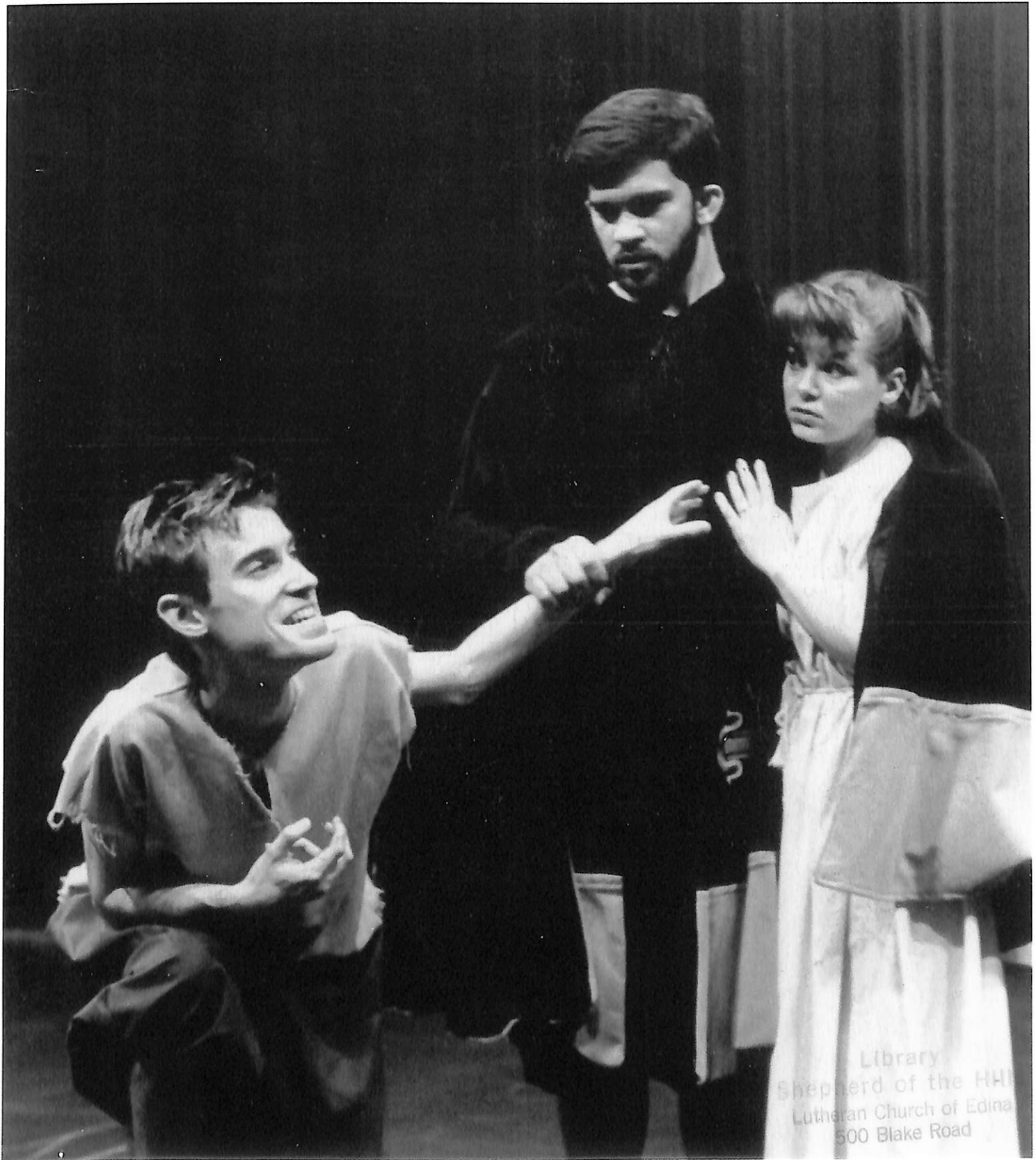


# Dana Review

Spring 1995

Volume 51

Number 3





# What's Happening at Dana:

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Christine Rasmussen

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TREKers" to campus

### On the cover—

This semester the Theater  
Department staged two  
productions:  
In February, Neil Simon's  
*The Gingerbread Lady*,  
directed by Prof. Sieg  
Krueger, and in April,  
Shakespeare's *The Tempest*,  
directed by Dr. Paul  
Schneider. In rehearsal for  
*The Tempest* are (from left)  
Chad Foust '96 (Caliban), Jim  
Plasek '95 (Prospero), and  
Dana Holz '95 (Miranda).

*Photo by Jennifer Johnson '96*

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### Non-discrimination policy

Dana College admits students without regard to sex, age, race, color, religion or national origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at the College. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age, handicap or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, or other school-administered programs.

# Commencement Weekend will spotlight graduates, benefactor, and two alumni

Commencement Weekend is set for Saturday, May 20, and Sunday, May 21, and again the schedule for the two days includes several traditional activities.

On Sunday the Baccalaureate service will be held at 10 a.m. in Borup Coliseum. The 1 p.m. Commencement, also in Borup, will be preceded by a colorful academic procession across the campus. Commencement will be followed by a reception in the E.C. Hunt Campus Center.

At noon the day before, the annual Builders Luncheon—for alumni and friends who have included Dana in their estate plans—will take place in the Campus Center. This year the luncheon will especially pay tribute to the memory of Dana benefactor Christine Rasmussen.

At 6:30 p.m. Saturday all graduating seniors will be honored at the annual Recognition Dinner in the Campus Center. Several seniors will also receive Campus Service Awards, with their identities revealed at the dinner.

At the dinner two graduates will also be named Distinguished Alumni. This year's honorees are Ray Johnsen '49 and Alvin Rueter '42. Johnsen was an executive assistant for 22 years to Dana friend and classmate Paul Simon '49, now a member of the U.S. Senate. Rueter '42 is a pastor, teacher, and creator and host of the nationally syndicated radio program, "Sing for Joy."

**Ray Johnsen.** Johnsen received his B.A. from Dana with majors in business and education and an M.A. from Washington University, St. Louis. After

graduating from Dana he taught for two years at Blair High School. From 1951-1971 he served as editor of the Simon-owned *Troy* (Illinois) *Tribune*. In 1960-61 he took a year's



Ray Johnsen

leave to teach high school in England at Stratford-upon-Avon. In 1969-70 he was a delegate to the Illinois Constitutional Convention in Springfield.

Johnsen became executive assistant to Simon in 1972 when Simon was lieutenant governor of Illinois, and he continued as Simon's executive assistant in Washington, D.C., when Simon was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and later to the Senate. In Washington Johnsen's legislative portfolio included postal issues and cases involving veterans and their problems with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Defense Department.

He has been described as an individual who "demonstrates the best qualities in public service: ability, integrity, perseverance, compassion and loyalty.... He is a people person who has touched the lives of thousands of people...."

Johnsen retired in June 1994, and he and his wife, Nancy, now live in Raleigh, North Carolina. Their children are Sue Flynn '78, Jim, and Stephen, who is deceased.

Although Simon won't be able to attend the dinner to present Johnsen's award, he will give a

testimonial at the dinner by means of a videotape.

**Alvin Rueter.** Rueter received his B.A. from Dana with a major in English. He also has an M.Div. from Evangelical (now Trinity) Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, and an M.A. and a Ph.D., both in speech communication, from the University of Minnesota.

Early in his career Rueter served as pastor to two California congregations, in Monterey Park and Inglewood. In 1955 he became pastor at a Lutheran mission congregation in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he found a culture he describes as "suspicious of a liturgical church."

To try to overcome this cultural bias, Rueter began a weekly church music broadcast, "hoping to establish common ground by the medium of traditional, vocal music."



Alvin Rueter

In 1960 Rueter left Oklahoma to serve congregations first in Lincoln, Nebraska, and then in St. Paul, Minnesota, but he also continued as host for the weekly half-hour broadcast that soon became known as "Sing for Joy." The program featured vocal music of the church related to the Lessons for the Day, with Rueter giving brief commentaries between selections on the relationship of the music to the readings.

(continued on next page)

# Hugh Hunt elected to Board of Regents; received 1988 college-community award

Hugh Hunt, chairman and president of HunTel Systems, Blair, has been named to the Dana Board of Regents. His election was announced by Board of Regents Chairman Don Jorgensen '60 at the February meeting on the Dana campus.

In 1988 Hunt was given Dana's College-Community Service Award, our highest non-academic honor.

In making the presentation at Commencement that year, President

Christopherson said that much of Hunt's energy and enthusiasm had been devoted to promoting and supporting community activities from behind the scenes. "He has been, and continues to be, one of the first to respond whenever help is needed," Christopherson said.



Hugh Hunt

Those activities have included serving as a national co-chairman for Dana's successful ADD campaign.

Hunt, a graduate of the University of Missouri, Columbia, is also past president of the University of Nebraska Touchdown Club, a former director and troop leader of Boy Scouts of America, a past council member of the Nebraska Air Pollution Control, and a district ambassador for Washington County to Ak-Sar-Ben.

He has also been active in professional organizations. He currently serves on the board of directors of the U.S. Telephone Association and is secretary / treasurer of the National Rural

Telephone Association. He is also an advisory board member of the Midwest Forum of Entrepreneurs, in alliance with the University of Nebraska at Omaha; a member of the Bureau of Business Research Council for Excellence, organized in alliance with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and a member of Firstier Omaha Board of Directors, Firstier Financial Inc.

In 1994 Hunt received *Inc. Magazine's* "Entrepreneur of the Year" Master Award; in 1992 and 1993 he was a regional finalist for that award. In 1990 the SBA recognized him as its "Nebraska Small Business Person of the Year," in 1992 he was runner-up for the Nebraska Leukemia Society's "Man of the Year" Award, and in 1993 *Nebraska Nachrichten* gave him its "Nebraska Ambassador" Award.

He is the brother of Dana Regent Emeritus Richard Hunt. ○

## Johnsen, Rueter join Distinguished roster

(continued from previous page)

In 1970 "Sing for Joy" was syndicated nationally; today it is broadcast on 276 stations in 41 states and seven other countries. From the beginning, Rueter's late wife, Beulah (Nielsen '44), worked closely with her husband on many aspects of the programming.

Rueter's career has also included teaching. From 1966-84, while serving a St. Paul congregation, he was an adjunct professor of homiletics (the art of writing and preaching sermons) at Luther Northwestern Seminary. Since 1979 he has conducted preaching workshops for pastors

in many locations, including Dana, with the goal "of making good preaching better." In 1985 he became an assistant professor of homiletics and communication at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, teaching half-time in the graduate school of theology and half-time in the college. Since his retirement from St. John's in 1991 he has taught homiletics in the Permanent Deacon Formation Program of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Rueter has written four books, is writing another, and has

published many articles and sermons. He has also prepared audio and video cassettes on preaching.

Two Rueter daughters are Dana graduates: Judith Brehm '67 and Christine Gilmore '71. Their other children are Theodore, John, and Pauline, who is deceased.

Dr. Arnold Nielsen '42 of Urbandale, Iowa, a Dana classmate and friend, will present Rueter's award.

Recognition Dinner tickets are \$8.50 per person. Reservations can be made through the Alumni Office (402-426-7235). ○



### *Interim '95: Students "Meet Argentina"*

*Spanish professor Diana Brown took five students to Argentina, her native land, for the January Interim. Their Argentinean experiences included visiting a large ranch, "Estancia Santa Susana," where they were served a typical "Gaucho" meal; speaking Spanish constantly as they met each day with young Argentineans for meals, plays, music, discussions, and games; meeting Argentinean writer Olga Bressano de Alonso; and visiting the home of Professor Brown's mother. They also spent four days in the south of Argentina and took a one-day hike through the Arrayanes Woods. At Lake Victoria are (from left): Kelly Mundhenke '98 (Aberdeen, South Dakota), Dawn Coburn '95 (Ripon, Wisconsin), Michelle France '98 (Omaha), Erik Jensen '96 (Blair), and James Pestel '95 (Plattsmouth, Nebraska). Photo by Diana Brown*

## **Christine Rasmussen: A tribute**

*The annual Builders Luncheon on May 20 will pay special tribute to Dana benefactor Christine Rasmussen of Alhambra, California, who died last July 14. In this article John Beck, former director of planned giving, affectionately recalls Mrs. Rasmussen and her relationship to Dana. "Christine was always concerned about Dana's Endowment Fund," he says. "I know that she would be pleased that her bequest has become a part of the endowment and will provide permanent scholarship assistance for young men and women." Beck graduated from Dana in 1950 and from Trinity Seminary in 1955. He is a retired Navy chaplain who has also served Dana as its alumni director and director of development.*

**W**e affectionately called her "Mrs. Anonymous."

She was a highly intelligent, strong, wonderfully understanding, sensitive, deeply Christian woman, who with her late husband, could have written books about stewardship. They both had a deep love for their Lord and His church and a special concern for Dana College.

But she remained "Mrs. Anonymous" until her death last year.

I sometimes thought that she focused too much on Matthew 6:3—which suggests that alms be given in secret, and once presented Matthew 5:14-16 as an alternative view. We don't put a lamp under a bushel! "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your

Father who is in heaven."

But that was not the way of Christine Rasmussen, Dana's benefactor for five decades, and except for a few rare instances, she and her husband insisted on anonymity as long as they lived.

Natives of northeastern Nebraska, John Rasmussen and his wife, Christine, were there when Dana needed them.

Their names grace Rasmussen Hall, but it is, perhaps, the only place on campus where their names can be found.

But they are graven on the hearts of their family and friends and those of us on Dana's staff who knew Christine or Johnny and understand what their generous and loving support has meant to Dana over the years.

John Rasmussen, farmer,



*Christine and John Rasmussen*

businessman, and real estate investor, lived in Nebraska and California and died in 1962. Christine was to live for another 32 years.

Very close friends of Dr. Clifford and Esther Madsen, and strong supporters of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Rasmussens were among the first to help as Madsen, just elected Dana's President, worked to strengthen the college as the time for the 1960 merger of the UELC

*(continued on page 7)*

*President Christopherson* was elected president of the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA) at the conference's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on February 6. LECNA is an 85-year old organization of all Lutheran colleges (approximately 50) in the U.S. and Canada. Together they serve over 75,000 students.

This year's *Presidential Scholarship Competition* on Saturday, February 11, and a make-up day on Wednesday, February 15, brought a record number of 143 outstanding high school seniors to the campus, together with many of their parents. In the competition for top scholarships ranging from \$1,000 per year to full tuition, the students were interviewed by teams of faculty, staff, alumni, and Dana students; they also wrote essays on a given topic.

In addition, some of them auditioned for Melchior voice scholarships and for instrumental, vocal music, forensics, and theater grants, while others seeking grants in art brought along their portfolios. Those who were athletes had an opportunity to meet with members of the college's coaching staff. Said Admissions Director John Schueth in thanking the many members of the Dana community who had been involved with the competition in a variety of ways: "We truly had a campus-wide program that made a huge impression on our scholar guests and their parents. I hope that our entering class this fall will be shaped in a very positive way by the relationships we began to build and strengthen on Saturday and Wednesday...."

Members of the *Board of Regents* at their February 17 meeting approved sabbatical leave for *Sharon (Messer '65) Jensen*, assistant library director, for this summer. The Regents also

approved tenure for *Dr. John Lyden*, assistant professor of religion; the academic rank of professor of music for *Dr. Paul Formo*, vice president for academic affairs; and emeritus professorships for *Prof. Darrell Dibben*, associate professor of communication, and *Prof. Arvin Hernes*, associate professor of physics, upon their retirement. They also granted Regent Emeriti status to *Regents Elwin Farwell, Robert Mandsager, and Donald Swanson*.

On February 9 Illinois poet *Steve Fay* visited the campus. Fay's poems have appeared in a variety of literary journals, including *The Beloit Poetry Journal, Poet and Critic, TriQuarterly*, and *Ascent*. In 1994 he received an award for literary excellence from the Illinois Arts Council for his narrative poem, "The Milkweed Parables." Fay spoke in the afternoon on "Cows, Eden, and The Moon: Figures of Landscape in Poems and in Our Perceptions." That evening he read selections of his work, including "The Milkweed Parables." Earlier in the day he met with several creative writing students and also held a poetry workshop with the combined creative writing classes of English professors John Mark Nielsen '73 and Sam Dodson.

Then on March 9 National Book Award (1994) finalist *Richard Dooling* read from his critically acclaimed novel *White Man's Grave*. Dooling grew up in and lives in Omaha.

Both appearances were sponsored by the English Department and The Forum. Funding for these events was provided by the Student Senate's Special Events Fund.

*Alvin Finderson*, multicultural education consultant at Dana last year, has returned to the U.S. after an extended stay in Europe and Africa. In a campus visit on February 28 he gave a presentation on "Afrocentrism and Multicultural Education," the same presentation he gave at a conference on "African Americans and the Great Plains" the preceding weekend.

On February 6 *Dr. Richard Palmer*, professor of music and director of the Dana Chorale, was guest conductor for the Twenty-First Annual

Southwest Iowa Honor Choir at Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs. The repertoire included Palmer's arrangement of "Beautiful Savior."

On March 8-11 Palmer attended the national convention of the American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) in Washington, D.C. He represented Nebraska as president of the Nebraska Choral Directors' Association. Palmer was recognized at the convention for his authorship of the recently approved position statement on Quality Choral Literature for the North Central Division of ACDA.

*Twenty-eight Dana volunteers* at the Washington County Recycling Center on Saturday, March 4, helped the Center celebrate its three millionth pound of recyclable materials—the total recycled in the Center's five years of operation. *Mark Anderson*, Dana's recycling coordinator, reports that since beginning paper recycling last November, Dana has contributed 1,693.5 pounds of paper and 595.5 pounds of aluminum. Anderson is director of financial aid.

A complimentary article about Dana's *Social Work* program appeared in the November-December 1994 issue of the Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers newsletter. The article briefly describes students' experiences in the program and the efforts of Social Work faculty members *Jan and Richard Potter and Lou Ann Stednitz and the Dana faculty* to encourage students to combine social activism with their own personal and professional growth.

*Kigeli V*, king of Rwanda whom the Belgians expelled from his country in 1961, spoke at Dana on March 9. The king, who lives in Washington, D.C., has vowed to help his nation rebuild. He has toured cities throughout North America, meeting with leaders in the religious, business, and entertainment communities to mobilize support for his wartorn country. His 1995 "Tour for Peace" started in Omaha and will include Los Angeles, London, and possibly Paris and Brussels, where many Rwandan exiles live. ○

## College hosts art competition

This winter the Nebraska Scholastic Art Competition, an event Dr. Milt Heinrich, professor of art, calls "the art equivalent of the state high school basketball tournament," was held at Dana.

Preparations started in January when Dana's Art Department received more than 3,000 pieces of art by junior and senior high school students from across the state.

On January 23 and 24 judges awarded gold keys, silver keys, and honorable mention certificates. The works they picked to receive these awards, in addition to other selected pieces (about 350 in all), were displayed from February 13-24 in the Madsen Fine Arts Center and the Dana Classroom Center.

On February 18 students with award-winning pieces, their parents, and art teachers (some of them Dana graduates) attended an award ceremony in the Lauritzen Theater. Heinrich estimates that about 700 attended the ceremony.

The gold key art works qualified for the national competition at Scholastic Inc. headquarters in New York City.

Helping Heinrich and fine arts secretary Kim Capel with the various aspects of the competition—unpacking, cataloging, putting up the exhibit and taking it down, and then repacking—were art administrators from Omaha Public Schools, about 20 art teachers from area schools, and Dana students.

Heinrich reports that the judges, teachers, students, and parents were pleased with Dana's handling of the event, and that it will be held at Dana again next year.

## Rasmussen gifts spanned more than 35 years

*(continued from page 5)*

into the ALC approached.

The Rasmussens responded to the need with the gift of a farm near Plainview which was a significant part of the funds that built and furnished Mickelsen Hall.

Then in 1962, shortly before John's death, the gift of a second farm was made. After Johnny had passed away, Dr. Madsen wrote to Christine: "We will always remember his warm friendship, his Christian dedication and his generous stewardship."

In 1965, when Christine donated a third farm of 400 acres located on the Platte River near Omaha, Dr. Madsen urged that Dana be permitted to name the new dormitory to be built, "Rasmussen Hall." Christine replied, "I have no objection to making a tribute to Johnny now that he is gone...."

But then Christine again placed her lamp under a bushel and became "Mrs. Anonymous."

But her kindnesses continued. In 1973 Dr. Madsen wrote to her: "I've said it many times—but I can't repeat it too often—the warm Christian fellowship and the loyal support you and John have given to Esther and me and to our mission at Dana rank 'tops' in the very gratifying years we have served here."

Through the 1970s, '80s and '90s her generous major gifts were especially welcome and were key in building the Madsen Performing Arts Center, dedicated in 1984, and the Dana Classroom Center / Trinity Chapel building which replaced Old Main after the fire.

And although she shared her

estate plans, in which Dana had the major share, with us, she remained "Mrs. Anonymous" on the Dana College Builders Plaque in the Presidents Room.

To visit her was always a joy and a blessing. She was hungry for news of old friends from the college and from the old church, especially her dear friend Esther Madsen, and for the latest news from Dana. And she wanted to know what our needs were.

When Dr. Myrvin Christopherson became Dana's President she accurately sensed a new day dawning for Dana as she had when her friends the Madsens became Dana's first family. It was always special for Christine when Myrv and Anne Christopherson came to visit as it had been when Cliff and Esther Madsen stopped by.

After one of these visits Dr. Christopherson wrote to her: "I know that you are not one to seek praise or recognition, Christine, but I do want you to know that you have been one of the keys to the growth and development of Dana College. We give thanks to you and your late husband, John, for remembering Dana."

So I think that it is time to let Christine's lamp come out from under the bushel and shine before men that they may see her good works and give glory to our Father who is in heaven.

We have seen that light shine at Dana and we are thankful for Christine and Johnny Rasmussen and for all of the other good stewards who make it possible for Dana College to be a part of the church in mission in Christian higher education. ○

# Dana religion professor answers question, "Why I teach"

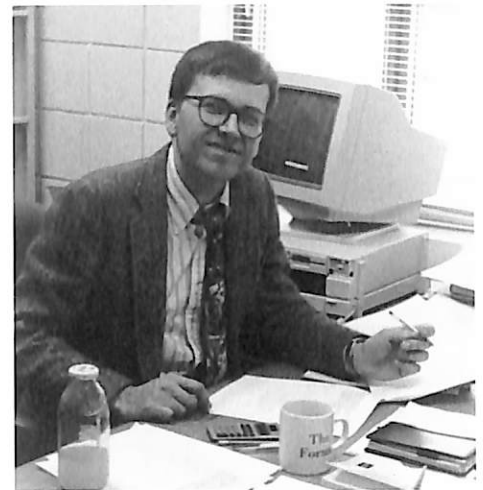
*Dr. John Lyden, assistant professor of religion, is the second contributor to our new series, "Why I Teach." Lyden joined the Dana faculty at the start of the 1991-92 academic year, having previously taught at Albion College. He received his B.A. in philosophy from Wesleyan University, his M.A. in theology from Yale University, and his Ph.D. in theology from the University of Chicago. Articles by Lyden have appeared in such publications as The Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy and Dialogue and Alliance. Last fall Greenhaven Press published his first book, Enduring Issues in Religion.*

**M**y first reaction to this question is to state that I teach because I cannot imagine a more rewarding profession. This is an odd thing to say in our manifestly anti-intellectual society, which seems to give little reward to those who rigorously pursue critical thinking and desire to share it with others. But teaching is "rewarding" to me in a number of ways which transcend the fact that it is underappreciated in our culture.

First of all, I teach because I love my subject matter. When I discovered philosophy and religious studies as an undergraduate, I found that I could not stop thinking about the questions these disciplines raised for me. I acquired a hunger for knowledge which was insatiable, as I devoured one theology after another and "digested" them, seeking some kind of integrated belief system that made sense to me. Saint Augustine defined theology as "faith seeking understanding"—but I was often in the position of seeking both faith and understanding as I studied throughout my undergraduate and graduate education. I am still not quite sure what I found, except that I can say that studying religion allows me to reflect on my own beliefs and the

quest for ultimate meaning on a daily basis. Although I still don't know the answers, asking the questions and trying to answer them provides my life with a meaning and purpose that I do not think I would find in another profession.

Secondly, I teach because I love to share the quest for truth and meaning with others. If I was simply an isolated scholar, reading and thinking by myself, I would not be challenged in the same way to articulate and express ideas. Karl Barth stopped writing theology almost as soon as he gave up teaching, perhaps because he no longer had the interaction with students which stimulated his thoughts. I also know that when I interact with students and attempt to explain complex ideas, I often find my own views changing as I learn from that interchange. Rabbi Hanina once said: "From my masters I have learned much, and from my colleagues I learned more than from my masters; but I learned the most from my students." To me this indicates the fact that truth is found only in dialogue, as we share ideas with one another and are challenged to think differently because of that. Real dialogue in this sense is much more than the superficial sharing of diverse "opinions" which fills



*Photo by Jennifer Johnson '96* John Lyden

up talk-shows; it is a willingness to listen, to be open, to be transformed and sometimes even "converted" to the view of the other. Without this willingness to hear the other we become "talking heads" living in our own realities, ineffective and unaffected by the human community.

Thirdly, and perhaps most crucially, I teach because I believe that I might inspire in some others the same passion for truth and meaning that drives me. I certainly do not expect or intend all of my students to become theologians (God forbid!)—but I hope that they take away from my classes a more reflective and critical attitude towards their lives, so that they are willing to question their beliefs and values and evolve in that process. If they begin to wonder why they are on this earth and what they should be doing with their time here, then I have awakened some consideration of the questions of ultimate meaning in their lives. And it is because I believe this actually can and does happen that I continue to find teaching the most rewarding profession there is. ○

# Biology major researches water quality, receives award for superior service

A study of water quality by environmental studies and biology major Jennifer Kasuboski at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge last summer has had results beyond her research findings.

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is located within the Missouri River floodplain in Harrison and Pottawattamie Counties in Iowa, and in Washington County, Nebraska. The senior from Ripon, Wisconsin, studied the effects of chemical contamination from agricultural runoff on biota at the refuge.

Kasuboski explained that chemical contamination from agriculture is suspected to be a causal agent for algae growth, which potentially threatens DeSoto Lake's sport fishery. The algae make possible important chemical changes and metabolic activities in the water through their release of oxygen. This provides oxygen for respiration by fish and other organisms. Oxygen renewal depends upon the number and kinds of algae which grow in surface waters under certain environmental conditions. Pesticides may dramatically affect the type and density of algae, which subsequently may lead to adverse effects on biota.

Her research detected Atrazine, Bladex, Dual, and Lasso in waters which collect runoff from croplands adjacent to refuge borders. While chemical concentrations were elevated, algal populations were low. "The study

indicated possible negative impacts of pesticides on algal populations, creating potential acute and chronic effects throughout the food web," Kasuboski said. "Repeated runoff of some compounds has increased and will continue to increase to levels exceeding detection limits."

Her work has earned her a prestigious Special Achievement Award from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, commending her for superior service on the water quality research project. In April she'll present the findings of her research at the Nebraska Academy of Sciences in Lincoln.

Kasuboski's research wasn't her first association with DeSoto

National Wildlife Refuge. She had done an internship at the refuge, during which she became familiar with management practices, conducted wildlife surveys, and assisted in the area of public use. Presently, she's working on a special project to meet OSHA

(Occupational Safety & Health

Administration), DOT (Department of Transportation), and EPA compliance standards for chemicals on the refuge. In addition, this semester she plans to begin testing the effects of two new Monsanto herbicides on algae growth.

After that, her plans are indefinite. She's certain about one thing, however—she wants to continue working in water quality, possibly through AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps. "The quality of water is a serious concern everywhere," she said. "I'm certain that I can make a contribution in the pursuit for environmental progress." ○



Photo by Jennifer Johnson '96

Jennifer Kasuboski

# Goals of Multicultural Vision Team

Sara Hildreth '97, a social work major from Red Oak, Iowa, is a member of Dana's Multicultural Vision Team. In this article she reports on vision team activities through the end of February. Hildreth is also a member of Campus Ministry, serving as its retreat chairperson; the Dana College Chorale; and the Social Awareness Organization, serving as its vice president.

A few months ago, I asked editor Ann George if I could have some space in the next *Dana Review* to write about the activities of the Multicultural Vision Team. Little did I know that I would be given two pages to fill!!! This turned out to be much easier than I expected after all the exciting things that have happened. Last September, students and faculty were invited to participate in a forum about multiculturalism on the Dana campus.

Such forums were nothing new to the Dana community, as they are on the schedule almost every year. They are often frustrating to people because no real changes seem to come about. That's where this forum differed from the rest. Professor Jan Potter, head of the Social Work Department, was asked by President Christopherson and Dean Paul Formo to form a task force to develop a "common vision" concerning multiculturalism at Dana. Thus, the Multicultural Vision Team was born out of those in attendance at the first forum, and many others joined the effort along the way. This has been a time-consuming effort of the dedicated vision team members.

Our first task was to figure out where we wanted to go with the challenges set before us. We knew this vision had to be "owned" by the whole community before any real change could be made. We discussed many ways of gathering information and finally decided to interview already-formed groups on campus to get

their opinions regarding cultural diversity.

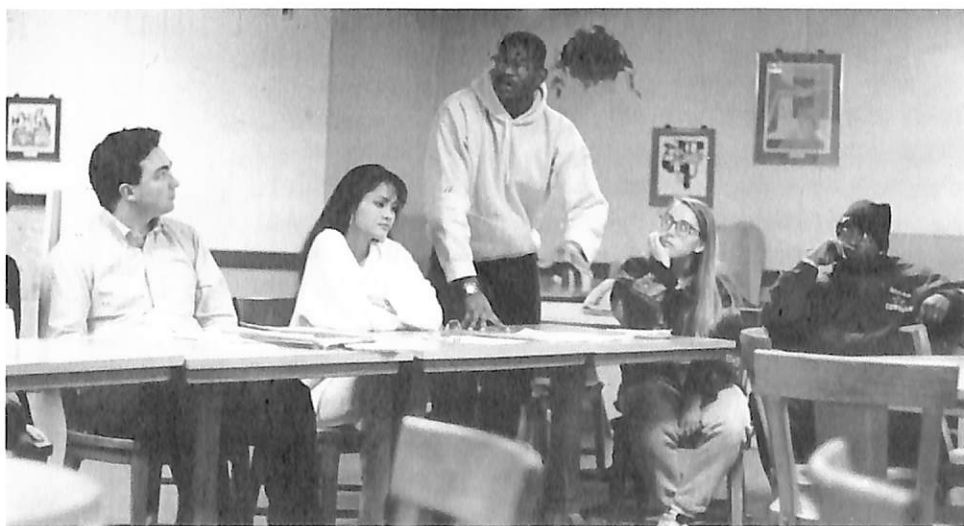
Fifteen focus groups were chosen in an attempt to get the opinions of various members of the Dana community (students, faculty, staff). Outside facilitators from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, University of Nebraska Medical Center, and the Dana Social Work Advisory Board met with the individual groups in an attempt to get honest opinions and answers to the questions. The vision team finally narrowed the questions down to four: What is the climate at Dana like right now? What would you like the climate to be? What do you think we could do to improve the climate at Dana? How will you support the effort?

The focus group leaders all made similar observations and suggestions. "The campus is

seriously fragmented."

"Leadership is badly needed in the multicultural arena." "There is a tremendous need to build a sense of community at Dana. We seem to lack a sense of any kind of community, let alone a multicultural community. Some said it seems to be non-existent." There were comments of a positive nature as well: "There is a strong but unfocused positive energy toward Dana and the idea of pulling people together." "People seem to really wish for some action to occur, but don't know how to proceed." Have no fear, the vision team has not given up after these findings—we are now in action, working to lead the way!

During the January Interim, the team held a "Multicultural Film Festival" which featured movies such as *Thunderheart* and *Mariachi*. Dr. John Mark Nielsen of the English Department organized the film series. A small crowd gathered in the Dragon's Head to view the films and discuss them.



Members of the Multicultural Vision Team at the February 15 "Reporting Back to You" session included (from left) Dan Bane '91, director of international student affairs at Dana; Meliza Richter '98, Mondamin, Iowa; Gary Charles '97, Houston, Texas; Sara Hildreth '97, Red Oak, Iowa; and Thomas Kearney '97, Bryan, Texas. Photo by Jennifer Johnson '96

# *include inclusivity, respect for all*

The vision team has been working with the Food Service to provide food choices from diverse traditions. Chefs have come in and prepared meals to celebrate the Chinese New Year in January and a Mardi Gras celebration in February. Don Fanoñ Chaney-Thomas, multicultural adviser, and Scott Sullivan, director of the Food Service, have collaborated to plan bi-monthly events.

On February 14 and 15, the vision team hosted a "Reporting Back to You" session open to all interested members of the Dana community. A student panel, along with professors Jan Potter and Dr. John Mark Nielsen, described the process and suggestions and goals compiled from the focus group summaries. President Christopherson provided cake and ice cream as an incentive to attend and to show his support for the Multicultural Vision Team's efforts.

These evenings were designed primarily to report the findings and goals that the team had come up with and ask for suggestions. However, we found that students were wanting more discussion of the *real* problems, not just a list of goals that looked good on paper. Many expressed skepticism of the effort, that "this has been talked about before, but nothing has changed." They also doubted the administration's commitment and alumni support for changing the atmosphere of the campus.

The next step was an evening of "sharing our stories." A campus-wide invitation was made for any persons to come and share their cultural backgrounds and past experiences to help begin to understand how different our

journeys to Dana have been. This discussion on February 23 was very informal and provided a non-threatening atmosphere for people to chat. It was suggested that we continue this discussion and possibly make it a regular part of campus life. The next storytelling evening has been planned for March 16.

Getting to this point has been no easy task, and the road ahead looks much rougher, but the vision team will not give up until Dana has become a place where all members of the community feel comfortable and respected, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, status or background. That's quite a tall order, you may be thinking, and very idealistic, but team members think this is a real possibility in the future. We all know Dana is a special place, unique in size and tradition. This is a strength we can build on and use to our advantage. Many universities and colleges are avoiding true multiculturalism; they are managing to get by the law through doing the paperwork required. The Multicultural Vision

Team is seeking to make Dana different than most, to change the overall attitude to one of inclusivity and appreciation. There is more to diversity than "lip-service"; it must go deeper than our words. We are at a turning point in our history; either we move forward and make this a community committed to appreciation of diversity or we ignore the needs of many members of the present community and deprive ourselves of the richness that comes in a multicultural population.

The intent of this article has been to inform Dana's supporters and alumni of the exciting push from all areas of the present community to help all members feel that Dana really is "The Place to Be." In order to do this we must proudly embrace our heritage and move boldly towards a new tradition that reflects the present population's diversity. We have been given the task of finding a "common vision." Will you join those of us idealistic individuals who believe this can be done? ○



*Photo by Kayleen Wilson '98*

## ***Winterfest royalty named***

*Crowned Winterfest king and queen on February 11 were Jason Tiedtke '95 of Clarkson, Nebraska, and Aune Shilongo '96 of Windhoek, Namibia. Members of their court were Neal Anthony '95, Lincoln, Nebraska; Amy Beebout '96, Valentine, Nebraska; Gina Jacobs '96, Omaha; Brent Johnson '95, Denison, Iowa; Gretchen Last '95, Sioux City, Iowa; Josephat Mwatotele '95, Windhoek, Namibia; Ann Neumeister '95, Emerson, Iowa; and Jim Plasek '95, David City, Nebraska.*

# Student describes adjustment to college

Jennifer Zahnow, a first-year student from Las Vegas, Nevada, gave this chapel talk on February 28. She is majoring in elementary education and minoring in religion. A member of Christ Lutheran Church in Las Vegas, she learned about Dana from Joan (Petersen '56 '69) and Bob '56 Krogh of Blair when they visited their son Paul '91, who was youth director at Christ Lutheran.

When I came to Dana, instead of being happy and excited as I had hoped, I found myself feeling lonely and depressed. I tried to put on a happy face, but it was impossible. My first impulse was to go home, but I did not want to deal with the unresolved family problems that awaited me there and I also wanted to pursue my education.

I wondered if I had made the right decision in choosing Dana, a school 2,000 miles away from my home. I didn't know anyone here and life in the Midwest was unfamiliar to me. Everyone seemed friendly and caring, and I received many warm welcomes, but the friendliness got to be suffocating. For someone from a city where people don't acknowledge you at all, it got to be a bit much at times. This new journey was not going the way I thought it might.

There were so many times that I was ready to "give up" and go home, but something stopped me short of doing that. Despite that pain, the independence felt right to me. For the first time in my life I had control and the chance to make my own decisions without worrying how it was going to affect my family. I did a lot of praying and writing in my journal, but the depression still weighed heavily upon me. Prayer was not enough. So I talked with Pastor Mike Ostrom, Joel Morgan (who had been my admissions counselor), and Campus Counselor Diane Nickeson-Ray about how I was feeling about being so far away from home, but that did not seem to help as much as I wanted it to either. This passage

was something that was going to take time to work through.

But in the meantime, I did not want to be merely a victim to loneliness and depression all the time, so I decided to assert myself and become involved in the Dana "community" that I had heard so much about. The first group I joined was Campus Ministry. Before coming to Dana, I had enjoyed helping out in my home congregation and I wanted to continue growing in my spiritual life here. So I volunteered to be the sacristan and a worship reader and I joined the Bible study and the Christian Life class. The second organization I joined was the staff of the *Danian*. In high school I had enjoyed working for the yearbook and I felt that joining the *Danian*

staff would be another way I could share my gifts here. Becoming involved in these organizations and keeping an open mind about my professors and the people I encountered daily led me to continue to grow despite my depressed feelings. Through daily encounters with friends, professors, staff, and local friends Joan and Bob Krogh, Dana slowly evolved into my home away from home.

As I look back on my first semester of college, I can see that I grew in faith and matured as a person because of my involvement

with these particular groups. This is not just because I grew to feel comfortable here, but because through the hospitality of others I heard God's call and promise to me to continue my education in this place. I may never know exactly why I chose to come to this small town in eastern Nebraska, but I can now say I am glad and happy that I am here. I am now on the other side of depression because of the friendships I have made and the people who make this college special.

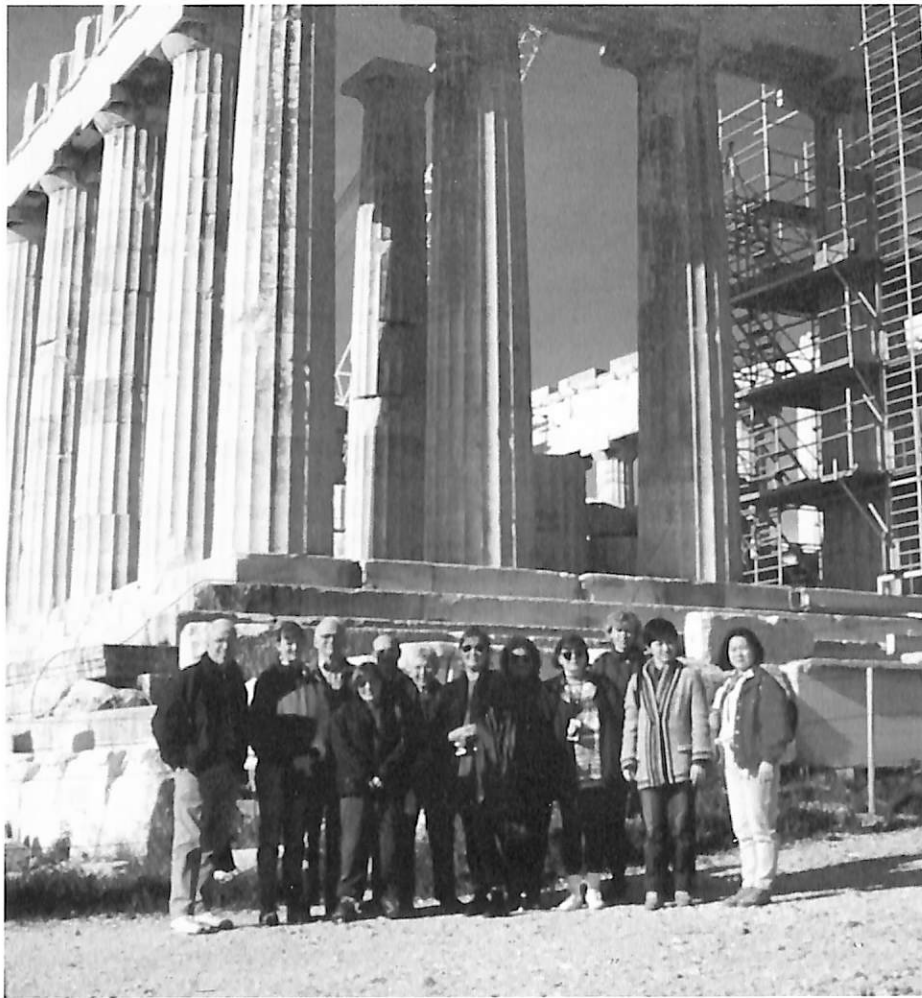
Through hard times it often seems that God is not with us or He has forgotten that we are his children. But then moments come, subtle though they may be, when faith takes hold of you. Through the love that people share, you realize that God is there and will be with you wherever you go and through both the good and bad times. Like the gift of Christ's Transfiguration for Peter, James, and John, we are given a vision of what is in store for us, that God will see us through tough times.

For those of you who know what it is to feel broken or distressed or in need of God's promise, I would like to leave you with this: May the Lord be with you. May He go before you to show you the way, go behind you to encourage

you, walk beside you to be your very best friend. May the Lord be above you to watch over you and within you to give you His Love, His Peace and His Hope. This is God's promise to you and may my words be a sign for you that the promise is true. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen. ○



Jennifer Zahnow



*Interim '95: Class studies art, culture in Greece, Turkey*  
 Participants in "An Aegean Encounter," an Interim class that traveled in Greece and Turkey to study the art and cultural legacies of those countries, was led by Jim Olsen '62, associate professor of art. The group included traditional, non-traditional (NT), and international students, alumni, and a professor emeritus and his wife. Here in Athens at the Parthenon are (from left) Professor Olsen, Danielle Larson '98 (Waverly, Nebraska), John Beck D'50 T'55 (Blair), Jami Prouty '98 (Omaha), George Grube (Dana professor emeritus of biology) and Marion Grube (Blair), Candy Suverkrubbe NT (Blair), Carol (Holmstedt '75) Prouty (Omaha), Sue Dugan NT (Blair), Cathy Hughes NT (Honey Creek, Iowa), Nozomu Takada '98 (Japan), and Mariko Kishida '95 (Japan). (Danielle Larson is the daughter of Douglas Larson '73; Jami Prouty is the daughter of Jim '73 and Carol '75 Prouty.)

## Dana Chorale sings in Germany, Denmark

A highlight of the Dana Chorale's May 22-June 5 concert tour of northern Germany and Denmark will be a reception and outdoor concert at the Copenhagen residence of the U.S. Ambassador to Denmark, Edward Elson.

Other tour highlights include overnight stays in German and Danish homes; visits to the Hans Christian Andersen Museum, castles and cathedrals; and concerts in a variety of indoor and outdoor settings.

Burke Petersen '81, director of public relations, has provided this concert schedule:

**In Germany**—*May 24*, Travemunde—3 p.m. outdoor

concert; *May 25*, Bad Segeberg—10 a.m. at St. Marie's as part of worship service and 4 p.m. at Art Hall; *May 26*, Oeversee—8 p.m. at St. George's Kirche.

**In Denmark**—*May 28*, Ribe—4 p.m. at Domkirke (cathedral); *May 29*, Fredericia—7:30 p.m. concert at St. Kristian Kirke; *May 30*, Fredericia—short noon concert in City Park; Odense—8 p.m. at Town Hall; *May 31*, Odense—3 p.m. at St. Kathrine's; *June 1*, Copenhagen—8 p.m. at Trinitatis Kirke, admission 40 kroner; *June 2*, Copenhagen—afternoon reception and outdoor concert at Ambassador's residence and 7:30 p.m. concert at Holmen's Kirke; *June 4*, Copenhagen—10 a.m. at

Vartov Kirke, New Day sings at worship service.

Alumni and friends in Germany and Denmark will receive invitations and the final schedule.

U.S. readers who might be in Germany or Denmark at the time of the tour are also invited to attend a concert. Petersen recommends, however, that they call him (402-426-7216) before leaving the U.S. to confirm concert times and places.

Readers are also asked to invite relatives and friends who live in northern Germany and Denmark to attend a concert near them. ○

○ *Curtis Fett '82* of Sioux City, Iowa, was recently honored at Lutheran Brotherhood's Siouxland Agency Awards Banquet. In addition to achieving Leader's Club status, he received recognition as Top Annuity Producer, Top New Member Producer, Most Improved Agent of the Year, and Agent of the Year. In recognition of his awards, Lutheran Brotherhood, as a part of its "New

Connections" program, has given Dana \$1,000.

This grant will be used for renovations scheduled this summer for Rasmussen Hall. Fett has been a district representative with Lutheran Brotherhood since 1990. His wife, Sylvia, is a fifth grade teacher in the Sioux City Community School District.



**Alumni  
in the  
News**

○ An article co-authored by the *Rev. Wilbur Holz '82* will appear in the Summer 1995 issue of *Word and World*, a theological journal published by Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. Co-author Lette Gamble is a colleague from Luther Northwestern. Holz has provided the following abstract: "This article is a discussion of the appropriate response of the pastoral caregiver when there is a stillbirth or a miscarriage. The discussion considers theological as well as empathic reasons for possible responses in such situations. The article suggests the liturgical act of anointing as an appropriate response and offers an argument in its behalf. Offered within the article is a rite for anointing the stillborn." Holz is pastor at Bethel Lutheran Church in Graettinger, Iowa.

○ *Kay (Probasco '74) Vetter*, who teaches fourth grade in the Central City (Nebraska) Public Schools, was

one of five finalists in the 1995 Nebraska Teacher of the Year competition. She received an Award of Excellence. She writes that daughter Nora is a high school junior and son Nik is a sophomore. Her husband, Norris, is a buyer/salesman for Skagway Hardware in Grand Island.

○ An article in the January 1995 issue of *Ceramics Monthly* about the 1994 international "Cone Box Show" at Baker University quotes from a history of the show given by curators Walter Bailey and Inga Gyrite Balch at a preview reception: "The show was the brainchild of the late *William Bracker '62*, a passionate, creative individual whose interest in ceramic art was both personal and professional. Known best for his substantial, richly textured, salt-glazed stoneware forms, Bill was a ready resource for anyone who had a question...he got ideas from everywhere...the idea of miniature, unique works of ceramic art became a clear focus for him.... The Edward Orton Jr. Ceramic Foundation gave the support to make the idea come alive [as the 'National Cone Box Show']."

○ *Luther Kloth '61* of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, has completed the second edition of his textbook *Wound Healing*. Last June he was promoted to full professor of physical therapy at Marquette University, Milwaukee. He is the first full professor the department has ever had. Kloth was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Dana College in 1988. His wife, Doris (Siersbeck '61), continues to teach third grade in the Wauwatosa School District.

○ *Jim Andersen '58*, coordinator of Heartland Area Education Agency in Johnston, Iowa, has written a book titled *Courageous Teaching: Creating a Caring Community in the Classroom*. Reviewer Mark Weston, Education Commission of the States, writes: "Jim Andersen knows more about turning classrooms into communities for learning than any other American. I encourage you to experience Andersen's groundbreaking work if you want to learn more about his facilitative approach to education. You won't be disappointed." The book was published this year by Corwin Press. ○

## June Elderhostel will explore Danish heritage, traditions

"**A**cross Oceans, Across Time," a week of classes about Danish culture, will be the subject of a June 4-10 Elderhostel at Dana.

When "Across Oceans, Across Time," which draws upon Dana's Danish roots, was offered for the first time last summer, it attracted participants from across the U.S. Because of its popularity, the decision was made to repeat the program this year.

Participants will attend presentations by faculty members who are natives of Denmark or

who specialize in Danish studies. They'll also attend demonstrations of music, crafts, and dance; see films on the heritage of the Danish people, including those who immigrated to the U.S.; and visit the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn-Kimballton, Iowa.

Tuition is \$315; Elderhostel participants must be 55 years old or older. Readers can obtain registration materials from Dr. Ruth Sather, Elderhostel Coordinator, Dana College, Blair, NE 68008.

## Homecoming: Plans include art reunion

Two reunions, one of art majors and former art students, the other of members of the Class of 1960, have been added to Homecoming reunions announced in the winter *Review*. Homecoming next fall is scheduled for October 6-8.

**Art Reunion.** Tentative plans for the Art Reunion include a Saturday morning "Dana Alumni Art Challenge Exhibit" with a reception in the F.W. Thomsen Gallery in the Madsen Fine Arts Center, and a Saturday evening "Art Department Afterhours Coffee House." Alumni are invited to bring their portfolios to the Coffee House, where they can share their current projects with friends, classmates, and Dana art professors.

Art majors will receive invitations, information on the Art Challenge Exhibit, and a complete schedule in a late spring or early summer mailing. Other alumni who have taken art classes and who would like to participate in the reunion can write or call the Alumni Office (402-426-7235) for more information.

**Class Reunions.** Invitations to the Class of 1960's 35-year reunion will be sent this spring, as will invitations to the reunions Dana traditionally sponsors—those for the five-, ten-, 15-, 20-, 25-, 40-, and 50-year reunions.

Readers who would like to assist the Alumni Office in planning any other reunions should get in touch with Ann George, Director of Alumni Affairs.

## Alumnus finds inspiration that serves a lifetime

Review contributor Bob Coffey '75 of Blair is president of Copy Direct, a direct marketing creative services agency. He is in his second year as a member of the Alumni Council.

Twenty years ago this past December, I received my Dana College diploma. In all my eagerness then to complete that arduous journey through four years of studies, wrestling matches, track meets, Student Senate meetings, *Hermes* deadlines, KDCV shows, intramurals, Shakespearean drama...little did I realize that I was receiving even more than an outstanding education.

Unknowingly, I was also receiving the inspiration to put that education to its best use. And in thinking about it, perhaps this inspiration, instilled and nurtured by all that makes Dana College such a great institution, has been of greater value in my life than education alone.

You see, Professor Norman Bansen not only taught me how to write well, he also inspired the storyteller in me. Richard Jorgensen did not simply point out ambiguities in my written word, he inspired me to be more precise and clear in my communication. Dr. Weckmuller inspired me to consider what motivates individuals, not just in a classroom lab, but in day-to-day situations.

Even today, Dana College

serves as this incredible source of inspiration in my life. As a former president of the Dana Booster Club, I had the great fortune to spend a lot of time with Dr. Leo McKillip, the Viking football coach. He had inherited a program with a discouraging past...and yet was able to turn it around in a very short time to make it one of the nation's best.

At the time, I was experiencing some difficulty with my own business. As I watched Coach McKillip, I was awestruck at how hard he worked. Absolutely relentless. He taught his players, he taught Dana College, and he taught me long-forgotten lessons of what it takes to compete and be successful. That was inspiration.

About the same time, Myrv Christopherson came to Dana College to serve as its president. Dana was facing many challenges, and then Old Main burned. Once again, I drew inspiration from this man who pulled us up from those ashes, raised our aspirations, and has led Dana to a new and hopeful future.

The examples go on day after day. And the success I have enjoyed in my professional life, my family life, and my personal life is forever bound to this remarkable, steadfast, and constant source of inspiration that is Dana College. ○



Bob Coffey

# Basketball, wrestling: Season wrap-ups

by Paul Clark, Sports Information Director

## Women's Basketball

In measuring success by degree of improvement and performing above expectations, the women's basketball team was one of the real success stories of the recent basketball season.

First-year coach Kris Grappendorf '93 led the Vikings to a 13-13 overall record.

Dana was 3-9 in the rugged Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC) and finished sixth in the league. This after a six-win campaign a year ago and projections from some that this year's team would struggle in a similar way. It was not to be as the Vikings

compiled the fourth-highest single-season victory total for a Dana team since 1976.

In the conference, Dana peaked with a 73-62 win over Concordia on February 14. That victory avenged a one-point loss at Concordia earlier in the year. The Vikings swept their season series with conference rival Nebraska Wesleyan, winning by six at home and by one at Lincoln. Dana's season ended with a 65-56 loss at Hastings in the first round of the NIAC post-season tournament. It was one of three disappointing setbacks against the defending conference champs, who also beat Dana by three points in Borup Coliseum and by just two in an earlier meeting at Hastings. Dana's tough conference schedule also included two losses each to nationally ranked foes Doane and Midland Lutheran.

Dana played well at home and went 7-4 in the friendly confines of Borup Coliseum. The strength of the NIAC shows in Dana's impressive 10-3 record against non-conference opponents. The Vikings posted season-bests for points scored (89) and points allowed (40) in a pair of wins over Avila MO. Dana also swept two

games from Dordt IA and Sioux Falls SD and won two games at the St. Mary KS Kiwanis Classic before the holidays.

Senior guard Heidi Grappendorf (Chariton, IA) ended her career as the #4 all-time scorer at Dana with 1,200 career points. She averaged just over 20 points a game to lead the NIAC in individual scoring for a second straight year and she ranked among the nation's top 20 scorers for most of the season. Grappendorf was named first-team all-conference in the NIAC for a second consecutive season. Two other seniors, Melanie Hild (York, NE) and Jen Neumeister (Weeping Water, NE), finished their basketball careers in February. Hild ranks fifth in career rebounds at Dana.

Sophomore Nichol Buenning (Parkston, SD) received honorable mention all-conference recognition. Buenning led Dana in rebounds (8.5 per game) and was second on the team in scoring (12.2 points per game). First-year center Susan Weddingfeld (Panora, IA) averaged 8.3 points and six rebounds a contest.

## Men's Basketball

Although the strides forward taken by the men's basketball team were smaller than hoped for, the Vikings continued to move the Dana program closer to the upper echelon of the Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC).

Dana finished the year 15-16 overall and 5-7 in the NIAC, good for a fourth-place tie with Doane in the conference. It was the best league finish for the Vikings since 1986/87 and, for a second straight year, Dana finished within a game of the .500 mark for the season. The 31 wins in the last two years equal the most ever racked up in back-to-back seasons by a Dana team, first accomplished by the 1985/86 and 1986/87 squads.

The Vikings closed out the season with a 99-85 loss at Concordia, ranked #2 nationally in NAIA Division II, in the semi-finals of the

NIAC post-season tournament. Dana had defeated Northwestern IA in a first-round game at Borup Coliseum, 99-93, for its third win of the season over the Red Raiders. The scarlet-and-white also swept two games from Midland Lutheran to run its winning streak against the Warriors to five. Dana defeated Doane, 83-81, in an NIAC thriller at Borup on February 11.

The Vikings went 10-4 at home this year, the best Borup record since the 86/87 team went 11-2 at the coliseum. The Vikings were 10-9 in non-conference games and placed second in a pair of holiday tournaments. Among the losses for Dana this year were three to Concordia, two to Hastings (ranked #9 in the final NAIA Division II poll) and one at Northern State, the #1 NAIA Division II team heading into the national tournament. Dana also suffered five-point road losses at NCAA Division II schools Wayne State (in overtime) and Nebraska-Omaha.

Sophomore Nathan Babbitt (Emerson, IA, the son of Vaughn Babbitt '73) earned all-NIAC first-team honors this year while three other players, Jason Jackson '95 (Clarinda, IA), Rob Coursey '95 (Galesburg, IL), and Shawn Fasbender '97 (Omaha), were honorable mention all-conference. Babbitt led Dana in scoring this season (18.7 points per game) while Fasbender was the top rebounder (7.5 per game) for the Vikings. Jackson dished out a team-high 129 assists while Coursey was second on the team in scoring and assists and was the only player to start all 31 games this season.

Three seniors, Coursey, Jackson, and Tony Collins (Omaha), finished their careers this season, Coursey ending up as the #7 all-time scorer at Dana with 1,322 points. Jackson finished his two-year career at Dana with 245 assists, fifth all-time, and Collins completed his career at the holiday break with 1,721 points, the third-highest total ever at Dana.



## Wrestling

An All-American performance helped Dana to its best-ever finish at the NAIA National Wrestling Championships, March 10-11, in Jamestown, North Dakota.

Sophomore Andy Hensley became Dana's fourth All-American wrestler by placing third at 167 pounds at the national meet. His only loss in six matches at nationals came to the eventual champion and he recorded four pins in his five victories. Hensley, from Massena, Iowa, was also an NAIA area champion and won 18 of his final 21 matches to finish the year at 22-9. He joins Scott Stickler '94, Trent Gutschenritter '87, and Virgil Watson '79 as a wrestling All-American from Dana. Hensley's third-place finish was the best in school history for a Viking wrestler at nationals.

Another national qualifier for Dana, junior Brent Johnson of Denison, Iowa, received NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors by going to the national meet as a junior or senior with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above. Johnson went 0-2 at 142 pounds at nationals.

Also qualifying for Dana were Chad Caskey '96, 126 pounds, Carson, Iowa, 2-2 at nationals; D.J. Walton '97, 126 pounds, Crescent, Iowa, 0-2 at nationals; T.C. Aguilar '97, 150 pounds, Grand Island, Nebraska, 1-2 at nationals; Chase Roller '97, 275 pounds, Oakland, Iowa, 0-2 at nationals. Wild-card entrants Shawn Bluml '96 (Carson, IA) and Justin Smith '97 (Ralson, NE) were winless in two matches at nationals for Dana.

The Vikings, who had a 3-9-1 dual record on the season, placed 17th at the NAIA meet for the highest national finish in the history of Dana's wrestling program. The Vikings tied for second with Northwestern IA at the Tri-State (conference) Meet and finished fourth at an NAIA Area Tournament held at Borup Coliseum on February 18. Dana defeated Northwestern IA, William Penn IA and St. Thomas MN for its three dual victories on the season. ○

# Grappendorf sisters lead Vikings as coach, player

Head basketball coach Kris Grappendorf '93 coached her sister Heidi '95 this year, and they ended the season still friends and with compliments for one another.

Said Kris, "When I was named head coach after being assistant coach last year, friends asked, 'How is having Heidi on your team going to work out?' I jokingly told them, 'As long as she doesn't mess up, there won't be any problems!'"

"And of course I was sure there wouldn't be any, except for those that could have come up with any player. It turned out that she was one of our top players. She had a great senior year."

The sisters from Chariton, Iowa, were basketball teammates in high school and college. When Kris was a high school senior, Heidi, a sophomore, joined her on Chariton's varsity team. And at Dana, although Heidi wasn't a varsity player when Kris was, "she was 'first off the bench' my senior year," Kris said.



Kris (left) and Heidi Grappendorf  
Photo by Denny Williams

As a player Kris won all-conference honors, and so has Heidi, who led the Vikings in scoring for the past two seasons.

Said Heidi, "I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to play with Kris and then be coached by her. We've both worked hard to accomplish things on and off the court. What makes those accomplishments so much more special is that we got to share them while at Dana. It was a unique experience for both of us."

Athletic Director Kathy Foley said of Kris's first season as head coach: "She did a great job. It's difficult to come in and take over a program when you're only a couple of years past your career as a student player, and Kris did great. She represented Dana very well."

Foley was head basketball coach when Kris was a student. Foley describes her as "probably the best overall player I've ever coached. She's a student of the game and a fierce competitor."

Parents Bob and Leslie Grappendorf have attended many of their daughters' games over the years. "They've been very supportive," Kris said.

In a phone interview, Leslie Grappendorf reported, "Heidi was a little anxious at first last year when Kris was assistant coach, and we wondered how they'd handle this year's situation. But they've always gotten along well together."

"Kathy Foley's dad told us, 'If you thought you were nervous watching your daughters play, you'll really be nervous watching one of them coach.'"

"But everything worked out great. We've had fun this year." ○

# Dana Scholars Fund: Gifts increase

Michael Jones '71, director of development, reports that by the middle of March contributions and pledges to the Dana Scholars Fund had reached \$3.24 million toward the three-year goal of \$4.5 million. The

drive for scholarship support, now in its second year, continues through May 1996.

There's other Development news as well:

○ The Kiewit Foundation of Omaha has issued a \$100,000

challenge grant, with the Foundation matching up to \$25,000 per year, for four years, of gifts to the college for its endowment fund. This Kiewit Endowment Challenge Grant is an extension of the Foundation's challenge, which Dana successfully met, to raise matching funds to furnish the new Dana Classroom Center.

○ Matching funds

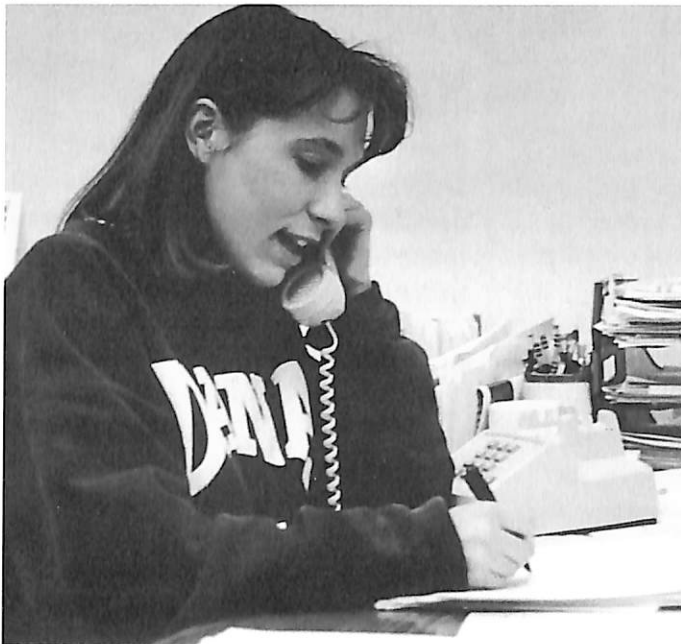
from Lutheran Brotherhood's challenge grant for the chaplaincy program have become a significant factor in supporting the program at Dana. LB's most recent contribution to the challenge came in the form of a check for \$39,067.

Dana is still seeking gifts and pledges toward its challenge of \$122,900 for the program. Jones said that by the time the challenge ends, support from LB and from alumni and friends for the chaplaincy program should stand at approximately \$245,000.

○ For the sixth year in a row, Student Senate members telephoning the parents of current students for this year's Bookathon broke the previous year's giving record. Altogether student callers raised over \$7,000 for books for the C.A. Dana-LIFE Library and for the college's online computer retrieval system that helps students locate books and magazines anywhere in the country. Bookathon organizer Ruth Henneman, assistant director of development, said that parents to date had contributed more than \$55,000 over the 12 years of the Bookathon.

○ Former Dana athletes, other alumni, and friends have been contributing to a recently established "Coach Pete and Ruth Peterson Scholarship" in honor of the couple's many years of service to Dana and its students. Readers wishing to give to the scholarship can send their contributions to the college's Development Office.

Jones expressed his thanks to Dana's many alumni, parents, and friends for their generous response to these programs. "It is because of this generosity that Dana College can continue in its mission to serve, and for that we are very grateful." ○



Student Senator Sandra Smith '97 of Superior, Nebraska, makes a Bookathon call to a Dana parent.

Photo by Kayleen Wilson '98

## Graduate survives quake; alumni help Kobe victims

News of the Kobe, Japan, earthquake brought special concern to two groups within the greater Dana community: members of the Orient Concert Tour Choir who sang in Kobe in 1969; and friends of Akira ("Aki") Okada, a 1973 graduate who teaches at a university near Kobe.

A letter from Sue (Angell '72) Rasmussen of Des Moines, Iowa, and Dr. Paul Neve '41, former Choir director, to fellow members of the '69 tour choir suggested that they contribute to a relief fund through the American Red Cross.

Carolyn Scholl '69 of Des Moines, regional executive officer of the American Red Cross, assisted with arrangements, and she and Sue report that choir members responded generously to the appeal.

Word has also been received that Aki and his family, who live in a Kobe suburb, hadn't been injured and that their home hadn't been damaged. Aki wrote in a letter to Bob Coffey '75, "I am certain Kobe people will rebuild their lives before long.... They are an energetic people."



**Interim '95: Students study state government**

During the January Interim three Dana students studied state government in Lincoln, Nebraska, with State Senator Bud Robinson '50 as their guide and mentor. Pictured here (from left) in the State Capitol are Jennifer Pfingsten '97 (DeWitt, Nebraska), Denise Daubendiek '96 (Beatrice, Nebraska), Governor Ben Nelson, Sara Howieson '97 (Delavan, Minnesota), and Senator Robinson. The students interviewed the secretary of state, state treasurer, state auditor, and more than a dozen state senators. They also attended the opening day of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, the Governor's "State of the State" address, and committee hearings on new bills. Robinson represents the 16th District, which includes Blair and Washington County.

# Summer technology institute will help teachers, kids become "Space TREKers"

A simulated, "almost real" space shuttle mission will be the high point of a Dana-organized "Space TREK (Technology, Research, Exploration for Kids) Institute" planned for the campus this summer.

The Institute, taught by nationally recognized master teachers, includes a two-week program (June 11-23) for 25 selected Nebraska teachers (K-12) and a one-week program (June 18-23) for 120 selected Nebraska students in grades 4-9.

In response to many requests from other states, an additional week of TREK (June 25-30) is scheduled for students in grades 4-9 from across the U.S.

Working in small groups in campus computer labs, the participating teachers and then the students will gather information over the Internet to design and activate their own space mission in the simulated "Space TREK" shuttle.

The Institute is being organized by Dr. Kay Ferguson, professor of education. She said

that after the Institute the mobile shuttle will be available on loan to school districts across Nebraska. She also said that the space mission curriculum "will be put on a homepage at Dana for free access around the globe, so that any one, any place can obtain the curriculum by accessing Dana College homepage Space TREK on their computers."

Funding for the Institute is being provided by a \$62,584 grant from the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education; the grant monies are from Dwight D. Eisenhower Federal Funds.

Ferguson said that activities for teachers during the first week will include five workshops each day as well as related evening activities. They'll learn "to navigate" the Internet; use technologies such as Mosaic, Fetch, Blue Skies, Remote Sensing Imagery, HyperCard, FPT Sites, TurborGopher, Telnet, HTTP, Cu-See-Me, World Wide Web, NIH Images, and NASA shuttle radar images; and develop their own space mission.

Then the teachers will work with the children, teaching them what the teachers learned the first week and guiding them in designing a project that can be carried out in a shuttle mission. Ferguson predicts that the experience "will create vivid and lasting memories, exciting new knowledge, and a motivation for children and youth to view science and mathematics and technologies with a renewed vigor."

There will be a fee for participating children, who will also live on the campus.

Participating teachers will receive a stipend. They'll also be able to take back to their schools multimedia products developed by the Institute. These will include "how to" disks, WWW homepage, the Internet descriptions, video tapes, and curriculum guides.

For information about participating in Space TREK, write to Dr. Kay Ferguson, Department of Education, Dana College, Blair, NE 68008. Her e-mail address is kferguson@acad2.dana.edu

## '90s

○ *Angela Heise '95*, who completed her degree requirements at mid-year, works at Arbor Manor Living Center in Fremont, Nebraska.

○ *Michael Johnson '95* completed his degree requirements in January and now teaches part time in the evenings in Council Bluffs, Iowa, at Kaneshville Alternative School. He is also a substitute teacher.

○ *Scott Dugdale '94*, who completed his student teaching block at Dana in January, teaches K-12 music at Sacred Heart School in Falls City, Nebraska.

○ *Tonya Eller '94* has been promoted to a full-time position working with student loans at the Crawford County Bank in Denison, Iowa.

Husband *Chris Eller '93*

continues as a counselor with the Iowa Girls and Boys Home in Denison.

○ *Jennifer Karre '94* is a merchandising assistant for the Boys' Department at J.C. Penney in Dallas, Texas.

○ *Kary '94 and Camilla (Larsson) Knapp '96* of Blair announce the February 10 birth of Alexandra Louisa.

○ *Christopher Moore '94* is the daytime supervisor for housekeeping at the Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

○ *Perry Myers '94* completed his student teaching block at Dana in January and is now teaching social studies at Blair Junior-Senior High School. He replaces *Roger Stender '64*, who has retired.

○ *Jeff Richmond '94* teaches freshman biology and coaches freshman basketball at Northwest High School in Omaha.

○ *Chris Ulven '94* has been hired as an accountant at Valley Products Co. in Valley, Nebraska.

○ *Nyla Christensen '93* and David Schoeld were married on June 11, 1994. They live in St. Paul, Minnesota,

where Nyla is a student at Luther Seminary.

○ *Cindy Kempcke '93* is executive secretary to the team leader at Blair's new Cargill plant. She was previously administrative assistant in Dana's Development Office.

○ *Carol Mueller '93* is a social worker in Omaha at St. Joseph Center for Mental Health.

○ *Kimberly (Gosch '91) and Kelly '93 Ryan*, Blair, are the parents of a son, Gage Stuart, born on February 10.

○ *Pete '93 and Lisa (Mellgren '92) Svendgard*, Blair, announce the birth of daughter Haley Elisabeth on February 14.

○ *Dave Wakehouse '93* recently became a member of the Blair Police Department.

○ *Claudia Brown '92* completed her teacher certification at Dana in January and now teaches Spanish for grades 7-8 at St. James-Seton School in Omaha.

○ *Patrick Cronin '92* of Fremont, Nebraska, has been appointed operations engineer in the Nuclear Services Division of the Omaha Public Power District. He was formerly a licensed senior operator at OPPD.

○ *Heidi (Hahn '92) Smith* of Canton, Michigan, is a social worker in the Detroit metro area for a crisis nursery. Her husband, *Darrell Smith '90*, is in his fourth year as a youth minister at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton.

○ Avalon Berit was born on February 21 to *Beth '92 and Stephen '92 Swenson* of Minneapolis. Beth is a former applications coordinator in Dana's Admissions Office.

○ Hannah Lanette was born on October 26, 1994, to Jay and *Karen (Sorensen '91) Long* of Blair. Brother Jesse is three. Karen is secretary at Dana for ServiceMaster (maintenance and custodial services).

○ *Scot Marsh '91* and Christine Vidmar of Littleton, Colorado, were married on December 3 in Papillion, Nebraska. They live in Omaha.

○ Correction to winter issue: The first name of *Diana (Jones '90) Thomas's* husband is David. They and children

BreAnna (born October 28, 1994) and Kateira (8) are living in Bury, St. Edmunds, England. They'll be there until August 1997.

## '80s

○ *Iris Gillwood '89* of Rock Point, Arizona, is a counselor at Chinle Youth Services with the Division of Social Services in Chinle, Arizona. Son Brendan is three.

○ *Mark '89 and Sheryl (Chamberlain '91) Havermann* of Omaha announce the January 2, 1994, birth of daughter Aleigha Rae. Mark is an accountant at First Data Resources and Sheryl is a consultant pharmacist for a geriatric firm.

○ *Danny '89 and Ruthie '89 Hosteen* of Chinle, Arizona, announce the August 31 birth of Danniell Ray Lew. Ruthie writes, "Danniell joins sisters Sherrill, a junior at Arizona State University in Tempe, Shelley (3), Sheena (2), adopted sister Shanaya (4), adopted brother Sheldon (2), and foster sister Candee (3). Danny is still the pastor at Navajo Lutheran Mission Many Farms. I'm working as a Social Worker II for the Navajo Tribe."

○ *Greta Pedersen '89* of Houston, Texas, territory manager for the Dunlop Slazenger Corp. in its racquet division, has been promoted to a new territory that includes Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. She has also received a ranking of #5 in women's open singles and #2 in mixed open doubles in the Northwestern Tennis Association area that encompasses Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and part of Wisconsin.

○ *Bruce '89 and Mary (Bolmeier '88) Stewart* of Florissant, Missouri, announce the December 18 birth of daughter Tara Alexandra.

○ *Laurie Christensen '88* has moved to Austin, Texas, where she is a graphic arts consultant at Unisource Paper Co.

○ *Audrey Miller '88* and Stephen Kossayan were married on July 3, 1994. They live in Newtown, Pennsylvania. As an area sales manager for Nashua Corporation,



Destiny's  
Deep  
Sea

Audrey covers a seven-state territory ranging from New York down to Washington, D.C., and Virginia.

○ **Matthew and Janet (Skinner '88) Perrone** of Omaha announce the March 8 birth of Franklin Edwin.

○ **Kole Dalton** was born to **Sheryl (Petersen '87) and Jim '85 Krueger** of Blair on February 1. He joins brother Jake, who is two. Their father is Dana's head football coach.

○ **Dave Iversen '86**, a librarian at Rider College, New Jersey, has been appointed to serve as chair of the OCLC Union List Users Group for 1996. Hundreds of libraries, including Dana, do their cataloging, union listing, and interlibrary loans using OCLC. Iversen will also chair the meetings of the user group at the midwinter and annual meetings of the American Library Association in 1996.

○ **Mary Frohs '85**, a graduate of Wartburg Seminary, was installed as pastor at First Lutheran Church in Potter, Nebraska, and as associate pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Sidney on January 15. Her shared-time position is the first in the ELCA's Nebraska Synod in which a pastor is a full pastor at one church and an associate at another. She was ordained on January 14 at her home church in Englewood, Colorado.

○ **Mark and Leanne (Danahy '83) Buland** of Parker, Colorado, announce the January 28 birth of Claire Marie. She joins brother Matthew, who is almost four.

○ **Sheryl Kester '83** and Chris Beyer were married on February 3 in Syracuse, Nebraska. She is pastor at First Lutheran Church in Avoca, Nebraska, and he is pastor at Emmaus Lutheran in Kennard and Immanuel Lutheran in Orum, Nebraska. Their address is: Sheryl and Chris Kester Beyer, RR 1 Box 68, Avoca, NE 68037.

○ **Lynne (Ricks '83) and James '84 Walck** of Medina, New York, announce the January 10 birth of Sarah Magdalene. She joins John Andrew (6) and Ann Elizabeth (4).

○ **Wayne and Kathy (Matthews '83) Wray** of Omaha announce the November 20 birth of their first child, Alexa Nicole.

○ **Dave Nutty '81** has been promoted

to second vice president, Bankcard Division, at Omaha's First National Bank.

○ **Kitty Wooley '81** of Alameda, California, is an institutional review specialist for the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance, Region IX, in San Francisco.

## '70s

○ **Bonnie and Eugene Dollen '78** of Persia, Iowa, announce the May 31, 1994, birth of Nathan Duane.

○ **Brad '77 and Marsha (Boysen '77) Larson** of Eagle Grove, Iowa, announce the birth of daughter Bethany Kay on August 26, 1994. She was welcomed home by brother Mark (8). Brad teaches computer classes and is high school activities director at Eagle Grove High School. Marsha works part time for Farmland Industries.

○ **Angela and Dana Christensen '74** of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, announce the August 15, 1994, birth of son Kyle Vincent. Sister Erica is 13.

○ **Grant Andersen '72** has been promoted to manager, Bank Support, in the Data Automation Division at Omaha's First National Bank.

○ **Dr. Craig Moran '71** and his wife Irmeli are the adoptive parents of a new daughter, Elli Maria, who was born on October 14, 1994. They also have a two-and-a-half year old son, Tuomas Aleks. Craig recently received a Ph.D. in Chinese history from the University of Michigan and is currently dean of studies and professor of systematic theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong.

## '60s

○ **James '66 and Nona (Heetland '71) Jensen** live in New Albany, Ohio. James is now the chaplain at Lutheran Village in Columbus, Ohio. He was recently granted Certified Chaplain (Fellow) status by the College of Chaplains, Inc. Nona is an administrative assistant at ComputeRep, a computer personnel placement service in Columbus.

○ **Dr. Wayne Nielsen '65** has been

named president of the American Institute of Management, which provides human resources support, training and consulting, and market development. The Nebraska-based corporation has offices in Nebraska and Iowa. Nielsen previously served as director of Program Services of the Martin Luther Home Society, Inc., and in that position supervised Society operations in Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, and Texas.

## '50s

○ **Pastor Bob Ostergaard '58** and his wife, Micki, have moved to New London, Minnesota. Last November Bob became pastoral counselor / licensed marriage and family therapist for Lutheran Social Services in Willmar and Hutchinson, Minnesota.

## Deaths

○ **Judith Cusick '90** of Fremont, Nebraska, in the fall of 1994 of a heart attack. She was branch director of Family Development Services in Fremont.

○ **Janice Berlin '73** of St. Edward, Nebraska, on January 20. She was a retired kindergarten and elementary school teacher. Survivors include her husband Keith, a son, and two daughters.

○ **Marjorie Edwards '65** on January 31 in Dunlap, Iowa. She was a retired teacher. Survivors include two sons and two daughters.

○ **Richard Moosmann '65** of Aurora, Colorado, on January 17. He was a library media specialist in the Aurora Public Schools. At Dana Moosmann had lead roles in many theater productions; in 1963-64 he received the college's "Outstanding Dramatic Contribution Award." Survivors include sisters Christina Ferguson '65 of Fort Collins, Colorado, and Ilona Hatch '66 of Tucson, Arizona.

○ **Vera Jean (Swanson '60) Bergerud** of Forest City, Iowa, on February 8. She worked at the Good Samaritan Center in Forest City for 19 years. Survivors include her husband, four daughters, and a son.

○ **N. Myrle (Fleming '55) Lassen** of

Canon City, Colorado, in October 1994. Survivors include husband John '52.

○ *Allison Hansen D'48 T'53* of Raytown, Missouri, on January 11. He served in the Army during WWII. In 1984 Hansen retired after serving for 40 years in the ministry, at Bethany and Fredericksburg Lutheran Churches, Minden, Nebraska; First Lutheran, Denver, Colorado; Trinity Lutheran, Westbrook, Maine; Good Shepherd Lutheran, Charlotte, North Carolina; St. Paul and Zion Lutheran, Hull, Iowa; Nazareth Lutheran, Coulter, Iowa; Our Savior's and West Prairie Lutheran, Leland, Iowa; and Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran, Raytown, Missouri, as visitation pastor. Survivors include his wife, Marie (Nelson '49); son Randy and daughters Sharon Amelung and Sandra Murray; three brothers—Robert '52 of Austin, Texas, Frank and Herschel; and two sisters—Marjorie Adams and Frances Treat.

○ *Claire Marie (Madsen '38) Schwartz* of Harlan, Iowa, in Phoenix, Arizona, on December 17. Survivors include a daughter.

○ *Agnes (Petersen '35) Johansen* of Blair on January 27. She was a member of the 1935 Dana College Choir that toured Denmark, and for many years at Homecoming she and her late husband, Ivan '38, hosted reunions of the '35 Denmark Choir. Survivors include sons Ivan Jr. '61 of Greenbrook, New Jersey; Charles '67 of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mark.

○ *Dagny (Kaldahl '35) Nielsen* of Story City, Iowa, on December 31. She was a former member of the Iowa State Teachers Association and a member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Hastings, Nebraska. She and her husband, Eljert, had previously lived in Ringsted, Iowa; Minnesota; and Hastings, Nebraska. Survivors include her husband and four sons—Ronald '63 of Alexandria, Minnesota, and Douglas, Rudolph, and Curtis.

○ *Esther (Nelson '34) Andersen* of Hampton, Nebraska, on January 12. She was the widow of the Rev. Leo H. Andersen T'33. Survivors include son Richard, daughters Lois Golie and Mary Richey, brother Ray, and sisters

Julia Walke '27 of Sumner, Iowa, and Helen Hansen.

○ *Winston H. "Hans" Hansen '30 '54* of Payette, Idaho, on January 16. He had worked for the American Red Cross, for Dow Chemical Co. as a chemical engineer, and for White Truck Co. as a mechanic. Survivors include daughters Betty Nelson and Nancy Lawson; son Howard; and sister Lois Wulf '31 of Blair. Hansen was a son of Dr. C.X. Hansen, an early Dana student who later served the college as president (1908-14, 1919-25) and acting president (1936-38) and who also taught here (1894-96, 1897-25, 1926-46).

○ *J. Rudolph "Steve" Hansen '22* of Polk City, Iowa, on January 13. He was a partner in the Des Moines law firm of Hansen, McClintock & Riley. Hansen was a WWII veteran and a member and past president of the Polk County Bar Association. He was also a member of the Iowa and American Bar Associations and many community service organizations. Survivors include a sister, Martha Hemphill of Elk Horn, Iowa; nephews Joe Hansen '56 of Des Moines and Maurice Lykke of Elk Horn; and nieces Honor (Lykke '44) Sanville of Westbrook, Maine, and Joanne Potts of Elk Horn.

## Friends

○ *Robert Capel* of Eagan, Minnesota, on March 7, the husband of Karen (Jensen '60) Capel. As a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII, he was a B-29 commander and flew missions to Japan from the South Pacific. He subsequently served 34 years as a school administrator and coach in Council Bluffs, Iowa, including many years as principal at Abraham Lincoln High School. He and Karen moved to Eagan about a year ago. In a tribute given at the Council Bluffs Rotary Club, friend Jim Conroy said, "Bob Capel spoke and acted based on the truth, not deceit. As in sports, he played fair, knowing that life was too precious and short to do otherwise. He accepted others out of tolerance and respect." Survivors also include daughters Kim (a Dana student) and Kristen and son Robert.

○ *Ruth Carey* of Elliott, Iowa, on

February 20. She was the dietician at Dana and in charge of the kitchen staff from 1959 to 1973, when she retired. She began her Dana career when the kitchen and dining room still occupied the first floor of Argo Hall and ended it several years after she and her staff moved—in 1966—into the new Campus Center. Survivors include son James.

○ *Marie Christian* of Omaha on February 25. She taught art at Dana from 1972-76. One of her paintings, a gift to Dana, is displayed on the landing of the C.A. Dana-LIFE Library. Survivors include her husband Howard and daughters Caryl and Linda.

○ *Dr. Harry Shadle* of Ames, Iowa, on January 19. Professor emeritus of industrial administration at Iowa State University (ISU), he taught economics and other subjects at Dana from 1938-42, when he left Dana to serve in the U.S. Army during WWII. In 1961 he was named professor of the year at ISU. His many activities at ISU before his retirement in 1970 included service as president of the Science and Humanities Scholarship Standards Committee. Survivors include his wife, Maralee (Miller '43), and two daughters, Susan Jaderstrom '68 of Petaluma, California, and Peggy Shadle. ○

**Corrections to winter Dana Review.** On page 5, the visiting artisan pictured making bobbin lace at "Sights and Sounds of Christmas" was incorrectly identified as Annette Andersen of Omaha. The caption should have identified her as Elie Steffensen of Omaha. Mrs. Andersen demonstrated other Danish crafts at Sights and Sounds.

On page 14, three names were inadvertently deleted from the caption accompanying the Homecoming photo of teacher education graduates who have received local, state, regional, and national recognition. These names should have been included in the listing for the back row, from left, after Andrew Hansen '50: Brad Best '83, Linda (Money '65) Jorgensen, Earl Pace '50.... Our apologies for these errors.

"I've never taken a sick day," I often exclaimed. As though this was a noble feat. I often blamed it on my Danish/Norwegian heritage—pietistic, Scandinavian guilt. Although we preach Luther's "Grace alone," we act as though we must "earn our way." Many of us mirror the Puritan value: "Anything that isn't work is sinful." Meanwhile, family and health may suffer.

Despite the counsel of pastors, Board members, colleagues, and family members, "driven people," of which there are many at Dana College, continue at a breakneck, lockstep pace.

»  
From  
the  
President

It is not surprising that articles appear about stress and "burn out" such as those that have surfaced in the last few weeks about college presidents. Of course, stress strikes peoples from all walks of life and work.

Recently something happened which got my attention and has produced a change in my pace. Before Christmas, a routine physical examination revealed a multinodular growth on my thyroid, and radiological tests revealed abnormal growth activity. Surgery on February 10 confirmed malignancy, and my thyroid and six lymph nodes were removed. Radioactive iodine therapy scheduled for late March should eradicate any remaining thyroid cancer cells. A spot on the right lung will call for continual monitoring, but may prove to be nothing to worry about.

My normal routine has been altered. The daily race has slowed to a comfortable walk. My wife, Anne, has become the chauffeur on

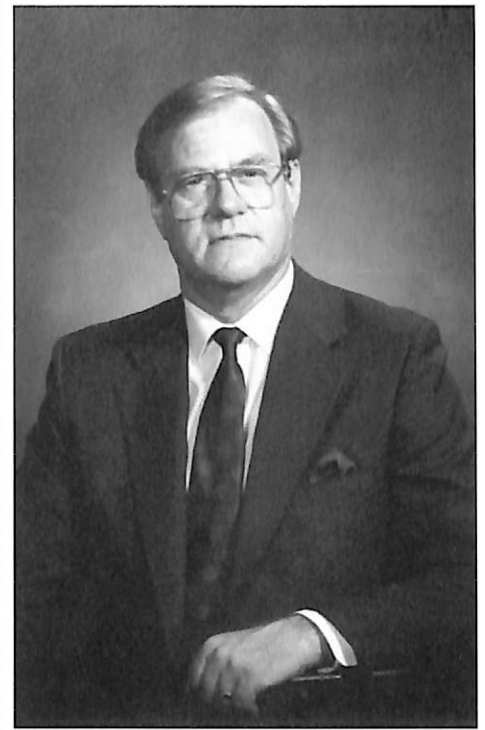
top of everything else she does. She and the children have been patient with me while my energy level wanes until I can take thyroid substitute medication. The Dana Board and colleagues have been both understanding and protective, urging a reduced schedule following surgery.

I have been overwhelmed and humbled by the prayers and expressions of support that have come to me from family and friends throughout the country. *I shall never cease to be grateful.*

The nearly nine years that I have served as Dana's president have been challenging, and the challenges will not lessen in the near future. And we will have to call upon the help of our alumni and friends again and again. One thing I know. This encounter with cancer has left me mindful of the unmerited and unconditional love of God and God's children who have come to our support and lifted us up in prayer.

Lenten messages seem more meaningful this year. In the wake of my cancer treatment, the words of John Bowring's great 19th century hymn, "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," take on new dimension: "When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy. Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy."

And the words of Psalm 91 seem especially helpful and hopeful to one who comes face to face with issues of health and mortality. I welcome the Psalmist's assurance that God's angels will bear me up through good and more trying times; even unto death when that day comes—hopefully, many years from now. I give thanks for my wife, family, and friends who have "born me up" in these days of fear and uncertainty. And for the many in the Dana community who have stepped in



to assure the continued development of this special place rich in heritage, purpose, and service.

These have been days of reflection and renewal for me, spiritual as well as physical. Never again will I regard the words, "Our thoughts and prayers are with you," with anything but cherished respect. Through them, I have known God's comforting presence. Through them I have been reminded of the love that radiates from this community of faith and learning we call Dana. My prayer is that this love which I have come to know might be extended by me daily to others who encounter the anxiety of fear and death and long for comfort and reassurance. I know that this comfort and assurance can only be granted as we call upon our loving God who was, who is, and who is to come again for each of us. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Myrvyn F. Christopherson  
President

## Alumni Council Ballot

The five alumni listed below have been nominated for three-year terms on the Alumni Council. There are two boxes by each name so that husband and wife can vote if they are both alumni. Please circle the number voting 1 2 and return your ballot to the Alumni Office by May 31.

Vote for five

- Jerry Christensen '82, Blair. CEO and national secretary-treasurer, Danish Brotherhood in America, Omaha. Has completed one elected three-year term.
- Bonnie (Nelson '65) Jensen, Blair. Instrumental music instructor, Omaha Public Schools. Has completed one elected three-year term.
- Paul D. Larsen '48, Fremont. Retired vice president of academic affairs, Dickinson State College, North Dakota. Has completed one elected three-year term.
- Shawn Lorenzen '91, Omaha. Supervisor at First Investors Corporation, Omaha.
- Eunice (Petersen '49) Neve, Omaha. Volunteer and retired church financial records secretary. Has completed one elected three-year term.
- \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to:  
Alumni Office, Dana College, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008

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