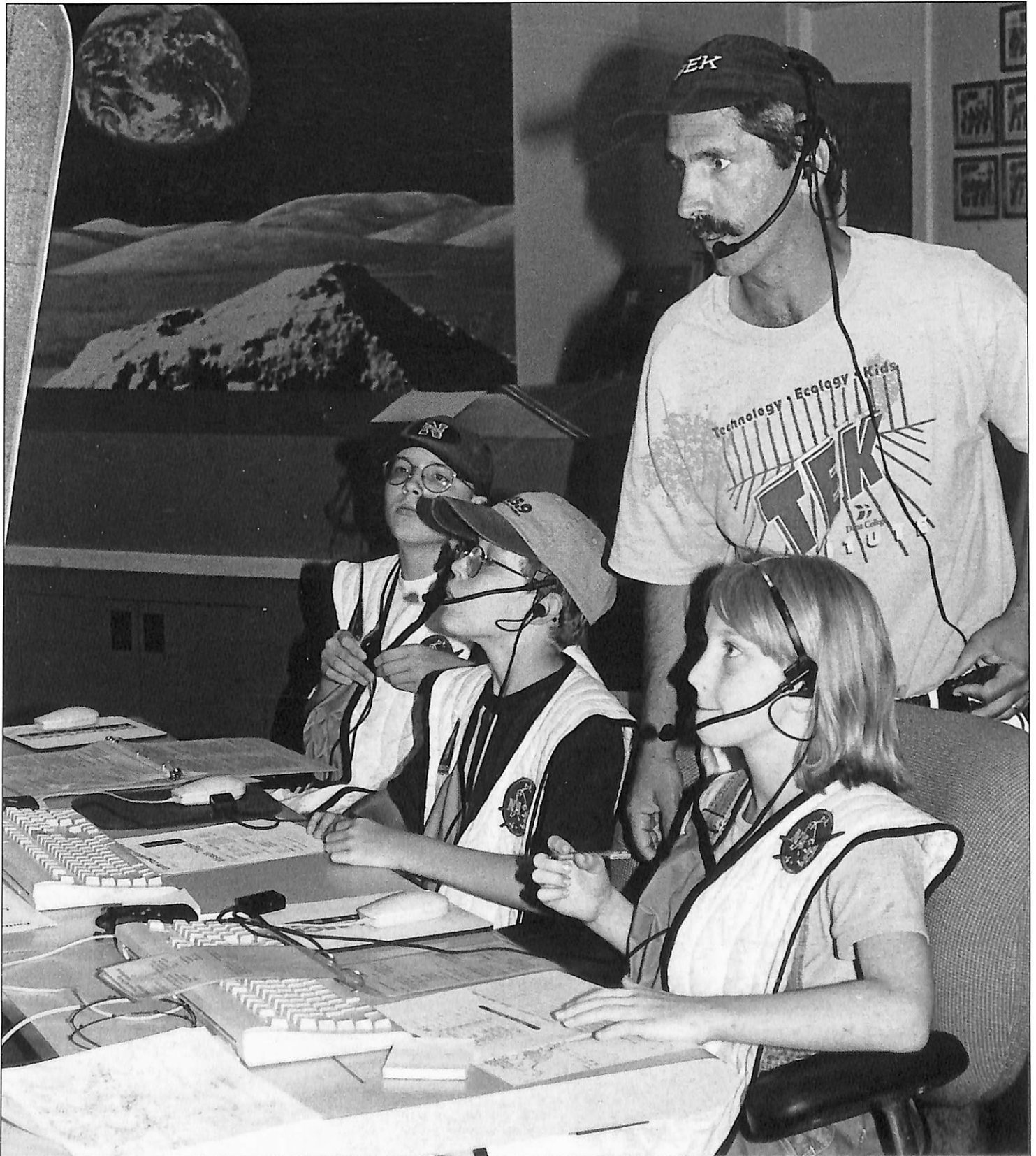


Dana Review

Summer 1998

Volume 54

Number 4





What's Happening at Dana:

On the cover—
TREK campers (from
back) Nathan Beins of
Weeping Water, Harrison
Zlomke of Omaha and
Megan Hunt of Blair
prepare the space shuttle
Horizon for take-off with
the assistance of Master
Teacher Don Dalton of
Fort Calhoun Elementary.
Photo by
Carrie L. Larkins '94

- PAGE 4** *P*rofessor moonlights
as ventriloquist
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Miss Nebraska
- PAGE 8** *C*hristopherson receives
honorary degree
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drafted by Cubs
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simulate shuttle mission
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Professor of the Year
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service to college
- PAGE 16** *C*hapel organ
returns to Dana
- PAGE 17** *M*innesota pastor
in "hot-rod ministry"

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Matthies' leadership brings much to Dana

By Carrie L. Larkins '94,
Review Editor

Comfort in the small-college environment brought Dr. Bernard Matthies from the high school classroom to Dana College and kept him here for 36 years. Matthies retired as professor emeritus of education and psychology at the end of the 1998 spring semester.

Following graduation from Doane College in Crete in 1957, Matthies entered the work force as

a high school history teacher. Soon he realized, however, that wasn't his niche.

"For me, there

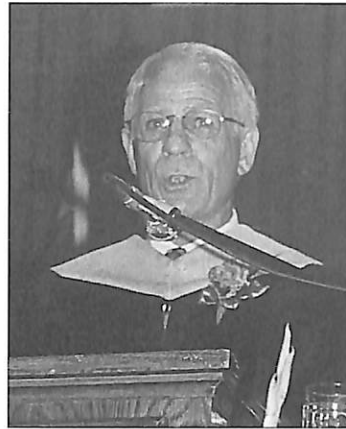


Photo by Carrie L. Larkins '94
Dr. Bernard Matthies

were too many frustrations in high school teaching," he said.

He entered graduate school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, earning his master's degree in 1962 and his doctorate in 1965. His graduate school advisor led him to Blair and Dana College in 1962.

"It fit," Matthies said. "The comfort level was high. Size, people, everything worked to keep me here until it was too late to

(Continued on page 19)

Retirement won't stop Olsons from giving to Dana

By Carrie L. Larkins '94,
Review Editor

A combined 67 years of teaching at Dana College and 24 years of marriage has created the perfect formula for Roger and Dorothy Olson. The couple retired following the completion of the 1998 spring semester.

Neither expected Dana College nor even college teaching to be where they would spend their professional lives.

Right out of high school, Roger intended to pursue a career in engineering. A choice of courses very early in his college career at Gustavus Adolphus College changed the plan. Instead of taking one of the required pre-engineering courses, Roger took a history class because it sounded more interesting. Roger majored in mathematics, however, and went to graduate school at Kansas State University, still with no intentions of teaching. At the time of graduation, he received two offers: one in California with Lockheed Aircraft and the second was to teach at Tarkio College in Tarkio, Mo.

"I didn't know at that time how long I would stay with teaching," Roger said.

After five years, a friend from

his graduate school days at Kansas State recommended him for a position at Dana teaching mathematics. Even though Roger was in a similar position at Tarkio, he accepted, beginning his career at Dana in the fall of 1964.

"I thought the opportunity here was a little bit better and I liked the fact that it was a college of the Lutheran church," he said.

When asked why he stayed at Dana for more than three decades, Roger answered, "I enjoyed teaching at Dana and decided that there was no other place for me!"

Touching the lives of hundreds

Dorothy entered Iowa State University intending to major in pre-medicine, following in the footsteps of her five brothers, all of whom are doctors. She decided two years into her college career to follow the paths of her three sisters instead and pursue a career in education.

"I decided I would rather work with people who were well," Dorothy said. So, she transferred to Omaha University (later the University of Nebraska-Omaha) and completed her degree in elementary education. She interviewed for her first job with the



Photo by Barry Anderson '73

Roger and Dorothy Olson

Seattle, Wash.; Los Angeles, Calif.; and Omaha Public Schools, choosing Omaha to be closer to home (Minden, Iowa).

Dorothy completed her master's at UNO in 1962 and her Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1977.

For four years, she taught kindergarten in the Omaha Public School district. In the spring of 1964, Dorothy received a call from Hastings College, offering her a college teaching position there. Dorothy turned it down because she had already signed her con

(Continued on page 9)

Professor moonlights as ventriloquist

By Carrie L. Larkins '94,
Review Editor

In the classroom, Dana College Professor Vern Wirka teaches his students the theories of communication. On stage Wirka, along with his sidekick Dewey Weston, puts those theories to practice.

Wirka began his ventriloquism career while he was in Cub Scouts, answering a "Learning Ventriloquism at Home" advertisement in "Boys' Life" magazine.

For Christmas when he was 10 or 11 years old, Wirka received his first ventriloquist figure, Jerry Mahoney.

"I guess I badgered my parents enough," Wirka said about the receipt of the gift. The future communications professor began his performance career at scouting events and churches.

Wirka said he temporarily abandoned ventriloquism when he was in high school and only returned to the ancient art a few years ago.

After many years in broadcast journalism, Wirka returned to college and finished his bachelor's degree at Bellevue University in 1994 and his master's at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1997.

"So call it bold, call it stupid; as a graduation present to myself in 1994, I bought Dewey Weston," Wirka said. "That's when I decided to do more with ventriloquism than just entertaining family members as a hobby."

He started attending the International Ventriloquists Convention and became a member of the Speakers Association of the Midlands, North American Association of Ventriloquists and the International Ventriloquists Association.



Rowena Husbands/New York

Dewey Weston and Monk Eeh visit with their ventriloquist Vern Wirka about their upcoming performances.

Now Wirka spends much of his "off-time" bringing his act to area elementary schools, churches, corporate events and other forums for family entertainment.

He, Dewey and a furry friend Monk Eeh made an appearance at this spring's Faculty Follies on the Dana campus.

"Even in this day and age of virtual reality and computer games, schools still find it very effective to bring in acts such as I do.

"I'm not sure if a communications expert or psychologist can fully explain what it is about a puppet that makes a child and even an adult relate to it," Wirka said. "I find it fascinating."

Wirka and his sidekick Dewey Weston work on the fine art of ad libbing during each performance, playing off the audience.

Dewey is described by Wirka as "the unruly, flirtatious type that

you have to watch out for all the time." He is in his late teens and his feelings are hurt easily.

Wirka says Dewey is adult enough to teach to children when the audience or situation warrants it, yet is naive enough to be funny to adults as well.

His children's programs usually do have an educational theme while still continuing to be entertaining. He may discuss issues such as science, safety or the value of reading and libraries.

The Dana professor says he isn't sure where his ventriloquism avocation will take him.

"At this point, it's just a fun outlet for me to do," he said. "I'm not really in it for the money, but it's been growing and I've been thankful for that."

To book Wirka and friends for your next special event, contact him at 402-341-4572 or e-mail: vwirka@acad2.dana.edu. ○



Photos by Carrie L. Larkins '94

Above, Jason Sanders of Rock Springs, Wyo., traded in his mortarboard after receiving his diploma. Left, valedictorians Michael Klug, Eric Krystof, Danielle Weaver and Marnie Jensen.



116 receive diplomas at '98 commencement

One hundred sixteen students received bachelor's degrees during commencement ceremonies at Dana College on May 24.

Four valedictorians were honored during the ceremony for maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average: Marnie Jensen of Bellevue, Michael Klug of Omaha, Eric Krystof of Springfield and Danielle Larson Weaver of Waverly. Jensen was also chosen by her classmates to address the class as the senior speaker.

A total of 32 students graduated with honors. In addition to the valedictorians, those graduating with honors included:

SUMMA CUM LAUDE:

Michael Babbitt, Emerson, Iowa; Chana Bammerlin, Mills, Nebraska; Valerie Bensen, Maskell, Nebraska; Michelle France, Omaha, Nebraska; Matthew Haufle, Red Oak, Iowa; Carrie Ann Knapp, Lexington, Nebraska; Michele Missel, Fremont, Nebraska; Sonya Weber, Cozad, Nebraska; Nicole Weers, Wiota, Iowa; Dorothy Whitehill, Council Bluffs, Iowa;

MAGNA CUM LAUDE: Mark

Davison, Elkhorn, Nebraska; Mary Jo Greenwood, Riverside, Wyoming; Ryan Jacobsen, Elk Horn, Iowa; Jaimie Krueger, Denison, Iowa; Laura Meldrum, Mertztown, Pennsylvania; Denecia Siemers, South Bend, Nebraska; Paul Stark, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Tricia TeSelle, Tekamah, Nebraska; Susan Weddingfeld, Panora, Iowa;

CUM LAUDE: Amy Benedict, Tabor, Iowa; Sara Bohling, North Bend, Nebraska; Shannon Konken, Randolph, Nebraska; Nicole Miller, Moorhead, Iowa; Daniel Olsen, Blair, Nebraska; Elaine Rivard, Sandstone, Minnesota; Brenda Rumery, Blair, Nebraska; Moses Thompson, Mesa, Arizona; Anthony Weers, Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Valerie Bensen of Maskell and Sonya Weber of Cozad were honored as the first students to graduate from Dana College as Morton Scholars.

The Dana College Honors Program was adopted by the faculty in 1996-97. It is designed to challenge academically gifted students to realize their full intellectual, social and spiritual poten-

tial. Participants are called "Morton Scholars" in honor of the late Dr. Richard E. Morton, president of Dana from 1944-56.

Washington County Bank in Blair received the 1998 College-Community Service Award, the highest non-academic honor presented by Dana College for extraordinary service to college and community.

"The Washington County Bank, more than most any other institution, has been instrumental in supporting the growth and development of Dana College," Dana President Myrvin F. Christopherson said.

"The bank, its president, Mike Mahlendorf, and all bank employees make us proud to be part of a community that pulls together to serve the citizens of the region with the best of business, industrial, educational and cultural services," he said.

Dr. Bernard Matthies, Dr. Dorothy Olson and Professor Roger Olson all earned the title of professor emeritus, retiring after a combined 103 years of service to the college (see page 3). ○

Professors *Bill Hall*, *Susan Hoffman* and *Scott Morgan* were selected as recipients of the 1998-99 ELCA College and University Faculty Study Grants presented by the Division for Higher Education and Schools of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The grants are awarded to assist faculty in achieving their professional goals.

Matt Anderson '98 presented a paper at the Nebraska Academy of Sciences meetings (Collegiate Section) held in Lincoln on April 24. His paper was entitled, "Method Development For Analysis of Phylloquinone (Vitamin K1) in Photosystem 1 From the Wild Type Strain of the Cyanobacterium *Synechocystis* Sp. 6803."

Dorothy Willis, library director, has been appointed to the Eastern Library System Board for the rest of 1998 and for 1999. Her board responsibility will involve attending a quarterly board meeting and perhaps committee work.

Seven students were inducted into Alpha Mu Gamma, a national foreign language honor society, during a ceremony May 7. Inducted were *Sarah Pierce '99* (German), *Stephanie Lassek '00* and *Betsie Walles '99* (French) and *Dan Formo '99*, *Stephanie Greiner '01*, *Becky Dunnell '01* and *Molly Fuxa '01* (Spanish). In order to become a member of Alpha Mu Gamma, a student has to have at least two semesters with a 4.0 (second year or above for German and Spanish) in the target language and an overall grade point average of 3.6 or above.

Faculty members *Dr. Robert Moussetis*, assistant professor of business administration, and *Starla Stensaas*, assistant professor of art, resigned at the end of the spring semester to pursue other professional opportunities. Switchboard operator *Lorraine Hansen* and library paraprofessional *JoAnn Hohensee*, retired after 26 and 24 years of service respectively.

New inductees to Alpha Chi National Honor Society this spring were *Melissa Blum '99*, *Angela Coufal '99*, *Jill Dewald '99*, *Carrie Eckhoff '99*, *Anthony Eitzmann '99*, *Cassandra Green '99*, *Rachel Heitmann '99*, *Laura Hiebenthal '99*, *Michelle Hurt '99*, *Rebecca Plowman '99*, *Tara Stark '99* and *Nicole Weers '98*. Inductees to Alpha Chi must be juniors or seniors, rank in the top 10 percent of their class, have a minimum grade point average of 3.70, including at least one year at Dana, and be elected by the faculty.

James Smith, who has formerly served as an instructor in Dana's Weekend College program, will be returning to Dana as a part-time instructor in business administration this fall and has been appointed a visiting assistant professor of business administration for the spring semester.

Kathy Foley, director of athletics, has agreed to serve as Dana's softball coach, replacing Kris Graulich. Her coaching duties will be in addition to her duties as athletics director.

Roger Olson, professor emeritus of mathematics, was honored this spring for his years of service as faculty athletic representative for Dana to the Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC). He had served NIAC for 31 years. Bob Pflieger of Concordia College was also honored for his decades of service.

Members of the conference voted at their spring meeting to rename the NIAC Scholar Athlete Award, the

Pflieger-Olson Scholar Athlete Award, in their honor. The award recognizes conference athletes for academic excellence.

Students who received awards at the annual Honors Program in May included: *Ann Myers '98*, Outstanding Senior Art Student; *Jesse Hardy '99*, Most Improved Art Student; *Valerie Bensen '98* and *Carrie Knapp '98*, Senior Biology Awards; *Elaine Rivard '98*, *Denecia Siemers '98*, *Paul Stark '98* and *Tricia TeSelle '98*, Outstanding Business Awards; *Stephanie Hadenfeldt '01*, Outstanding Freshman Chemistry Student and Joseph Langland Award for Prose; *Matt Anderson '98*, Outstanding Analytical Chemistry Student and Outstanding Senior Chemistry Major; *Laura Hiebenthal '99*, Norman C. Bansen Award for Outstanding Student in English; *Leora Jaeckel '01*, Luella K. Nielsen Award for Outstanding First-Year Student in English and Ben Krantz Memorial Award; *Eric Krystof '98*, Senior Mathematics Award; *Tony Ward '99*, Alan Brandes Music Award; *Matt Haufle '98*, Outstanding Achievement in Religious Studies; *Michelle France '98*, *Mary Jo Greenwood '98* and *Michele Missel '98*, Senior Social Work Award; and *Dottie Whitehill '98*, Joseph Langland Award for Poetry.

The Nebraska Collegiate Press Association honors student achievement in journalism through the presentation of the Golden Leaf Awards. Print and broadcast entries are nominated by individual institutions and submitted to a jury of professional journalists. Recipients of Golden Leaf Awards this spring were: *Lindsay Bruning '99*, *Laura Hiebenthal '99*, *Shane Koepke '99*, *Kale Maguire '01*, *Heather Olsen '97*, *Michael Klug '98*, *James Peterson '00* and *Greg Kellogg '99*.

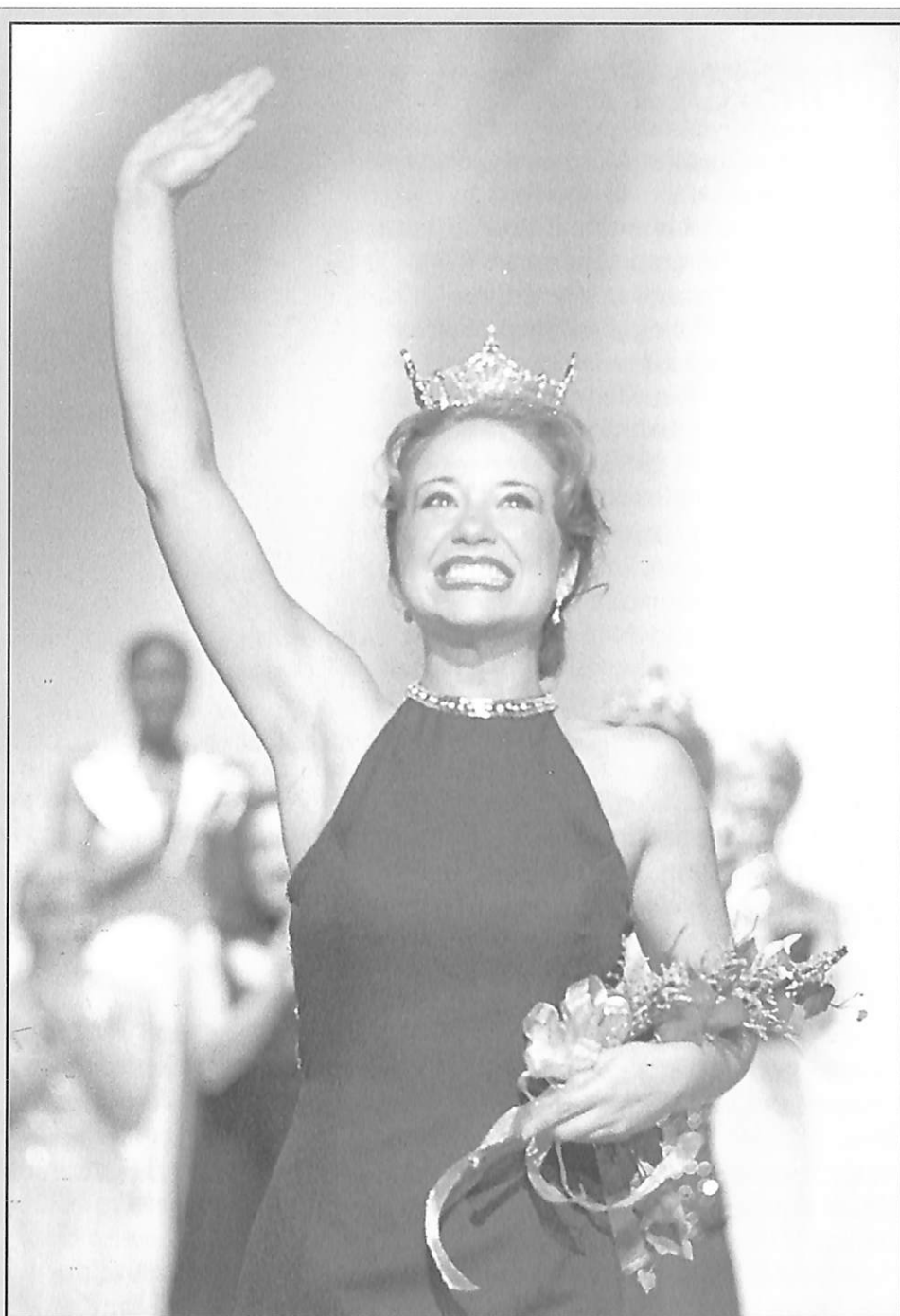
"The Lost City of Bethsaida," the full-length documentary produced by University of Nebraska-Omaha

Television in 1995-96, made its national debut on the History Channel on Aug. 2, 1998. Among the Dana faculty and alumni who have participated in the on-site excavation are *Dr. John Mark Nielsen '73, Dr. Del Hutton, Prof. Jim Olsen '62, Prof. Fran Mallory, Heidi Larson '97 and Judi Yeates '95.*

Kevin T. Schaudt, dean for student life at Dana College, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA). NACA, a national not-for-profit membership association, has been linking students and campus activities professionals with talent agencies, self-represented artists and promotional specialty firms since 1960. As a member of the Board of Directors, Schaudt will participate in the formation of goals, objectives and procedures for the association.

Nicole Weers '98 of Wiota, Iowa, has been awarded the Future Teacher of the Year Award by the Nebraska English Language Arts Council (NELAC). It is the second year in a row that a Dana graduate has won the award and the fourth Dana College student in 11 years to receive the honor. Past Dana recipients include *Sandy Smith '97, Lois (Behrens '92) Jones and Peg Crannell '89.* Colleges and universities in Nebraska may nominate one language arts student for each 12 students or portion thereof, graduating during the current academic year from each language arts preparation program they offer (elementary education, special education, secondary education). One award is made each year.

Nominees are evaluated on the basis of their professional goals and philosophy, their participation in campus activities, their academic record and faculty recommendations. Selection is made by a committee of elementary, secondary and college and university teachers. ○



Tamra Turnbull/North Platte Telegraph

Dana College junior Jenny Lemmerman of West Point was named Miss Nebraska during a pageant in North Platte in June.

Lemmerman crowned Miss Nebraska

A Dana College junior was crowned Miss Nebraska at the Miss Nebraska Scholarship Pageant in North Platte in June.

Jenny Lemmerman '00 of West Point will take her platform against underage drinking and vie for the Miss America title in September.

Because of her win, Lemmerman will take a year off from her studies for speaking and other engagements across the state. She is a broadcast communications major, with a minor in theater. She would eventually like to pursue a career either on the screen or stage. ○

Christopherson receives honorary degree

Dana College President Dr. Myrvin F. Christopherson '61 received an honorary degree this spring from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

Christopherson was one of three church leaders who received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree during commencement exercises. He was recognized for his teaching and administrative leadership and more than 20 years experience in providing consultation to business, industrial, governmental, non-profit service and professional organizations.

Wartburg Seminary and Dana College share a special relationship reaching back to 1956 when Trinity Seminary, then part of Dana College, moved to the Wartburg campus and merged its resources with those of Wartburg.

Christopherson has served as president of the college for the past 12 years. ○



Photo provided

Dr. Roger Fjeld, Wartburg president, presents the honorary degree to Dr. Myrvin Christopherson, president of Dana College.

President speaks at Danish commencement

President and Mrs. Myrvin Christopherson recently returned from an eight-day trip to Germany and Denmark. President Christopherson was invited to present the commencement address at the Vejle Handelsskole, a business college in Vejle, Denmark.

About 250 students who had passed their state-administered examinations were honored. Christopherson, speaking in both Danish and English, congratulated the graduates, gave a brief introduction to Dana College and its Danish connections. He also discussed expectations employers worldwide have for college graduates and shared his hope the students would continue "a love of learning for a lifetime."

Vejle College representatives, Laurits Schyts and Lena Venborg Pedersen, visited Dana in March and invited President Christopherson to be their com-

mencement speaker.

While in Vejle, the Christophersons met with college officials and faculty to explore a possible exchange agreement between students and faculty from Dana and Vejle College.

"Vejle is a beautiful city located on the Vejle Fjord in the east central part of the island of Jutland," Christopherson said. "We were most impressed by the faculty and administration as well as the facilities, especially in computer science. One of our top Dana graduates in 1997 was Lars Jensen, who lived in Blair for the past year. He is also a graduate of Vejle College."

The Christophersons also visited several cities in Denmark and northern Germany, seeking sponsorship for the Dana Chorale which will tour in Europe next May and June. Vejle College has agreed to host the chorale and

made arrangements for the Chorale to sing at the beautiful Vejle concert hall on May 30, 1999.

In Germany, the Christophersons visited with Mayor Udo Fruhlich of Bad Segeberg, former Mayor Jorg Nehter, and stayed at the home of Tina Martens, a former Dana student who has returned to Blair many times. The city of Bad Segeberg has also agreed to host the Dana Chorale in 1999.

"All in all, it was a most productive and enjoyable trip," said Christopherson. "We are eager to continue to build relations with our friends overseas. It is imperative that Dana students graduate with a global perspective and feel comfortable with our neighbors in other lands.

"Denmark offers an excellent entre to the European Union and is a particularly good connection for Dana to maintain." ○

Olsons retire after more than three decades at Dana

(Continued from page 3)

tract at OPS for the upcoming year, but she was intrigued by the opportunity of teaching at the college level.

The following spring, another opportunity for college teaching arose, this time at Dana College. Dorothy's college advisor, Dr. Joseph Dunn, recommended her for a position teaching elementary education. She was offered the job and accepted, beginning her Dana career in the fall of 1965.

Dorothy said she made the decision to switch to college teaching in part because of the potential impact she could make. "Teachers are so important," she said. "We can influence students so tremendously."

Dorothy was teaching about 65 children a year in her kindergarten classrooms. By coming to Dana, she could touch the lives of more than 100 college students each year in her classes. Those 100-plus students graduate and go out to teach 25-60 students each year. Therefore, indirectly Dorothy could touch the lives of their students as well.

The Dana fire

Roger and Dorothy each listed many benefits of teaching and especially teaching at Dana College. Included in both lists were great people to work with, the faculty and students alike. Both also found great rewards in seeing students develop from freshmen into seniors, watching their confidence levels grow and seeing them succeed in their professional careers.

Frustrations have also occurred, however. Most notably, the greatest disappointment of Dorothy's career was the Old Main fire in the fall of 1988. She lost 30 years of teaching materials, includ-

ing books, teaching games, bulletin boards, seashells, science collections, records, bookcases, photographs, videos, tests, worksheets and hundreds of other items.

"That was one year I didn't even want to teach," Dorothy said. "You had everything you needed to teach . . . then you had nothing. You name it. It was up in smoke."

Former students and even people Dorothy had never met stepped up to try to help. Some students sent back letter patterns and handouts they had received from her. A retiring teacher at Gustavus Adolphus sent her used textbooks. Yet, all of their efforts were not able to replace the collection of teaching materials she lost.

Teaching together

Roger and Dorothy worked together at the same institution for all the years of their marriage, yet were able to keep their own identities.

"We have tried to be very, very professional about it," Roger said. "Each of us has had to stand on our own merits when it comes to the college." Each has received the HunTel Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching.

Dorothy said she enjoyed the benefits of being able to be together at times during the day, such as lunch, faculty meetings and chapel, even though their offices have always been located in different buildings. Working at the same place also has helped them understand what the other is going through, she said.

Retirement plans for the Olsons are not precisely defined, but one thing is definite. Their association with Dana and their teaching careers will not end with this spring's retirement.

Roger may continue to teach a class or two at Dana for the next

few years. Dorothy will supervise the student teaching of Dana students who ask her to do so and will do some substitute teaching of her own in the public schools.

The couple plans to do some traveling and will spend much of their time managing several family farms in Iowa.

Dorothy hopes to put together idea books for all the different subjects, such as science, math, reading, language arts and social studies. She also wants to organize some teacher workshops for schools in the area.

"I don't feel I'm totally getting out of the classroom yet," she said.

"To me, it's been a great time," Roger said. "I've enjoyed our association with Dana and we will continue to support Dana as long as we live and even after we're gone."

Beyond their teaching support, the Olsons have already given a lot to Dana. They have helped purchase the laminating machine for the library and purchased the Accucut machine and dies for the Education Lab (more than \$3,100). This summer, they purchased an additional \$1,200 worth of dies for the machine.

The Olsons are actively supporting two scholarships to help financially support Dana College and its future students.

The Roger and Dorothy Olson Endowed Scholarship was originally established by Jerry and Ruth Schmidt of Blair, both former students of the Olsons. The Ray and Pearl Kundel Memorial Endowed Scholarship was established by Roger and Dorothy in honor of Dorothy's parents who inspired and helped their nine children to attain a good education and become contributing members of society. ○

Viking pitcher drafted by the Cubs

By Charlie Janssen, Sports Information Director

Baseball

Larry Dant, who was selected by the Chicago Cubs in the 21st round of the Major League Baseball Draft in June, has been assigned to the Williamsport (Pa.) Cubs.

Dant, a native of Walnut, Iowa, has a lot of unfulfilled potential, according to Dana Coach Paul Davis. The Viking hurler had only a 2-3 record in his senior season at Dana, but throws consistently at speeds up to 92 miles per hour.

"Professional baseball people don't care about stats from college," Davis said. "They look for guys with the potential to make it in the big league."

At 6'4", 230 pounds, Dant is an imposing figure on the mound. "He has a major league body and he throws 90 to 95 miles per hour with no effort," Davis said.

Dant has compiled a 2-0 record in helping Williamsport to a 12-12 record in the New York-Penn League's Pinkney Division. The former Viking standout has hurled 12 innings in eight appearances for the Cubs compiling a 5.25 earned run average.

Coach Davis has spoken with Dant and it seems as though the former Viking is happy with the way things are going so far.

To follow Dant's progress, his statistics can be found via the Internet at www.fanlink.com.

In other Viking baseball news, Corey Johnson and Rich Martell

were named to the NIAC Conference all-league baseball squad. Johnson also earned the NIAC's pitcher-of-the-year award. Johnson led the Vikings on the mound this spring with a 6-1 record, while Martell led the team at the plate with a .395 batting average. Both Martell and Johnson are juniors. Other Vikings earning conference honorable mention honors were Jacob White, Ryan Enright, Joe Pennucci and Tim Podraza.

The Vikings finished the spring with a 17-18 record, including a 12-12 mark in NIAC play.

Outdoor Track

Angie Sparacino placed third in the marathon at the NAIA National Championships held May 21-23 in Tulsa, Okla. Sparacino, the 1997 national marathon champion, was once again honored as an All-American.

Senior Andrea Spreen heaved the javalin 133'5" to earn seventh place honors at the national meet. Her seventh place finish was her third consecutive top-ten finish at the national meet.

Sophomore Scott Stanley led the Viking men with a ninth place finish in the 1,500 meter run. Stanley entered the event ranked 21st. With his impressive showing, Stanley becomes the first track finalist in Dana history.

Four Dana track athletes were named All-American Scholar-Athletes by the NAIA at the National Championships in Tulsa, Okla. They are juniors Amanda Buttry and Evan Bees and seniors Angie Sparacino and Ben Sandy. Recipients must have achieved junior or senior class rank, have reached the automatic qualification standard to compete at Nationals,

and carry a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above. This was the fourth academic All-American award for Ben Sandy.

NATIONAL TRACK & FIELD RESULTS
Angie Sparacino 3rd place marathon
Jennifer Williams 10th place marathon
Anna Hovde DNF marathon
Andrea Spreen 7th place javalin
Jason Brindle 20th marathon
Bob Spangler 21st marathon
Aaron Schlote 25th marathon
Ben Sandy 29th marathon
Evan Bees DNF marathon
Scott Stanley 9th 1,500 meters
Justin Christensen 15th steeplechase

Softball

Sophomore Jessi Thomsen and junior Lisa Cady were named to the coaches All-NIAC softball team.

Thomsen led the Vikings in hitting with .404 batting average, runs scored with 26, and was second in slugging percentage (.465). Thomsen started 32 games for Dana in center field. Cady made the NIAC first squad as a utility player. Cady hit .304 at the plate leading the Vikings in doubles (8), triples (3), and slugging percentage (.489).

Four Vikings were listed on the All-NIAC second team with freshman Kari Wetterberg, sophomore Lisa Shefland, freshman Sarah Graham and sophomore Jennifer Schneider all making the second squad.

Junior Amy Klusmeier, senior Taffy Forsen and sophomore Tara Furstenau received all-league honorable mention.

The Viking softball team finished the season with a 16-19 record, including an 11-7 NIAC record.



Schedules

An asterisk (*) indicates a home event.

FOOTBALL

* Sept. 5	Dakota Wesleyan	1:00
Sept. 12	Huron University	1:00
Sept. 19	Peru St./Applejack Bowl	6:00
*Sept. 26	Hastings College	1:00
Oct. 3	Northwestern College	1:00
*Oct. 10	Dakota State	2:00
*Oct. 17	Midland Lutheran	1:00
Oct. 24	Doane College	1:00
*Oct. 31	Nebraska Wesleyan	1:00
Nov. 7	Concordia University	1:00

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 3	York College	5:00
Sept. 10	Briar Cliff College	4:30
*Sept. 12	Concordia University	1:00
*Sept. 14	Midland Lutheran	5:00
*Sept. 17	Hastings College	4:30
*Sept. 19	St. Marys Kansas	1:00
*Sept. 21	Central College	4:30
Sept. 24	Doane College	4:30
*Oct. 1	Nebraska Wesleyan	4:00
*Oct. 3	York College	1:00
*Oct. 10	Northwestern College	10:00
Oct. 13	Concordia University	4:00
Oct. 16	Simpson College	4:00
Oct. 17	William Penn	12:00
Oct. 20	Midland Lutheran	4:00
*Oct. 22	Doane College	3:30
Oct. 24	Graceland College	2:00
Oct. 27	Northwestern College	3:00

VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 2	Buena Vista College	7:00
Sept. 8	Peru State	7:30
*Sept. 10	York College	7:30
Sept. 11-12	Hastings College Tourney	
Sept. 15	Bellevue College	7:00
*Sept. 18-19	Dana Invitational	
*Sept. 22	Doane College	7:30
Sept. 24	Briar Cliff College	7:00
Sept. 26	York College	2:00
*Sept. 29	Concordia University	7:30
Oct. 2-3	Dakota Wesleyan Tourney	
*Oct. 6	Midland Lutheran	7:30
Oct. 8	Nebraska Wesleyan	7:30
*Oct. 10	Hastings College	12:30
Oct. 14	Northwestern	7:30
Oct. 20	Doane College	7:30
*Oct. 23	Northwestern	7:30
Oct. 27	Concordia University	7:30
Oct. 30	Hastings College	7:30
Nov. 3	Midland Lutheran	7:30
*Nov. 5	Nebraska Wesleyan	7:30
Nov. 7	NIAC	TBA
Nov. 10	NIAC	TBA
Nov. 12	NIAC	TBA

All times and dates are subject to change. For more information, contact the Sports Information Director at 402-426-7293. ☺

Dant not first alum to make run at major league

By Charlie Janssen,
Sports Information Director

This past spring, every time senior pitcher Larry Dant took the mound for the Viking baseball squad, professional baseball scouts could be found in the stands clocking the Walnut, Iowa, native's 90-plus mph fastball.

Dant was rewarded for his efforts in the June major league baseball amateur draft by being selected in the 21st round by the Chicago Cubs.

While Dant's selection in the major league draft is impressive, he's not the first Viking to have been chosen in the draft. That distinction belongs to Dana Hall of Famer (1994) Steve Voitok.

Voitok was drafted in the fourth round of the 1973 draft by the Houston Astros. The Astros failed to sign Voitok, who had just completed his junior season at Dana with an impressive .408 batting average.

Voitok never heard the exact reason why he wasn't signed by the Astros after being selected so high in the draft, however, he believes it was due to his limited size.

"I was drafted in the fourth round and I heard some news of a pretty good signing bonus for that time," Voitok said. "Then they lost interest in me. I don't think their scout liked my size, I was only 5-foot-9, 155-pounds. I never heard from him again."

Voitok did, however, hear from the Kansas City Royals in January 1974 before the start of his senior season. The Royals selected the Racine, Wis., native in the 16th round of the winter draft. Voitok

waited to sign with the Royals until he completed his collegiate playing career with the Vikings.

"I told them (the Royals) that it was important for me to finish school and they gave me their blessings," Voitok said.

Voitok had an impressive senior season, leading the Vikings in hitting with a .391 batting average and seven homeruns. After he helped the Vikings to a 23-14 record, and making first team All-NAIA for a second consecutive year it was off to Sarasota, Fla., where he would play minor league ball for the Royals.

Although the Dana all-star would only play one season of minor league ball he has several fond memories, including facing major league caliber pitchers.

"I remember we were playing a split-squad game and I got to hit against Nelson Briles, who I had seen pitch in the 1968 World Series for the St. Louis Cardinals," Voitok recalled. "The first time I faced him I got a base hit. My next time up I hit a homerun and I was thinking to myself that I really could hit major league pitching."

Voitok believes it was that game that earned him a starting position for the Sarasota Royals of the Gulf Coast League. In his only season with the Royals, Voitok was named to the league's All-Star squad.

Health problems are believed to be the main reason the outfielder's professional career was cut short. "I kept having leg problems and it seemed like it would never heal, plus I was 22 and at that time I was pretty old compared to the rest of the players

(Continued on page 19)

TREK campers simulate real shuttle mission

By Carrie L. Larkins '94
Review Editor

"Tee minus six minutes and counting. Prepare stations for take-off," says a 12-year-old into a microphone at mission control, located on the first floor of Elkhorn Hall on the Dana College campus.

Around him, six other boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 monitor computer screens and consult via headsets with their partners in Space Shuttle Horizon.

Looming behind the students in mission control is the nose of Horizon, a 30 feet long, 20 feet wide and 15 feet tall structure built in 1995 for the TREK (Technology, Resources Exciting Kids) Camp.

Inside Horizon are the partners of the children in mission control, wearing heart monitors and headsets and busily preparing their stations for launch.

The students are not actually launching the space shuttle from Cape Canaveral, Fla., but it sure is real to them, according to Space TREK Camp Director Dr. Kay Ferguson.

This summer, 105 students in grades 4-9 attended the annual TREK Camp at Dana College.

When students arrive on campus, they apply for shuttle roles in payload, imaging, meteorology, medical, navigation, earth observer and flight commander.

They spend the week learning all the information they need to prepare to launch the shuttle.

In addition to spending 50 minutes each day at the shuttle, the students also attend six other

(Continued on page 13)



From left, Steven Rue, Harrison Zlomke and Craig Novak, all of Omaha, test the amount of carbon dioxide left in their container during the Space Chemistry portion of TREK Camp in July.

Photo by
Carrie L. Larkins '94

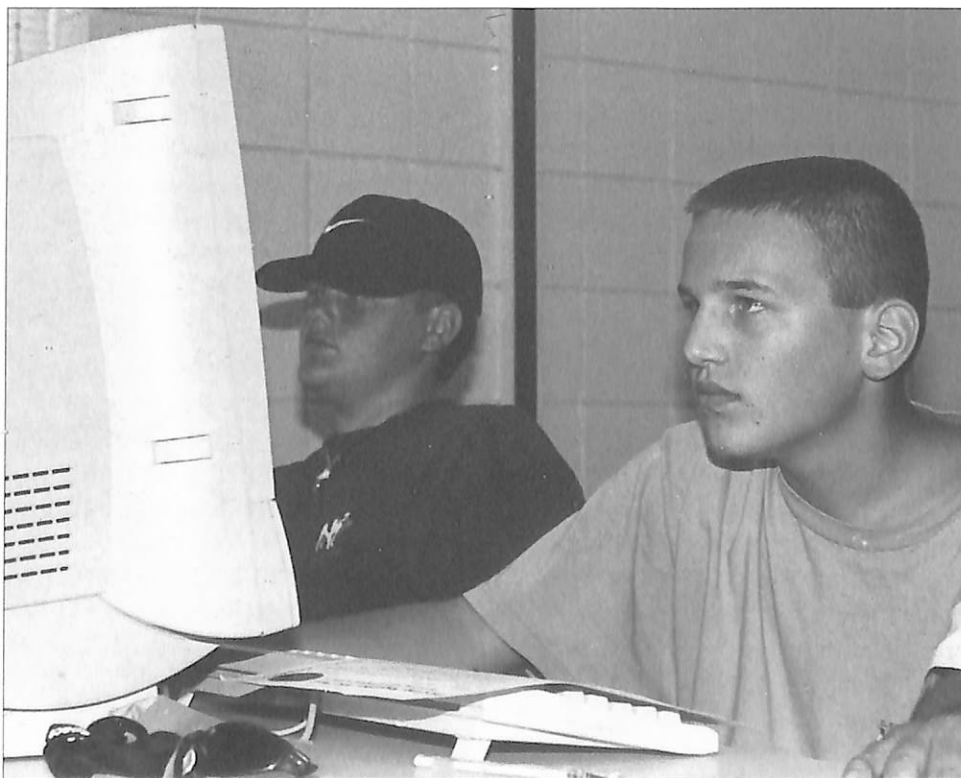


Photo by Carrie L. Larkins '94

From left, Bryce Lehman and Aaron Schmeichel, both of Fremont, Neb., were among the 105 participants in this year's TREK Camp.



Photo by Carrie L. Larkins '94

Bryce Christensen of Arlington, Neb., puts the finishing touches on his rocket at TREK Camp.

TREK

(Continued from page 12)

sessions, including space chemistry, rocketry, virtual reality and e-mail.

The camp is always filled to capacity.

"This works because we have outstanding NASA-trained, award-winning Master Teachers who not only know technology, but know where kids hearts are," Ferguson said.

Dana education students apply to work at the camp. Ten are trained in team-building activities and serve as counselors for the camp.

"This is a wonderful experience for them before they start student teaching," Ferguson said.

TREK Camp started because of Ferguson's dream. "I've always been interested in space and science," she said. "I was just trying to think of ways to get children to be interested and motivated about space and science. What better than a shuttle?"

Funding for TREK Camp comes from such sources as MCI, CASDE (Consortium for the Application of Space Data to Education), the Banneker Project, Omaha Public Schools and the University of Nebraska-Omaha. ○

Ferguson named Professor of the Year for 1997-98

Dr. Kay Ferguson has been named 1997-98 Professor of the Year at Dana College by members of the student body.

Ferguson, professor of teacher education and psychology, has completed her 11th year of teaching at Dana College. She received her bachelor of arts degree from Parsons College, her master's from the University of Iowa and her doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Prior to coming to Dana in 1987, Ferguson taught teacher education at UNL. She also taught music, chemistry and kindergarten before beginning her career as a college professor.

Ferguson said she entered college teaching because of the desire to improve the quality of education through the training of excellent teachers who could excite and motivate children to learn.

To further help in that process, she has developed the Space TREK Institute, a two-week professional development program for teachers and a week-long technology camp for students in grades 4-9.

The camp, held annually on

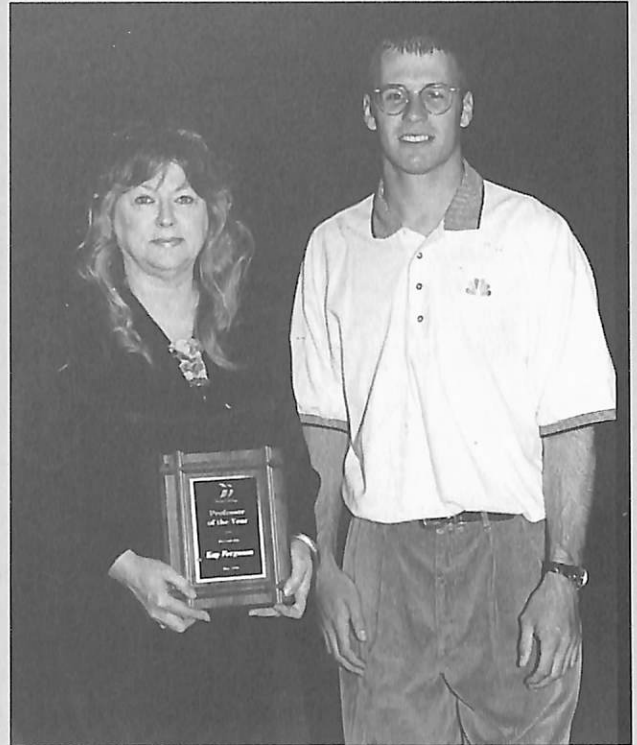


Photo by Carrie L. Larkins '94

Dr. Kay Ferguson receives the Professor of the Year award from Student Senate President Matt Kern.

the Dana campus, has been acclaimed as one of the best in the nation.

The Professor of the Year is chosen by a vote of the entire student body. Recipients must have demonstrated excellence in teaching, positive interpersonal relationships, organization and classroom class management, intellectual stimulation and desirable behavior outside the classroom. Professors who have received the award within the past five years are not eligible.

The award was presented by Student Senate President Matt Kern '99 during the annual Faculty-Staff Appreciation event.

Ferguson was also named Professor of the Year in 1989. ○

○ *Steve Callaghan '76* of Blair was among 46 teachers from North America who are being honored this year by the National Council for Geographic Education. He will receive a Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award at an October meeting in Indianapolis, Ind. The council gives the awards each year to recognize outstanding contributions to geographic education at the elementary and secondary levels. Callaghan has taught middle and high school students in Blair since 1978. He currently teaches

American history to seventh graders and world geography to eighth graders at Gerald Otte Middle School in Blair.



Alumni in the News

○ *Carol Wood '73* is one of two winners of community service awards presented by the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Senior

Center. Criteria for the awards includes demonstrating leadership in his/her occupation and participating in community service activities.

The following information appeared in the June 14, 1998, edition of the Council Bluffs Daily Nonpareil: "Carol Wood has a mission to reach out to a vulnerable population as president and CEO of Christian Home Association-Children's Square U.S.A.

"Through her leadership, Children's Square has become an outstanding organization helping children, individuals and families.

"Wood serves several community service organizations, including the Rotary Club, the Coalition for Family and Children's Services, the National Association of Homes and Services for Children, the advisory board for Dana College's School of Social Work, the Council Bluffs Guild of the Omaha Symphony and Network CB.

"In April, Wood was appointed by Gov. Terry Branstad to serve on the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Advisory Council. She is also a graduate of Leadership Council Bluffs.

"Other awards received by Wood include: the 1997 Distinguished Alumni Award from Dana College, and presenter for the Governor's 1997 Forum on Families."

○ *Marilyn (Nelson '52) Meyer* has been featured twice in the local media recently. Last May, her retirement from teaching was a front-page article in the *Des Moines Register*.

Since her retirement, she has been researching the history of one-room schoolhouses for the Parker Historical Museum of Clay County in Spencer, Iowa. Her research has been featured in the *Des Moines Register* and the *Spencer Daily Reporter*.

Since the articles ran, she has been asked to write a book about her research.

Following are excerpts from the article, written by Kirsten Scharnberg, on Meyer's retirement:

"On Marilyn Meyer's last day of school, one teary 6-year-old pulled her very close and whispered, 'I don't want you to go, Mrs. Meyer. I'm sad about this. Very sad.'

"I know you're sad, honey,' the first-grade teacher replied as she hugged the little girl back. 'Mrs. Meyer is sad, too. But I'll visit you, and when you drive by my farm, you can visit me.'

"For 35 years, Marilyn Meyer has taught the same grade in the same school of the same town.

"She's a local icon. Nearly all of the 800 residents of this town either learned to read from Mrs. Meyer or have asked her how their own first-graders were catching on to basic math in her class at Clay Central/ Everly Community School.

"She has picked clay out of noses and corn out of ears.

"She has taught kids--and later, those kids' kids.

"Meyer will laugh about her keen memory. Then she will flash a grin and a wink.

"But she can't wink. When she tries--which is often--both eyes clamp shut.

"So for 35 years, Everly's 6-year-olds have learned the art of the wink all wrong.

"There have been days when she's laughed so hard that she's cried; when she's been so frustrated that she's cried; when she's been so moved by a 6-year-old's philosophy on life that she's cried.

"In all, Meyer has taught more than 700 first-graders in the same room and in much the same style for more than three decades. The wink hasn't changed. The song is still in the same key. The little jeans she keeps in her closet in case of "accidents" are still out of style.

"Meyer even has her own song.

"And for 35 years, at the end of each school day, kids have been singing it on key, off key and everywhere in between. Ask a 40-year-old man on Main Street to sing Mrs. Meyer's first-grade anthem, and he might shake his head and look a little embarrassed--but he will sing:

"'Good night, Mrs. Meyer. Good night, Mrs. Meyer. Good night, Mrs. Meyer. We had a great day. La la la-la. La la la-la. La la la-la. We had a great day.'

"She calls the scores of children she has taught her 'first-grade family.'

"And she keeps tabs on her former students. She knows how they're doing and what they're doing and where they are. She either sees them on Main Street or hears about them on Main Street.

"And they remember her, too.

She was the one who always gave hugs. In this day of hands-off education, Meyer is just the opposite. She never talks to a child without resting her hand on a head or shoulder. She freely gives hugs and kisses. She says, 'I love you.' She holds hands. And she cuddles.

"In 35 years, Mrs. Meyer had led her first-graders in the good-night song about 6,305 times. Friday, when the class of 2008 lined up for their buses, they sang 'Good Night, Mrs. Meyer' for the last time.

"As the kids filed out of the little classroom, Mrs. Meyer was still humming along.

"She waved and winked with both eyes.

"And she cried." ○

Earl, LaVena Fries honored for service to college

Earl Fries '38 was made a "Great Dane of Dana" at a luncheon in Des Moines, Iowa, on May 11.

President and Mrs. Christopherson hosted the luncheon which was attended by Earl's daughter, a grandson, several friends, and Dana Regent Don Jorgensen and his wife, Joyce, of Ripon, Wis., and Regent Emeritus Richard Hunt and his wife, Janyce, of Blair.

President Christopherson read the citation and presented Fries with a Viking Helmet symbolizing the award.

The award is given to persons of Danish ancestry who have given distinguished service to their professions, communities, and/or Dana College.

Fries, a retired insurance executive and long-time Dana Regent, has been active in providing leadership in all areas.

A native of Elk Horn, Iowa, Fries prizes his Danish heritage and has been active in his church, St. John's Lutheran of Des Moines. As a member of the Dana Board of Regents' finance committee, he



Earl and LaVena Fries (center) receive their "Great Dane" and "Honorary Alumna" awards from Anne and Myrv Christopherson.

was very instrumental in helping Dana acquire excellent insurance coverage and investment management.

"It is a pleasure to present this award to one who brings honor to his Danish ancestry, his college and his community," Christopherson said.

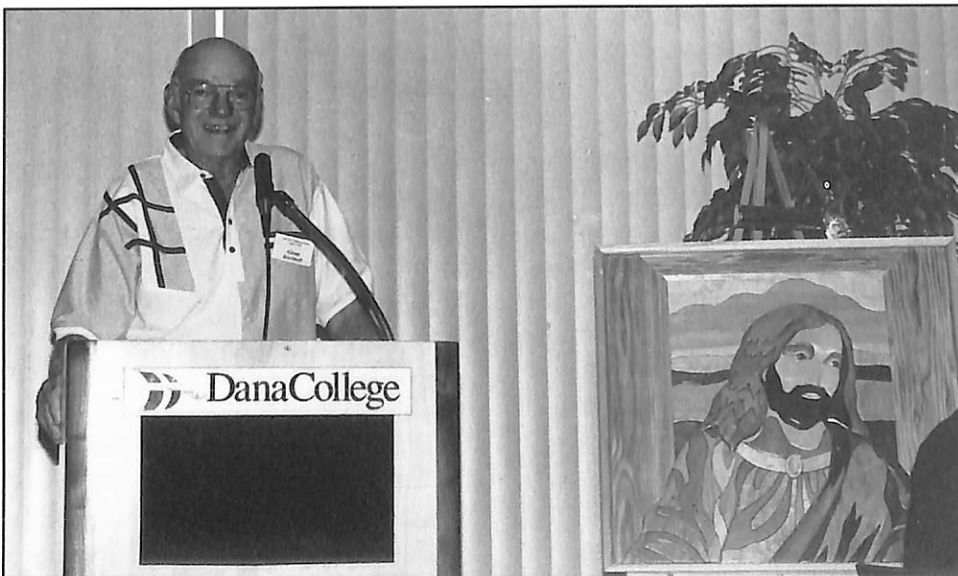
President and Mrs. Christopherson also presented a certificate making Earl's wife, LaVena, an "honorary alumna of Dana College."

The certificate, signed by Alumni Council President Jennifer Jensen, acknowledged LaVena's devotion and volunteer service to Dana College and to her community.

For many years Mrs. Fries has provided administrative assistance to the legislature and Governor of Iowa.

"She loves Dana," said Mrs. Christopherson, "and never fails to put in a good word for the college." ○

Craftsman donates Christ portrait to Dana



A wooden crafted portrait of Jesus Christ has been added to the collection of Dana College.

"Intarsia," a mosaic of wood fitted and glued in a wooden support, was created by Glenn Kirchoff of Syracuse, Neb., during his stay in Arizona last winter.

The portrait of Christ, made

(Continued on page 18)

Glenn Kirchoff created a mosaic wood portrait of Christ and presented the piece to Dana College at the Arbor Day celebration.

Chapel organ returns to Dana

By Barry Anderson '73,
Director of College Relations

The original reed pump organ from Trinity Seminary returned to the Dana campus this spring after an absence of more than half a century. It is a gift from Ruth and Glen Siegmann and N. Ann Andersen '47 of Milwaukee, Wis.

The Lakeside chapel organ, built between 1866 and 1900, was the first organ at Trinity Seminary. It served in the campus chapel until 1947 when it was sold to students C. Arthur '49 and Gwen '46 Christiansen for \$25.

Later that year when Arthur graduated from Dana and Trinity Seminary, it was purchased by another Dana couple, Harold L. F. T '50 and N. Ann Andersen. The organ followed the Andersens to a series of parsonages, and was used for an occasional wedding, serving as a constant reminder of Dana and Trinity.

After Rev. Andersen passed away in 1978, Ann gave the organ to their daughter Ruth and her



Ruth and Glen Siegmann and N. Ann Andersen (center) brought the first organ at Trinity Seminary back to Dana College where it is housed in the Presidents Room in the E.C. Hunt Campus Center.

husband Glen Siegmann. The Siegmanns had the organ serviced and reconditioned and decided that it should return to the Dana campus.

This June, Ann and the Siegmanns brought it from Milwaukee to present to the college in

memory of Rev. Harold L. F. Andersen.

The organ now is housed in the Presidents Room of the E.C. Hunt Campus Center, where it can be used for Trinity Seminary reunions and other special events.

○

Hawks, Kirchhoff join Dana Board of Regents

Two members have recently joined the Dana College Board of Regents.

Myrna L. Hawks of Omaha joined the board in the fall of 1997. Hawks is a homemaker and foundation chairperson. She is active on the Lutheran Service Corps Board, Stephens Center Board and Martin Luther Home Development Council.

She also serves on the Assistance League of Omaha and as Sunday School Superintendent for Lutheran Church of the Master in Omaha. She is a member of the

Midland Lutheran Foundation Board and the Hawks Family Foundation.

Her husband, Howard, is the founder of Tenaska in Omaha. They have three sons, Neal, Tim and Troy.

Dr. Leo Kirchhoff '60 will join the Dana College Board of Regents this fall.

He is a professor of education at California State University-Chico and has recently been elected to a three-year term to the university's Academic Senate.

Last summer, Kirchhoff was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Study Abroad Scholarship to Ghana, Africa. This summer he was a delegate to the National Education Association annual convention in New Orleans, La., representing the California Teachers Association (CTA), and California Faculty Association (CFA).

Also this summer Dr. Kirchhoff was appointed an official observer for the Second World Congress of Education International scheduled for Washington, D.C. ○

Minnesota pastor dabbles in "hot-rod ministry"

The following article, written by Clark Morphew, originally appeared in the June 13, 1998, edition of the Saint Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press. It is reprinted here with permission.

There we were, barreling down White Bear Avenue in a 1940 bright yellow Ford pickup with a Mustang engine, and the guy behind the wheel is a Lutheran pastor.

He's not just any Lutheran pastor. This is the Rev. Conrad Warner '68, pastor of Hope Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., and, for the past 17 years, the chaplain of the Minnesota Street Rod Association.

What are the chaplain's duties?

A few weddings and, once in a while, a funeral.

Warner knows his doctrine and he knows his cars. He owns about 25 of them, including a couple of Model A Fords, three 1940 Fords and a 1955 Ford, and he won't sell any of them.

"I just buy," Warner says. "When my wife looks in the pole barn, she just shakes her head. I bought this pickup off a guy in Iowa. I paid \$100 for it.

"We drove back to St. Paul in it after I graduated from Dana College in Nebraska. We must have looked like the 'Beverly Hillbillies.' It was all piled high with our belongings, straight pipes coming out the bottom, with my banjo sticking up on one side."

Warner does all the car work himself, except for the welding, which he leaves to professional welder Fred Hollman. He rebuilds the engines and puts everything back together.

In the 1940 Ford pickup, he even rebuilt the dashboard, added some gauges and put a radio in the

glove compartment.

"My dad wasn't much interested in working on cars," Warner says. "I grew up on a farm about 50 miles north of here. The family still owns it, so that's where I store the cars. So when you're living on a farm, you're required to do some things. When I lived there, I worked on a Model A."

Warner has been at Hope Lutheran for eight years. Previously, he served congregations in Duluth and Forest Lake. He has also been a counselor for chemically dependent people.

Through his interest in cars, of course, he got to know the street rod folks. "They asked me to be the chaplain in 1981," Warner recalls. "So by 1983, we started to have a Sunday service. I would play my banjo or guitar. Then I would talk a little, and when people started to nod off, we'd quit.

"I even remember what I preached at that first service—it was about a Minnesota Street Rod Association member who had an organ transplant and how grateful he was. We took up a collection for him."

Everybody in Warner's family is involved with street rods. His son rebuilt a Volkswagen Bug, and his daughter volunteers at the "Back to the Fifties" event every year. ("Back to the Fifties" is an annual street rod show sponsored by the Minnesota Street Rod Association.)

"She's got her eye on a couple of cars she wants us to build for

her," Warner says.

Warner's wife, Susan, attends many of the shows and appreciates the network of friends the couple have developed over the years.

One of those friends, the Rev. John Manz, pastor at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul, is having a Volkswagen restored in California.

"What I've heard is that people are attracted to the kind of car their parents had when they were kids," Manz says. "When I

was a kid, my dad had a Fulbright scholarship. We lived abroad, and we went everywhere in a little Volkswagen Bug.

"It's kind of a social thing, from

what I gather," Manz says of the street rod weekend. "I love the car shows. Some of those cars are beautiful. For me, it's the joy of something being reclaimed. There's an art piece to it. Just being able to join in the process."

Some cars have sentimental value, too. Warner, for example, still owns the car, a Model A Ford, that was used to teach his mother how to drive.

"Everything is original," Warner says. "It only has 30,000 actual miles on it. I just don't think it would be fair to cut it up."

Warner says he doesn't know how much his cars are worth. There's no need to know, he says, since he isn't going to sell them.

"When I can no longer have a vote in these things, then the family can do with them as they please." ○

"I just buy. When my wife looks in the pole barn, she just shakes her head."

Rev. Conrad Warner '68 regarding his antique vehicles

Business program accredited

Dana College has been granted full accreditation of its Business program by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) through June 2005.

According to the ACBSP, achievement of accreditation certifies that the teaching and learning processes within the business department of Dana College are ones of high quality and meet the rigorous educational

standards established by the association.

The Dana College Business Department had to complete an extensive self-study and undergo review by an evaluation team.

Dana now has specialized accreditation in teacher education, social work and business in addition to regional accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. ○

Portrait of Christ donated to Dana

(Continued from pg. 15)

up of 93 individual pieces of several different kinds of wood, was given in memory of Henry and Mary (Minderman) Kirchhoff by their children, Glenn Kirchhoff, Dr. Leo H. Kirchhoff '60 of Chico, Calif.; Dick Kirchhoff of Las Vegas, Nev.; and Erma Bettinger of Oakdale, Minn.

The artwork was first presented to Dana President Dr. Myrvin and Anne Christopherson during the Snowbird luncheon in

Mesa, Ariz., in February. It was formally given to the College during the Arbor Day festivities in late April. It has been hung in the Presidents Room in the E.C. Hunt Campus Center.

Dana already has as part of the Kirchhoff Art Collection for The Forum, a metal sculpture of a turkey, also crafted by Glenn Kirchhoff when he lived on the family farm near Weeping Water, Neb. ○

Scholarship established

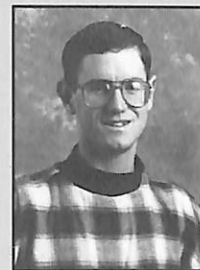
Dana College sophomore James Peterson, 20, of Viborg, S.D., passed away May 30, 1998, while awaiting a bone marrow transplant.

Peterson was very active in the Dana College media, participating in the *Hermes*, DVTV and KDCV radio. He received two Golden Leaf Awards this spring for excellence in sports media broadcasting.

"James was the ideal student and advisee," said Dr. Mary McComb, chair of the communications department and his advisor.

"His scholarship in classes was superlative—informed, energetic and creative."

A scholarship has been established in his honor. Donations may be sent to the Institutional Advancement Office. ○



Peterson

Homecoming '98 offers something for everyone

Efforts have been made to provide a family focus to Homecoming this year (Oct. 9-11) on which to build future Homecoming and alumni events while also providing activities for singles and groups without children.

Families will appreciate the services of Shepherd's Flock Day Care Center at reasonable rates. Shepherd's Flock, located near the Dana campus, will provide care for infants and elementary-age children.

Saturday morning, TREK experiences will be available for children in grades 3-9. Cost is \$10 per student. (To learn more about TREK, see pages 12-13.)

Couples who met at Dana will meet in a local restaurant Friday night. The traditional alumni dance is planned at the Blair Marina on Saturday.

Special thanks to the following alumni for opening their homes to classmates and friends for nine class reunions: '48—Lorraine (Sandberg) Madsen; '53—Vaughn and Clarice (Fredrickson) Christensen; '58—Darvid and Joann Quist; '63—Richard and Pat (Kiracofe) Jorgensen; '68—Garyld and Kathy (Niemeyer) Kuster; '73—Gordon and Cheryl (Harris) Fleming; '78—Mike and Tari (Therkelsen) Choiniere; '88—Mark and Kay (Schjodt) Dickinson; '93—

Kelly and Kim (Gosch) Ryan.

The Linden Room will serve as a hospitality and message center both Friday and Saturday. Volunteers are needed to staff the desk. If you would like to help, contact Julie Rohlring, director of alumni affairs, at 402-426-7235.

Another new feature of Homecoming '98 is the Alumni/Faculty Variety Show Friday evening, October 9. Prior to this program, an informal dinner buffet will be served in the dining room of the E.C. Hunt Campus Center.

On Saturday, the Dana family is invited to gather in the huge tent near the football field to enjoy food, fun and friendship. ○

Injuries knock Voitok from major league ball

(Continued from page 11)

on my team."

Some of the players that Voitok played with did eventually make it to the major league. The most notable is former Kansas City all-star Willie Wilson, whom Voitok teamed up with in the Sarasota outfield. Wilson went on to become an all-time top ten base thief in the majors and also won an American League batting title. Major league pitchers Bobby Castillo and Doug Corbitt also played alongside Voitok in Sarasota.

While Voitok grew up always wanting to be a big league ball player, it wasn't until the end of his

junior season that he started to believe it could become a reality.

To this day no Viking ball player has gone on a hitting streak like the one Voitok went on in 1973. The junior slugger shot into the limelight by going 13 for 16 in a four game series against the University of Nebraska-Omaha to end the 1973 season. The final two games were part of the NAIA district playoffs with several scouts on hand. During the streak, Voitok slugged five doubles, two triples and a homerun.

"That's when I realized that I had a shot at playing pro ball," Voitok said. "I was just in a zone and was hitting for power."

Voitok ended his Dana career with 27 hitting records, many of which are still on the books today.

As far as his own playing days, it was just last year that the 46-year-old former pro hung up his cleats. "I played all the way up until last year in the 35-and-over league. It's kind of sad when your body finally tells you to hang it up. I still have pretty good hand-eye coordination, but sometimes pop flies get to be adventures."

Voitok currently lives in Savage, Minn., with his wife Sondra and two children, Peter (17) and Tory (14). He works for the C.J. Duffy Paper Co. as the Corporate Credit Manager. ○

Matthies retires after 36 years at Dana College

(Continued from page 3)

leave."

Matthies said the connections he was able to make with his students was one of the greatest joys of teaching. "I could go down a list of students that I've worked with over the years, many of whom I've stayed in touch with," he said.

When Matthies arrived at Dana College, the physical environment was much different from today. Borup Coliseum and the Dana Hall of Science were both new. Most of the current day buildings, including the E.C. Hunt Campus Center, C.A. Dana-LIFE Library, Madsen Fine Arts Center and many of the residence halls, did not exist.

Staffing levels were much lower. Prof. Gil Ragan and Prof. Don Warman are the only two full-time faculty who held positions at Dana both in 1962 and today, 36 years later.

The physical environment is not all that has changed, Matthies said.

"Teaching has become a much more complicated and sophisticated process since I began," he said. "I think students are much better. Most of them have some pretty clear goals in mind. I think the cost of a college education has had something to do with that."

Matthies has been able to make his fair share of changes as well, as outlined by his colleague Dr. Kay Ferguson during commencement ceremonies.

"As chair of the department of education, Dr. Matthies has demonstrated exceptional leadership at national and state levels as well for Dana's department of education. The research-based conceptual framework he designed for the department has been unique, creative and a model for other institutions," she said.

Under Matthies guidance in recent years, Dana's education department has been granted full accreditation from the state department of education and the National Council for Accreditation of

Teacher Education. The College has hosted such national programs as Odyssey of the Mind, Expanding Your Horizons and the Space TREK Institute.

During the more than three decades Matthies has taught at Dana, over 1,200 teachers have been placed in teaching positions across the United States and several countries. Several have received the prestigious Warren Buffet award for exemplary teaching and the Nebraska Outstanding Future Teacher Award.

"The integrity and the quality of this record constitute a tremendous legacy that Dr. Matthies has left the education community and Dana College," Ferguson said.

Matthies said he has no immediate plans for his retirement as his wife, Mary, will continue to work for the next few years.

"By and large, I will continue to do the things I have always done, just more of it," he said. His major hobbies include gardening and woodworking. ○

'90s

- **Matt N. Andersen '98** is a computer technician for TD Squared in Omaha.
- **Matt A. Anderson '98** was one of three students accepted into the graduate program in bio-organic chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.
- **Todd Ashby '98** is responsible for Hoop It Up Tournaments in Fort Worth, Texas, for Streetball Productions Partners.
- **Amy Benedict '98** is the assistant editor for the Opinion Tribune in Glenwood, Iowa.
- **Sara Bohling '98** and Christian Hansen were married June 20. Sara is director of social services for Memorial Health Care Systems in Seward, Neb.
- **Brock Cooper '98** is in insurance and investment sales for John Hancock Insurance in Omaha. He and **Dana Strege '00** were married June 27.
- **Larry Dant '98** has been drafted by the Chicago Cubs and will be playing with a minor league team.
- **Patrick Finigan '98** is a project manager/inspector for AMI in Omaha.
- **Michelle France '98** is an outreach worker/shelter program coordinator for Camp Fire Boys and Girls in Omaha.
- **Mary Jo Greenwood '98** is a naturalist and program director at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Michigan this summer.
- **Aaron Groff '98** is teaching at Boys Town High School in Omaha.
- **Michelle Hansen '98** is a graphic designer for Wedding Pages of Omaha.
- **Julie Holmes '98** will be a special education teacher this fall at West Point, Neb.
- **Shawn Isaacs '98** is a counselor at Cooper Village in Omaha.
- **Ryan Jacobsen '98** is entering the doctoral program at Creighton University's School of Pharmacy.
- **Brent Jensen '98** is in marketing at Ameritrade in Omaha.
- **Marnie Jensen '98** is studying at The College of William and Mary School of Law in Williamsburg, Va.
- **Carrie Johnson '98** is working for Data Transmission Network in Omaha.
- **Beth King '98** will be studying music at Southwest Missouri College.
- **Michael Klug '98** will teach sixth grade this fall for the Papillion-LaVista (Neb.)

Community Schools.

- **Carrie Knapp '98** will be teaching biology and coaching for the Papillion-LaVista (Neb.) Public Schools.
- **Shannon Konken '98** is an assistant manager for a movie theater in Norfolk, Neb.
- **Jaimie Krueger '98** is working for the Slosburg Company in Omaha.
- **Julie Miller '98** will be teaching special education this fall in the seventh and eighth grade resource room at Otte Middle School in Blair.
- **Nicole Miller '98** will be the resource teacher for grades 5-8 this fall for the West Harrison Community Schools in Mondamin, Iowa.
- **Niki Moulds '98** of Fairbank, Iowa, will be attending the University of Northern Iowa in the fall.
- **Ann Myers '98** is working in collaborative services at Inacom in Omaha.
- **Daniel Olsen '98** is a resident assistant at Cooper Village in Omaha.
- **Damian Pollack '98** is a manager trainee for the Simmons Company in Omaha.
- **Rodney Ronk '98** is pursuing a master's degree in business administration from the University of Tulsa (Okla.) and serving as a graduate assistant in the athletic department.
- **Brenda Rumery '98** will be teaching special education this fall in Plattsmouth, Neb.
- **Denecia Siemers '98** is in the manager trainee program at First National Bank in Omaha.
- **Justin Smith '98** will teach English and serve as the head football coach at Wakefield (Neb.) Public Schools.
- **Matt Smith '98** is working for Inacom in Omaha.
- **Angela Sparacino '98** is competing in track events this summer and training for the Olympic trials.
- **Andrea Spreen '98** is taking photography classes at Hawkeye Community College.
- **Paul Stark '98** is working in the finance department for the City of Omaha.
- **Brian Stevens '98** is studying at the Palmer College of Chiropractic Medicine in Iowa.
- **Tricia TeSelle '98** is providing accounting support to the Nebraska State Education Association in Lincoln.
- **Brad Thies '98** is pursuing an advanced degree at the University of Nebraska School of Law in Lincoln.
- **Danielle (Larson) Weaver '98** will be an elementary teacher this fall for the Gretna (Neb.) Public Schools.

- **Sonya Weber '98** is pursuing a master's degree in agency counseling from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
- **Susan Weddingfeld '98** will be teaching social science this fall for the Omaha Public Schools.
- **Nicole Weers '98** will be teaching first grade in Saipan in the Northern Marianna Islands. **Tony Weers '98** will teach physical education and math there.
- **Dottie Whitehill '98** is pursuing a master's degree in linguistics at the University of Indiana in Bloomington.
- **Mark Witt '98** will be teaching music this fall for the Papillion-LaVista (Neb.) Schools.
- **Jason Wittmuss '98** and **Stefanie Soda '94** were married June 19. Jason is a customer service specialist for Ford Credit in Omaha. Stefanie is employed with Page County State Bank in Clarinda.
- **Jennifer Zahnow '98** is pursuing a master of divinity degree at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.
- This fall, **Carrie (Greise '97) Copenharve** will be teaching in a special education classroom for behaviorally disadvantaged at Boyd Elementary, Omaha Public Schools.
- **Amy Croughwell '97** is an accountant at Scarbrough-Sisson Design Associates, an interior design firm located in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.
- **Jeff Davidson '97** is selling cars for Superstition Springs Toyota in Mesa, Ariz.
- **Rhonda Dierking '97** and **Marty Santoni '97** were married May 30. Rhonda is a Medicare auditor at Mutual of Omaha and Marty is a physical education teacher and head reserve baseball coach at Ralston (Neb.) Public Schools.
- **Joel Jorgensen '97** and **Mary Benne '00** were married April 25. Joel is a district representative for Lutheran Brotherhood in the Blair area.
- **Kerry Maas '97** writes that she is half-way done with her master's degree requirements in library science at Syracuse (N.Y.) University.
- **Charles and Nicole (Parrack '97) Minniss** are the parents of a daughter, Nodikaa Danielle, who was born Jan. 10, 1998. Nicole will be teaching special education-behaviorally handicapped for grades 6-8 this fall at Coulwood Middle School in Charlotte, N.C.
- **Kara Nieland '97** has a new position as administrative assistant for Maenner Real Estate in Omaha. **Robert Nieland '97** is a general agent for American Amicable Life Insurance Company in Omaha.
- **Darren Osbahr '97** and Laurie Christian were married April 25. Darren works for Expeditors International in St. Louis, Mo.

○ *Kyle Slusher '97* was accepted into the molecular biology/biochemistry graduate program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

○ *Kenneth Swanson '97* and *Angie Esau* were married June 13. Kenneth is currently employed as a substitute teacher with the Omaha Public Schools.

○ *Nate Wigdahl '97* has been accepted into the graduate program in pharmacy at Creighton University.

○ *Richard and Holly (Halsell '96) Jones* have moved from Omaha to Durango, Colo. Holly writes: "My husband, Rich, was promoted with the move and we're looking forward to our new adventure."

○ *Ilka Knuetter '96* received the diploma of biochemistry in July. In October she will start to work on her PhD thesis at the University of Kalle (eastern Germany) which will take about three years.

○ *Brenda Mechels '96* will be teaching math this fall for the Westside Community Schools in Omaha.

○ *Matt Rega '96* will be teaching fourth grade this fall at Aldrich Elementary, part of the Millard Public School district, in Omaha.

○ *Kaci Solt '96* is beginning her third year of dental school at the University of Missouri at Kansas City. She will spend the next two years practicing on patients in the school's clinic.

○ *Angela Martinsen '95* will be teaching high school biology this fall in Westminster, Colo.

○ *Jason Tiedtke '95* has joined Washington County Bank in Blair as a loan officer in the equipment finance division. He came to WCB from a sister bank in Alma, Neb.

○ *Judi Yeates '95* was ordained as a Deacon of the Episcopal Church on April 29 at All Saints Episcopal Church in Omaha. Dana professors Dr. Delvin Hutton and Dr. John Lyden both participated in the ceremony.

○ *Nichole Jaskiewicz '94* and *Daniel Rogert* were married May 23. Pastor Linda Walz, former campus pastor at Dana, performed the ceremony. Nichole is a protective service worker for the State of Nebraska.

○ *Soren Kold '94* graduated in January as a medical doctor. He has begun work in the department of surgery in a hospital in Herning, Denmark.

○ *Sheila Monke '94* will be teaching second grade this fall in Arlington, Neb.

○ *Laurie (Johnson '94)* and *Matt '93 Plowman* of Blair are the parents of a daughter, *Jocelyn Noelle*, who was born April 9. She weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces.

○ *Heather Petersen '94* and *Michael Lomax '95* were married May 23. Heather

works for Ford Motor Credit in Omaha.

Mike works for Fremont Area Medical Center as an end-user support specialist.

○ *Shawn Brooks '93* and *Sara Hake* were married May 24. Shawn is a senior medical student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

○ *Bryan Scheer '93* graduated from the University of Nevada-Reno School of Medicine in May.

○ *Kalani Simpson '93* has won a total of six journalism awards in the Nebraska and Iowa Press Associations' Better Newspaper Contests. This year he received two awards for his work at the *Valley News Today* in Shenandoah, Iowa: first place for best sports story and second place for best sports photo.

○ *Lori Wortmann '93* and *Gregory Sunderman* were married May 30. Lori is manager of the Pizza Hut restaurant in Madison.

○ *Sheila Young '93* is news director at KLIR 101.1 FM and KJSK 900 AM in Columbus, Neb. She also co-hosts the morning show on KLIR from 6-9 a.m. Her partner is *Dave Rhinehart* and the show is called "The Young and the Rhinehart."

○ *Kim Mikos '92* and *Duane Hagedorn* were married June 27. Kim is a mathematics teacher and head varsity volleyball coach at Millard North High School in Omaha.

○ *Mark '91* and *Lydia (Kerns '90) Rothfus* of Atlantic, Iowa, are the parents of a son, *Andrew John*, who was born March 2. He joins a sister, *Lisa Marie* (9).

'80s

○ *SusanAnn (Peloso '88) Harrison* was recently a co-presenter at the Coalition of Essential Skills Conference in San Francisco. Her seminar was entitled "School Restructure: Myth or Reality." She has been accepted to the graduate program at the University of New Mexico College of Education in the Teacher Enhancement Program, a specialized program for teachers with 5-10 years of experience.

○ *Matthew and Janet (Skinner '88) Perrone* of Omaha are the parents of a son, *Donavon Keith*, who was born Jan. 26, 1998. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins a brother, *Frank* (3).

○ *David Iversen '86* writes: "For the first time since my senior year (fall 1985 as "Francis Flute/Thisby" in Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream"), I am in a play. Actually, I will be in four plays in conjunction with Minot State University Summer Theater. I will be a dancer in "Grease," the king in "Cinderella," a soldier in "Moon Over Buffalo," and the

constable in "Fiddler on the Roof."

○ *Michael Soe '85* has accepted a position as a radiologist at the Fremont Area Medical Center in Fremont. He and his wife, *Meri Jo (Meier '87)* and their children, *Megan* (7), *Melissa* (5) and *Matthew* (2) moved to the Fremont area in June.

○ *Dwaine and Pamela (Robinson '84) Hurt* have moved to Memphis, Tenn., where Pamela is building a sales business with *Mary Kay Cosmetics*.

○ *Ellen Stokebrand '83* is employed as the special education director at ESU #4 based in Auburn, Neb.

○ *Sylvia and Curtis '82 Fett* of Sioux City, Iowa, adopted a son, *Joshua Sang Min Fett*. He was born Feb. 11, 1998, and arrived from South Korea on June 18, 1998.

○ *Colleen (Dutch '82) Rasmussen* graduated from College of Saint Mary in Omaha in May with an associates degree in nursing. She was named one of five Outstanding Clinical Students of the Year by the faculty, was one of only 54 nursing students who graduated with highest honors and had the highest grade point average of the nursing students. She is employed as a labor and delivery nurse at Bergan Mercy Hospital in Omaha. She and her husband *Scott '82*, have four children, *Maggie* (13), *Dan* (9), *Sean* (7) and *Jack* (5).

○ *Cynthia R. Josephson '80* received a master of divinity degree at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

○ *John Skilbred '80* writes: "My wife, *Julie Rae*, and I and our two boys *Luke* (5) and *Forest* (2) have enjoyed a warm winter in Arizona, a nice break from Alaska! *Julie* and I are exploring options to return to school to continue our education."

'70s

○ *Charles and Melody (Gramlich '78) Cejka* of Gretna, Neb., are the parents of a daughter, *Erin*, who was born Dec. 28, 1997. She joins a sister, *Laura*.

○ *David M. Kuhl '78* resigned as head football coach at South Sioux City (Neb.) High School to accept a job as dean of students and head football coach at Winterset, Iowa. *Kuhl* resurrected the Cardinal football program from just 13 wins in six years to a 15-5 mark over two seasons.

○ *Carl Porter '73* of Tekamah, Neb., was named an Ak-Sar-Ben Good Neighbor. *Porter* is described as a person who makes things happen. He has organized a moving day to help elderly neighbors move into a new home and hosted many social gatherings for the neighborhood. *Porter* is a retired teacher who farms northwest of Tekamah.

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

○ **Carol D. Wood '73** of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was appointed to a three-year term as a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Advisory Council in the State of Iowa by Governor Terry Branstad.

○ **Phillip Tegeler '72** was promoted to director of operations at MDS Harris Laboratory in Lincoln. He has been with the firm since 1996.

○ **Gene Wulf '72** has been elected vice president—controller of Bemis Company Inc. In this position he has oversight responsibility for all public SEC reporting, tax compliance and planning, internal audit, management reporting and information technologies. Gene and his family have relocated from Wisconsin to Minnesota. He and his wife, Barbara, have two children, Benjamin (15), and Ashley (12).

'60s

○ **Rev. Robert D. Hansen '68** was recently installed as pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Beresford, S.D.

○ **James L. Hansen '65** has been promoted to group manager of the Applied Math and Statistics Group at the South Charleston Technical Center. He and his wife, Sharon, live on an acreage near Hurricane, West Virginia.

'50s

○ **Rev. Bill Lawson (D'56, T'60)** retired in February after 37 years of parish ministry in the UELC, ALC and ELCA, the last 30 as co-pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Green Bay, Wis. His wife, **Toni (Nelson '57) Lawson**, is continuing to work as a teacher's aide in the Green Bay Public School system.

'40s

○ **Emmelinn (Fredericksen '49) Hoar** of Windham, Maine, writes: "Three Danians, **Ken Luce '68**, **Earl Johnson**, and **Emmelinn Hoar**, survived Ice Storm '98—the worst in Maine since records began. We survived 1-2 weeks with outside 'food boxes,' wood stoves, generators, etc. We are all members of No-Windham Union Church UCC, which served as a Red Cross center. Four months later, brush is now being picked up and ground into wood chips. We may have lost our electricity but not our power!"

'30s

○ **Aleine Miller '33** was honored on Palm Sunday for 35 years of service in the Waupaca (Wis.) Community Chorus as a rehearsal accompanist and choral member. The event was part of the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the chorus, which is

part of Waupaca's Fine Arts Festival.

Deaths

○ **Steven Jessen '78** of Denver, Colo., died May 25 at his home at the age of 42. He attended Dana College in 1974-75 and graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1978. He worked for a number of years for the Lincoln Telephone Company, Amcom of Colorado and TIE Industries. Diagnosed with Alpha 1 antitrypsin deficiency in 1989, he retired in 1990 and began his second career as a stay-at-home dad. He received a double-lung transplant in 1995. Survivors include his wife Laurie, daughter Leslie, parents Henry and Joyce Jessen of Lodgepole, Neb., sisters Nancy (Jessen '83) Rowlett of Omaha and Jane Mardis of Oakton, Va.

○ **Doris Jacobsen Cole '69** died May 17 at Rose Vista Nursing Home in Woodbine, Iowa, at the age of 83. She taught school in Woodbine from 1954-1978. Survivors include her son, Dwayne Jacobsen of Eagle Rock, Mo., and daughter Carol Livengood of Modale, Iowa.

○ **Larry W. Jensen '63** of Mentor, Ohio, died May 3. He was chief chemist at Ashtabula Rubber Company. Survivors include his wife Beverly and daughters Belinda McPherson and Heather Jensen.

○ **Judith A. Bergstrom '61** of Missouri Valley, Iowa, died June 19 at St. Joseph Medical Center in Omaha due to complications following a kidney transplant. She was 58. Judy was a laboratory technician in Blair before working in the same capacity for Physicians of Internal Medicine P.C. in Omaha from 1977-1990. Survivors include a brother, Wayne of Tacoma, Wash.

○ **Mary (Anderson) Vig '61** died April 26 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Blair at the age of 96. She taught in the Blair Elementary School system from 1923-47 and again from 1956-68. Survivors include her son, Ronald Vig of rural Blair.

○ **Marie Johnson '60**, former assistant registrar at Dana College, died May 8 in Blair at the age of 79. Marie began her employment at Dana in 1946 and was appointed assistant registrar in 1960. She retired from Dana in 1979. Survivors include her sister Arline Nyman of Silver Bay, Minn.

○ **Leroy Pedersen '60** died June 13 after a battle with non-hodgkins lymphoma. He had taught math and science in Blair for two years, then math in Racine, Wis., for 36, retiring in 1996. He was a member of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. He is survived by his wife Lois (Jensen '62), three daughters and six grandchildren. Lois writes: "Leroy and I had many happy memories of our years at Dana. I feel God

placed us both at Dana to meet, marry and have 37 happy years together."

○ **Paul Mengers '50** died April 30 at his home in Nevada City, Calif. He held managerial and engineering positions at Boeing Airplane Company, General Electric Advanced Electronic Center, Sylvania Electronic Systems and other firms before founding and serving as chief executive officer of Quantex Corporation, Sunnyvale, Calif., a firm that concentrated on development of high-performance imaging systems. Paul held two patents involving electro-optic image conversion. Survivors include his wife, Ardis (Gramps '51) Mengers, daughters Pamela Hodges, Kathryn Vast and Candace Robinson, and three grandchildren, all of California; sister Carol (Mengers '49) Johnson, Clarendon Hills, Ill.; and brothers Gerhard '52, Alliance, Ohio, and Gunnar '55, River Edge, N.J. His grandfather was the Rev. C.C. Mengers, who was named a Knight of Dannebrog for his pastoral work among Danish Lutheran immigrants. His father was Dr. Ethan Mengers, professor of Old Testament at Trinity Seminary in Blair and Dubuque, Iowa, from 1946-58.

○ **Aage Schou '45** of Sarasota, Fla., died April 10. He was a retired Naval Air Officer. Survivors include son James and daughter Kathryn.

○ **Dr. Harold E. Sorensen '42** died in October 1997. He was retired and living in Eau Claire, Wis. Survivors include his wife, Irene, and children Steven, Richard and Jane.

Friends

○ **Marvin "Padre" Bruce Barratt**, father of five graduates of Dana College, died June 19 in Manilla, Iowa, at the age of 83. His obituary listed one of his proudest moments as when he received a special award from Dana College for having five sons attend the school. This prompted him to establish a scholarship trust. Survivors include his sons, Steven '74 of Kirkman, Iowa; Roger '76 of Oakland, Iowa, and Kevin '79, Brian '83 and Joel '86, all of Omaha.

○ **Ebba Rasmussen**, an employee of the Dana College Business Office for 20 years, died June 24 at Crowell Memorial Home in Blair at the age of 84. Survivors include a brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Mary Ann Rasmussen of O'Neill, Neb., a niece and two nephews.

Correction

○ In the Spring edition of the *Dana Review*, survivors of O. Victor Magnussen D'35 T'39 were listed incorrectly. His wife is Esther Frost '31. The editor apologizes for the error.

“Build it, and they will come!” Wasn't that the theme of the “Field of Dreams” film in which a baseball diamond was built in an Iowa cornfield to fulfill the dreams of the farmer played by Kevin Costner? That has been something of a theme for me over the past 12 years as Dana's President, too. “Build it and they will come,” I thought.

And we have done that. We have built excellent facilities, especially following the tragic loss by fire of our Old Main. More facilities need to be renovated and made accessible.

Most recently, thanks to the generous leadership of good friends like Howard and Myrna Hawks, Dave and Sandy Solberg and Rev. Bob Schaff and members of Omaha's Lutheran Church of the Master, yours truly is able to enjoy a new office, which hopefully, will enable me to better serve all of Dana's constituencies.

We have also built programs and won recognition for excellence in our curriculum from other observers. The dean at one of our most celebrated universities recently remarked, “Myrv, you've got the best core curriculum features at Dana of any of us.”

That dean went on to sing praises for our portfolio requirement which allows students and faculty together to monitor and encourage the educational development of every student. He also praised our Liberal Arts Reading Program (LARP) which tends to make the Dana community of faculty and students one of the most literate college communities anywhere.

A further example that program development has been successful is the recent specialized accreditation granted to our business program by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). Other programs that have won specialized accreditation include our social work and teacher education programs, both of which have been cited for excellence.

Despite these and other evidences of building, most Americans know little

or nothing about Dana College. Our alumni base is small. Yet, we have all been surprised to be somewhere in the world only to discover that the person we just met is a Dana grad or knows someone who went to Dana.

I find it surprising to discover that many from Omaha have no idea what or where Dana is. With the leadership of Barry Anderson and our College Relations Office, we are stepping up our marketing efforts. Our alumni director, Julie Rohlfling, and the Alumni Council are also launching a Dana Ambassador program aimed at drafting willing alumni into service as voluntary Ambassadors to help us promote Dana and recruit qualified students.

We would also like to increase the visibility of Dana through print and broadcast media as well as by outdoor advertising. Regrettably, our budget resources are small, and our needs are great. Therefore, I am asking alumni and friends to help us. For example, do you own or have a friend who owns property adjacent to major highways leading to Blair and Dana who might be willing to donate space for an attractive sign promoting Dana College?

The highway transportation department has been unwilling to erect exit signs directing travelers to Dana because we are located too far off the interstate to meet their guidelines. Hence, we need to find alternative sources for signs to let travelers know about this fine college. You may be able to help. If so, or if you have other promotional ideas or are willing to help fund such efforts, contact Barry Anderson, Director of College Relations, at 402-426-7385, with offers or ideas for promotion of Dana College.

Of course, more important than knowing our name is the question Jesus asked of his disciples (Mark 8): “Who do people say that I am?”

I ask, “Who is Dana College? What does it stand for?” It is my conviction that we stand for excellence in higher education, for a caring community that wants for every student “more than a degree.”

It is also my desire that we offer a Christian witness to those who study here and through our students who leave here. A witness of love, of genuine interest in serving and helping others.

When I read the aims of many higher educational institutions today,



those interests are absent. But, I believe they should be primary at Dana. We not only wish to graduate good students, but people who will bring competence, a good work ethic, honesty and a desire always to do what is humane and just. We hope to engender in our students a desire to pursue and share knowledge. And, a respect for the dignity of every person. But it is not what I think that is important, but rather what others see in us.

I believe Dana's visibility is determined not only by our intentional promotional efforts through public media, but perhaps more importantly by the combined messages given off by our faculty, staff, students and alumni. They will judge who we are by our actions.

Meanwhile, I am convinced that we have something very special to share here at Dana. And, anything we can do to introduce ourselves to the public will open the door to many who do not know us. Perhaps you can help in some way by your ideas and your gifts to raise the awareness about this wonderful gift of the people of God, a place called Dana.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Myrvin F. Christopherson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.












Myrvin F. Christopherson
President

● HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL ●





AUGUST

- 27 ● New students move in
- 30 ● Opening Convocation
2 p.m., Lauritzen Theater, Madsen Fine Arts Center
- 31 ● Classes begin

SEPTEMBER

- 5  Football vs. Dakota Wesleyan
1 p.m., Viking Field
- 10  Volleyball vs. York College
7:30 p.m., Borup Coliseum
- 12 ● Cross Country, Dana All-Comers Meet.
10 a.m., Viking Field
- 12  Women's Soccer vs. Concordia
1 p.m., Viking Field
- 13  Sunday Brunch on the Hill
10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Cafeteria, E.C. Hunt Campus Center
- 17  Women's Soccer vs. Hastings College
4:30 p.m., Viking Field
- 18-19  Volleyball, Viking Invitational
TBA, Borup Coliseum
- 19  Women's Soccer vs. St. Mary's (Kan.)
1 p.m., Viking Field
- 19  Applejack Bowl: Football vs. Peru State
Dana Tailgate Party at Nebraska City
- 20 ● Golf Outing and Family Picnic
Sioux City, Iowa
- 21  Women's Soccer vs. Central College
4:30 p.m., Viking Field
- 22  Volleyball vs. Doane College
7:30 p.m., Borup Coliseum
- 26 ● Kids On the Hill Day/Parents Day
- 26  Football vs. Hastings College
1 p.m., Viking Field

OCTOBER

- 1  Women's Soccer vs. Nebraska Wesleyan
4 p.m., Viking Field
- 3  Women's Soccer vs. York College
1 p.m., Viking Field
- 6  Volleyball vs. Midland College
7:30 p.m., Borup Coliseum
- 7-11  Fall Musical, "Pippen"
7:30 p.m., Lauritzen Theater, Madsen Fine Arts Center
- 9-11 ● Homecoming
- 10  Women's Soccer vs. Northwestern College
10 a.m., Viking Field
- 10  Volleyball vs. Hastings College
12:30 p.m., Borup Coliseum
- 10  Football vs. Dakota State
2 p.m., Viking Field
- 11  Sunday Brunch on the Hill
10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Cafeteria, E.C. Hunt Campus Center
- 17  Football vs. Midland Lutheran
1 p.m., Viking Field
- 22  Women's Soccer vs. Doane College
3:30 p.m., Viking Field
- 23  Volleyball vs. Northwestern
7:30 p.m., Borup Coliseum
- 25  Chorale Concert
2 p.m., Trinity Chapel, Dana Classroom Center
- 27  Dana College Concert Band
7:30 p.m., Lauritzen Theater, Madsen Fine Arts Center
- 31  Football vs. Nebraska Wesleyan,
1 p.m., Viking Field

Note: All times and dates are subject to change. For more information, contact the College Relations Office, 1-800-444-3262, ext. 4; or 402-426-7216.

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