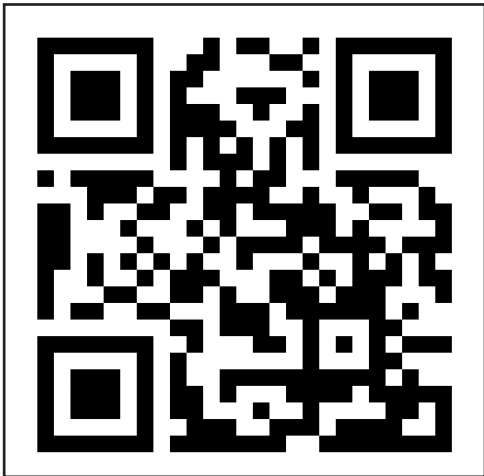
With encouragement, creativity, passion and vision, the Volante will remain students’ voice for another 140.



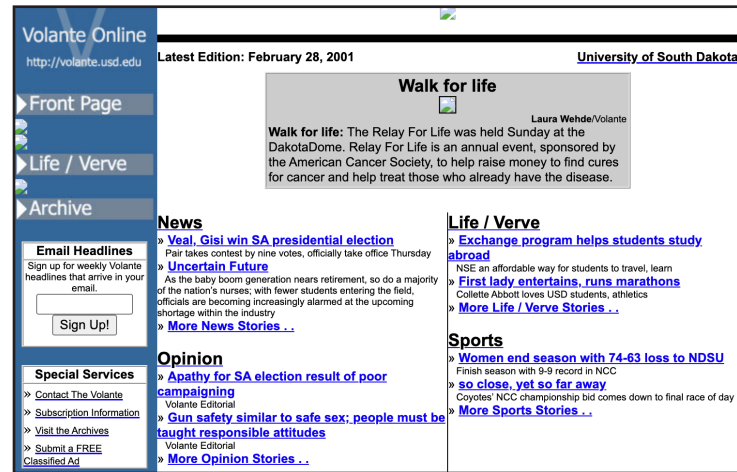
First edition of the Fall 1984, which included a guide for incoming students at USD.



Al Neuharth serving as editor, in the 1950 Coyote yearbook.



Visit our website to stay up to date on campus and community news.



Snapshot from The Volante Website in 2001, available through the Wayback Machine.

Nikte

A Column

Corriendo en el tiempo

Nadia Castillo is a Spanish and Media & Journalism double major. Her column is written in Spanish. An English translation is available on our website, volanteonline.com.

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No sé qué pasó cuando desperté; seguramente habrá alguien esperándome fuera. Fuera de aquí, ¿qué es lo que hay?

Mis recuerdos me nublan la mente. Recuerdo ser feliz y recuerdo mi sonrisa. No recuerdo las tristezas; seguramente hubo algunas. Recuerdo el olor a tierra mojada, las nubes grises y el viento que con fuerza agitaba todo en su camino. Las ventanas rechinaban y los pinos se movían ferozmente. Los relámpagos alumbraban la oscura cocina, de la cual emanaba un aroma familiar: el olor a chocolate. El viento corría, pero yo iba más rápido, corriendo a alcanzar mi pasado, ¿o mi futuro? Siempre huyendo del tiempo, quería crecer y ahora quiero volver.

Un estruendo se escucha a lo lejos, haciendo eco entre los cerros. Corro sin detenerme; se acerca la lluvia; mis zapatos de charol levantan el polvo que pronto se convertirá en lodo. En mi casa me esperan mi madre y mis hermanas y el chocolate caliente de mis recuerdos. La mochila me pesa y las espinas me rasgan las calcetas. Una gota cae del cielo sobre mi cabeza; los cuervos que acechaban cambian de rumbo y regresan a las cuevas del cerro. Otro estruendo mueve la tierra, mi corazón late más rápido y el peso de la mochila me impulsa en la bajada. Mi casa está cerca. Por mi rostro corre el sudor que provoca la humedad del día.

Puedo ver a mi madre corriendo a recoger la ropa del tendedero. Veo a mis hermanas con sus uniformes entrando a la casa. Puedo ver la cocina: en la mesa, los platos llenos de comida; en la estufa, el chocolate. Puedo ver los perros, puedo ver la casa, puedo ver las borregas y las gallinas corriendo hacia el corral. Puedo ver a los gatos cubriéndose de la lluvia; también puedo ver a mi abuelita recogiendo la ropa.

Puedo ver todo, incluso a una niña con uniforme de color jade, calcetas blancas, zapatos de charol y mochila negra. Puedo

ver a la niña y puedo ver su sonrisa. Se nota que le encanta la lluvia; no le asustan los truenos ni los relámpagos. Está ayudando a su madre a meter la ropa, mientras les contesta desde afuera a sus hermanas. Puedo ver su tranquilidad; puedo sentir su alma en paz.

Empecé a correr despacio y me detuve en la reja, una reja blanca que no pude abrir. Dicen que si tocas metal durante una tormenta te puede caer un rayo. Me quedé parada y no toqué la reja; me di cuenta de que esa no era mi casa, ni mi madre, ni mis hermanas. Esa vida le pertenecía a ella, a esa niña. Ya no me pertenecía y ya no podía vivirla en este cuerpo.

No estaba despierta. Estaba perdida en mis recuerdos. Recuerdos que no podía dejar, recuerdos que no me dejaban avanzar. Desde chica he tenido una teoría: el presente es mi pasado y mi futuro a la vez. El tiempo no es lineal y estamos viviendo en todos los momentos de la vida. Tengo que regresar a mi vida y dejar de querer volver, sabiendo que ella está ahí disfrutando de ese momento.

Volteé una vez más a ver a la niña; la lluvia corría por mis mejillas, un poco salada. ¿La lluvia es salada? Me di cuenta de que me miraba fijamente; me sobresalté un poco al sentir su mirada llena de fuego. ¿Sabía quién era yo? ¿Sabía que quería su vida? No me veía con aprensión; me veía con esperanza y felicidad. Escuchó a su madre llamándola; la niña apretó el cesto rojo con ropa que traía y se volteó con una sonrisa.

Me quedé fuera de la reja; mi cuerpo estaba cansado y no podía caminar más. Antes de irme, contemplé la casa color menta, los pinos y el guayabo. Las gotas de la lluvia pegaban en el tejabán de lámina que estaba a un lado. Volteé la mirada camino abajo; había una luz en la cocina de esa casa anaranjada. El aroma a té de poleo llegaba hasta donde estaba. Pude visualizar a las

personas que estaban adentro: una abuelita con su falda negra y su blusa de flores, con un mandil morado y un rebozo de color carmín. Sentado estaba un abuelito con su pantalón de mezclilla, su playera blanca, su chamarra café y su gorra azul. Estaban viendo la lluvia, agradecidos por ella. Desde donde estaba podía oír la creciente; había llovido días atrás y ahora había más agua en la barranca.

No quería dejar de observar el hermoso paisaje de este recuerdo, pero mis ojos cada vez parpadeaban más lentos y se cerraban. Abrí los ojos una última vez y vi el cerro, un cerro inmenso que se postra imponente frente a todas las casas, un cerro que nunca cambia, un cerro que ve y espera, un cerro que recibe a aquellas personas que llegan de lejos. Un cerro que ve la vida de todo aquel que llega al rancho.

Cerré los ojos y, al abrirlos, me encontraba en un lugar que no conocía. Estos no son mis recuerdos, al menos no de lo que he vivido hasta ahorita. Estaba en mi casa. Sé que es mi casa por el morado que pinta las paredes. Estoy en el suelo. Hay cajas alrededor de mí y un retrato en mis manos. Es el retrato de una casa de color menta, con un arcoíris en el cielo. Se nota que acaba de llover y, a su lado, un cerro, un cerro grandioso.

Me levanté y sonreí. Colgué el retrato en la pared y empecé a sacar cosas de las cajas. Un sentimiento de emoción me invadió. Estaba justo donde tenía que estar, al igual que esa niña. Estamos en el momento ideal y, así como extraño el pasado, ella anhela el futuro que estoy viviendo. Qué afortunada soy de poder amar cada aspecto de mi vida queriendo siempre volver, quedarme o llegar a esos recuerdos. Me quedé desempacando, feliz de estar en mi casa.

Building community through support and service

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South Dakota only has two Dunkin' Donuts across the state and one of them recently opened at the University of South Dakota. Students and Vermillion community members are adjusting to this addition after the closing of Starbucks at the university.

According to Max Morris, marketing manager for Sodexo's South Dakota district and Dustin Penderson, operations manager for Sodexo, the mornings during the first week were "quite busy."

"Students and local community members have come out and shown their excitement to have Dunkin' here on campus," Morris said. As the first week has progressed, more students have been downloading the Grubhub app to order on the way to classes which Morris states "helps the team get drinks out quicker before the in-person rush in between classes."

Grubhub allows students to add their campus card on the app, thus adding another layer of convenience to their experience.

"I really cannot speak highly enough about how much simpler and quicker it makes it for students when they order through the app rather than waiting in line to order in-person," Morris said.

"Personally, I'm looking forward to the rest of the year with Dunkin'," Morris and Penderson said. They state that they are constantly improving but so far the establishment has a "great core team."

Students can order while walking out of their room and stop by Dunkin' on their way to class to get a quick breakfast.

"Some of the more caffeinated items are more popular earlier in the day with guests gravitating towards Dunkin' Zero, a zero sugar energy option packed with fruit flavor, and Cold Brew which allows plenty of room for customization with flavor shots," Morris and Penderson said.

As for breakfast options, "Chocolate Frosted with Sprinkles and a standard Glazed appear to be the fan favorites thus far," Morris and Penderson said.

Guests currently have access to Dunkin's standard item menu as well as their seasonal fall menu. The store plans to continue incorporating seasonal options into their menu with holiday drink options becoming available in November.



Student Nurses Association | Instagram

MISSION STATEMENT

The Volante covers issues relevant and interesting to USD students. Faculty, staff and community members are welcome readers, but the newspaper is written and presented for a diverse community of students from the students' point of view. The paper should provide a variety of information, entertainment and educational opportunities for the readers. The Volante encourages everyone to write letters to the editor.

The Volante wishes to be viewed by students as respectable, objective, accurate, fair and trustworthy. If you have comments, concerns or questions, please contact The Volante at 677-5494.

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Submissions must include the author's name, address, telephone number, year in school and major or job title. Letters must be exclusively for The Volante. We will not publish anonymous letters.

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THE DEADLINE FOR LETTERS IS 5 P.M. THE FRIDAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. LETTERS MUST BE TYPED AND FEWER THAN 300 WORDS.

USD runs on Dunkin'

Alyssa Batt

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South Dakota only has two Dunkin' Donuts across the state and one of them recently opened at the University of South Dakota. Students and Vermillion community members are adjusting to this addition after the closing of Starbucks at the university.

According to Max Morris, marketing manager for Sodexo's South Dakota district and Dustin Penderson, operations manager for Sodexo, the mornings during the first week were "quite busy."

"Students and local community members have come out and shown their excitement to have Dunkin' here on campus," Morris said. As the first week has progressed, more students have been downloading the Grubhub app to order on the way to classes which Morris states "helps the team get drinks out quicker before the in-person rush in between classes."

Grubhub allows students to add their campus card on the app, thus adding another layer of convenience to their experience.

"I really cannot speak highly enough about how much simpler and quicker it makes it for students when they order through the app rather than

waiting in line to order in-person," Morris said.

"Personally, I'm looking forward to the rest of the year with Dunkin'," Morris and Penderson said. They state that they are constantly improving but so far the establishment has a "great core team."

Students can order while walking out of their room and stop by Dunkin' on their way to class to get a quick breakfast.

"Some of the more caffeinated items are more popular earlier in the day with guests gravitating towards Dunkin' Zero, a zero sugar energy option packed with fruit flavor, and Cold Brew which allows plenty of room for customization with flavor shots," Morris and Penderson said.

As for breakfast options, "Chocolate Frosted with Sprinkles and a standard Glazed appear to be the fan favorites thus far," Morris and Penderson said.

Guests currently have access to Dunkin's standard item menu as well as their seasonal fall menu. The store plans to continue incorporating seasonal options into their menu with holiday drink options becoming available in November.



Dunkin' barista ringing up a student's drink into Grubhub.



Alyssa Batt | The Volante



The new Dunkin' Donuts location at the Muenster University Center.

Modrzewski shines in college debut

Brady Cartledge

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Most redshirt freshman athletes take their time properly adjusting into the size and speed of the college game. For the Coyotes, Austyn Modrzewski seems to be up to speed almost instantly.

Modrzewski turned many heads in his college debut at the University of South Dakota in the Dakota Dome against Central Connecticut State.

After going three and out on his opening drive, the redshirt freshman turned it around and lead the Coyotes to six straight TD scoring drives. Finishing the game with 304 yards and six passing touchdowns, scoring a 306.7 passer rating.

He did this while also having two carries for 81 yards and a rushing touchdown. The Coyotes won in blowout fashion 59-20.

Because of his performance, the quarterback won the Stats Perform National Freshman of the Week award, as well as earning the Missouri Valley Football Conference Offensive and Newcomer of the Week honors. He tied the school record for most touchdown passes in a single game. Modrzewski also broke the record for the most passing yards in a debut game.

This was also Head Coach Matt Vitzthum's USD debut, having taken over

the program on February 6. Vitzthum became the first coach since 2003 to win their first game.

The explosive start gives hope to the Coyotes, coming off a 10-5 season that ended in a 52-22 loss against the Montana Grizzlies in the quarterfinals of the 2025-2026 FCS Playoffs. The Coyotes are coming off their third straight season of winning 10+ games, the first time they have accomplished this feat in program history.

The Coyotes look to continue their success into their next game, traveling to play the Northern Colorado Bears on September 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Colton Tolly | The Volante



Modrzewski starts his throw while on the run.

USD football and volleyball schedule

2026 . September	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1	2	3  Home 7 p.m. VB	4  Home 7 p.m. VB	5   Home 2 p.m. VB 7 p.m. FB	6
	7	8	9	10  Away 8 p.m. VB	11  Away 7 p.m. VB	12   Away 1 p.m. VB 1 p.m. FB	13
	14	15	16	17	18  Away 7 p.m. VB	19   Away 12 p.m. VB 9 p.m. FB	20
	21	22	23	24	25  Home 7 p.m. VB	26  Away 1 p.m. FB	27
	28	29	30				

2026 . October

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1  7 p.m. VB	2	3  1 p.m. VB 2 p.m. FB	4
5	6	7	8  7 p.m. VB	9	10  1 p.m. FB 5 p.m. VB	11
12	13	14	15  6:30 p.m. VB	16	17  11 a.m. VB 4 p.m. FB	18
19	20	21	22	23  7 p.m. VB	24  1 p.m. FB	25
26	27	28	29  7 p.m. VB	30	31  TBA FB 1 p.m. VB	

2026 . November

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5  7 p.m. VB	6	7  7 p.m. VB	8
9	10	11	12  7 p.m. VB	13	14  1 p.m. FB 5 p.m. VB	15
16	17	18	19	20	21  12 p.m. FB	22  TBA VB
23  TBA VB	24  TBA VB	25	26	27	28	29
30	NOTE: FCS Football Playoffs Start December 5th					