



# Dana Review

An Alumni Publication of Dana College  
Spring 2002

Volume 58, No. 3

**Three families honored  
at Arbor Day celebration**



*President Myrvin F. Christopherson*

"I'm sorry, I'm just not interested." That is the way I often answer telemarketing calls, especially when they interrupt dinner, or when the company or product is clearly of no interest. After all, there are only so many credit cards I can use, and I have so little interest in new siding or windows right now. Yet, I'm fearful that I may be getting too callous in my responses. More important, my curtness may extend to other callers.

We ask Dana students to call alumni and parents and others who are on our list of supporters. Most of the time they encounter alumni and friends who are friendly and respectful. Even if they can't or won't make a gift, they are still kind as they decline. One of the things that I prize about Dana students and alumni is that they tend to treat others with respect and dignity. It's part of our emphasis on character building. Our theme for this year in student life programming has been "Character Matters."

## The gift of Education is handed down from generation to generation

*by Dr. Myrvin F. Christopherson '61, President of Dana College*

Generally, Dana alumni and parents are grateful for their Dana experience, valuing the alternative in higher education a personalized community like Dana offers. Hence, it disappoints me when one of our student callers encounter a rude reception with remarks like "All you ever want is money."

When one of our alumni responds like that I find myself thinking, "Well, excuse me, who do you suppose made possible your education at Dana? In addition to your own earnings or savings and the help of your parents and other family or friends, many people made gifts to Dana directly or through their churches, companies, or foundations to make college affordable and excellent for you. No student at Dana pays the full bill. Gifts of alumni and friends have always underwritten a good share of the expense for students. Most of our students could not attend Dana without such help."

One of the factors rating groups like the U.S. News & World Report "Best Colleges" use to rank colleges is the percentage of alumni who give to the college annually. Many of the highest-ranking colleges report 50 percent of alumni giving annually. Most years we have to report less than 20 percent of Dana alumni have made a gift. I believe we can and

will do a lot better as alumni recall the kind of quality, personalized, faith-based education Dana students receive, and realize how important gifts are to us.

I hope you'll bear with us as we try to reach all of our alumni annually with an invitation to give back to the college they attended for some or all of their higher educational experience. My prayer is that all Dana alumni, parents, and friends will eagerly support Dana every year, and will also make a provision in their estate for Dana. I can assure you "We don't just ask for money."

I fear that the alternative of private colleges of the church like Dana will no longer be available if those who have most benefited by them are unwilling to value and support them. The class of 2002 will walk across the stage on May 18, receive their diplomas, and become Dana alumni. Most of them know they could not have made it without the support of many who read these words. On their behalf, I say, "Thank You!" "Tusind Tak!" May the world be better and God be glorified by what they do with the education you have helped them achieve.

# DANA REVIEW

AN ALUMNI PUBLICATION OF DANA COLLEGE  
SPRING 2002 VOLUME 58, No. 3



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The DANA REVIEW is published four times annually for distribution to alumni and friends of Dana College and Trinity Seminary by Dana College, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008. Third-class postage paid at Blair, NE, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to DANA COLLEGE, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008-1099.

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Phone: 1-800-444-3262

Published by the College Relations

Office: 402-426-7216

Web site: [www.dana.edu](http://www.dana.edu)

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**On the cover:** The Dana College campus is in full bloom with the signs of spring everywhere. This photograph was taken by Brenda Bartlett on the evening of the Arbor Day celebration. It is a close up of an apple tree on campus, one of the many beautiful trees in bloom during spring.



*Professor Michael Anderson*

What does Dana College have in common with 6,500 professional trumpet players? Both benefit from the work of Dana Assistant Professor of Music Michael Anderson and the Dana College Computer Services Department.

Dana College hosts the website for the International Trumpet Guild, a professional organization founded in 1974 and boasting more than 6,500 members worldwide. Anderson was instrumental in starting the ITG website and now works closely with the Computer Services Department to keep the site running smoothly.

“Dana provides the server space and technical expertise at no charge and has been doing so since 1995. This saves the guild a tremendous amount of money,” Anderson said.

The International Trumpet Guild is a professional organization for professional, academic, student and avocational trumpeters. Its mission is to “promote communications among trumpet players around the world and to improve the artistic level of performance, teaching and literature associated with the trumpet.”

## Dana host to 6,500 trumpeters

Anderson first became involved with the Guild in 1980 as a student member. In 1995 Anderson’s involvement escalated as he attended an ITG Board of Directors meeting and challenged them to look at ways to implement Internet technology into its organization. The rest is history. From that point on, Anderson became a key player in a broad range of roles in the ITG including Executive Director for the website, an elected member of its Board of Directors and Chair of the Technology Committee. He also received a Lifetime Membership Award from the Board for his work as

the Project Manager of the ITG Journal 25th Anniversary CD-ROM.

As director of the website he works with five editors who volunteer their time to keep the web site up-to-date and accurate.

They function as news, calendar, employment, links and youth page editors. Each editor does his or her own uploading and Anderson oversees it all.

The ITG was the first professional instrumental organization to have a meaningful website. It was established in its infancy to be something beyond a contact point, containing intensive research and informational resources.

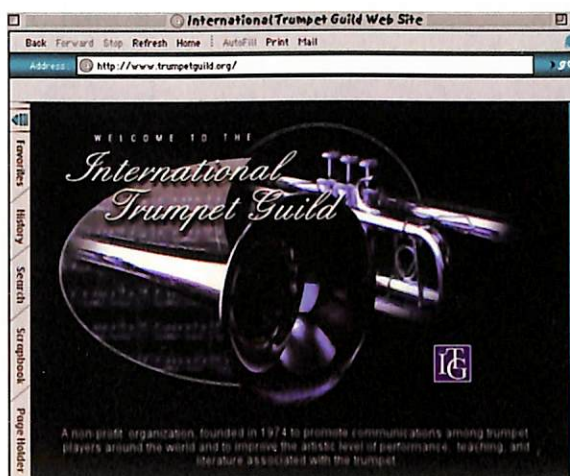
The ITG promotes communications among trumpet players around the world by keeping each other up-to-

date through the web site. “It’s a community – we just don’t live in the same area,” said Anderson. “We did it very early in comparison to other similar websites because we had the vision early. At that time, Dana was on the cutting edge of Internet technology so it was relatively easy for me to provide plenty of online services to the ITG. We set the standard for instrument professional organizations.”

“Right now, we are very proud of how we report back to our members the activities of our annual conference,” he said. Anderson, along with several other volunteers, covers the

conference in detail as it’s going on. “It isn’t ‘real time,’ but it’s pretty darn close,” said Anderson.

Every conference event is covered on the web with photographs and an article within 24



*The International Trumpet Guild Web Site can be accessed at [www.trumpetguild.org](http://www.trumpetguild.org).*

hours of the event. Members can experience it almost “live.” That’s important to the ITG because only 1,000 of their 6,500 members are able to attend the event. “Some day, I would love to see us be able to do web casting of our conferences and master classes. In this way we would be able to broadcast these important events and truly speak to our mission,” Anderson said.

The Guild works hard at getting young students involved as early as junior high school. The membership

*continued page 20*

# Dana partners with Danish institution

Some relationships were just meant to be. Reaching across the seas to forge this budding partnership, Dana College and Vejle Business College in Denmark are romancing opportunities for international educational growth for their students and faculty.

Historically, Dana came to know Vejle when Dana President Myrvin Christopherson was invited to speak at the Vejle Business College commencement ceremony June 20, 1998. Since that time Vejle has welcomed the 1999 Dana Chorale and Interim 2000 business students. The success of the Chorale performance was overwhelming, with a capacity crowd of 1,200.

During each of the past two years, Vejle Business College faculty members Laurits Schytz and Lotte Lundorff have brought a group of students to Dana for several days of study and exploration. They made the trek again this April, bringing 30 students.

Both institutions stand poised to take this partnership to the next level. In a November 2001 meeting with Schytz and Lundorff, future joint endeavors were discussed. Any student at Dana now has the opportunity to attend Vejle on a one or two semester exchange, or as part of the curriculum for Dana's major in business administration with an emphasis in international business.

Dana College professor Dr. John Mark Nielsen recently waded into the technical world of long-distance learning with Vejle, a pioneer in the high revenue e-learning classroom. At

Vejle, distance learning is made up of two different types of instruction methods: virtual classroom (teleconferencing lecture) and course e-learning.

Nielsen fell into this teaching opportunity partly by accident. To enable the Vejle faculty to spend time with the visiting Interim 2000 Dana students, Nielsen stepped in as substitute teacher. The idea later was posed



*Thirty exchange students from Vejle Business College visited the Dana campus in April.*

that he teach a teleconferenced American studies unit, including elements of American politics, history, immigration and literature, to the Vejle class preparing for travel to the United States. The students benefit additionally from this opportunity to hear and view an American professor they will meet while at Dana.

One teleconferencing session was successfully completed this past February, although solutions to compatibility challenges are being sought before the next session takes place. Duey Heffelfinger, director of computer services at Dana, feels optimistic that Vejle will be successful in its trouble-shooting efforts. He added that great opportunity exists for teleconferencing between Dana and the institutions in Nebraska, explaining that the

user-friendly teleconferencing system offered by the University of Nebraska at Omaha is available to Dana at almost no cost.

Nielsen described his experience in detail. "It's quite a performance, really. I present to an audience of two TV monitors, one showing me what the students are seeing – me – and the other that shows the students from the perspective of a camera that slowly

pans the lecture hall. Although interactive – I can hear them, they can hear me – the camera does not focus on any one student. This is a little difficult to adjust to, especially when a question has been posed and the camera has come to rest on the door frame in the classroom," he laughs.

All in all, Nielsen said he enjoyed the experience and is confident that it presented a unique and valuable learning tool for the students. It is hoped that by fall 2002, teleconference capabilities will be in place with Vejle to preface their September visit to Dana.

Dana's business program currently includes two Vejle graduates. Rune Jensen, a student in the business program, also lends goalie skills to the Dana men's soccer team. Lars Jensen earned degrees at both Vejle and Dana and now serves as a member of Dana's business faculty, teaching economics and finance. He has also taught Danish.

Two Dana groups will travel to Vejle in 2003, an Interim class in the winter and the Chorale in the summer.

# **Education Department maintains high standard**

## **Faculty great teaching models**

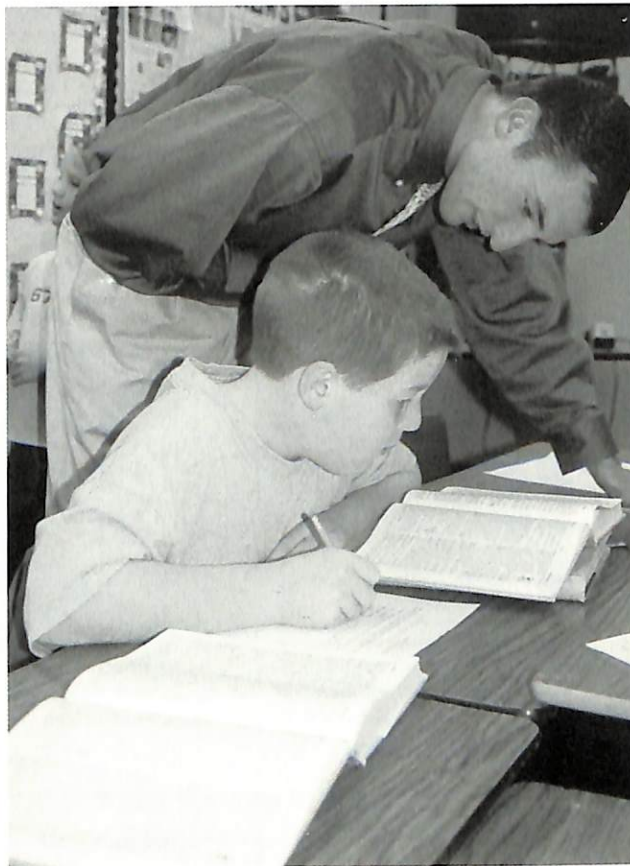
*Editor's note: This is the second in a series on the academic programs at Dana College. Dana prides itself on academic excellence. The outstanding education Dana's future teachers receive is reflected in their own classrooms long after they receive their degrees.*

Dana College's location and superb faculty make Dana's teacher education program second to none in the Midwest.

"Our faculty are good teaching models," said Dr. Patti Gubbels, assistant professor of education and chair of the education department. "Because we're small, we get to know students and somewhat individualize programs."

As an additional method to provide special personalized attention to some of Dana's top education students, next fall the department is piloting the TEACH (Teacher Education Assessment, Capstone and Honor) program. Participants in the program will learn how to develop electronic and paper portfolios, receive mentoring from an education department faculty member and exhibit developed teaching artifacts. The honors exhibition at the culmination of the program will be almost like an "education recital," Gubbels said. "It will really serve as a celebration for these students."

All of Dana College education students have a plethora of opportunities for one-on-one interaction with



*Dana College senior James Koontz assists a student during the school day as part of his student teaching experience.*

children. Education majors are required to take Teacher Assistant I and Teacher Assistant II during their sophomore or junior years. A minimum of 50 hours is spent in the public school classroom for each course. "We want to help them understand as many teacher roles as possible," Gubbels said.

All majors must also complete a semester-long student teaching experience. "Because of where we are situated, students can gain experience in rural schools or urban schools,"

Gubbels said.

In addition to formal requirements of the major, Dana students have many other opportunities to gain hands-on teaching experience. For example, students in Dana's Methods of Language Arts class read to local elementary school students in their classrooms. Observation hours are part of the Introduction to Education course.

Education students also assist with special events at Dana College. At the college's annual Arbor Day celebration, education majors plan special activities and work with the children who attend the event.

Space TREK, a summer technology camp for middle school students, and Odyssey of the Mind competitions are other special events hosted on Dana's campus in which education majors have had the opportunity to be involved.

Education is one of the largest majors at Dana College as currently 157 students have declared education as their major. Ninety have been accepted into Dana's teacher education program.

Majors generally enter the program as sophomores. They must

have a grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and successfully complete a basic skills competency test and the Introduction to Education course. They are also required to gather recommendations from K-12 teachers and college administrators.

At Dana, education majors may choose from a variety of specialties: elementary and/or special education, art, music or physical education (K-12), or the secondary education subjects of mathematics, social science, biology, business, chemistry, English, history or modern foreign language (German or Spanish).

"Students are drawn to teaching because they like learning," Gubbels said. Elementary teachers generally choose the profession because they enjoy working with children. At the secondary level, many times it is a passion about a certain subject. "They can live that subject if they teach it," she said.

Amy (Barta '93) Becker decided to pursue teaching as a career because of a strong influence at home. "My dad always said you have to be a lifelong learner," said the Fort Calhoun (Neb.) junior high English teacher.

When she decided education would be her career path, Becker quickly made the decision to transfer from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she had completed her freshman year. She called the human resources departments of local school districts to ask which area college had the best education program. "Again and again it was Dana," Becker said.

The Fort Calhoun native said she had not considered Dana when she was first looking at colleges, but transferred without even visiting

campus because of the excellent reputation for teacher education that the college sported in the area.

Dana's standard of excellence has continued to serve Becker well since graduation. "In interviews, it sells me," she said. "It is so well respected."

Becker contends it is the endless networking efforts of Dana's faculty that nurtures the college's reputation. "I know Dr. (Kay) Ferguson makes it her business to make sure people know what Dana is doing," Becker said. "She works tirelessly for her graduates."

Ferguson, professor of teacher education and psychology, has

taught at Dana since 1987.

"Everyone I dealt with at Dana was so set on making sure I was successful," Becker said.

Dana's reputation for excellence has been recognized again and again through accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Dana's program has been continuously accredited since 1963.

"It's like the Good Housekeeping seal of approval," Gubbels said of Dana's longstanding accreditation. "It guarantees that this is a quality program."

## Career Services updates teachers credential files

"Send out my file," says the note in the mail, and Jill Camargo, Assistant to Career Services, prepares another confidential teacher credential file. In fact, every year Dana College's Career Services office sends out an average of 427 credential file packets at the request of Dana's teacher education alumni to aid them in their search for teaching positions. An average of more than 50 alumni completely update their credential files every year.

Teachers should update their files approximately once every five years. A credential file looks much more professional if the references and experience summary are current. And, it's difficult for a teacher to have to scramble around and update a file in a hurry when just the right job opens up. Our office is pleased to have received comments from school systems about how organized and attractive Dana's credential files are.

The Career Services office maintains more than 1,500 credential files for teacher graduates. A modest fee covers the basic typing, copying, and mailing costs. Anyone wanting to update their credential file can contact the Career Services office by phone at 402-426-7258, or email at [career@acad2.dana.edu](mailto:career@acad2.dana.edu). With the advent of email it has become easier to have a credential file sent because people can email their requests to Career Services in seconds if they have authorized email contact.

Dana's teaching graduates continue to be in demand, and Career Services continues to keep Dana's teacher credential files "lookin' good."



*Ann Nelson  
Director of  
Career Services*

# Three brothers, Three majors, *ONE COLLEGE*



(l-r) Matthew, Jeremy and David Bryan

If you ask David, Jeremy or Matt Bryan what it is like to have two other brothers at the same college you might hear something like David's response, "Half the time I don't notice it." Currently the trio have two classes in common, Voices and band. Otherwise David says he doesn't even see his brothers.

David, a senior music major, Jeremy, a senior computer science and business major, and Matthew, a sophomore art major, all live at home. Home is Fort Calhoun, Neb., a short 10 miles from the campus.

"Since Dana is so close to Fort Calhoun, it has allowed us to live at home and save money," said David. "Dana offered a lot of scholarships along with a great music department and superior academics."

Matt also liked the idea of being close to home but admits that he followed his brother's lead. He was impressed with the art program. As an avid music lover, participation in Chorale is important to him.

"I think it's kind of neat that they are here. We get to see more of each other than we would if we attended different schools," said Matt. "I didn't want to go to a really big school," said David. "I grew up in Omaha and then

our family moved to Fort Calhoun my freshman year of high school. Then I discovered how much I like a smaller school," said David.

"We are all into music, and the main reason I came," said David. David works at Fort Calhoun High School as the piano accompanist for the chorus.

The best thing about having two other brothers at the same college is knowing that if one car breaks down, there are two others on campus. The guys get teased about their cars. "We all have a bunch of junk cars so if one breaks down we have an extra ride. Usually one is always broken," said Matt. There is even a joke around campus naming each car "The Bryanmobile."

Sometimes it is a challenge to attend college with two other brothers on campus at the same time. Professors sometimes get their names mixed up. Matt relates the comments he hears as Jeremy's "up and coming younger brother."

A favorite prank fellow students love to pull on the trio is to ask one "Where is your brother?" The typical response is "Which one?" It seems like everyone is always looking for Jeremy. He is very active in the theatre department and always working on something connected with the department.

Parents Steven and Leslie Bryan are regulars on the Dana campus and many members of the student body know them. The boys believe their

parents find it convenient to have all three brothers here and have an easier time attending the performances and productions the three active college students produce.

Two other brothers, a high school sophomore and seventh grader, and one sister in fourth grade, also live in the Bryan household. Jeremy would recommend Dana to all of them. "It all depends on what they want to do. I know from experience that if they want to go into art, music or business this is the place to be," said Jeremy. "It's small, you get to know everyone and the teachers are good at what they do."

Next year, Dana will see one less Bryan boy on campus. David graduates in May and will be attending the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. There he will begin a master's program to study piano pedagogy, "the science of piano teaching." The program is a small one, currently with only four or five students. David is ready to move on and start the next chapter of his career.

The brothers have enjoyed the years with all three on board at the same time. David especially has enjoyed this time of togetherness. "We see more of each other at home or here on campus than if we would have attended separate colleges, and I can keep an eye on them," he said.

Next year will indeed be different for the whole family. Who will be the one to keep an eye on the other? What kind of comeback can Jeremy and Matt now come up with to the question "Where is your brother?"

# Dana senior runs for Nebraska Legislative Seat

Todd Trimpe, 25, has been thinking about running for a political office since his high school years at Boyer Valley Community School. He never dreamed the opportunity would present itself during the final semester of his college senior year.

He grew up in Dunlap, Iowa, which is located less than an hour from Blair. Trimpe believes the concerns and values are almost identical among the populations.

Trimpe is running for the District 18 Nebraska Legislature seat. District 18 includes the communities of Blair and Fort Calhoun, Neb., as well as a portion of northeast Douglas County in Omaha. This seat is open due to recent redistricting. His opponents are Blair Mayor Mick Mines and James L. Kovarik of Omaha. The primary election will be May 7.

“Being raised in the same area, I understand the needs of the people here,” said Trimpe. He also finds Nebraska’s Unicameral appealing because of its uniqueness. “The Unicameral is very efficient and open to the public. The nonpartisan working of the legislature seems to cut down on some of the bureaucracy and conflicts that some other states may have.”

Being young, Trimpe has a lot of energy to go out and do the work that needs to be done. “I have no one I owe favors to, no ties that could influence me in the Legislature,” he said.

“I will go out listen and let what the people want sink in. It’s real important to keep the communication open with people,” said Trimpe.

Trimpe believes he can bring an “old-fashioned sensibility” to the Legislature. “Being from the Midwest, common sense seems to be right in my mind. Conservative ideals built the

area, and we need to keep with our roots,” he said.

In January, the Dana College senior business major enrolled in an interim course, Legislative Research. He along with another student, Dan Hansen, a senior from Carson, Iowa, worked with Senator Matt Connealy from District 16.

“It was great in giving me real life experience, going through the research of a bill and learning all that goes with



*Warren Buffet (left) and Todd Trimpe at the Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting.*

that,” said Trimpe. “The course was very helpful and well organized.” He met senators, staff, lobbyists and other state members giving him an inside view of government.

While working on his interim assignments, Trimpe met Senators Adrian Smith, 31 and Philip Erdman, 23. They asked him why, as a business major, he is interested in politics. “My long-term plan was to go into the business sector, make enough money and then run for office,” said Trimpe. Smith and Erdman encouraged him to start now and offered suggestions of how to get started.

“I was never sure of having a chance to do this. The timing of an open seat, being able to meet with

some of the people who were my own age and now in a political office and receiving overwhelming support from them encouraged me to enter the race,” said Trimpe.

His campaign strategy is to meet the public one-on-one. He has traveled to events and meetings speaking with the public. After the election he plans to keep this communication open also.

“I am running on a smaller budget than some candidates, so these plans will work well with that in mind.

Some call me naïve, but I do not think that an election can be ‘bought,’” said Trimpe. He believes it should not take \$75,000 to \$100,000 to convey his ideas to the voters. Nor does he believe a large campaign budget will guarantee that the candidate gets elected. He believes people are smarter than that.

“It doesn’t matter how many times they may see a candidates’ name on a sign or face on a billboard. What matters is that they vote for someone whose beliefs fit with theirs and someone who will justly represent them in the future,” Trimpe said.

Trimpe has postponed his final semester at Dana to pursue his dream of running for a political office. It was a difficult decision, but he decided when the opportunity presented itself the timing would have to work. “I wanted to do this, and I didn’t want to give 50 percent to school and 50 percent to the campaign. I need to give 100 percent to my campaign,” Trimpe said.

If he is not elected, Trimpe plans to finish his degree at Dana and begin his career in the financial industry. He also said he would give his dream another try in four more years.

## Dana College Athletics 2001 – 2002

As the 2002 school year draws to a close, it is an opportune time to look back at the year in Viking athletics.

The Dana College women's soccer team started the year off right with a 19-0 regular season record and the championship in the Great Plains Athletic Conference Tournament. The Vikings hosted the Region IV Tournament but were eventually defeated by the College of St. Mary, 2-0.

Erin Rozelle, Michelle Glanz, Jenny Wilcox, and Melissa Respeliers earned Honorable Mention All-American honors. The Vikings ended the season 22-1.

On the men's side of the ball, the Vikings ended the year 5-11 and 2-6 in the GPAC.

The volleyball program showed that the future would be bright as the young team improved to 2-8 in the GPAC and 7-26 overall. Senior Anne Laughery earned Second Team All-GPAC honors.

The Dana harriers had another solid season under Head Coach Jay Birmingham. Injuries and illness, however, brought the men's cross country team in at ninth place at the GPAC meet and the team failed to qualify for the national meet for the first time in seven seasons. Senior John Tripp earned Academic All-American honors.

Academic All-Americans Stephanie Collins and Alicia Widtfeldt led the women's cross country team. The ladies finished the season in ninth place in the GPAC.

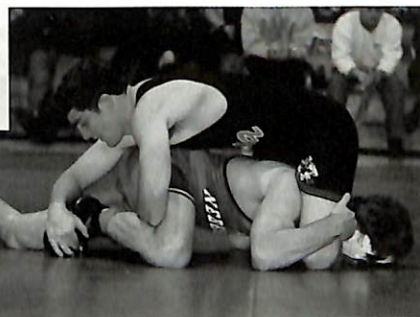
The Dana College Vikings ended the football season 3-7 with an uplifting victory over Midland Lutheran

College at the annual Homecoming game. Academic All-Americans were Ross Jensen, Eric Lee, Mark Sukraw, Jason Carroll, Alex Gum and Kurt Ferguson.

The Dana College grapplers won their second consecutive Region IV



*Damon Day, head baseball coach (above) with his crew removing snow off the baseball field. Tanya Dugan (above, right) in women's soccer action, (right) Dana wrestler Brian Welte goes for a pin.*



title by defeating William Penn College. The Vikings sent 10 wrestlers to the NAIA national meet. They were Brian Tsutsumi, Pete Isham, Sam Melendrez, Brian Welte, Leister Bowling, Keith Clausen, Justin Williams, Luke Kuhl, Art Castillo, Wynn Fangmeir, and Tom Wissman. Melendrez placed seventh and Williams placed eighth at Nationals.

The Dana College basketball program under went some growing pains in 2001-2002 but the future holds a lot of victories for both young teams. Head Men's Basketball Coach Chris Fear is excited about the future of his program that finished the season 7-24 and 2-14 in the GPAC. "We played five freshmen regularly and they matured with each game," Fear said.

The women's basketball program finished the season 2-24 and 0-16 in the GPAC.

Matt Maltby earned All-American honors in the indoor shot put and Stephanie Collins won All-American honors in the 800-meter run as they led the indoor track squads.

The spring sports at Dana have generated a tremendous amount of interest. The softball program was 18-18 as this story went to print and the baseball program was third in the GPAC, eclipsing last year's win total of 13 halfway through the season. The Vikings baseball team is also currently ranked #10 in Region IV for the first time since 1996.

The future of Dana College athletics looks to be a promising one.

**President Christopherson** was a recipient of the MS Leadership Award, presented by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for outstanding contributions to the business and civic betterment of the Omaha metropolitan area. Christopherson helped to collectively raise over \$35,000 to advance the mission of the MS Society.

**Steve Adair**, former program director at KVNO Radio/UNO was guest speaker on Feb. 27. He discussed his work with "Deutscher Wochenspiegel" during two German classes at Dana.

**Rev. Dr. Andrea Ng'weshemi's** new book *Rediscovering the Human: The Quest for a Christo-Theological Anthropology* has been published by Peter Lang. The book attempts to address constructively the perennial question: "What does it mean to be human theologically?"

**Tom Nielsen**, reference librarian, has been appointed chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Nebraska Library Association for this year.

**Jan Potter** served as a re-accreditation site visitor for the Council on Social Education this fall. Jan also served as a judge for the African American History Challenge sponsored by 100 Black Men of Omaha. **Jan and Richard Potter** also gave invited presentations "Recreating the Center in a Fractured World: Sufi Heart and Energy Practices and "Windows into Reality: Finding the Transcultural Essence of Spirituality" at the Society for Spirituality and Social Work, June 28 at Catholic University, Washington, D.C.

**Kris Weigelt**, assistant director of financial aid, recently completed her Bachelor of Science degree from Bellevue University. Her major was

Business Administration with an emphasis in human relations.

**Michael Anderson** was recently appointed to the 12-member editorial committee of the International Trumpet guild Journal. The ITG Journal is now a juried journal where all articles are peer reviewed by the editorial committee before publication. He will present his paper, "Trumpeters and the Internet" at the 2002 ITG conference at the Royal Northern School of Music in Manchester, England in July.

**Dr. Patti Gubbels**, Education department chair, conducted a retreat for secondary education faculty on March 2. The retreat was created to update and verify rule 24 endorsement guidelines of the Nebraska Department of Education. Faculty members from the department of Art, Biology, Chemistry, English, History, Languages, Mathematics and Physical Education also discussed program and content assessment and K-12 content standards.

**Volker Langeheine**, scholar in residence of German, participated in the Workshop for Goethe-Institut Network Trainers on "Authoring programs for web-based exercises." He participated in the 2002 Central States Conference Extension Workshop Program on "Interpretive Communication: A New Look at Reading in Kansas City." He was one of 25 foreign language teachers selected this year to attend the oldest foreign language outreach program in the country.

**Professor Lisa Schreiber's** Public Relations class, as part of their service learning project, is holding a website design contest. The contest is open to all students of all skill levels to generate ideas for a new look for the Dana website.

**Michelle Kempke Eppler** has joined Dana as Registrar. Michelle received her B.A. from Drake University, and her M.S. in Counseling from UNO with a concentration in student affairs in higher education. She was director of international programs at Iowa Western Community College.

**Dr. Richard Palmer**, professor of



*Stephanie Collins and Garry Clark were crowned Winterfest royalty.*

music and chorale director, premiered his original work "Love Shall Be," written on the day of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, at the Clarion Chamber Chorale spring concert. Artistic director Stanley Schmidt passed the baton to Palmer who will take over as the Clarion's director and conductor, beginning

the 2002-2003 season. Four other members of Clarion Chorale are from Dana, **Professors Michael Anderson and Jeanmarie Nielsen, Ann Nelson**, director of career services, and senior **Curt Isaacson**.

**Patti Nielsen, R.N.**, attended the Central College Health Association conference. She was chosen as the only Nebraska nurse to receive a grant from the association to cover a portion of the conference expenses.

**Lori Nielsen**, Learning Center director, attended the annual conference of the Hearland College Reading and Learning Association in St. Joseph, Mo. on April 4.

## Three families honored at annual Arbor Day celebration

Mother Nature threatened rain that blustery early afternoon, but instead gave us a beautiful Spring evening for Dana's annual Arbor Day celebration April 25. "Today we honor and thank those who gave birth to the college, those who carry out the enterprise of learning at Dana, and especially those alumni and



*(above) Brad Taylor with his children plant a tree in memory of his parents, Jim and Rae. (above, right) Howard Hawks and sister-in-law Betty Yocum greet guests in receiving line. (right) Jeanne Gardner and daughter Leslie (Gardner '79) Bebee stand near tree planted in memory of husband and father, Dan.*

friends whose gifts of money and service give us the courage to be," President Mryvin Christopherson announced, presiding over the program that honored and entertained the students, faculty, staff, parents, alumni and friends of the college in attendance. "Dana is a place of beauty because of the seeds that have been

sown here. Seeds of trees, but also of knowledge, truth and faith," he said.

Over the past seven years nineteen beautiful trees have been planted



for Arbor Day festivities on Dana's campus. This year three more trees were planted to remember four people who have helped to plant and nurture Dana College.

A Bald Cypress was planted to honor the late Dan Gardner who died January 19, 2001. Dan came to Wakefield, Neb., in 1952 to manage the M.G. Waldbaum Co. It became one of the nation's leading egg and

poultry businesses, and Dan became one of the industry's key leaders. With his wife, Dana Regent Jeanne Gardner, they established the Gardner

Foundation that has so richly benefited Dana and so many other institutions and individuals.

Myrna Lee Hawks is remembered with the planting of an Aristocrat Pear tree. Myrna died January 24, 2001, after a long battle with cancer. She had directed the Hawk's Family

Charitable Foundation that has given so generously to Dana, served on the Dana Board of Regents and gave so much of herself to many service organizations.

A Redbud was planted in memory of James and Lida Rae Taylor. Rae died July 28, 2001, and just ten weeks later James joined her. They devoted their lives to their successful business, Taylor Oil, in Blair, and to their children. Jim served, with Rae's support, as a Dana Regent for twelve years. Their estate included a generous provision for scholarship aid to Dana College students, in order that they have an opportunity for study James and Rae didn't have themselves.

Howard Hawks and Jeanne Gardner were each presented with the Crystal Dana Sail for their long-time support of Dana College through their respective foundations.

The event concluded with a reception in the Forum. Dana education students provided Arbor Day.

## Donors find unique ways to give to Dana College

Beyond the traditional gifts of cash or real estate, there are other unique ways to make significant donations to Dana College.

Many workers find it difficult to use all of their allotted vacation time in a given year. Following the September 11 tragedy, the federal government has made it possible for employees at any business, for-profit or non-profit, to donate vacation time (one day or more) to their favorite charity between now and December 2002.

The regular pay you would receive for the vacation time would be given instead to Dana College. You will receive a gift receipt from Dana for the value of the gift that can be used as a personal tax deduction.

If you are interested in making this type of donation to Dana College or call 1-800-444-DANA, option 4. A representative from the Institutional Advancement office will contact your employer.

### Frequent Flier

Another special way to help Dana College is to donate your accumulated Frequent Flier miles. Your miles can be used to obtain tickets for our faculty and staff to travel for business or attend conferences.

Gifts of miles are generally made in increments of 25,000 or 40,000. During this past academic year, more than 300,000 miles were donated to Dana College by our alumni and friends. To make a gift, contact Dana College at 1-800-444-DANA, option 4.

### Fund drive underway for performance-level grand piano

A fund drive is well underway to help purchase a new performance-level grand piano for the Dana College Music Department. The department has struggled for years with the lack of quality pianos for teaching and practicing. This affects approximately 20 students each semester.

"The Baldwin grand piano in Trinity Chapel and the smaller Baldwin grand in the teaching studio have sustained much wear after years of heavy use and are in need of extensive repairs," said Claire Bushong, assistant professor of music at Dana. "In order for our students to be able to achieve the subtleties required in the performance of fine piano music, we very much need to provide responsive instruments for their use."

Donations of professional quality grand pianos are also being accepted. A six-foot (or larger) instrument is needed for use in the

teaching studio. Preferred brands of pianos include Baldwin, Steinway and Yamaha.

Dana College will send a certified piano technician to inspect the condition of potential donated pianos to verify if they will meet Dana's needs. If the donation is accepted, the college will also pay for shipping and moving expenses of the piano.

"A donation of this magnitude would really enhance our curriculum," said Professor Michael Anderson, co-chair of the music department. "It's something we have needed for many, many years."

To make a monetary donation to the piano fund, contact the Institutional Advancement office at 1-800-444-DANA, option 4, or 402-426-7333. If you have a piano that you feel is appropriate to donate, contact Claire Bushong at 402-426-7311.

### NICF Board meets at Dana

President and Mrs. Christopherson hosted the Nebraska Independent College Foundation (NICF) Board of Directors meeting on the Dana College campus on April 4.

Members of NICF are Bellevue University, College of St. Mary, Concordia University, Dana College, Doane College, Hastings College, Midland Lutheran College, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Union College and York College.

A major issue discussed at the NICF board meeting was Nebraska's tuition assistance program. With budget cuts taking place in most state legislatures, Nebraska has reduced its support for private education even further.

Adjoining states to Nebraska have budgets of \$30-\$50 million for private education, while Nebraska allocates only \$3.9 million and recent action by the governor and legislature further reduces that amount.

President Christopherson continues to help lead the effort to broaden support for private education in the state of Nebraska.

# The Beautiful Blue Dot We Share

## Dr. Mark Thomsen's Mission of Understanding

It was in 1957 when Mark Thomsen, a young Dana graduate recently ordained as a Lutheran pastor, set out for the predominantly Muslim Nigeria.

Lecture Series at Dana. "My hope would be that gradually we will become more aware of the fact that we are one human family, on one beautiful blue dot, within God's space

the country club of the globe," Thomsen said. "Twenty percent of the world's population produces and consumes 86 percent of the world's goods and services. The human consequences of this gap between the possessors and the dispossessed are tragic for millions."

"Muslim people have learned a great deal about our culture by way of TV, movies, music, and technology. They have also witnessed the consequences of our foreign policy and free-market economy. This picture is largely negative to our 1.2 billion Muslim neighbors," said Thomsen.

"Not only do they struggle with poverty, they live as disappointed people that during the 9th, 10th and 11th centuries were a wonderful civilization of leading astronomers, mathematicians and philosophers. They were never able to overcome the trauma of colonialism. Looking back and then to the present, they feel dominated and exploited."

*Continued on page 21*

### Global Statistics

**The U.S. population of 270 million makes up 4.5% of the world's population; produces and consumes 25-30% of the world's wealth; consumes 25% of the world's oil, creating 22 tons of hydro-carbon emission per person per year.**

**800 million people are malnourished, 200 million being children.**

**30,500 children die every day because of preventable diseases and malnutrition.**

**In developing countries 130 million children out of 625 million do not attend school.**

<b>Average life expectancy:</b>	<b>United States:</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>Japan:</b>	<b>80</b>
	<b>Brazil:</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>Sierre Leone:</b>	<b>34</b>
	<b>Nigeria:</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Zambia:</b>	<b>37</b>
	<b>India:</b>	<b>59</b>		

As professor of theology at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN), he witnessed the tremendous challenge that faced the Nigerian population of Muslims and Christians when, in 1960, they faced their future as an independent country. Great debate as to how religion should function within the constitution of Nigeria resulted in tension and conflict. The TCNN tried to prepare students to understand Islam, Muslim people and witness to Jesus in sensitive ways.

This was how Dr. Thomsen first became involved in Christian-Muslim relationships, early experiences that would define a mission for his future.

Thomsen shared his dreams for the future when he spoke for the recent Staley Distinguished Scholar

and embrace. That is a vision proclaimed and lived by Jesus."

That vision is to be shared within a world horrendously divided by a growing gap between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the weak.

"The U.S. and Europe have become



Dr. Mark Thomsen

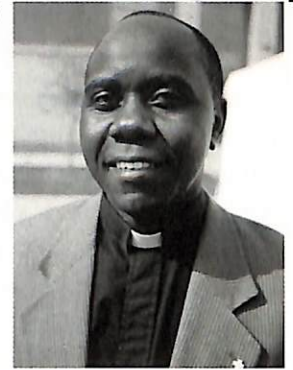
Dr. Mark Thomsen received his Ph.D. from Garrett Theological Seminary and Northwestern University in 1971. Twice Dana has honored Thomsen for his achievements. He was inducted into the Dana Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978 and in 1988 was named a Distinguished Alumni.

In 1996 he joined the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago as professor of world mission. The Chicago Center for Global Ministries, for which he serves as director, was founded in 1993.

Thomsen's writings have appeared in numerous magazines and journals, including *Word and World*, *Dialog*, *World Encounter* and *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. His most recent book, *The Word and Way of the Cross: Christian Witness Among Muslim and Buddhist People*, was published by the ELCA in 1993.

***Dr. Mark Thomsen's agenda continued . . . A response by Dr. Andrea M. Ng'weshemi***  
***Dana College Campus Pastor and Instructor of Religion***

## **The Church and the Quest for Global Justice**



*Dr. Andrea M. Ng'weshemi*

The point is well taken that until the events of Sept. 11, 2001, most Americans did not know violence or terror of such magnitude.

Dr. Mark Thomsen, spring 2002 semester Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar, raised and addressed the question, "Why is there so much violence in the world today, and why is it encroaching on American soil?" Thomsen suggested that violence today results from desperation: people are hungry, poor, sick, dispossessed, and hopeless. But why is this so?

The reasons are multi-faced: internal conflicts (religious, civil and ethnic), natural catastrophes (drought, earthquakes), and the effect of the encounter between the West and the non-western world. The economic effects are obvious: those who miss out on the global gravy train are left lying in the dust, deprived even of the little they already had.

According to Dr. Thomsen, American Christians and citizens will no longer be confined to their "comfort zones," ignoring the rest of the world. Truly, people will no longer speak of themselves, their security, their success, their peace, or their dreams without thinking of the millions of people languishing in poverty, sickness and malnutrition.

The question then becomes, "Where do we start?" It is essential to publicly expose conditions that render people desperate. Unmasking such conditions requires the commitment of citizens determined to advocate for change.

Perhaps it is time we took seriously the concept of "inclusive community," a global community where people will live, love, respect, value and help one another. The inclusive community is one in which relationships are genuine, where people regard each other as equals and have equal chance and access to life, where people uphold the principle that all humans need and care for each other, and differences in opinion are accepted.

As people of faith, we are called to the awareness that we cannot be fully human if we stand idly by while fellow members of the global community are living below human standards, without hope for a future but to contemplate death on daily basis. The Bible reminds us: We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down

his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need, yet refuses to help? (1John 3:14–17 NRSV)

If Jesus' mission was to set people free from hunger, disease, sin and death, our role and the role of the church is to pursue the salvation and integral liberation of humanity. We should openly favor only those structures that defend and protect humanity. Churches should use all resources available to encourage and empower people, denouncing cultural, economic, and political systems that are oppressive, alienating and dehumanizing.

God's concern for human life is not confined to a section of the world. Humanization is an inherent message of salvation in Christ. If we choose to follow this author of life, solidarity with the 'wretched of the earth' is inescapable. We become builders of peace and love, and thereby inhibit the culture of violence and death, which have produced the current trends of terrorism. That done, we can proclaim that, "We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another" (1 John 3:14 NRSV). Therefore, it indeed could be otherwise.

## Dana Alums invited to experience Alaska by sea

A Dana College alumna is organizing an Alaska cruise that highlights the incredible Denali National Park. An 8-11 day cruise is planned which boasts untamed beauty and will keep you in awe.

The cruise/land package has pre-and post-options scheduled for mid June of 2003, tentatively, June 18. The pre-cruise extension to Seattle and the Great Northwest is hosted by Dana alums. A post-cruise extension to the Arctic Circle is also available.

The three to seven day Inside Passage cruise begins with a festive

party on the forward deck of the cruise ship and sails under Vancouver's landmark Lions Gate Bridge. Naturalists will lead lectures as passengers enjoy an ever-changing panorama of scenery. Stops at various ports of call such as Ketchikan, Juneau, Sitka, and Skagway are in the planning stages.

Participants will discover the glaciers spilling giant icebergs into deep fjords. They will travel through Alaska's scenic heartland aboard a full-domed sightseeing railcar with on-board dining, the McKinley

Explorer.

Other highlights of the tour feature an amazing natural history tour of the remarkable Denali National Park including an overnight stay. Opportunities to explore Anchorage and Fairbanks will give guests a great sampling of Alaska's vast interior.

Details are still being planned. For more information, contact Kathy (Wollenhaupt '63) Shaw at KatiDid63@aol.com or Julie Rohlffing, director of alumni affairs, at 1-800-444-3262 or e-mail alumni@acad2.dana.edu.

## Registration underway for UELC Reunion June 7

Registrations are arriving for the June 7-9 UELC Reunion at Dana. If you did not receive the registration material, please contact the Alumni Office very soon at Alumni@acad2.dana.edu or call 800-444-DANA, option 4.

Also on June 7 and 8, the Association of Lutheran Musicians is holding a regional conference at Dana College. Their evening program, "The Joy of the Hymn: A Concert of Hymn-based Literature" will be of interest to

many. All UELC reunion attendees and others in the local area are invited to the concert and joint ALCM and UELC reception which follows.

For UELC folks, Saturday morning involves a panel discussion including panelists Ruth Benson, Allan Hansen, Inga Larsen and moderator Carl Schattauer. Their topic is Growing Up Lutheran in the UELC.

The afternoon program includes the Danish Immigrant Archive and a Lur publications book review by John

W. Nielsen.

Myrv Christopherson, Dana President, is the featured speaker at the dinner and program Saturday evening. Special music by Mezzo-forte will fill out the program.

Robert O. Berthelsen is scheduled to preach and Edward A. Hansen is to preside at the Heritage Worship on Sunday. Concluding the reunion will be Dana's community event held the second Sunday of every month, "Brunch on the Hill."

## Annual Arizona Luncheon • Saturday, February 23, 2002 • Mesa, Arizona



(l-r) Angela Probasco, Charles Olsen, Arlyce Olsen, Marilyn Nichols, Roger Nichols, George Landbo and Tina Landbo



(l-r) Arden Dorn on the accordion, Glenn Kirchhoff, Merlyn Minderman, Leo Kirchhoff – Board of Regent, Leon Meyer, Nora Meyer, Donna Stock and Gladys Kirchhoff

## Longtime friend and supporter of Dana dies

Lorraine (Sandberg '48) Madsen, a longtime friend and supporter of Dana College, died March 25, 2002, of an aneurysm at her home in Loveland, Colo. She was 76.

She married Archie L. Madsen D'48 T'51 on Aug. 17, 1947. He preceded her in death in 1988.

"I know of none of our alumni any more devoted to Dana College than Lorraine," said Dana College President Myrvin Christopherson. "She was a champion of the underdog and gave tirelessly to assure equal rights and opportunities for women and minorities. To highlight her own struggles with prejudice she called herself a 'recovering racist.'"



Lorraine Madsen

"At Dana she was the best friend we had to women's sports and often sponsored pizza and ice cream parties for the women athletes and coaches," Christopherson added.

In 1981, she was presented Dana's Distinguished Alumni Award, an award given to those alumni who have distinguished themselves in their professions and have rendered dedicated service to the College and others.

Last year, Lorraine was named the first recipient of Clifford T. and D. Florence Hanson Servant Award from Dana for unselfish service to church, community and Dana. "Her church, Dana College, and Oaks Indian Mission in Oklahoma all ben-

efited from the lives of service she and her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Archie Madsen, lived," Christopherson said.

"Her vigorous energy left us all shocked that she could have died this soon, but she left a legacy of loving kindness that will last several more lifetimes," he said.

Lorraine was a member of the Dana Women's Club and volunteered at Crowell Home and Good Shepherd Home in Blair. She moved to Colorado in 2001 to be closer to her children.

Survivors include her son, Mark, two daughters, Marie (Madsen '73) Hensick and Marcia Miller, a brother, Maynard Sandberg, and a sister, Arlene (Sandberg '54) Nelson.

## Former President Robert Glass dies

Dr. Robert J. Glass, former dean of faculty and acting president of Dana College, died Oct. 22, 2001, in Silver Spring, Md. He was 72.

Robert was born on Aug. 3, 1929, in Pittsburgh, Pa., to Samuel Robert and Mary McBride Glass. He received his bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1952 and his doctorate from the University of Maryland in 1965. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy from 1955-60.

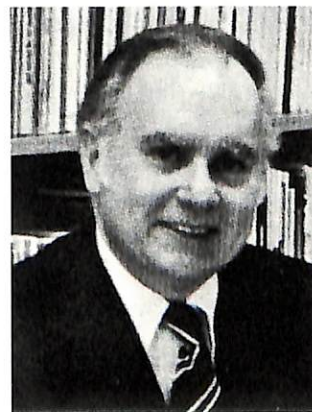
He taught at the U.S. Naval Academy, University of Maryland, University of Massachusetts and Ohio Northern University. Just prior to coming to Dana College, Glass served as

**"Although his deliberate nature impeded expeditious implementation of decisions, his integrity, vision, academic values, and faith were an inspiration to us who were privileged to work with him. During his tenure as acting president he achieved a degree of healing essential to Dana's survival."**

**- Dr. John W. Nielsen**

dean at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri for three years.

Robert J. Glass was appointed academic dean at Dana in the summer of 1973. Glass was appointed acting president of Dana College in 1977 following the resignation of President Earl Mezoff, a position he held until President James Kallas was hired in the fall of 1978. He returned to his



Robert Glass

position as dean of the college until 1979.

He became president of Missouri Valley College and later finished his academic career at Gannon University where he held the position of Zurn Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

## '00s

**William Potts '01** married Jesse Schwenn, May 5, 2001 in Blair, Neb. They live in Fremont, Neb., where William is a cost accountant at Hormel Foods.

**Melissa Bliemeister '00** married **James Walsh '00** on March 9 in West Point, Neb. Melissa is employed by Lutz and Company and James is a sales representative at Woodhouse Ford.

**Anne Curran '00** is a social worker in a juvenile justice program, working with teenage male offenders ages 10 - 18. She conducts group therapy and acts as a youth advocate within the court system and lives in Orlando, Fla.

**Kevin Kern '00** is the new senior director at the Oneonta, N.Y., YMCA. Kern was the program director at the Blair Family YMCA.

**Elizabeth Lange '00** is teaching second grade at Samuel W. Houston Elementary School in Huntsville, TX.

**Tara Zellmer '00** is working at Guardian Life Insurance Company in Omaha as a group pension benefit advisor.

## '90s

**Liza Moberg '99** has recently joined the teaching team at the German-American Society in Omaha. Liza also teaches full-time at Omaha North High School.

**R.J. Gall '98** is the assistant vice president at Bank of Norfolk. He previously worked at the Washington County Bank in Blair and Great Western Bank in Omaha.

**Ryan '98** and **Nicky Holtam** welcomed baby Macy Nicole, born Jan. 18.

**Stacy (King '98) and Chase Roller '97** had their second baby boy on Jan. 11. Cale Bradyn joins big brother Drake, 3.

**Leshara Means '97** married **David Shields '97** in Oct. 2001, and lives in Glenwood, Iowa. Leshara is an insurance account representative with Marty Stavas State Farm Insurance and David is an in-home family therapist with Mills County Public Health.

**Jonathan Ruff '97** married Rachel McDowell on Jan. 13 in Bellevue, Neb. Jonathan is an environmental health specialist for Douglas County.

**Sherry (DeForest '96) and Mike Guyett** are the proud parents of their first child, Trevor Michael, born Oct. 9, 2001.



*Eight members of the Lemon family traveled to Africa in June, 2001, to view a total solar eclipse near Lusaka, Zambia. Pictured here before one of their game drives near Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe are (l-r) Pam, Linda '83, Christopher, Ryan, Mitchell, guide Livingston, Jane, Dale (professor emeritus), and Doug '81.*

**Kristin Knight '96** married Jeffrey McCormick March 16 in Lincoln, Neb. Kristin is director of child development for YWCA in Lincoln.

**Jeff Lutt '96** and wife Melissa have a new baby, Barrett James, born March 29. Jeff teaches PE at Skinner Magnet Center and is assistant football coach at Omaha Burke High School.

**Cindy (Aken '96) and Ray Smith** adopted Tyler Ray on Feb. 12. They have been doing foster care for over three years; Tyler has lived with them for over two years. Cindy teaches at Hickory Hill Elementary in Papillion, Neb.

**Kevin Wass '93** is a professor of tuba and euphonium at the school of music, Texas Tech University.

**Connie '92 and Kent Christensen** have a new baby girl, Kimberly Jo, born Feb. 26. She joins brother Nicholas, age 2.

**Siri (Vollan '92) Parkhouse** completed her master's degree in Education. She is teaching 8th grade multimedia computer education, serving as year-book advisor and coaching speech and track and field. She teaches in the Independent School District #256, Red Wing, Minn.

**Shelly (Carter '90) and Steve Cudly** welcomed son Luke, born Oct. 14. He joins big sister, Hope, who is 5. Shelly works as a business analyst at Ameritrade in Omaha.

## '80s

**Ruth (Nielsen '85) and Dale Mortensen** had a son, Luke Holm, born Oct. 16, 2001.

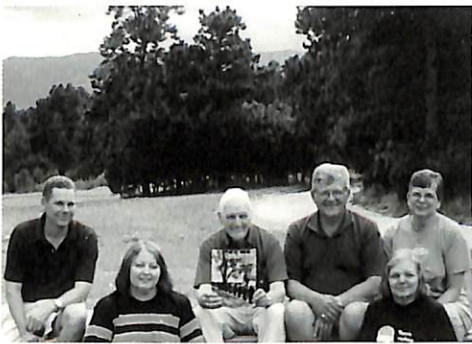
**Michael Martin '83** co-authored with Dr. Dale L. Sullivan an article "Habit Formation and Story Telling: A Theory for Guiding Ethical Action." His article was published in Technical Communication Quarterly, summer 2001. Michael is a Ph.D. candidate at Michigan Technological University.

**Curtis Fett '82** has been selected by MetLife Resources to open a Sioux City, Iowa office. He will be responsible for developing retirement plans for

employees of schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and all not-for-profit organizations.

**Susan (Ostrem '80)** and **Doug Ernesti** welcomed son, **Jacob Douglas**, born Nov. 19, 2001. He joins 3 year-old brother, **Bradley**. Sue is working at Producers Livestock as head of the settlement department for the hog division. They live in **Arlington, Neb.**

## '70s



*Freund family reunion in Colorado Springs, Co. (l-r) are: David Hanen '77, Judi (Larsen '76) Pedersen, Rev. Norman Freund D'54 T '58, Dr. Ardy Andersen '65, Lonni (Andersen '71) Stedry and Vernyce (Andersen '67) Schmidt.*

**William Thoreson '79** received the mayor's award for excellence for the month of February. Bill works with benefits in the City of Lincoln (Neb.) personnel office.

**Dr. Donald Baack '75** and his wife, **Pamela**, co-authored *The Everything Romance Book*, published by Adams Media.

**Bob Boettcher '75** is seeking a seat on the Blair City Council in Ward 2. Boettcher works as a billing analyst at Mid-America Computer Corporation and has lived in Blair more than 30 years.

**Robert Coffey '75** was a recipient of the MS Leadership Award, presented

by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for outstanding contributions to the business and civic betterment of the metropolitan area. Coffey helped to collectively raise over \$35,000 to advance the mission of the MS Society.

**Harriet (Thorsen '74) Waite** has returned to Washington County Bank as a note teller. A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., she has worked at the Blair Community Schools.

**Steve Hardiman '73** was appointed by the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Community School District, the new principal of Thomas Jefferson High School, beginning July 1. Hardiman is a 1969 Thomas Jefferson graduate as are three of his four daughters.



*Three members of the Class of 1975 visited Camp Snoopy at the Mall of America, Minneapolis, Mn. (l-r) Rita (Hiemke '75) Hale, Lenny (Koenig '75) Drews and Roxy (Sorensen '75) Wadding.*

## '60s

**Roger Petersen '61** will retire after 41 years of service to the Blair Community Schools. Petersen began with Blair Community Schools as a teacher at West Elementary. He later served as principal at the Central School, then was named principal at Arbor Park when it opened in 1990. Petersen was awarded the

Distinguished Alumni Award last year by Dana.



*Pictured (l-r) in Sierra Vista, AZ, are Anne and President Myrvin '61 Christopherson and Lois (Petersen '52) Andersen.*

## '50s

**Ann Katherine (Lindholm '57) Andersen** has returned to the United States, after teaching overseas for 19 years. She taught at the American School of Kinshasa, Republic of Congo, and the Taipei American School in Taiwan. She has settled in **Cornelius, N.C.**

**Ruth (Larsen '51) Benson** was awarded the College of Education's Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Dana in 1984.

## '40s

**Leonard Nelson '40** was inducted into the Nebraska Aviation Hall of Fame on Jan. 24. He was nominated by the Sidney (Neb.) Airport Authority and has been flying for 65 years.

*continued on page 20*

continued from page 19

## Deaths

**Margaret (Larsen '58) Seybold** died Jan. 16, living to the age of 65. She was diagnosed with duodenal cancer.

**Dorothy (Hansen '53) Leehy** died Jan. 12 at the age of 69. Survivors include her husband, John "Jack" Jr.; one son and his wife, John III and Terri; four daughters and their husbands, Mary Clare Johnson, Patricia Woten, Beth and Jim Cook and Katie and Stan Mencke; one son-in-law, Patrick Flynn; two brothers, Jerry and Glen Hansen; 20 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Miriam (Rosenblatt '36) Bondo** died Mar. 12 at the age of 89. She is survived by son, Tom Bondo, and her daughter, Susan Barnard, four grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by husband Paul '33.

**Vasthi (Magnussen '38) Christensen** died on Feb. 25 at the age of 84. Funeral services were held at the Underwood Lutheran Church, Underwood, Iowa, on March 1, 2002, her 85th birthday. She is survived by husband Herluf '39.

**Jane (Noble '28) Nore** died Mar. 22 at the age of 95. Jane attended Dana College two years during which she and her sister Betty toured Denmark and other European countries with the Dana College Choir. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

**Maria (Pedersen '26) Nelson** died Sept. 2, 2001, at the age of 94. She had been a resident at the Sheridan Memorial Nursing Home, Plentywood, Mt. She is survived by one son, Marvin and wife Susan; two daughters, Doris Leininger and husband Larry; and Eileen Overgaard and husband Warren.

## Friends

**Dorothy C. Siersbeck**, died Feb. 21 after a fall in her home in Indianapolis, Ind. at the age of 91. Her brother-in-law, Lawrence Siersbeck, was president of Dana College from 1938-1944.

She was a claims adjuster for 22 years with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, retiring in 1972.

Dorothy was a longtime member of First Trinity Lutheran Church and also a founding member of the Church of the Lakes in Brown County, Ind.

She was active on the church council and in the Ladies Aid, served as secretary for the Dorcas Circle and organized a sewing group that made blankets for Lutheran World Relief for the past 30 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Anker.

Survivors include her children Beverly (Siersbeck '58) Hodges, Ronald Siersbeck '59 and Doris (Siersbeck '61) Kloth, and six grandchildren, including Chrys Siersbeck '90 and Dana Kloth '94.

## Trumpet continued from page 4

fees are reduced for youth and the Guild sponsors competitions to further encourage youth participation. While Anderson has taught at Dana, every trumpet major has been a member of the ITG.

For Anderson, the experience of being a professor of music at Dana has affected his involvement with the Guild. "Having been in academia for so long, I can relate to others well. I've been able to balance playing professionally as a trumpet player and teaching in an academic setting," he said.

"At Dana, I have easy access to the support of Computer Services. I haven't run into the "red tape" that can happen at larger institutions. Dana has bent over backwards to accommodate

the needs of the International Trumpet Guild."

In turn, Anderson's hours of work with the ITG has influenced his teaching. "It has allowed me to remain more current and connected to this organization. I know what's new and I know that my conversations with others have made me a better teacher," said Anderson. "I can offer my students resources beyond me. If they wish to go on to graduate school, I know all the best teachers. I'm a better trumpet player too because of the organization, so I can model at a better level for my students."

The rewards of Anderson's work are enormous. "I am greatly rewarded through the people I've met, the friendships I've made and the col-

leagues I have all over the world. I could travel almost anywhere and find someone I know through this work. I have chosen to use this vehicle to serve my professional community. Service to community is very important to me, and I can think of no better way to help this community of trumpeters."

Visit the Guild's web site at [www.trumpetguild.org](http://www.trumpetguild.org).

### REMINDER

### UELC Reunion June 7 - 9, 2002

Contact the alumni office at [alumni@acad2.dana.edu](mailto:alumni@acad2.dana.edu), or call 800-444-Dana, option 4 for information and registration.

# Homecoming 2002: Home Again

## Take a Tour of the World with The Grand Tour!



some possibilities for Homecoming programming involving travel reunions and class reunions. Nathan Kramer '89 and Kathy Kuster '68 are the alumni council members who participated in this first session. Since that time, one of the brainstorms, 'The Grand Tour,' has been

Homecoming 2002: Home Again is a theme inviting you to make plans to return to Dana College for Homecoming activities October 4-6, 2002. Planning for Homecoming 2002 actually began in November of 2001 when a group of alumni and staff met to brainstorm

the topic of meetings with other faculty and staff. Watch your summer mail for the Homecoming brochure to see how this brainstorm becomes reality.

In addition to a theme, every Homecoming involves ten class reunions. This year, the classes of '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, and '97 will celebrate reunions. Was your class mentioned? If so I hope you will join me in working now to build a great reunion for yourself and your friends! Grab the phone and call a classmate today! You know if you put it off it might not happen so be spontaneous! Let your Dana memories spur you to action. You may be the only person who can convince someone to take the time to make the journey. While you are thinking about your reunion, please make another contact by calling or sending an email to Julie in the alumni office. Did you have a favorite place in Blair that might hold memories for classmates? What are your ideas for your reunion? 402-426-7235 or [alumni@acad2.dana.edu](mailto:alumni@acad2.dana.edu)

So what can you do if your class already celebrated a 50th reunion but you think returning to the Hill would be a wonderful way to spend some time this fall? Everyone past the 50th reunion mark gets to have a gathering every year, as part of the Venerable Vikings program initiated in 1998. The Venerable Vikings have a reception on the Sunday afternoon of Homecoming weekend. This year, the class of '52 will become Venerable Vikings on Sunday, after having celebrated their 50th Reunion on Saturday night. Medallions and certificates will be presented to all new 'Venerables' and any others who are eligible who have not received them. The people are the program! Come to visit and reminisce! Watch the Homecoming brochure for exact time and location and the promise of coffee and cookies.

Homecoming planning for 2002 also includes those favorites such as the Alumni Revue, aebleskiver, football, choir reunion, awards luncheon, and athletic hall of fame. Have you marked the date on your calendar?

### Thomsen continued from page 14

"Many Muslims believe they have lost the vision that Muhammad gave them. They seek to reclaim their roots, rediscover the fundamentals of their religion."

"Establishing peace on Earth is the Muslim's call from God but there are all kinds of Muslims and interpretations of this. Osama bin Laden's interpretation does not represent most Muslims. What he does represent is the voice of protest, which all

Muslims represent," emphasized Thomsen. "And for most Muslims their struggles are seen as a matter of life and death."

If a positive light can be cast on the events of Sept. 11, perhaps people have been forced to see that poverty and oppression are seeds of terrorism.

"We have been woken up here in the comfortable zones," Thomsen said.

Thomsen proposes some short-term solutions including giving to ELCA hunger programs and advocat-

ing for more U.S. involvement in economic development, such as lowering tariffs on imports from these countries, canceling long-term debt and increasing international aid. "These people must be allowed to join the human race."

### Correction

In the winter issue of the *Dana Review* we misspelled the names of Eivind Pedersen on page 13 and Jean Blatter on page 14. We apologize for these errors.



Joan Sorensen

Many of the bonds formed between friends at Dana College last a lifetime. For a group of nine women who attended Dana in the late 1940s and early 1950s, their friendships have seen them through weddings, first jobs, raising kids, retirement and even death.



Lillian Ohlsen

The old-fashioned art of letter writing has tied these women together for more than 50 years even though their addresses extend from the Midwest to the West Coast. "We're spread all over and always have been," said Joan (Peterson '50) Sorensen.



Janice Jensen

Joan keeps in touch with friends Lillian (Nielsen '52) Ohlsen, Janice (Nygaard '50) Jensen, Arlene (Rudolph '50) Youmans, Dorcas (Vammen '50) Leighton, Erna (Petersen '51) Berthelsen and Esther (Jensen '51) Hansen via a round-robin letter. Original "round-robiners" Marlyn (Neve '50) Nyegaard and Ella (Erlandsen '51) Hansen are deceased.

"Having this round-robin has really kept these friendships alive," Joan said. "If we hadn't had it, it would have been a once a year Christmas letter." The round-robin tradition by this group of women is also continued by hosts of other Danians.

None of the ladies are really sure how it began, but sometime shortly after their days at Dana, pen turned to paper and the letter began its travels across the United States.

"We all knew each other real well," Erna said of the group's friendship. "We just wanted to keep in touch, and we decided a round robin was the way to go."

"We went through our marriages and our children and raising our children," she said. "Now we're starting to go through golden wedding anniversaries."

The group's ties run deeper than just being Dana alumnae. All of the ladies married Dana alumni. Two groups of cousins are also part of the original nine writers.

# Letters bind from across the miles

The letter circulates alphabetically, rather than geographically, from woman to woman. Each writer takes out her old letter and adds a new one before sending it on to the next name on the list. Photos and recipes also make it into the mix from time to time.

"When we were raising our children, sometimes it would come around once a year," Erna said. Now circulation has improved to every four months or so. "We've gotten much better at it," she laughed.

"Some write really newsy letters which is wonderful," Erna said. "Others don't write as much, but that's okay too."

"It's so much fun to sit down and read all of those letters," she said.

"I open it and read it right away," added Joan. "Then I read them again before I write my letter."

The letters have been lost on a couple of occasions, but the group has eagerly begun the process again. The modern age of e-mail has not changed the tradition, just added to it. The round-robiners will correspond by e-mail in between letters on occasion to pass along information of more immediate concerns.

Across the miles, the letters have become a sort of therapy for its writers and readers. "We feel like we're helping each other when there is a problem," Erna said.

Although a number of the women's families have vacationed together or joined for each others weddings throughout the years, the first reunion of the round-robiners was at Dana's Homecoming 2000. All of the living members of the group were in attendance except Esther (Jensen '51) Hansen, whose husband was ill.

"I think the letter will continue until just two or three are still alive," Joan said. "We have survived two deaths and although it is very sad to lose our friends, those of us who are left feel even closer."



Erna Berthelsen



Esther Hansen



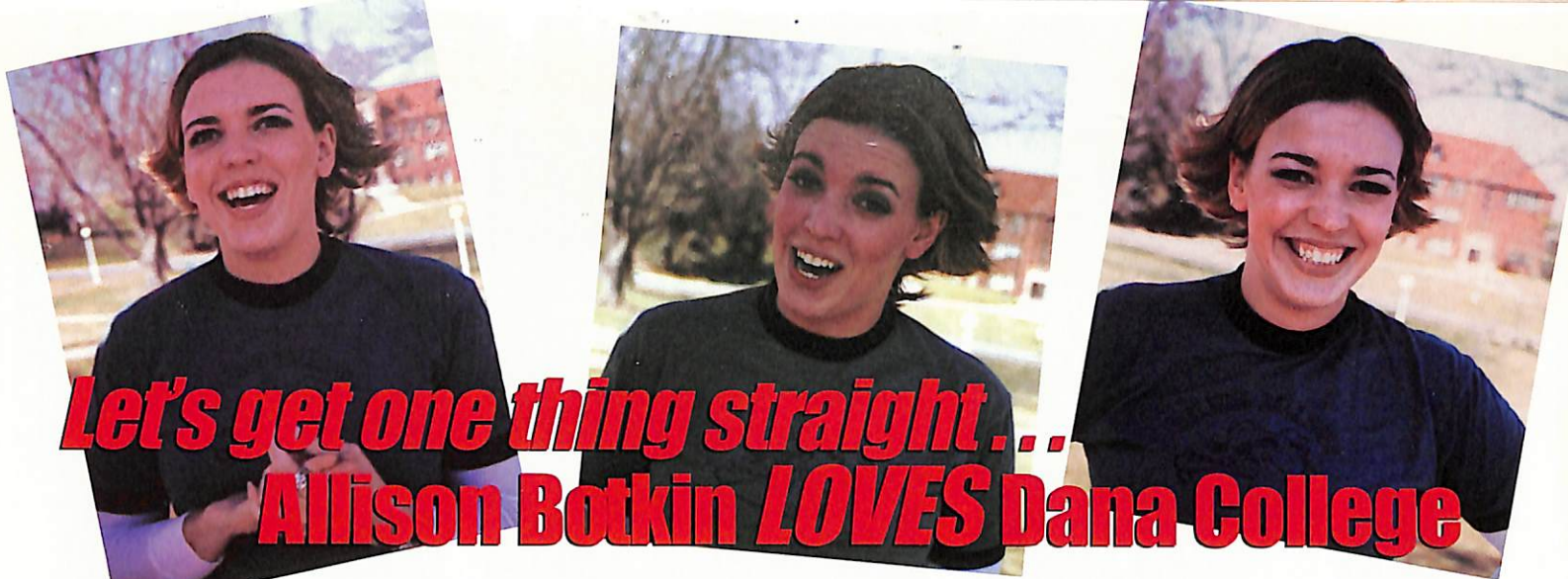
Marlyn Nyegaard



Ella Hansen



Dorcas Leighton



## **Let's get one thing straight... Allison Botkin *LOVES* Dana College**

Allison Botkin's infectious smile grew even wider as she expressed how she feels about Dana. "If I have to leave campus for any reason, it just feels so good to return, like I'm back home." Now at the end of her four busy years, she sat down to recap her experience as the big-city girl who came to Dana College.

"I remember as a little girl wearing a t-shirt that read I'm a Lil' Viking from Dana College," Allison recalls, the memory foreshadowing her future. "But by the time I was attending Millard South in Omaha, a school of 2000 students, I just always imagined myself at a big school."

It was her mother, Lisa, who insisted that she visit Dana. "I was surprised when I toured larger universities and found I couldn't see myself there. While visiting Dana, I began to imagine being one the students here, being friends with the students who were my tour guides. I felt important to Dana," Allison emphasized. "One professor even remembered my grandpa!"

That would be alum Robert Powers '68, Allison's maternal grandfather. "He was a non-traditional student at Dana way before it became cool," Allison grins. "He arrived with three daughters and left with five." Two of those daughters, Sonya (Powers) Hearn and Lori (Powers) Kastrop, were Dana students in the late 1970's.

Allison, a Presidential Scholar,

arrived at Dana leaning toward pre-medicine, but with one eye open to other academic pursuits. She took an interest in business with an emphasis on marketing and international business. "Once I determined my major, I was able to really shape my goals. I've learned how to focus on what's most important to me, a change for me since I've come to Dana." Allison has found Dana to be academically challenging, reasoning that in this small class environment teachers pay close attention to their student's progress and can be more demanding.

Allison's high school interests included dance, theatre and music. As a freshman at Millard South she felt both discouraged by the highly competitive race for the few parts available and pressured to devote her time to just one pursuit, a typical large school experience. She chose dance. Perhaps fate (or parental guidance) brought Allison to Dana, where those doors could open again.

"I think I always knew I could succeed in the arts if just given the chance. The encouragement Dana gave me helped me to overcome my initial fears of failure so I could just give it a try," she said. She bravely auditioned for music and theater scholarships at Dana. "Allison matured into one of the finest singer/dancer/actors that I have had the privilege of working with in the last 10 years at Dana College. She is enor-

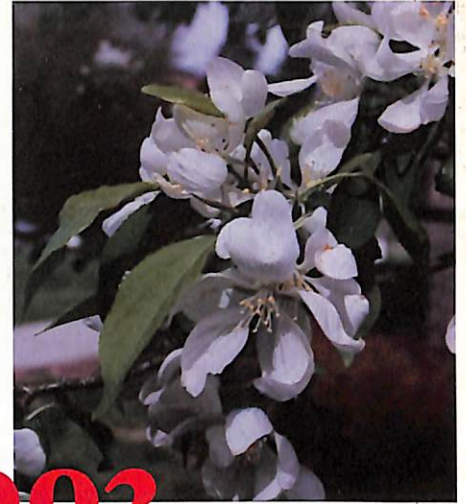
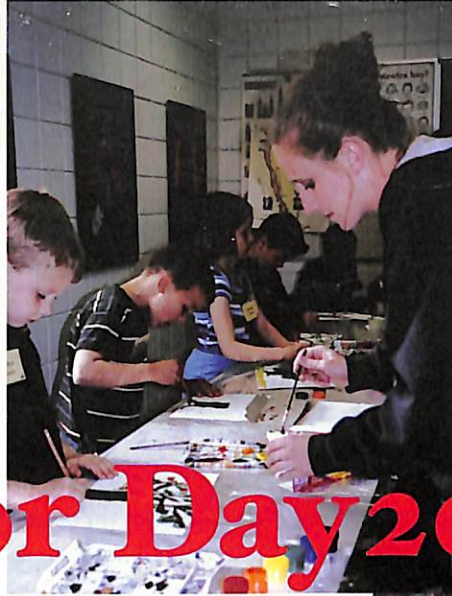
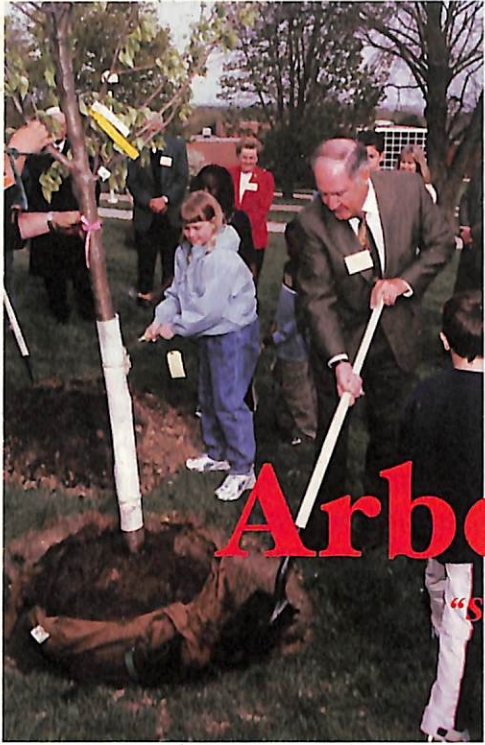
mously talented, and I hope we will continue to see her on the stage in Omaha," commented Paul Schneider, professor of English and director of theatre at Dana. "These have been arguably the best four years of my life," Allison expressed.

Last year Allison brought dance to Dana when she launched the Dana College Dance Team, a modern-dance squad of 10 women who provide energetic entertainment at athletic events. The recent spring musical production of "Baby" further showcased her choreography skills. Allison was also cast in a lead acting role for that production.

Allison has truly embraced the "Dana experience". Her extra-curricular involvement at Dana has been something to admire, showcasing not only her talents but also her desire to give back to the Dana community.

Allison's three years of work as an Orientation Team Leader illustrate her devotion to Dana. She explains, "It was a great opportunity for me to help new students get as much out of Dana as I did."

Now Allison stands confidently, looking at the world of opportunity her choice in Dana has given her. Her job search centers primarily on the Omaha market. She takes a creative approach to her future employment, the combinations of her talents and education offering multiple paths. This small college girl has quite a future.



# Arbor Day 2002

*"See Arbor Day story on page 12"*



 **Dana Review**

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