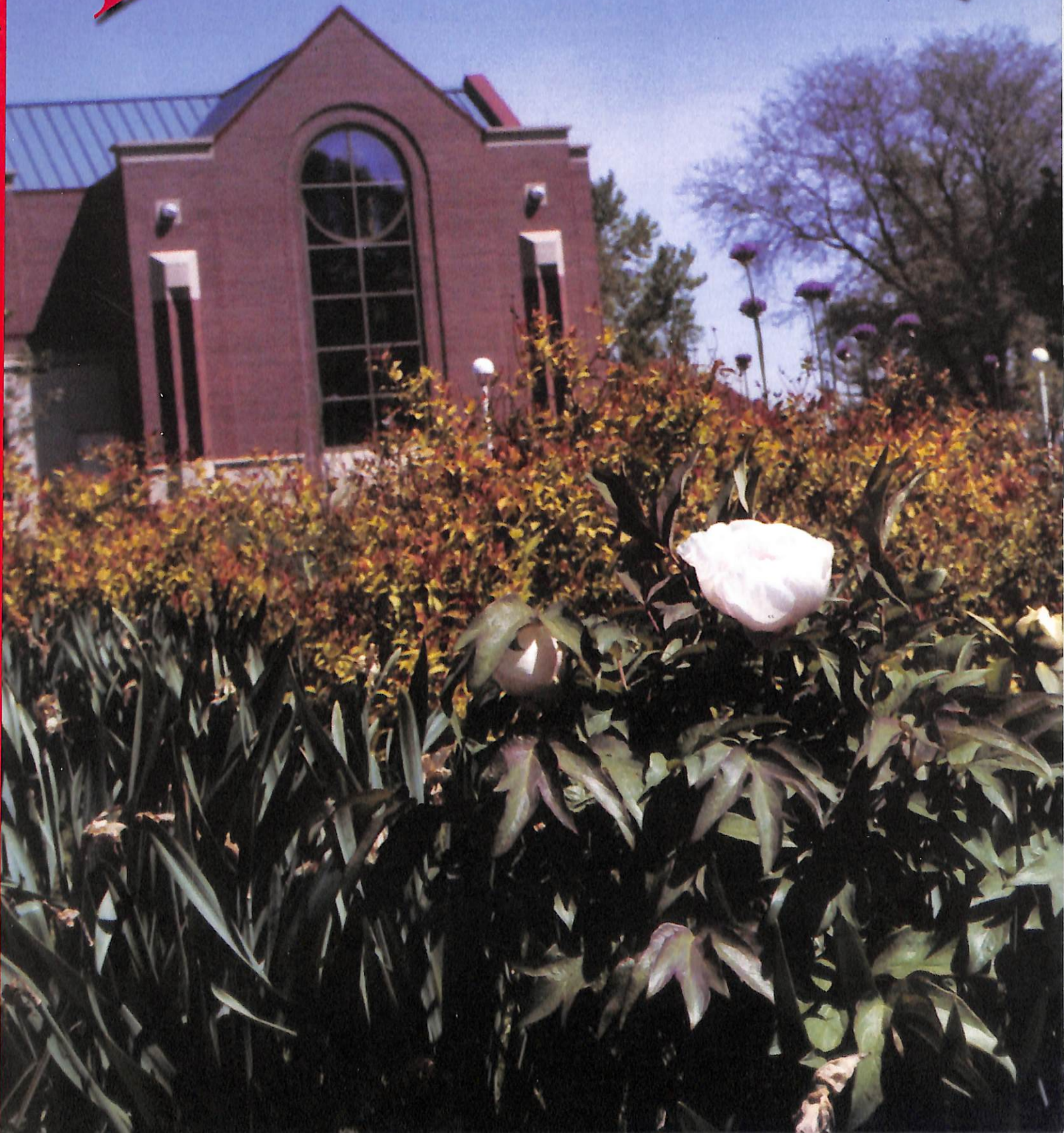


Volume 60, No. 3

DANA REVIEW

An alumni publication of Dana College



Discovery

"It's no big deal! Just a name change." That's what some said when they heard the Dana College January Interim was suddenly being touted as "Discovery Term." When a marketing consulting group, Art & Science Group of Maryland, undertook a study of Dana College, they made several recommendations aimed at sharpening Dana's image and improving our communication with and attractiveness to prospective students. They also made suggestions to the faculty of program changes to address student interests.

New programs in Criminal Justice, Management Information Systems and iMedia (Interactive Media) are a few of the changes faculty introduced that appeal to expressed interest by prospective students. When the marketing consultants reviewed Dana's January Interim offerings, they liked what they heard from students about their Interim experiences, but suggested a renaming of the program to "Discovery Term."

Professor James T. Olsen, associate professor of art and Dana's senior faculty member, says the January Interim term offered between the first and second semester was originally designed to be a discovery opportunity. It would be a time when students and their instructor could focus on a single subject. They might travel abroad or to an American city or site that offered special opportunities for learning about art, theater, a community or culture different from their own, or perhaps remain on campus to study a subject not usually found in the traditional course catalog.

Over time many Interim offerings became traditional courses offered in a

three-week format to give students another opportunity to fulfill a needed requirement for their major course of study. Hence, some have questioned whether the original purpose of the Interim term was being fulfilled. The name change to "Discovery Term" reminds professors and students alike that the Interim is a special time in the life of the learning community to experiment with novel topics or to gain exposure to a culture or subject previously unexplored. As some of the reflections by alumni presented in this issue of the DANA REVIEW reveal, many alumni look back on their Interim experience with gratitude for what they were able to "discover."

I like the Discovery Term name change, and I am hopeful it will encourage worthy and stimulating offerings. I like it, too, because I believe discovery is what college should be about. I further believe Dana is uniquely equipped to make learning a daily discovery process. I am reminded how my Dana professors from diverse disciplines helped me gain a love of learning. One, the late Professor Norman Bansen, exuded an excitement about world literature — Scandinavian, English, American, Chinese and Indian. I not only heard him lecture, I observed daily how literature lived through him — in the coffee shop (canteen), at chapel and in conversations over my writing. Another, Professor Lloyd Refsell, inspired in me a love of New Testament Greek and philosophy so much so that when I was choosing my doctoral dissertation topic, Soren Kierkegaard's dialectic of communication emerged as my topic choice, notably his concept of indi-



President Myrvin F. Christopherson

rect communication as the preferred means of communicating ethical and religious truth.

What I experienced at Dana College more than four decades ago has influenced choices throughout my life. Most important, I have never lost my love of learning, and I give much of the credit to my Dana teachers and fellow students. The intimacy engendered by small classes, daily access to professors and staff members, learning in class as well as in worship, choir, drama or basketball practice — every experience was integral to my learning, to my discovery.

It is my prayer Dana will always occasion in students a love of learning, that every student will be inspired to want to question, to risk exposure to new subjects, and to grow in faith in God and in knowledge and appreciation of all God's creation. It is also my hope that the results of discovery will want to be shared with others so that communities of learning will be the fashion. What a dynamic, exciting, caring and serving world this could create if greater focus were given to lifelong learning. I can only imagine how excitement over discovery and, as a result, understanding and peace, might emerge as the order of every day. ❧



Marcie Smidt '04 competes in the high jump at the Dana Open in April. The Open was the first track meet held at Dana in recent years and brought nearly 300 competitors to Viking Field.

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Carolyn Potter '61, retired after three decades of service to Dana



DANA REVIEW

An alumni publication of Dana College

SPRING 2004 Volume 60, No. 3

SENIOR EDITOR
Carrie L. (Larkins '94) Reed

EDITOR
Sarah Cavanah

CONTRIBUTORS
Anne Christopherson
Ann (Harms '54) George
Sue Olsen
Leslie Rasmussen
Julie (Thorson) Rohlfing '70

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY
Sarah Cavanah

On the Hill

Actress and Author Visits Campus

Harley Jane Kozak, film and television actress, offered a free discussion and book signing for her first novel "Dating Dead Men" on Feb. 27 at Dana.

Kozak, a Lincoln, Neb. native, had her novel selected as a Mystery Guild featured selection and the Editor's Pick for February. It is also a Doubleday, Literary Guild and Book-of-the-Month selection.

The author's screen credits include parts in "Parenthood," "Arachnophobia," "When Harry Met Sally...", "The Android Affair," "Titanic" and "Dark Planet." She was also an award-winning actress on the soap opera "Santa Barbara."

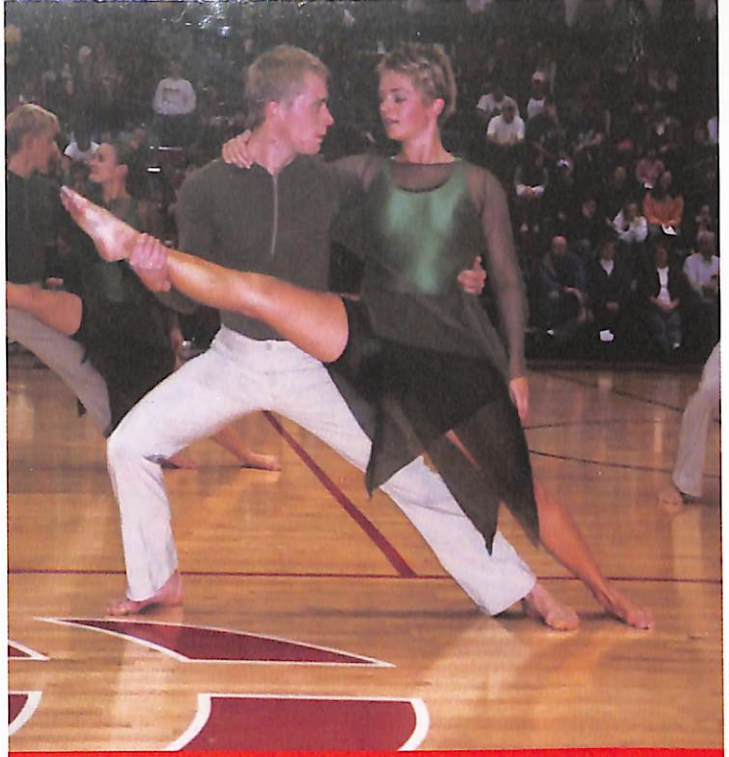
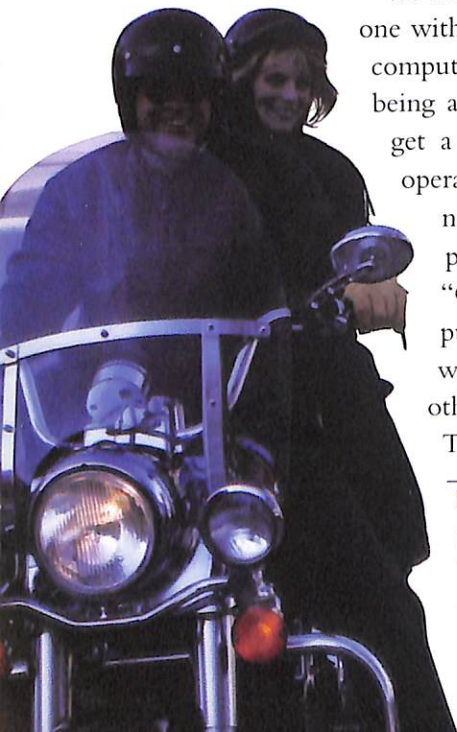
Dana Adds MIS Major for Fall '04

Dana is proud to announce it will add a Management Information Systems Major to its broad academic offerings starting with the fall of 2004.

The major combines elements of computer science with classes from the business administration area to produce well-rounded graduates ready for the workplace.

"We see this major as a way for someone with an interest in technology and computers — but not interested in being a computer programmer — to get a background in the back-end operations needed by small businesses," said Dr. Brian Viets, provost and dean of the college. "Our graduates will be able to put systems together, set up networks and operate databases and other business technology tools. They also will have a firm foot-

Harley Jane Kozak roars onto campus on the back of Vice President for Institutional Advancement Mike Jones's own Harley.



Nearly 600 spectators came to the new Gardner-Hawks Center to see the National Danish Performance Team give a spectacular show. The gymnastics performance was part of the team's 2003-04 World Tour.

ing in business, with knowledge of accounting and management. When they are through with the program, they will be able to go into a small business setting and run everything the business needs."

Dana decided to add the major after seeing interest from both students and prospective employers. Viets said Nebraska CEOs have told him they wanted to hire well-rounded personnel that understood both technology and business, but couldn't find them. With Dana's liberal arts tradition, the MIS major is a natural fit for its emphasis on broad knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving skills.

LWR President Speaks at Staley

Lutheran World Relief President Kathryn F. Wolford was the featured speaker for Dana College's annual Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Series, March 31-April 2. The series is presented by the Dana College Religion Department and Dana College Campus Ministry.

Wolford has 20 years of experience working in undeveloped countries for Christian relief agencies. She presented several lectures falling under the topic, "From Globalization to Global Community: Doing Justice in a Smaller World — A Christian Perspective."

"We were honored to have Ms. Wolford come to Dana to speak to our community on how our world's problems are our problems," said the Rev. Dr. Andrea Ng'weshemi, campus pastor and assistant professor of religion. "Ms. Wolford is an articulate and well-informed speaker. Her experience of travel-

ing and working in foreign countries helped us understand the role of the Christian faith in bringing justice and dignity to all peoples in the world.”

Wolford has been president of Lutheran World Relief since 1993. Before joining LWR, she served as the first Caribbean regional representative of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A./Church World Service, based in the Dominican Republic. From 1983 to 1985, Wolford worked in planning and organizational relations with Social Services of the Dominican Republic, a church-based rural development organization. She is a frequent keynote speaker at national and regional church events, and was selected as one of Maryland’s Top 100 Women by the Baltimore Daily Record in 2002.

Read the full story at www.dana.edu/review



Kathryn Wolford

Alumna Gives One-Hand Lessons

Iris (Frey ’78) Doolittle presented a special Piano Music for One Hand workshop at Dana on April 2. The workshop consisted of two sessions: one on tips and techniques for writing your own arrangements for one hand, and one on literature for one hand.

For Doolittle, the topic is one that strikes close to her heart. After suffering from a stroke at the age of 28, she learned to play the piano using just her left hand. She currently teaches piano in Madison, Neb., and performs as the organist at Immanuel Lutheran Church and in the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, as well as accompanying for the Madison Middle School choirs.

“Iris is an inspiration to everybody who meets her, and especially when you hear what beautiful music she can perform with only the use of one hand,” said Dr. Myrvin Christopherson, president. “We are very proud of her. Her love of music is contagious.”



Iris (Frey '78) Doolittle

Christopherson Tapped by Softies

Dr. Myrvin Christopherson ’61, president, has been selected to attend the Council of Independent Colleges/Microsoft Presidents Leadership Summit Aug. 5,

in Redmond, Wash., home of Microsoft.

Christopherson was one of 38 college and university presidents chosen for the conference based on proposals submitted earlier this year. Dana’s proposal was centered on our small college’s ability to create innovative new programs on limited resources through cooperation between faculty, staff and administration. A major portion of the proposal highlighted Dana’s innovative new iMedia major, which gives students a sound foundation in new communications technology, while allowing them to emphasize an area of study like creative writing, music or history.

“Dana is one of the first liberal arts colleges to adapt its curriculum to include such a cross-disciplinary media program that meets the changing needs of students living and working in an increasingly technological society,” Christopherson wrote in the proposal. “Dana’s proposed iMedia major is distinctive in that it encourages students to combine their interests in technology with their interests in a specific field of study. Each academic program is individually designed according to a student’s needs and preferences.”

The Summit is billed as involving “sessions with some of Microsoft’s most creative thinkers.” Participants will explore how current and future generations of students learn the knowledge, skills, abilities and dispositions they will need to be effective contributors to the communities and organizations in which they will work and live.

“Given our commitment to advancing and integrating technology into all aspects of our educational program, Dana College is very interested in meeting with representatives from Microsoft and other private colleges and universities,” Christopherson said. “Dana will benefit greatly from the opportunity to develop relationships with technology innovators and higher education leaders to enhance teaching and learning in a digital age.”



Myrvin Christopherson

Blockbuster Danish Author Visits

Best-selling Danish author Peter H. Fogtdal gave a presentation on his novel “The Dreamer from Palestine,” on March 31 at Dana.

Fogtdal, a former television writer, is the author of many Danish books, but is best known for “The Dreamer from Palestine,” which is set during the rescue of Danish Jews in World War II. The book was a smash hit in Denmark in 1998–99, went through several editions and earned Fogtdal his first recognition as a “serious novelist.”



Phil Larsen '49 and one of his Borup bleacher bench/coffee tables in his workshop in Blair.

Put A Piece of Borup in Your Home

During the construction of the Gardner-Hawks Center and the renovation of Borup Coliseum, the north bleachers were removed to give greater versatility and access to the Borup gym. The maple boards were salvaged and Phil Larsen '49, master builder and carpenter, has designed, constructed and finished several benches/coffee tables from the bleachers.

As an alum you may recall many occasions you sat on the bleachers as you cheered for athletic events, attended concerts or graduation. Dana basketball and volleyball players may like a memory of games in Borup in their homes.

Anyone who makes a donation of \$250 or more will receive a bench signed and dated by Larsen. Your donations will help purchase 1,500 new folding chairs for the Gardner-Hawks Center.

Dana Hosts Second Cultural Fair

Dana hosted its second annual Cultural Fair, March 29 – April 2. The fair was a weeklong showcase of culture, including medicine, religion, diversity issues, dance, food and music, put on by several Dana student organizations.

Each day featured a different lineup of speakers, presentations, food and performances designed to get visitors to try new things and have fun. The fair was largely put on by the Communication Department and its students.

Winterfest Royalty Crowned

Two juniors were elected Dana College Winterfest King and Queen on March 5. At a special coronation ceremony during the Winterfest Dance, it was announced that Chris Johnson '05 of Oakland, Neb., was elected King, and Amanda Reddish '05 of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was elected Queen. The ceremony was later this year because the original date in February was snowed out.

The rest of the Winterfest Court included Tregan Albers '05, Mara Bartlett '04, Matthew Bloomingdale '05, Marisa Bretschneider '06, Darrell Harvey '04, Gloria Otto '04, Jerrod Phillip '05, Kraig Schjodt '05 and Kori Williamsen '05.

New — — — TRAILS to Blaze

Homecoming 2004 Branches Out

Your trail to the Hill is not as untamed as in the days of Lewis & Clark, but with a Homecoming (Oct. 1–3) theme to match the historic celebration of America's greatest exploration, you'll still feel the thrill of discovery at our yearly celebration of alumni. Here are just some of the exciting opportunities we have planned for the weekend:

S-A-T-U-R-D-A-Y Night! Saturday evening's special program has become one of the most popular events at Homecoming. This year, we are working to bring another slant to the historical Lewis & Clark account at our celebration on Saturday, Oct. 2. The evening will begin with wild game and Danish cheese appetizers followed by a dinner inspired by Lewis and Clark. Our dinner will feature foods more pleasing to the palate than the historically accurate old flour and salt pork, but representative of the kinds of foods eaten by those brave travelers 200 years ago: turkey, squash, fresh greens, berries and sourdough bread. Also available will be a cash bar for libations and soft drinks. The evening's entertainment program, led by Dick Zion '70, also known as Montana, promises to be entertaining with old-time music and a bit of twisted history. The entire evening is designed for casual dining and conversation, so you can enjoy time with college friends at our location of Central Court, near downtown Blair. You can register using the Homecoming brochure, which will arrive in homes in early summer. Be sure to look for the section, "On the Trail with Lewis & Clark."

Tour the Sites We have the opportunity to arrange a one-day bus tour on Friday, Oct. 1, to see the Lewis and Clark historic sites in the area. We must have 40 prepaid travelers in order to

ForMore

Please contact Anne Christopher, director of special projects, to request a bench while they last.

achristo@dana.edu
(402) 426-7248

Campus Digest

Dr. Myrvin Christopherson, president, and **Anne Christopherson**, director of special events and projects, represented Dana on Jan. 17 at Camp Carol Joy Holling for an event sponsored by the Nebraska Synod and "Operation Idea." The program was aimed at making Lutheran lay persons of all ages aware of opportunities to work in Christian vocations related to the agencies and institutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Dr. Christopherson participated in a national effort by the ELCA to encourage collaboration between institutions and agencies called "Connecting Institutions," held Jan. 24-25. Christopherson and the other 27 ELCA college presidents reported on additional collaborative ministry efforts in Phoenix, Ariz.



Jim Lynes has been appointed dean of enrollment management. Lynes will continue to serve as director of admissions and will also have oversight responsibility for financial aid and will assume additional retention coordination duties.

Professor David Hoppe, instructor of psychology and campus counselor, was recently elected to a two-year term as vice-president of the Nebraska Council on Compulsive Gambling. The Board is responsible for a 24-hour help line and for all gambling awareness and training in the state.

The Dana College Faculty Trio, **Professor Michael Anderson**, assistant professor of music, **Professor Jeanmarie Nielsen '78**, assistant professor of music, and **Dr. Claire Bushong**, assistant professor of music, performed on Feb. 8 at Midland Lutheran College's Kimmel Theater in Fremont, Neb. As part of the Midland Lutheran College concert series, the Dana College faculty performed a variety of music spanning from the Renaissance into the 21st century.

Anderson gave lectures, master classes and private lessons Feb. 23-27 at the trumpet studio at the University of Illinois-Urbana. He was part of a residency program sponsored by the U of I School of Music in which several guest artists from around the country were invited to campus to fill in for Professor of Trumpet Ronald Romm, who was recovering from surgery.

President and Mrs. Christopherson, as well as **Dr. John Lyden**, professor of religion, attended the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America in Washington, D.C.,

Feb. 7-9. Lyden made a presentation to the group on faculty perceptions of the vocation and mission of Lutheran colleges. His talk was entitled, "Lutheran Colleges: How We've Changed and How We Haven't."



Dr. Carla Delucchi, professor of biology, was in Washington, D.C., Feb. 4-7 as a member of a panel that reviewed grant proposals for the Adaptation and Implementation track of the Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement

Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF). This program provides funds for colleges to adapt exemplary educational programs and materials in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for use at their own institutions.



Professor Starla Stensaas, associate professor of graphic design, recently had an essay titled "Farming Aesthetic" accepted for publication in a collection titled "Black Earth and Ivory Tower: Working the Middle Ground," which will be published by South Carolina Press next fall.

Professor Jan Potter, professor of social work, served as a reader for juried papers for the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, chaired a session on research, and attended site visitors' training on the new accreditation standards at the conference, held Feb. 27 - March 1 in Anaheim, Calif. She also wrote a chapter, "Case Study of Reaffirmation of a Small Autonomous BSW Program," for the book, *Preparing for Accreditation in Social Work Education*, recently published by CSWE.

Jan Potter served as a judge for the Omaha African American History Challenge, held on Feb. 21 at Omaha North High School. The event was sponsored by the civic group, 100 Black Men of Omaha.

Professor William Hall, assistant professor of music, successfully defended his dissertation, "A Critical-Performing Edition of Franz Krommer's Parthia for Band (1825) for American Concert Band," on March 17, thus completing all requirements for the degree of doctor of philosophy in music education. The new Dr. Hall will receive his doctoral hood and diploma from Kent State University in May.

Carla Andersen, assistant director of computer services, completed her Microsoft

Office Specialist Master Certification, meaning she passed exams in Excel, Outlook, Powerpoint and Word at the expert level.

Chuck Conlee, assistant director of computer services/networking systems, recently passed the A+ certification test, an exam on computer hardware.

Dr. Sybille Bartels, associate dean for student success, professor of German and director of International Studies and English Language Institute, served as judge at the Nebraska Students of German Convention, held at Millard West High School on March 27. About 300 selected students from secondary schools from across the state participated in the all-day competition, evaluated by representatives from universities, colleges, schools and community.

Lleanna Wright celebrated her 40th anniversary of working in Dana's Dining Hall on April 1.

Dr. Milt Heinrich, professor of art, and **Dr. Barb Zimmerman**, assistant professor of psychology, presented a program outlining Dana's assessment program at the annual conference of the Higher Learning Commission in Chicago March 29-April 2. Approximately 300 academics from a 16-state region were in attendance. Last year, the Higher Learning Commission team that visited Dana gave special recognition for the college's assessment efforts.



Dr. Mark Sand, associate professor of mathematics, presented at the spring meeting of the Nebraska-Southeast South Dakota section of the Mathematical Association of America, held April 2-3 at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. His presentation was entitled "Viewing Green's Functions."

Dr. Paul Schneider, professor of English and director of theater, starred as Sheriff Hartman in the Brigit St. Brigit Theater production of "His Girl Friday" at the College of St. Mary in Omaha in April.

schedule it. If you are interested in this event, which would cost about \$30/person, please send a note to the Alumni Office, 2848 College Drive, Blair NE 68008 or alumni@acad2.dana.edu. A card stating bus tour interest, listing number of people along with your name and address will assist us in providing a quick response if we receive enough interest.

Tee It Up The coming brochure and registration form will also fill you in on the return of a Saturday morning golf tournament. Start planning your foursome now and send in the names on the registration form. The Blair golf course will organize the morning and collect your money at the event. The cost will be \$30/person for 9 holes including a cart and prizes.

Sing a Tribute The traditional choir reunion with Dr. Richard Palmer and Dr. Paul Neve will be held in Trinity Chapel. As a special tribute to Neve, his children will host a reception in the early afternoon. Choir members from Neve's 40 years as director are invited to attend.

Reunite Class reunions will be held for the classes of '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94 and '99 at the Saturday evening event. The Class of '54 will celebrate their golden reunion Saturday noon at a luncheon provided by Dana. The best way to experience Homecoming is with friends. Contact your college classmates/friends and ask them to join you at Dana's Homecoming events such as the Saturday off-campus dinner and program, aebleskiver breakfast, choir reunion or football game.



Marian and Harold Andersen help plant the tree in their honor at Arbor Day.

Families Honored at Arbor Day

Every year for nine years, Dana College has honored its history, its benefactors and its environment by celebrating Arbor Day. Trees are planted in honor of some of Dana's greatest friends and supporters, so that their gifts to the college will be remembered for years.

"We chose our Arbor Day celebration as a time to celebrate another kind of growth, the beauty that makes our campus special," Dr. Myrvin Christopherson '61, president, told the crowd gathered at the event. "We celebrate and give thanks on this day for the students who earn scholarships that enable them to attend Dana. We also give thanks for the alumni and friends of Dana whose gifts enable us to award the scholarships."

This year's Arbor Day honorees were Harold and Marian Andersen of Omaha and the Irving F. Jensen Construction Company, Irving and Tigger Jensen owners, of Sioux City, Iowa.

"The two couples we honor today share many features in common," Christopherson said. "The husband in each case is Danish-American. The family names — Andersen and Jensen — testify to that heritage. Both couples are a source of great pride to us and to their cities and states."

The Jensens have had ties to Dana for decades. Irving Jensen Jr. and his wife, Tigger, continue the support passed on by Irving's father, the late Irving Jensen Sr., and his wife, Elizabeth. Irving Sr. was a trustee of Dana for many years. A scholarship was established by the Jensen family and construction company to honor Irving Sr. and Elizabeth.

Irving Jr. and Tigger have continued the family's support of Dana. Irving has worked road construction all his life. The oldest of the Jensen children, he graduated from Yale University School of Engineering and served as an officer in the U.S. Air



Irving and Tigger Jensen are honored by Dr. Myrvin Christopherson during the Arbor Day Celebration outside the Gardner-Hawks Center.

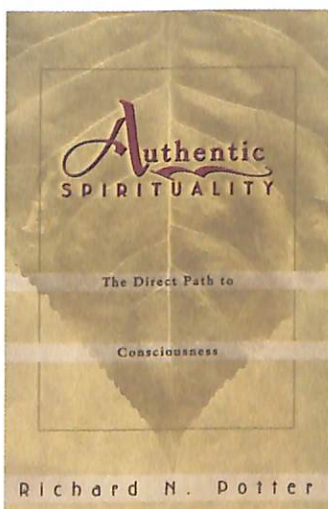
Force before working full-time for Jensen and Krage Contractors in Sioux City, and then for the Irving F. Jensen Company. He is still director and secretary-treasurer of a group of family-related companies that employ between 500 and 600 people. Tigger is active with Irving in many Sioux City community projects as well as her involvement in many church and community volunteer efforts.

The Andersens also have a long history of involvement with Dana. Besides years of continual support of Dana, Harold is the holder of an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Dana, given to him in recognition of his service to the state of Nebraska and journalism.

Harold is known to most as immediate past publisher and chief executive officer of the Omaha World-Herald Company, where he still contributes a column several times a week. He has brought pride to his state for his service as president of the International Federation of Newspaper Publishers, the first American to hold the position. Marion is also a major figure in Nebraska. She has served as chairwoman of the University of Nebraska Foundation, vice chairwoman of the American National Red Cross Board of Governors, trustee of Doane College and Nebraska Historical Society, and on the board of PBS.

“Harold and Marian are among Nebraska’s most loyal supporters,” Christopherson said. “There is hardly a volunteer effort that I prize to which they have not been key donors.”

Prof. Offers Book on Spirituality



Richard Potter, associate professor of social work, has a new book to his credit. “Authentic Spirituality: The Direct Path to Consciousness” was released this spring from Llewellyn Worldwide, based in St. Paul, Minn.

Potter advances the theory that humanity’s dependence on culturally specific beliefs and practices has been a source of bigotry, bloodshed and war throughout the world. With the rise of fundamentalism — especially in the Islamic and Judeo-Christian faiths — the need has become greater for focusing on something other than doctrine, Potter said. He suggests that by focusing on consciousness instead of dogma, it becomes possible to realize the core truths of world religions without being bound to outdated beliefs and customs that no longer serve humanity.

Read the full story at www.dana.edu/review



The Rev. Dr. Art Simon '52 remembered his brother Paul Simon at a special memorial service held Feb. 12 in Trinity Chapel.

Dana Concert Band Goes On Tour

The Dana College Concert Band will perform a diverse repertoire of hymn tunes, folk songs and dances for crowds in Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota May 24–30 on its biannual tour.

Concerts are planned for:

May 24 — Marshalltown (Iowa) High School, 1:45 p.m.

May 25 — St. Ansgar Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

May 26 — Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dubuque, Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

May 28 — Winona, Minn., location TBA

May 29 — Ascension Lutheran Church, Brookings, S.D., 7:30 p.m.

May 30 — Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Beresford, S.D. 10 a.m. (worship)

If you live in or around these areas, watch your mail for additional details. All concerts are free and open to the public.

ForMore

For more information, contact:

Carrie Reed
Director of College Relations and Marketing
(402) 426-7385

What is a Dana education?

Is it *knowledge* acquired, *grades* earned?

Is it a well-respected *diploma*, a guarantee of *quality*?

Is it a period of *life*, a moment in *time*?

Like all things of great *value*, a Dana education is *indescribable, unquantifiable and somewhat unknowable*. However, if you examine a small piece, you can start to get an *impression of the greater whole*. So it is with *January Interim*, a small semester that epitomizes a Dana education. The Interim was about *knowledge for knowledge's sake*. Students saw the *world* or studied a topic far removed from their major studies. In a short period of time, they gained the experiences that affected them *forever*.

In honor of the countless lifechanging moments found by Dana students during the Interim semester, Dana has chosen to rename our signature offering Discovery Term.

Read full descriptions and additional memories at www.dana.edu/review

Interim brings back many good memories. The art and photography classes I took, the more relaxed pace that let you have more time to enjoy friends.

My most dramatic Interim story takes place in January 1982, when Cynthia (Sayer '83) Melcher and I were taking Organic Chemistry with Professor (Gene) Lindblad. In the mornings we would have lectures and in the afternoons would do the laboratory experiments. One afternoon, Cynthia and I were using hydrogen gas in our experiment. Professor Lindblad had left the class alone in the laboratory. We decided to do a practice run with the equipment because we weren't sure how to use it. Well, the practice run went great. We were confident and ready to start on the real thing.

We added the catalyst to the chamber where we would later add hydrogen gas, or so we thought. Immediately, there was a flash of light and a very loud boom! My ears were ringing so badly that I couldn't hear anything else. We both looked around, wondering if we were still alive. Our classmates were staring at us with shocked expressions. The first sound I heard was that of

Professor Lindblad running down the hall to see what had become of the Organic Chemistry Lab. Professor (Frank) Hengeveld '41 appeared soon after, followed by Professors (Larrie) Stone '57 and (George) Grube from the biology department one floor below. Apparently, the sound had carried all through the Dana Hall of Science.

It turned out that there was still hydrogen gas left in the chamber from our practice run and the catalyst had ignited the gas! The laboratory was still intact, Cynthia and I alive and each in one piece. The equipment did suffer some minor damage. Professor Lindblad said that was the first time anyone had done that. I have trained many people over the years in research laboratories and found this rule to be true: If you warn the trainee of all nine possible things that can go wrong in the experiment, your trainee will find the tenth thing that can go wrong. So, Professor Lindblad, we're sorry about the damage.

—Debra Lytle '83
Omaha



The 1976 Interim trip poses for a photo in Bologna, Italy. Back row, from left, Steve Barratt '74 (standing), Lori Nielsen '77, John W. Nielsen '47, Liz (Petersen '76) Erbes, Joy (Rethwisch '77) Smith, Kent Kronberg '76, Lanny Carlson '76, Curt Maschman '77 and Sarah Penick; middle row, from left, Nora Lorraine, Linda (Johnson '77) Riley, Steve Berntson '76, Connie Jones '78, Shirley Steffens '77, Cindy (Knudtson '76) Masters, Dennis Lee '78, Carol (Rettedal '77) Allensworth and Steve Kimm '77; Front row, from left, Kathy (Olsen '78) Sonderup, Jeff Lower '76 and Fred Miller '77.

My first trip to Europe began at 5 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 28, 1975, as nine of us left Blair in the Dana van. Twenty-three students and faculty advisors John W. Nielsen D '47 T '53 and Sarah Penick went on a Dana January Interim trip to 11 European countries in four weeks. I was fortunate to be among this fabulous group. This whirlwind experience truly changed my life and opened my eyes to the wonders of international culture, architecture, Eurorail travel, European beauty in January, group dynamics, and new friendships.

There are many memories of this Interim experience: the fish markets in Bergen, Norway; the Stave Church in Bergen; the stalled train in Finse, Norway, where we were stopped for 22 hours, making an 8-hour ride almost 30 hours; eating breakfast with the Lord High Mayor of Copenhagen, Denmark; walking in the Coliseum in Rome; the Spanish stairs in Rome; being blessed by Pope Paul VI; the catacombs of Rome; the primitive countryside and trains of Dubrovnik and Sarajevo, Yugoslavia; Vienna, Austria; the Bridge of Sighs in

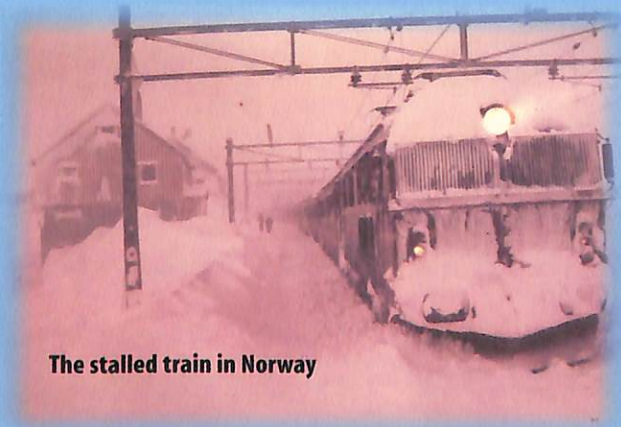
Venice, Italy; Paris, France; the many cathedrals and many train rides.

I would like to share two especially memorable events. Because of my German heritage, I was overjoyed when we reached Germany and a highlight was the visit to the Hofbräuhaus Bier Hall. With all 25 of us around the table, I rose from the flimsy chair (laden with my heavy winter coat on the chair's back), prepared to give a German toast. Suddenly, my knees caught on the chair, and I fell over backward with the liter mug of beer in my hand! The mug hit the concrete floor, shattered, cutting my finger, spilling the brew *and* my German blood on the beer hall floor! We all laughed for days!

The second memorable event is one that is still a mystery! My long warm scarf was mysteriously taken during the trip and kept appearing around other students' necks. I could never quite get it back. Finally — it seemed like days! — our esteemed leader Dr. Nielsen, known as Pope John to all of us, came down the stairs of our hotel wearing my scarf and returned it to me! To this day, I never discovered who “took” my scarf! If any member of the group would like to “confess,” I can be contacted at steffen@mail.nwmissouri.edu.

Truly, my Interim experience at Dana was one I will never forget. I look at European history in a different light, with a new appreciation. Train travel in Europe I now hold with a new respect after traveling more than 7,000 miles on its tracks! But most of all, meeting the people in the countries and getting to know the 25 members of our group made it an Interim to remember.

— Dr. Shirley Steffens '77
Maryville, Mo.



The stalled train in Norway



Sarah (Thompson) Davis '03 and I started dating in early November and everything was going just great, but the problem was that I had to leave for Europe on this trip. Well, Sarah and I had been friends for three years and we knew each other very well. So, at the time that I had to leave, we had only been dating for two months. It was hard to leave, but I had to. Heck, I paid a lot of money!

So anyway, while I was in Florence, Italy, I threw out the idea that I would buy an engagement ring and take a picture of me proposing in front of the Eiffel Tower. Sarah and I joked around with me proposing in front of the Eiffel Tower with her, but she was back in Blair. I thought that the picture was the next best thing. Once I got to France I had Crystal Cordes '03, who went on the trip, too, take a picture of me proposing.

So the plan was set! I was going to take Sarah on this big elaborate date with a carriage and violinist in downtown Omaha by the lake. Then I was going to open some French wine that I brought back and have her open this picture I took that was now framed. After she looked at it, I would say, "I always told you I would propose in front of the Eiffel Tower. Will you marry me?" But ... it didn't happen that way.

Instead, when I got back, we

talked with my parents about how we were wanting to get married. (Sarah didn't know I had the ring.) My father and I talked upstairs separately and I showed him the ring. Unfortunately, when we gathered together again, my dad opens his mouth and without thinking, says, "Did you see the ring yet?" I tried to get his attention and divert Sarah's attention and change subjects.

After we left, I'm thinking to myself, well, she probably knows so now's as good a time as any. I walked her to her room in Argo and I set up my laptop in her room. (I didn't have time to print out the picture.) I had a digital picture up on the screen of me proposing, and when she came back in she saw what was on the screen. I walked up to her and got down on one knee and asked her to marry me. She was so happy that she didn't even look at the ring.

We've been married now for a year and a half and living happily ever after.

—Derek Davis '03
Blair

I had the opportunity to do four different kinds of Interims during my four years at Dana. The first year, I went on tour to the West Coast with the Dana choir. The second year was independent study. Six of us formed a group called Isaiah 6 and did team ministry in Northern California. The third year, I went to Doane College and studied music therapy. All of these were wonderful experiences, but I would especially like to share about the team ministry Interim.

Isaiah 6 was a group of four girls and two guys. We got our name from Isaiah 6:8, where Isaiah says, "Here I am, send me." The two guys played guitar and we all sang.

We had all been involved with the Lutheran Youth Encounter group on campus. We rented a station wagon and drove nonstop to California. (We did have a slight delay with a flat tire and waiting for a tire store to open.)

Our team ministry involved singing and leading worship, leading youth events such as underground worship services, lock-ins, Bible studies, feet washings, etc. We spent a week in each of three churches.

This was a wonderful growing experience for our Christian journey and our adulthood. We shared a closeness that has long been remembered. In 2000, for our 25th

class reunion, we brought four of us together to sing at the Homecoming Alumni talent show. We had a great time talking about old times and renewing new friendships. We even re-enacted a similar pose to our promotional poster for a reunion picture.

One of us became a Lutheran pastor, one a parish worker, and I have recently completed the lay ministry class in the Western Iowa Synod. The message of Isaiah 6:8 has always been special to me, and God has led and continues to lead me in many ways.

—Kathy (Paulsen '75) Soetmelk
Avoca, Iowa

In a recent conversation I had with Mike Jones '71, vice president for institutional advancement, he inquired about particular influences Dana College had on my life. I responded rather quickly with a statement something like the Intersession experience changed my life. Upon reflection I realized although this was a rather quick and dramatic statement, it was unquestionably true.

If my memory serves me, I enrolled in an Exceptional Child Intersession course during my final year at Dana. The beauty of this experience was it afforded me the opportunity to explore content and issues outside the typical boundaries of my major course of study. Frankly, I don't believe that I would have taken this course as a regular semester offering, albeit a topic of some interest to me.

As it turned out, I was fascinated by issues concerning persons with disabilities. Although I possessed lay information and perhaps most of the common misperceptions associated with exceptionality, I had no sense of the facts, complexities and career opportunities concerning

human services as it were. Moreover, I had an awakening with respect to my own gifts (which I had not used to this point in a very productive fashion) and good fortune in stark contrast to those who faced significant life challenges and overcame personal, social and physical barriers in remarkable fashion.

I left the experience better informed, humbled, motivated and believing that I too could make a difference in some meaningful way regarding the life quest of special people. Essentially, I had focus and I was on a mission that has lasted for almost 30 years.

It would be my hope that Dana continues to offer students this special window into topical areas they might not otherwise experience. This rather unique opportunity to learn and reflect is one of Dana's treasures.

Thank you, Dana, for this beginning, and thank you for the opportunity to meet some of the best people I have known in my life, Jan (Sorensen '72) Christensen, being one of those

— Dr. John Christensen '70
Omaha, Nebraska

My Interim began with an Independent Study course in the fall, under the direction of Dr. Richard Jorgensen '64. I did my research and study of the Revolutionary War. With this as preparation, my Interim month began in Omaha at the Greyhound Bus Station, where I purchased a 30-day pass good for anywhere in the United States Greyhound traveled.

I headed east, beginning in Massachusetts, in the Boston area, staying with friends I had known in California. Here I visited the Freedom Trail, and Lexington and Concord, the birthplace of the revolution and our independence as a nation.

From there I continued South, and visited many Revolutionary War sites all the way down to South Carolina. I had a great time visiting friends I had met along the way in various avenues of my life, including Dana friends in Philadelphia.

Upon returning to Dana, I wrote a history paper for Dr. Jorgensen to summarize my travels and studies. I also developed a slide show, which I have shown to fifth grade students in various situations.

—Lance Poldberg
Lake Elsinore, Calif.

College is a time in our lives when we look toward the future and decide what we want to do for the rest of our lives. Dana College was the place I decided to grow and get my elementary education degree.

In January of 2000, I became a part-time employee up in the Dining Hall. Interim served as a good time to start, since there wasn't a large class load to worry about. As second semester started I found myself still enjoying my time in the Dining Hall.

As Interim 2003 started to approach, I talked with both Jim Falk, director of food services, and Dr. James

Smith, assistant professor of business and my advisor, about the possibility of doing an internship with Sodexho, the company contracted to run food services. I wanted to dive deep into the role of management and learn some of the Sodexho business and accounting tools. The whole month of January that year taught me a lot about how business worked and the goals and principles at Sodexho. I finished the internship with a desire to stay within the Sodexho organization and found a job with them at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn.

— Peter Barnett '03
Northfield, Minn.

DISCOVERY

The Acropolis in Athens



You loved Interim, now here's your chance to discover Discovery Term

Next January, alumni, parents and friends of the college can join students to experience firsthand, in the words of Edgar Allen Poe, "The glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome."

Art professor Jim Olsen '61 will lead a Discovery Term travel course to those countries. Tentative dates for the three-week trip are Jan. 6-26, with Greece the first destination.

In Greece, tour members will visit Athens, Corinth, Mycenae, Epidaurus, Nafplion, Olympus, Mount Parnassus and Delphi. They'll also take a one-day cruise to the islands of Aegina, Hydra and Poros.

Travel to Italy will be by ferry from Patras, Greece, to Brindisi.

Destinations in Italy include Pompeii, Naples, Rome, Assisi, Florence and Venice.

Olsen describes the trip as "moderately vigorous" because participants will sometimes need to walk long distances and climb hillside paths.

The web site art.dana.edu/jolsen lists the places tour members will visit in Athens, Rome, Assisi, Florence and Venice. It also describes the focus of the course and includes photographs and a map.

Olsen hopes to keep the cost at \$3,000 or less. That amount includes round-trip airfare from Omaha, all surface transportation, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, and admission to the sites and museums included in the course.

Readers interested in joining the tour should send a \$150 per person deposit, payable to Dana College, for the Greece and Italy Discovery Tour travel account, to the Dana College Business Office, 2848 College Dr., Blair, NE 68008, as soon as possible. Deposits are refundable until Oct. 15.

The number of participants will be limited to 16, Olsen says. If participation is oversubscribed, early depositors will have priority.

Those planning to participate or needing additional information should call Olsen at Dana (402-426-7206) or at home (402-426-2765). He can also be reached by e-mail at jolsen@acad2.dana.edu.

Share your Dana story: Send your favorite *graduation* story (with photos if you have them) to: scavanah@dana.edu or Dana College Relations, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008. All photos will be returned.

Norman Bansen (1920–2004)

A Remembrance

Tall, erect, a confident stride. Luminescent blue eyes, set off by rich brown, sun tanned cheeks and forehead. Hair, once blond, then silver, combed back. Occasionally, a neatly trimmed goatee. With age, a more pronounced Adam's apple and sagging fold of skin (or "glug glug" as our children called it when they were little) under the chin. A rich, mellifluous voice, quick to laugh, even to guffaw.

A home across from the campus with touches of Scandinavian, Japanese and northern California design. A terraced garden, overlooking the Missouri River valley. Daffodils, irises, red poppies, hosta, Japanese maples, sumac, and a cottonwood tree planted by chance. Linden trees from Berlin, and beech trees from Odense, the city of Hans Christian Andersen's birth.

Roast pork with prunes, Medisterpølser, Frikadeller, browned new potatoes and red cabbage or Rødkaal. Æbleskiver, wienerbrød pastry, and cookies: Spritz, Macarons, Pecan Sandies. The first, tart rhubarb pie of spring, autumn's first hot apple pie, or just a small bowl of ice cream. And always coffee.

Drinking coffee in the Dragon's Head. Telling stories of old Danish-American pastors, their wives and members of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, stories of former Dana College presidents, professors and students, stories of bicycling in Denmark, stories of traveling by jeep and airplane in India during and following World War II, stories of migrating annually from Nebraska to Northern California for summer vacations and

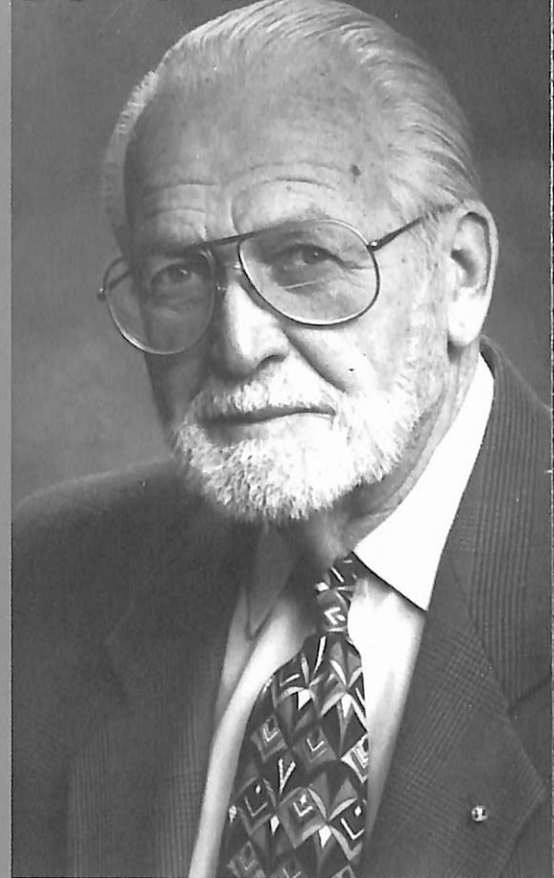
visits to the city, his city, San Francisco. Spouting off at politicians, administrators, church officials, and sometimes colleagues, but quick to forget.

Fourth-floor Pioneer Memorial. The brown, wood-paneled walls matching the slope of the gabled roof, punctuated by two small alcove windows. Black boards securely fastened to red brick walls. A vinyl, accordion divider bisecting the large classroom. Long library tables arranged in a flat, u-shape, the open end facing the black boards. In that open space, a small table with black Formica top from which he would teach.

Class assignments: acting out Atsumori, a Noh drama; singing the songs of Carl Michael Bellman and the hymns of N.F.S. Grundtvig. Talk of poets: Rabindranath Tagore, Walt Whitman, Adam Oehlenschläger, T.S. Eliot, Johannes Ewald. Talk of storytellers: Karen Blixen, Sigrid Undset, Willa Cather, Yukio Mishima, Yasunari Kawabata, Snorri Sturluson, Haldor Laxness. Talk, interspersed with personal stories. Talk of student writing, finding at least an image or phrase to praise or affirm, occasionally a gentle, if ironic comment about lack of preparation. An invitation to his home for æbleskiver.

Each of us who knew or studied with Norman Bansen carries his or her own memories and impressions of this man. He was not an academic in the traditional sense, but through his passion for life and for the world around him, he encouraged us to discover our own worlds. In this he was a teacher.

—*John Mark Nielsen '73*
A student, colleague and friend



Norman C. Bansen, long time English professor at Dana College, died on Jan. 21 at the Good Shepherd Home in Blair.

He came to Dana as a freshman in 1939. After serving in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946, much of the time as a captain stationed in India, he returned to Dana where he received his bachelor's degree in 1947.

Following a few years as director of public relations at Dana, he joined the faculty as an instructor of English. In 1970 Bansen was named to the Order of the Knights of Dannebrog by Frederik IX, King of Denmark, and in 1980 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Dana College designated him a Distinguished Alumnus in 1991.

His love of gardening, literature, travel and the Danish heritage marked his non-academic life, but Bansen's greatest contribution was as a teacher. In this role he inspired and affirmed Dana students over a period of four decades.

The family suggests memorials be given to a Bansen Scholarship Fund at Dana College.

Mike was Mike

A guy who was a friend to everyone is remembered through efforts of family and friends to provide lasting memories of him at Dana



When it comes to describing his son, Mike, Everett Johnson '60 wants you to remember the reality.

“Mike was kind of a crazy kid, if you want to know the truth,” Everett said.

And that’s about all anyone will say — for publication. Everyone who knew the gregarious music major from the class of 1995 has a “Mike” story that makes them smile.

And everyone also has stories from the hospital.

Mike’s diagnosis of testicular cancer, which quickly metastasized to his lungs, didn’t change his outlook on life. Friends and family were a constant presence in his Des Moines, Iowa, hospital room.

“When he first found out — when you’re a young kid and 27 years old, you think you can beat the world,” Everett said. “Immediately, he told us he wanted to talk to his friends.” Mike’s friends stayed with him through his months of treatment.

“His Dana friends stood by him amazingly well,” Everett said. “They never had a schedule that we knew of,

ToHonor

To find out more about establishing scholarships at Dana College, contact:

Mike Jones
V.P. for Institutional Advancement
(402) 426-7230
mjones@dana.edu

but there was someone there most of the time. Sometimes there were so many we thought they would force some of us out, but the hospital staff always told us not to worry about it."

For Mike's mother, June (Santage '62) Johnson, speaking about him is still very hard, but she said she's grateful Mike's last months were filled with the people who cared about him.

"Probably one of the greatest things he got from Dana were his friends," she said.

To borrow from a eulogy provided by Mike's Dana friends: "Mike was our friend, brother, our teacher, our son, but mostly, Mike was Mike. He gave a part of himself to everyone he met and everything he did without ever asking for something in return. Mike was not just a teacher of music, Mike was a teacher of life. Everyone who knew Mike became one of this students. He taught us to cherish time with friends and family, to always laugh at life, and to never change for anyone."

"You just can't just put dirt on a child and forget them," Everett said. "A scholarship at Dana was one of the first things we thought of. Something for the senior level in vocal music education, so they are going out to do what Mike was doing."

The Johnsons (Everett, June, and Mike's three remaining brothers) started

the Mike Johnson Memorial Scholarship at Dana as a tribute to their son and brother.

Scholarships like the Johnsons' are fairly common at Dana. Many people find they are a good way of remembering and honoring loved ones and what they believed was important in life.

Mike Jones '71, vice president for institutional advancement, said he's seen scholarships created in honor of parents, teachers and even students, as well as in memory of loved ones. The scholarships often go to students interested in a particular academic subject, from a geographic area or looking at a specific kind of career.

Scholarships mainly fall into two groups: endowed and annual. Endowed scholarships give off the interest earned on a principal amount for the award each year. This way, the scholarship is guaranteed to continue forever. Annual scholarships don't have a large enough principal amount to just give away the interest, so they must be "replenished" with new funds every year.

"Typically we would like to establish endowed scholarships with \$25,000, or you can start a scholarship at Dana College for a pledge of \$1,500 a year and the promise to include Dana College in your estate plan to endow the scholarship

when the estate matures," Jones said.

The idea of honoring Mike, an avid golfer, on a continuing basis was something Travis Brown, a high school friend, discussed with Mike's Dana friends even before the funeral. They decided a golf tournament would be a great way to raise money and let Mike's friends have time to reminiscence about his colorful life.

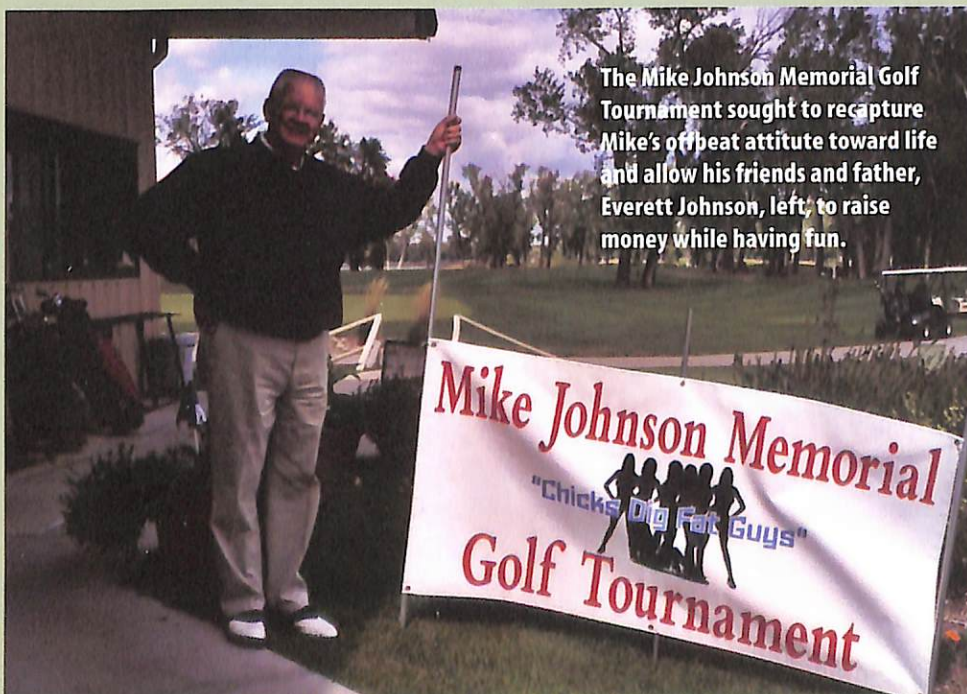
"We drew up a list of all the people we hung out with and sent out invitations," Brown said. "More than 100 people said they wanted to come for sure and were really excited about it."

The first tournament in 2003 was held at Shoreline Golf Course in Carter Lake, Iowa, where Brown is superintendent. They raised \$4,300, which was given to June and Everett. They, in turn, gave it to Dana for the continuing effort to add stained glass windows to Trinity Chapel.

The tournament was so successful, another is being planned for Oct. 2, 2004, at Shoreline, with all proceeds once again going to Dana College.

In raising the money, the Johnsons have found a way to work through the grief of losing their son.

"I had a great time at last year's golf tournament," Everett said. "Just joshing around with the kids that Mike loved and who loved him." ❧



The Mike Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament sought to recapture Mike's offbeat attitude toward life and allow his friends and father, Everett Johnson, left, to raise money while having fun.

ForGolf

To find out more about playing in the Mike Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament Oct. 2 in Carter Lake, Iowa, or to donate money, contact:

Travis Brown
Shoreline Golf Course
(712) 347-6328
shore2@radiks.net

The Christian Spirit of a Viking Champion

Although he can vividly recall crossing the finish line, it didn't sink in for Garry Clark '04 until the official handed him the shell from the starting pistol. But mixed in with the thrilling knowledge that he had just become the NAIA Indoor National Champion in the 600 meter dash, was a feeling of bittersweet irony.

"Isn't it interesting that the very thing I was so afraid of when I was young was the same thing that symbolized the victory for me?" he later said about his souvenir shell.

Growing up in inner city Washington D.C., Clark loved playing basketball. His father, an avid runner, expected him to run in his footsteps, but Clark hated the pressure of racing and was afraid of the starting pistol. For a kid growing up in a world of violence and worried about two parents with drug problems, the pistol was a powerful

symbol of his dangerous life. He remembers hiding under his bed before one race in fear of that gun.

Despite his fears, or unable to refuse his father's prodding, Clark tried running. Some marveled at his natural talent. Even Clark could not ignore the first place finishes, but basketball was still his first love.

A turning point occurred when Clark was a sophomore in high school. Clark, wearing his beloved basketball shoes, challenged the track team's best runner to a race and won. The confidence from that win carried him to a successful high school career, and prompted Clark to search for a college that would give him a scholarship to play basketball and run track.

"God knew Dana College was the best place for me," he said.

From the moment he disembarked from the plane and saw what looked like endless areas of open space, Clark was

free from all the expectations and dangers he had grown up with. After a couple of years riding the bench for basketball, Clark turned his full attention to running. Coaches Jay Birmingham and Allen Friesen believed in him and helped fine tune his natural ability. Training turned a time of 2:02 in the outdoor 800 into a 1:51:07. Teammates like Allen Wagner '03 inspired him with their intensity and focus.

Clark returned from the national championships in Johnson City, Tenn., to find that his fellow students had posted "Garry Clark, National Champion" signs around campus. A special sign by his room was even signed by several of his friends.

With focus his father would admire, Garry looked immediately to the upcoming season, outdoor track, where the two-time conference champion will defend his outdoor 800 title in this his last season at Dana College.

Garry has considered running professionally in the future, but thinks it is more likely that he will use his degree in sociology to become a high school teacher or accept a full scholarship to the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Urban Studies program. He would like to give back to a community like the one he grew up in.

"Garry is a multi-talented student," said Dr. Myrvin Christopherson '61, president. "Not only is Garry an outstanding athlete, but an engaging student, and an inspired and inspiring writer and poet. What's more, his Christian faith guides him as he seeks to lift up the dignity of each of God's children."



Listen to KDCV-Dana College Radio from anywhere in the world on your computer! Just go to www.huntel.net/kdcv and catch all your favorite Dana games, music and programming.

Voice of the Dana Vikings

Dustin Abrahams '04 works at the soundboard in the KDCV studio with Professor Vern Wirka. Abrahams serves as operations manager for the station and has broadcast nearly 200 Dana Viking games in four years.

Dustin Abrahams '04 has built a future for himself with his take-charge attitude and his experiences at Dana College. Some may recognize this young blond radio personality from the local sporting events. For the past four years, DA (as he's known in the Viking athletic department) has served the Blair community and Dana College by broadcasting nearly 200 baseball, softball, basketball, football and volleyball games.

Born into a family of sports fans in West Point, Neb., Dustin attributes his love for sports and knowledge of the game to his mom, Karen, dad, Glen, and brother, Brian '05. In school Abrahams played baseball, football, basketball and golf. He came to Dana because it offered him the opportunity to continue playing baseball while pursuing his

interest in radio broadcasting.

During his first years at Dana, Abrahams worked for BlaiRadio as a board operator and color commentator during sports casts. After the close of the station early in 2003, Abrahams sought out an internship with ESPN radio, while continuing to work closely with Dana's radio station, KDCV 91.1. This year, Dana, Blair High School and HunTel combined efforts to expand the broadcast area. KDCV now operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including audio streaming on the Internet and simulcast on HunTel Cablevision channel 97. Abrahams serves as operations manager for this collaboration. He is responsible for calling the Sport Information Directors at opponents' schools, coordinating games and scheduling.

Professor Vern Wirka, instructor of communication, said Abrahams has been vital to KDCV's success.

"As the operations manager for the

current academic year, Dustin has been key to supervising the programming of KDCV," Wirka said. "He is a very dedicated broadcaster who has learned the art of sports play-by-play and developed his talent to a professional level."

It's a lot of hard work, but for Abrahams it's more than a labor of love. He feels confident in his pursuit of a radio career because of the hands-on experience he's had at Dana.

"When I put 'operations manager' on my resume, it really means something," he said.

Abrahams's efforts have meant a lot to Viking athletics, as well. The student athletes feel more confident knowing the college supports them at such a high level. Working together with community members to cover Blair games has added to Dana's already strong relationship with its home community.

"After BlaiRadio closed, I didn't know if any games would be broadcast," said Jim Krueger '85, athletic director. "But Dustin was always there, making it happen."

Best GPAC Season Ever

The most successful Dana College men's basketball season in recent years came to an end in the first round of the Great Plains Athletic Conference Tournament Feb. 24 to Morningside College.

The Vikings ended the 2003-04 campaign with a 15-15 record, sporting their first winning regular season (15-14) since 1995-96. Dana won the most GPAC games in school history (9), while finishing seventh in the conference.

The greatest highlight of the season came in mid-January, as the red-hot Vikings knocked off three ranked teams in a row during a five-game winning streak, Northwestern (5th), Concordia (22nd) and the University of Sioux Falls (18th). Dana also swept GPAC foe Nebraska Wesleyan for the first time since 1985-86.

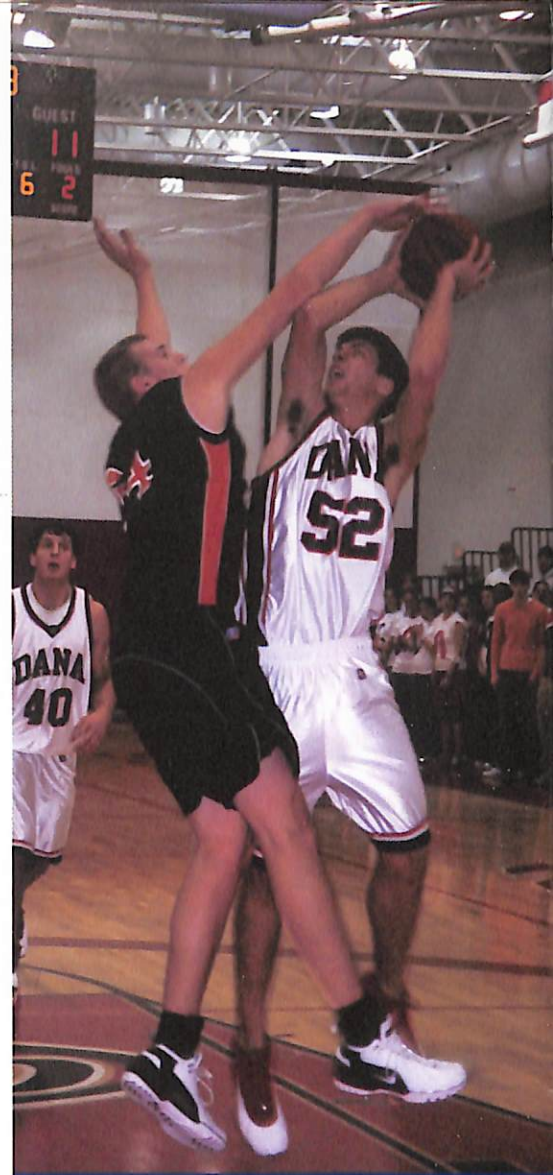
Several Vikings were rewarded for their efforts. Guard Bruce Erdmann '05 was named GPAC Second Team All-Conference. He led the GPAC in three-

point field goals made with 75. Erdmann was named GPAC Player-of-the-Week during the regular season. He also eclipsed the 1,000-career-points mark on Feb. 18 versus Morningside. Erdmann averaged 15.3 points per game for Dana.

Chad Harder '04, the lone senior on the 2003-04 squad, was named GPAC Honorable Mention All-Conference. Harder led the GPAC in steals with 68. His defensive effort also places him third all-time at Dana College in steals. Harder averaged 13.7 points per game and a team-high 5.8 rebounds.

Nathan Wittstruck '05 also earned GPAC Honorable Mention All-Conference honors. The guard was second in the conference in assists and was named GPAC Player-of-the-Week during the season. He earned NAIA Academic All-American status for his efforts.

Nick Kroon '05 and Chris Johnson '05 also were named NAIA Academic All-Americans.



Chris Carder '05 battles for a shot at the Vikings' home game against Midland Lutheran in the new Gardner-Hawks Center.

Wrestling Storms Nationals

Dana College wrestling earned their best performance in school history as they placed 6th in the NAIA National Championships Feb. 27-28 in Great Falls, Mont. The Vikings brought home six All-American honors on the mat and two Academic All-Americans in the classroom.

The Vikings were led by Jason Lozier '05. Lozier finished as the National Runner-up at 141 pounds as he lost by decision to defending National Champion, James Guizar, Menlo College (CA), 6-2.


In addition, Dana had outstanding

performances from Wynn Fangmeier '04, third at 197 pounds; Leister Bowling '05, fourth at 165 pounds; Terrence Almond '07, sixth at 141 pounds; Brian Tsutsumi '05, sixth at 133 pounds; and Chris Egan '06, eighth at 184 pounds.

The Vikings were led by outstanding Academic All-American performances in the classroom by Scott Taylor '06 (157 pounds), 3.8 G.P.A. and Trent Leichter '06 (157 pounds), 3.5 G.P.A.

Terrence Almond earned the team Champion of Character Award for demonstrating the quality character

traits, as an athlete, that are identified by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

"This was a special season for Dana College wrestling," said Dana Coach Steve Costanzo. "We have made huge strides over the past few seasons and have really stepped into the national scene. I am very lucky to have such a great staff and bunch of fantastic student-athletes to work with. They have responded in everything that I have asked from them all year. I look forward to what's yet to come from this program." 

Destiny's Deep Sea

00s

Derek Fey '03 set a new record on the Herman (Neb.)-to-Blair half marathon course on March 7. Derek ran the 13.1 miles in 1 hour, 6 minutes, 28 seconds, beating the previous record of 1 hour, 12 minutes set in 2000 by **Scott Stanley '01**.

Amber Lake '03 is working at the Social Security Administration in Sioux City, Iowa. She lives in Hinton, Iowa.

Diedre Peterson '03 married Andrew Ochsner on April 17 in Omaha. Diedre works at Cherry Creek Schools in Denver, Colo., where the couple lives.

Natalie (Flynn '02) and Justin Christensen '01 are the proud parents of a daughter, Tayte Cassidy, born Oct. 1, 2003. Tayte was 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Justin is the advertising coordinator for First Nebraska Educators Credit Union in Omaha. Natalie is a registered nurse at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. The family lives in Blair.

Mary (Miller '02) and Ross Jensen '04 had a baby girl, Mary Hannah Taylor, on Jan. 14. She was 22 inches long and weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces. The family lives in Omaha, where Ross is a youth care worker at Cooper Village and Mary is the director of first impressions for Redstone Communications.

Anne (Laughery '02) Folkers was promoted to admissions coordinator at Clarkson College in Omaha.



A group of alumni held a mini-Dana reunion recently in San Antonio, Texas. Pictured from left are Don Perekovich '67, Terry Perekovich, Helen (Hansen '68) Sorenson, Jean (Brehm '71) Shelstad, Gary Shelstad '68, Connie (Andersen '68) Quirk and Ken Quirk '66. Don, Terry, Jean, Gary and Helen live in San Antonio. Connie and Ken live in Brookings, S.D.

Megan (Olson '01) and Tim Andersen '01 live in Lincoln, Neb. Tim is an environmental scientist and project manager at EA Engineering, Science & Technology, Inc. in Lincoln. Megan is a junior high English teacher at Raymond (Neb.) Central.

Lindsay (Joslin '01) Benoit and husband, Josh, welcomed a baby girl on Jan. 20. Isabella Reese weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. The family lives in Blair.

Jennifer (Schaaf '01) Tougaw received a master's degree in social work from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in December 2003. She lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Jennifer (Williams '00) and Dan Formo '99 live in Madison, Wis. Dan works for the University of Wisconsin Health System as a software trainer and Jennifer works for the March of Dimes as an administrative assistant.

Cassandra (Green '00) Harrison is working at The Conran Shop, an interior design shop, as a wedding list coordinator in London, England. She is also studying interior design and doing freelance art projects.

Stephanie Lassek '00 and Benjamin Olson '97 were married Sept. 20, 2003, in Dana's Trinity Chapel. Stephanie works for Friendship Program in Omaha. Benjamin works at Novartis in Lincoln, Neb., as an Aerotek contract employee.

90s

Rich Martell '99 teaches physical education and is the athletic director at Indian Ridge Middle School in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He is also the assistant baseball coach at Monarch High School in Fort Lauderdale. His wife, **Celeste (Johnson '01) Martell** teaches physical education at Coconut Creek High School, where she is the head women's volleyball and basketball coach. The Martells live in Margate, Fla.

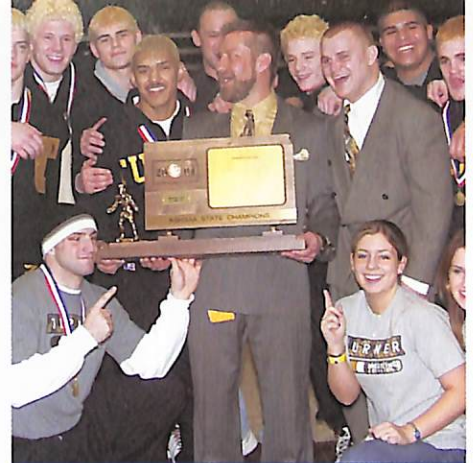
Ken Nikolas '99 lives in Madison, Wis., with his wife, Lisa. Ken works at Johnson Bank in Madison as a credit analyst.

Mike Gerson '98 received his master's degree in health and married Concetta Gerson in 2000.

Sara (Bohling '98) Hansen received her master of social work degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha on Dec. 19, 2003. She is director of social services for Memorial Health Care Systems of Seward, Neb., for the Anna Sundermann Homes.

Dawn Bernzen '97 married Erich Wallschlaeger in June 1999. The couple had their first son, Taylor, in June 2000. Dawn is a social worker and therapist in Mesa, Ariz.

Tasha Hoggatt '97 recently earned her master of arts degree in international relations from California State-Los Angeles. She works as an adjuster and lives in Culver City, Calif.



Peter Sierant '91, head wrestling coach at Turner High School in Kansas City, Kan., captured the 2004 Kansas 5A Wrestling State Championship. The team finished the season with eight medalists. This was the first state title in any sport in school history. Peter also earned his master's in humanities from Fort Hays State University in December 2003. Peter and his wife, Michelle (Bevan-Rosholm '95), and children, Devan, 12, and Victoria, 7, live in Kansas City, Kan.

Nancy Kemmish '97 married Jeff Schrage on April 24. Nancy is a human resource coordinator for University Medical Associates in Omaha, where she and Jeff live.

Audra Kobs '97 was featured in a "Teacher Feature" profile in the *Burt County (Neb.) Plaindealer* in January. Audra is a Spanish and English teacher in Tekamah, Neb.

Kristi (Niemeier '97) Mentink was featured in *The Woodbine (Iowa) Twiner* for her Land of the Letter People program. In the program, Mentink's kindergarten students in Woodbine learn a new letter each week by "meeting" a huggable letter person.

Jennifer Pflugsten '97 is a deputy county attorney for Gage County, Neb. Her duties include traffic cases, misdemeanors and juvenile court, as well as being the lead attorney for county planning and zoning issues.

Angela Martinsen '95 received her master's degree in biology on Dec. 19 from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Angela works in the Surgery Research Department of the Leid Transplant Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, where she lives.

Angie (Heise '94) Knudsen is the manager of the Home Instead Senior Care office in Fremont, Neb., which serves Butler, Dodge, Saunders, Burt, Washington and portions of Douglas counties in Nebraska. She lives in Omaha.

Kim Sloan '93 married Scott Bergman on Nov. 21, 2003. They have four daughters, Nickole, 14; Jennifer, 13; Kaitlyn, 7; and Cassidy, 4. The family lives in Dacono, Colo., where Kim is an early childhood teacher.

Stephen Swenson '92 lives near Lake Harriet, Minn., with his children, Avalon, 9, and Isak, 7.



Karen (Jensen '60) Capel was ordained into the ministry in a worship service Jan. 11 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Dixon, Ill., by the Northern Synod of the ELCA. She has accepted a call to serve as pastor of St. James Lutheran Church in rural Forreston, Ill., where she had served as an intern pastor for the previous year. At her ordination were (from left) the Rev. Bonnie L. (Hagedorn '70) Jensen, Janice (Butts '83) Peterson, Capel, Kimberly Capel '95 and the Rev. Dr. Richard A. Jensen D '56 T '59.

Lori (Ohms '91) Bayne is an account manager for the western half of the United States for the marketing department at Mid America Computer Corp. in Blair. She lives in Omaha.

Tina (Reimer '91) Eller and her husband, Dale, recently had their first child, Ian, who weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces. Tina teaches Spanish at Amboy High School in Amboy, Ill.

Coleen Lennemann '91 married Troy Denton on July 5, 2003. Coleen is in her sixth year as a QA analyst at Mid America Computer Corp. in Blair. The Dentons live in Oakland, Neb.

Stacey Schutt '91 is teaching pre-kindergarten through eighth grade art at St. Mary's School in Bellevue, Neb. She lives in Gretna, Neb.

Craig Dew '90 works with behavioral disorderly students at Lewis Central High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He also coaches football and wrestling, and runs the summer youth programs. He and his wife, Becky, have four children, Misty, 13; Morgan, 10; Forrest, 9; and Frasier, 7. They live in Silver City, Iowa.

Susan Hendrick '90 is spending four months in India with her husband, Sandy Sheth. The trip ends in May.

80s

Sue (Warren '88) Dlouhy and her family moved to Deshler, Neb., in March. Sue stays at home to be with her daughter, Leah, born Oct. 15, 2002, and help keep up with her four school-age children.

Karla (Bidstrup '87) Spencer married James DeBoer, a high school classmate, on Oct. 18, 2003, in Racine, Wis. The couple lives in Racine with their children, Evan Spencer and Hailey DeBoer.

Brenda Meyer '86 married Tom Accola on Feb. 7 in Omaha. Brenda is a program financial analyst at Harris Corp. in Bellevue, Neb., where the couple lives.

Karen (Hansen '85) Johnson has moved to Walton, Ind.

Cindy (Lorenzen '84) Hansen traveled to Cameroon for two weeks in November 2003 with Women Building Global Community, a global education and advocacy program for and about women, sponsored by the ELCA Division for Global Mission and the Women of the ELCA. Nineteen women from the United States joined six women from Cameroon, Nigeria, Senegal and Liberia to travel, listen and learn about women's issues in West Africa. Cindy has made a commitment to give presentations about her trip for the next two years. She is also secretary of the the South Dakota Synod's Task Force for Companion Synods. She led in the writing of a Sunday school education program about the Synod's companion synods in Nicaragua and Cameroon. Cindy teaches at St. Mary's School in Salem, S.D., where she lives with her husband, Jeff Hansen '87, and their son, Pete.

Tim Rongstad '84 teaches K-5 science at St. Paul Academy and Summit School in St. Paul, Minn. He also coaches. He and his wife, Kris, have two children, Matthew, 15, and Rachel, 13, and live in Woodbury, Minn. The whole family is involved with church activities, athletic pursuits and fishing.

Janelle (Tippery '82) Ray was featured in the *Burt County (Neb.) Plaindealer's* Teacher Feature column. Janelle teaches fifth and sixth grade at Herman (Neb.) Elementary. She lives in Herman.

Nancy (Anderson '81) Judson is an admissions evaluator at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She lives in Longmont, Colo.

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70s

Carol (Holmstedt '75) and Jim Prouty '73, along with their daughter Jami (Prouty '98) Finazzo, and Jim's brother John Prouty '70 were featured in *One Magazine* in December 2003. The family renovated an old liquor warehouse in downtown Omaha into a new working space for the family businesses, Wessco Graphics and Prouty Bros. Real Estate, as well as living quarters.

Beverly Jedynek '74 has been named president of the Martin E. Janis & Company, Inc. public relations firm in Chicago, Ill. Beverly is listed in "Who's Who Among American Women" and is a member of the National Association of Female Executives, American Guild of Organists, American Lutheran Church Musicians and Hymn Society of America.

John Christensen '71 was named vice chancellor for academic and student affairs at the University of Nebraska-Omaha in January. Christensen had been serving on an interim basis in the position.

60s

Kathy (Anderson '62) Bliese was selected as one of the 200 best poets of 2003 by the International Society of Poets. One of her poems has been published in "Colors of the Heart," and two more have been accepted for future publication. One poem will be published in the United Kingdom by Noble House. Kathy was honored by the governor of Nebraska as a Caring Physician of 2003, and Nov. 8, 2003, was declared Dr. Kathy Bliese Day in Nebraska. She lives in Grand Island, Neb.

Al Girtz '61 married Barbara Camp on Aug. 31, 2003, near Mapleton, Minn. In September 2003, Al finished an interim ministry position in a Lutheran church in Salina, Kan. The couple will keep two homes, one in Salina and one in Mapleton.

Deaths

Louise (Kahler) Spires '70 died Dec. 26, 2003, in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Louise taught in rural schools near Chadron and Alliance, Neb.,



A group of Dana friends gathered in Irvine, Calif., for a mini-Dana reunion. Pictured, from left, are Margaret (Christiansen '53) Madsen, Jim Nelson '56, Roma (Geisler '54) Bunch, Joan (Nelson '54) Coffey, Bob Coffey '53, Marian Jane (Petersen '55) Nelson and Carl Nelson '54.

Missouri Valley, and Logan, Loveland and Council Bluffs, Iowa. She enjoyed teddy bears and crocheting. Survivors include a daughter, two grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Terry Carlson '68 died Jan. 23 at home in Lincoln, Neb. Terry worked for 20 years with the Nebraska State Electrical Division as an inspector and became a director in 1991. He was an avid aircraft enthusiast, held a pilot's license and built his own experimental aircraft. Survivors include his wife, Judy, two daughters, three grandchildren, a sister and two brothers.

John Seburg '65 died Jan. 14 in Omaha. John taught fifth grade in Blair Community Schools for 34 years. He was a member of the Nebraska Education Association, the National Education Association and Brookstone Church in Omaha. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette (Bauder) Seburg '83, three children, four grandchildren, his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

Carlene (Petersen '58) Heiser died Dec. 11, 2003, in McMinnville, Ore. Carlene taught kindergarten for 18 years in the McMinnville School District. A passionate knitter, she made many prayer shawls for the members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Salem, Ore. Survivors include her husband, Jim Heiser '59, a son and daughter, three grandchildren and a sister, Karen (Petersen '59) Jensen.

Edward Sorensen '44 died Dec. 26, 2003, in Des Moines, Iowa. Ed was a veteran of World War

II, owned and operated Sorensen Equipment Company and served on the board of Dania Savings and Loan. Survivors include his wife, Jeane, three children, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two brothers, Art D '49 T '52 and Connie '53.

Lyle Paulsen D '43 T '45 died Jan. 25. He served congregations in Danville Church, N.D., Westby, Mont., Washington Island, Wis., Harlan, Iowa, Livermore, Calif., and Ogden, Utah. He later became a minister in association at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Tucson, Ariz. Survivors include his wife, Agnes (Larsen '42) Paulsen, three sons, two daughters and nine grandchildren.

Emery Petersen D '38 T '43 died Dec. 25, 2003. Emery served parishes in Rolfe, Callendar, Scranton and Coon Rapids, Iowa, Aurora, Colo. and St. Francis, Kan. After retiring from the ministry, he served as interim pastor for numerous congregations. Survivors include his wife, Carol (Oleson '39), four daughters including Naomi (Petersen '66) Theye and Sharon (Petersen '69) Holdorf, and seven grandchildren.

Gladys (Hansen '36) Nichols died Jan. 25 in Greenfield, Iowa. She was a farmer for decades near Fontanelle, Iowa, and was a 4-H leader. She traveled to all 50 U.S. states, much of Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Survivors include a son, two daughters, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Louis Christiansen '32 died Jan. 24 in Aurora, Mo. Louis attended the Marionville (Mo.)

Church of the Nazarene. He organized the local National Methodist Camper's Club and was a supporter of the local sports program. Survivors include his wife, Lucille, two sons, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Esther (Frost '31) Magnussen died Dec. 9, 2003, in Anaheim, Calif. Esther taught high school English and home economics, and served as a counselor in Newman, Gilroy and Burlingame, Calif. Her travels took her throughout Europe and Nigeria. Survivors include two brothers, Carl Frost '38 and Tom Frost '46, two stepsons, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Henry Jensen '26 died Feb. 13, 2003, in St. Anthony, Minn. He taught high school in Browerville and Askov, Minn., and later did technical personnel work in the Twin Cities, Minn. After retiring, he pursued his hobbies of hunting, fishing, camping and traveling. Survivors include his wife, Eunice, a daughter, two grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

Corrections

In the Winter 2004 edition we printed the wrong birth length for Emily Lynn Nieland, daughter of Kara (Vergamini '97) and Robert Nieland '97. Emily was 16 inches long.



What's New *With You?*

Name

Class Year

Maiden Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Telephone

E-mail

New baby? New job? Award? Honor? Moved? Retired? Married? Watermelon seed-spitting champion? **We want to know!** Send us a description of what's going on with you and we'll print it in the DANA REVIEW. Got a cute photo? Make your item stand out by sending it along!

My news is _____

Mail your information to: DANA REVIEW, Dana College, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008 or scavanah@fs1.dana.edu. The deadline for submitting items for the Summer 2004 REVIEW is Aug. 1. The deadline for Fall is Oct. 1.

Dana College Alumni Awards Nominations

The Alumni Association of Dana College and Trinity Seminary annually present Alumni Awards to an unspecified number of alumni. The two categories are:

Distinguished Alumni Awards

Presented during Homecoming, the awards are given to those alumni who, in the opinion of the selection committee, have distinguished themselves in their individual profession and have rendered dedicated service to the College and/or others.

Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Also presented during Homecoming, the awards are given to those alumni who have attended Dana within the past 15 years, show accomplishments and promise in their professions, and have given service to community, church, and/or Dana.

Nomination forms should be sent to:

Alumni Office — Dana College
2848 College Drive
Blair, NE 68008-1099
Fax Number: (402) 426-7386
alumni@acad2.dana.edu

 DANA REVIEW
2848 College Drive
Blair, NE 68008

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

About the Nominee:

Distinguished Alumni Award Young Alumni Award

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Class Year: _____

Professional Field: _____

Short Nomination Statement: _____

References: On a separate sheet, please include names and addresses of people who could be contacted to support the nomination.

About You:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

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