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Dana *review*

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VISIT OF A PRINCE

ROYAL COUPLE VISITS IN
HONOR OF DANA'S
125TH ANNIVERSARY

inside the review:

A "VACATION" TO GUATEMALA 12

DEFINING ART 14

DANA CELEBRATES 125 YEARS 28

A Greeting

from President Philipp



Honored, privileged, elated, thrilled and delighted are all adjectives that describe the experience of hosting H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik and H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary of Denmark. The royal couple visited Dana College on March 24, 2009, in recognition of Dana's 125th anniversary. In his remarks, the Prince focused on the close cultural and historical ties between Denmark and the United States as well as on renewable energy and energy efficiency – both areas in which Denmark has unique experience.

Dana was last visited by a member of the Royal Family in 1976 when H.M. the Queen of Denmark gave a commencement speech on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of American independence. In 1939 her father, Crown Prince Frederik, who later became the King of Denmark, was the first member of the royal family to visit Dana.

Upon their arrival at Dana, Crown Prince Frederik gave the closing remarks at Dana's first annual Sustainable Enterprise Conference. Denmark is recognized as an international leader in the sustainability movement, with a rich tradition of innovation and resource stewardship. The Prince hailed the aspirations and progress of sustainability in this area and stated that, "It is easy to talk about the wonders and necessities of change and the possibilities of a green economy. It is far more complicated to actually implement such changes and utilize the possibilities."

He praised Dana and the community for drawing attention to sustainable enterprises and went on to say, "It is only through the common aspirations and striving of politicians, peoples and businesses that we will be able to ensure a bright future for our planet."

Upon her arrival, the Crown Princess visited with Dana education majors who had arranged learning activities with kindergartners and preschoolers from Blair. Her patronages include education and children and the couple has two young children who stayed at home. The interaction of the princess with the children was a frenzied photo op for the nearly dozen Danish media present.

In the afternoon, Dana bestowed on the Prince an honorary degree for, among other accomplishments, his "wide view of the world, his zest for rich experiences, as well as his great interest in the world's diversity of languages, religion and tradition, all embodied in the values of the Danish Kingdom and of this college founded by Danish immigrants 125 years ago." The Dana Chorale performed the Danish royal anthem, "Kong Christian stod ved højen mast," in Danish to the delight of the Royal Couple.

Frank and I were honored to host the Royal Couple. While we had been prepared by the Danish Embassy for the protocol involved, any apprehension we might have experienced melted as soon as we welcomed them to Dana. The Prince and Princess were warm and engaging to all who had the opportunity to meet them. It is indeed a privilege and a highlight of my presidency to host the Danish Royalty on the occasion of Dana's 125th anniversary.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet S. Philipp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet S. Philipp
President

Features



12 A "Vacation" to Guatemala

Debbie and Kate Gethmann travel to Guatemala during Discovery Term for a challenging trip of service.



14 Defining Art

The stories of three Dana art students: what their Dana education has done for them, and where they're at now.



20 Danish Royal Couple Visits Dana

H.R.H Crown Prince Frederik and H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth visit Dana in celebration of the 125th anniversary.



28 Dana Celebrates 125 Years

The top 125 alumni are being recognized as a part of the celebration of Dana's 125th anniversary. Read a sampling of that list of alumni here.

In This Issue:

- 4 Campus Digest
- 5 News Briefs
- 10 Why I Teach
- 11 Music at Dana
- 24 A Very Brief History
- 30 Viking Athletics
- 36 Alumni News
- 37 Destiny's Deep Sea

On the Cover:

H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary and H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik visit with sophomore Roger Cattle about the Dana Butterfly Project.

Photo by Micheal Dwyer Photography

View the Dana Review online at
www.dana.edu/alumni

Dana Review

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Dr. Iain Anderson, associate professor of history, the Richardson Professor for 2009-10, has been invited to participate in an International Seminar and Workshop at the University of Aarhus, Denmark this May. The two-day seminar, "Stories of Nationhood in Plural Societies," features workshops with some of the most respected scholars in immigrant and ethnic studies, including Francis Fukuyama (Johns Hopkins), Desmond King (Oxford), Rogers Smith (Penn), and Eric Rauchway (UC-Davis). This gathering will be followed immediately by a two-day seminar/workshop for members of the research project "Narratives of Identity among Danish/Scandinavian Immigrants to the United States and Their Descendants." Anderson will contribute a chapter on Danish immigrant identify formation to a book that will result from this conference.

In March 2009, **Dr. Scott Sasse**, assistant professor of criminal justices and sociology, presented a paper with Professor Bill Wakefield of the University of Nebraska-Omaha entitled, "Offering Study Abroad Courses" at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Meeting in Boston, Mass. He also obtained a grant to evaluate effectiveness of the Patrick J. Thomas Juvenile Justice day and evening programs in Sarpy County.

Dr. Peggy Holloway, associate professor of music, is serving as president of the Great Plains Regional Chapter of the College Music Society, and chair of the program committee for the annual chapter conference which was held April 4-5 in Kansas City. At the conference, she chaired a discussion of the Society's common topic, "Music in a Changing Society," and presided over the chapter business meeting. She also presented a paper entitled, "Made in America: A Great Plains Protagonist and the Establishment of American Musical Modernism," which featured her research on the Great Plains native Hazel Gertrude Kinscella, an early 20th century pianist, composer, author and educator.

Dr. Mark Sand, professor of mathematics, presented "The Mathematics of the Electric Car" at the meeting of the Nebraska/Southeast South Dakota section of the Mathematical Association of America, April 3-4 at Hastings College. He is also serving as the section's representative to the national organization's Board of Governors.

Carol King, assistant professor of business administration, helped Midland Lutheran College with their Master of Professional Accounting program by teaching Graduate Managerial Economics during the winter term of 2009.

Diana Brown, associate professor of Spanish, has translated for the first time two books written by Sylvain Brachfeld, a survivor of the Holocaust during World War II. The translations are from French to English from primary sources. Brown is also one of the designers of the Holocaust Curriculum Project: The Rescued and the Rescuers. This web-based curriculum is designed for college and university students and their professors. In addition, she is meeting with consulates from Belgium, Greece, Israel, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Italy, working to develop a DVD series from each country as a part of the Holocaust Curriculum. Brown has also been invited to give presentations this summer Buenos Aires and Rosario, Argentina.

Dr. Paul Schneider, professor of English, was cast as Dr. Kelekian and Mr. Bearing in the BlueBarn production of the Pulitzer Prize Winning play, *Wit*. He was also invited to join the cast of the Omaha Community Playhouse production of *Gypsy*. Dr. Schneider plays several roles: Pop, Mr. Kringelein, Stagehand, and Bougeron Cochon. Schneider produced and directed the Dana College Theater production of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, a huge hit with local audiences. Schneider also produced the spring Dana College Theater show—*Vital Signs*—a play featuring monologues mostly by women about a variety of serious and comic concerns.

Dr. Susan Udey, professor of business, has volunteered annually for AARP tax preparation. Last year she submitted 67 tax returns and this year had more than 40. She receives certification every year through AARP to perform this volunteer service.

Dr. Claire Bushong, assistant professor of music, presented a hymn festival at Sinai Lutheran Church in Fremont, Neb., and played a recital at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Neb., as a part of their regular concert series.

Vern Wirka, assistant professor of communication, is wrapping up his second year of studies in pursuit of a JDET (Juris Doctorate Executive Track) through Taft University Law School's online program. This program will expand his expertise in communication law; it also relates to his management duties of KDCV and DVTV, especially in the areas of administrative law, copyright and intellectual property law. He is also researching the history of the first form of digital communication, radiotelegraphy, and continues to provide educational and entertainment programs for schools and libraries in the region featuring ventriloquism, magic and music.

Tom Hubbell, adjunct ceramics instructor, presented a slide lecture and a studio demonstration at the Omaha Clayworks on April 3. He has conducted workshops from Colorado to Michigan. His work is featured in Darl E. Baird's *The Extruder Book*, and he exhibits his work in 12-14 shows annually including fairs, festivals and solo and group exhibitions.

Jan Potter, professor of social work and **Richard Potter**, associate professor of social work and sociology, have written a book entitled *Spiritual Development for Beginners* which was published in Czech and in Hungarian last fall. Richard has also been invited to write a chapter for an academic text on mindfulness and social work practice entitled *Cultivating Mindfulness in Social Work Practice*. The text is scheduled for release next fall.

Dr. Karen Murch-Shafer, associate professor of biology, spent much of the 2008-09 school year concentrating on The Dana Butterfly Project. This project consists of giving presentations, providing displays, and engaging the community in raising and tagging Monarch butterflies as part of an international research effort to track their migration patterns. In the fall of 2008 over 80 Monarch butterflies were tagged and released as part of "Monarch Watch" (sponsored by the University of Kansas Entomology Department).

John Lyden, professor of religion, is the editor of the "Routledge Companion to Religion and Film," published in April 2009. It is the first comprehensive introduction to the emerging field of Religion and Film studies, and contains chapters written by 27 scholars on a range of topics, including the history of the interaction between religion and film, depictions of religions in film, methods of studying religion and film, and key concepts of the discipline. It is intended as a reference for scholars and graduate students in the field, as well as for undergraduate courses in Religion and Film. Lyden is also the co-chair of the American Academy of Religion Group on Religion, Film, and Visual Culture, and is in charge of the program for that area for the AAR International Conference, this year to be held in Montreal, Canada in November 2009.

Campus News

JORGENSEN RECEIVES ALUMNI INSPIRATION AWARD

Dr. Richard Jorgensen, professor emeritus of history, received the first annual Dana College Alumni Inspiration Award at the Dana College Alumni Inspiration Breakfast on Monday, January 19. Nominations for the award were solicited from alumni for the Dana College faculty or staff person who most inspired his or her students to serve others. Lindsay (Bruning '99) Paulsen nominated Dr. Jorgensen for the award and shared memories of her experiences with Dr. Jorgensen while attending Dana.

Toni Ahrendt '03, was the keynote speaker for the morning event, discussing her passion for helping serve victims of domestic violence and abuse. She is currently working as a Domestic Violence Programs Services Specialist for the State of Nebraska.

The award presented to Dr. Jorgensen was created by current Dana art student Mandy Hemphill '10.



Lindsay (Bruning '99) Paulsen, Dr. Richard Jorgensen and Toni Ahrendt '03

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS AWARDED HONORS FOR POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Eight students in the psychology department attended the Great Plains Conference in Kearney, Neb., in March. Five of these students gave poster presentations and three of them were awarded honors in their respective areas for their research. Students who attended the Great Plains Conference were Christine Bailey, Will Hittner, Andrea Koll, Kurtis Kraatz, Amanda Smith, Stephanie Smith, Jenna Talero, and Aaron Wright. Dr. Barb Zimmerman and Dr. Christopher Gade accompanied the students on their trip. Talero and Smith won a first place award for: "Is Your Head in the Stars?: The Influence of Horoscopes on Certain Personalities." Koll won a second place award for her poster presentations in the personality psychology category: "Is Ignorance Bliss? The Relationship between Need for Cognition, Locus of Control, and Personal Outlook on Future Success."

Wright (It's Me or the Group: Comparing Independence/ Interdependence and Locus of Control Across the Lifespan) and Kraatz (Political Preference Correlation to Individual Personality & Religious Characteristics) also had posters and received high marks for their presentation/performances.



Dr. Chris Gade, Aaron Wright, Will Hittner, Andrea Koll, Jenna Talero, Amanda Smith, Christine Bailey, Stephanie Smith and Kurtis Kraatz

PEACEFEST 2009: TEACHING PEACE

Dana College hosted its third annual PeaceFest April 7 – 9. This three-day event featured lectures, discussions, interactive workshops, theater, music and art that celebrates the vision and efforts that could move us forward toward a more just and peaceful society and world. Speakers included Ryan Sallans, a transgender presenter who has been featured on *Larry King Live*; Tim Rinne, the State Coordinator for Nebraskans for Peace; Richard Hargesheimer with Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty; and A'Jamal Byndon, a presenter who discussed living in a "post-racist" society.

DANA STUDENTS HELP PREPARE FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

Students from Dana College visited Tri-Center (Iowa) High School to help various groups prepare their research for the upcoming National History Day competition.

Special Topics in Criminal Justice: London

A new class was launched in Dana's department of criminal justice in 2008 known as "Special Topics in Criminal Justice: London." This course gives Dana students the opportunity to study the British criminal justice system during the spring semester and then tour it in England for two weeks.

Students tour courts, prisons, police academies, Scotland Yard as well as see Oxford, Cambridge, Stratford on Avon and other cultural sites. They also hear lectures from representatives of the London Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch, magistrate judges, prison governors and from the Met Police Counter-Terrorism Branch.

The program, started by Dr. Scott Sasse at Dana, works with the departments of criminal justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Chadron State College. The program originally began at UNO in the 1970s and has had hundreds of students participate. Last May, Dana students Lisa Nollette, Ivan Ramirez, Clay Wurtele and Jeremy Dove were the first students to participate in the study tour. Four more Dana students will be in London this May.

In 2008, a new internship program was piloted in conjunction with Bob Houston, the director of the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. The program targets junior and senior students who are interested in working in the area of corrections. Students may be placed in a paid internship capacity anywhere in the state in prisons, jails, parole offices or elsewhere where they gain practical experience in the criminal justice field. Upon graduation, they are guaranteed a job where they interned. Houston was so pleased with the Dana students and the response from the correctional institutions in its first year, he is expanding the internships from five to fourteen for 2009.



Ivan Ramirez, Jeremy Dove, Scott Sasse, Lisa Nollette and Clay Wurtele stand outside Scotland Yard.

KALEIDOSCOPE PROGRAM LAUNCHES OVER DISCOVERY TERM

Dana's student engagement team created a new program that launched on Jan. 5. Kaleidoscope, a new tradition for the Dana campus, offers students returning for Discovery Term a chance to participate in a number of activities throughout the month of January. Activities included a poetry slam, tournaments in ping pong and pool, Texas Hold'em, an academic quiz bowl, scrapbooking, quilting, an "Iron Chef" competition, outdoor hikes, a movie night, a student talent showcase, community service, volunteer opportunities and much more.

PRESIDENT'S GALLERY ESTABLISHED FOR DANA STUDENT ARTISTS

The President's Gallery is currently showing its first display in Pioneer Memorial, outside of the President's office and in the hallway on first floor. Four paintings and six black and white photographs created by Dana art students are showcased in this exhibit. Each piece was selected by a juried group of student artists. The gallery will be changed each semester and will serve as a place for the Dana community to view a variety of pieces throughout the year. Students showcasing work for the past semester include paintings by Meghan Bretschneider, Mandy Hemphill, Sara O'Reilly and Lane Roberts. Student photography by Andy Bern, Kali Brayfield, Heidi Gowery, Kristi Hanson, Ashley Rose and Cooper Smith was also displayed.

DANA PRESIDENT ELECTED TO NAICU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Janet Philipp, president of Dana College, has been elected to the board of directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). NAICU is the leading national association representing private higher education, serving as the unified voice of more than 1,000 independent college and university presidents, and specialized, state, and regional association executives. NAICU member institutions enroll nine out of every 10 students attending a private college or university in the United States.

FIRST CENTRAL PLAINS LECTURE IN PSYCHOLOGY SERIES HOSTED AT DANA

The inaugural session of the Central Plains Lecture in Psychology Series was held on Dana's campus on Feb. 4. The lecture was the first in the series hosted by a group of private Nebraska colleges. Dana College, College of Saint Mary, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and Midland Lutheran College all took part. Dr. Tom Tiegs, a professor at Creighton University, was the lecturer for the event. The topic was "Love and Relationships, Behaviors and Desires to Signify Love."

DANA HOSTS SCREENING OF THE BATTLE FOR WHITECLAY

Dana's Social Awareness Organization hosted the showing of a powerful video, *The Battle for Whiteclay*. The documentary has been making waves in Lincoln and Omaha theaters since its release. The film follows Native American activists Frank LaMere, Duane Martin and Russell Means through Whiteclay to the state capitol in Lincoln, detailing their plight to end alcohol sales. The documentary focuses on the affects that alcohol has had on families and shows how supporters of the Indian way of life face state and local authorities.

Following the screening, the director/producer Mark Vasina and Frank LaMere, noted member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, led a panel discussion of the issues.

SOCIAL NETWORKING AT DANA

Get connected with Dana College on Facebook and LinkedIn! Chat with admissions counselors, find classmates, keep up to date with Dana events or look for jobs posted by Dana alumni! Visit our Facebook pages (www.facebook.com) under Dana College and Dana College Alumni. Visit our LinkedIn page (www.linkedin.com) under Dana College Alumni. If you would like to see additional social networking sites set up for Dana, please contact us at marketing@dana.edu.

Advancement Team Welcomes New Development Officers

Janis Enebach, Alison Rasmussen and Wayne Sampson have been hired as new development officers for Dana College.

In their positions, they will play an integral part in Dana's comprehensive fundraising campaign and will help to build strong relationships through the giving process of identification, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship for the college.



Enebach has spent her career working in fundraising within the nonprofit arena in the Omaha metro area. She has served on the board of directors for Clarkson College, Clarkson Service League, Junior League of Omaha, Omaha

Symphony Guild, Aksarben Friends, Project Harmony Service League and the Make a Wish Guild. She is a past president of both the Junior League of Omaha and the Junior League of Omaha Foundation boards as well. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.



Rasmussen comes to Dana from Fremont (Neb.) National Bank and Trust Company where she has spent the last two years as a private banker. She also spent five years fundraising for Midland Lutheran College working on campaigns.

In 2007, Rasmussen completed a master of arts degree in management from Bellevue University.



Sampson worked for 17 years as a district representative with Lutheran Brotherhood. He then spent five years as an ELCA Foundation regional gift planner in the North Carolina Synod. Most recently, Sampson spent three

years as the vice president of gift planning at the University of Dubuque. He brings extensive fundraising and planned giving expertise, as well as a history of working with Lutheran institutions and constituencies. Wayne's wife, Julane, graduated from Dana College in 1964 and for years they have been Dana Builders.

Build the Bridge

A survey for alumni

Through a new initiative of the Alumni Council, Dana College alumni are being solicited for ways they give back to their alma mater and reconnect with the Dana College of today.

Dubbed the "Build the Bridge" campaign, this effort is not about fundraising, but rather heightening that connection between both prospective and current students and Dana graduates.

"Bridge building" tasks may include calling prospective students who are interested in your career field, serving as a mentor to a current student or manning a Dana College table at a college fair in your community.

Take a few minutes to fill out a brief online survey at www.dana.edu/alumni about your experiences as a Dana student, your career and your willingness to be involved.

If you have any questions or cannot access the survey online, please contact Carrie (Larkins '94) Reed, director of alumni affairs and special events, at 402.426.7385 or creed@dana.edu.

NEW FACES ON CAMPUS



Kevin Blair has been selected to lead the new women's lacrosse team in their inaugural season. Blair graduated from Creighton Prep and the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a degree in journalism. For the past 12 years, Blair coached elite girl's fast pitch softball, capturing two state titles, two regional titles, and qualifying for nationals four times.



Crystal Baker has been named the first coach of Dana's competitive cheer and dance team, beginning in the fall of 2009. Baker served as the Creighton University dance team coach in 2002. Before that, Baker was a four-year member and captain of the Creighton University dance team. She graduated from Creighton in 2002. She is currently an instructor and competition team director at Mary Lorraine's Dance Center in Omaha and is a guest instructor for specialty workshops at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

NICF ART SHOW

Ciera Kracl, a freshman art education major from O'Neill, Neb., was an award recipient at the 2009 Nebraska Independent College Foundation (NICF) art show. Her charcoal drawing received an honorable mention and \$50 prize at this year's event. The show took place at the O'Keefe Building in downtown Omaha where artwork from many Dana students was showcased.

DANA COLLEGE/MCC REACH ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Metropolitan Community College and Dana College have reached an agreement that will help students transfer general education credits. The agreement allows MCC students to earn an associate of arts degree or associate in science degree at Metropolitan Community College and transfer to Dana having fulfilled the general education requirements. The agreement was signed on March 16.

SENIOR ART SHOW A BIG DRAW

Dana College senior art students welcomed visitors to the Madsen Fine Arts Center on April 25 for a gallery display and student presentation. Amy Jackman, Sheila Joedeman, Carolyn Kruger, Casey Newsom and Lane Roberts showcased paintings, screen prints, linoleum cuts, photography, graphic design, ceramics and sculpture to wrap up their Dana student art careers. Dana alumni, current students, prospective students, family, friends and faculty all attended the event. The gallery display will be up through the end of the semester and is open to the public. Amy, Sheila, Carolyn and Lane will all graduate in May. Casey graduated at the end of the Fall 2008 semester.



Casey Newsom, Carolyn Kruger, Sheila Joedeman, Amy Jackman and Lane Roberts

Neihardt Foundation Presentations

Nancy Gillis, Executive Director of the John Neihardt State Historic Site and the Neihardt Foundation's Institute for Vision and Learning, will do four presentations to coordinate with the production of "Black Elk Speaks" to be held on campus in July. Check the Dana website for locations at www.dana.edu/blackelkspeaks.

Wed., July 8	12:00 p.m.	History of Nebraska Tribes
Thurs., July 9	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Legacy of Neihardt and Black Elk and Black Elk Speaks - Book Discussion
Mon., July 13	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Native American Stereotyping in Children's Literature & Curriculum Materials
Tues., July 14	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Black Elk Speaks - Book Discussion

Black Elk Speaks

In July 2009, Dana College will present a production of John Neihardt's book "Black Elk Speaks," adapted for the stage by Christopher Sergel.

Talented young Americans from across the United States with differing backgrounds, native and non-native, will convene on Dana's campus to create an environment for studying, examining and discussing Native American issues of the past, present, and the future.

Auditions will be held on Dana's campus, as well as other regional locations in the month of May. Rehearsals begin in June 2009. There will be six performances open to the public, July 15-19, 2009. Ticket prices are \$7 for general admission and \$5 for seniors/students/ alumni.

"Black Elk Speaks" is the life story of the Oglala Lakota Holy Man, Black Elk, as told through John G. Neihardt, Nebraska's Poet Laureate. The spiritual and emotional impact of the book itself is powerful; however, most people are not familiar with the rich cultures and painful history, which are the driving forces in "Black Elk Speaks." Additional educational options are connected to the main production where people can learn about the tribes within Nebraska; the way Native peoples are portrayed in popular culture, the legacy of a significant poet and author, and have a guided discussion of a remarkable piece of biographical literature.

Nancy Gillis, executive director of the John Neihardt State Historic Site and the Neihardt Foundation's Institute for Vision and Learning, will

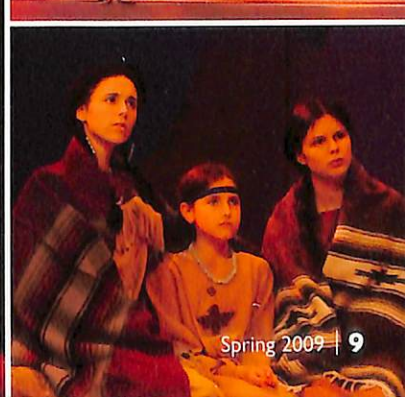
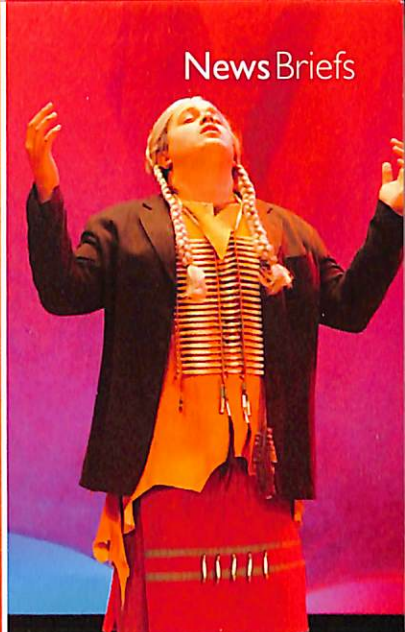
do four presentations to coordinate with the production (see schedule on page 8).

In conjunction with the production, Dana will be hosting a Youth Summer Acting School on June 6, 13, 20, 27. This acting school is designed for students' ages 10-16 years old. Each class begins at 9 a.m. and ends at noon. Michael Lara, the actor cast as "Black Elk" in Dana's production, will be the artist-in-residence. The course is made up of lessons and exercises in acting and improvisation aimed toward helping students put on a successful audition and performance.

A summer course, entitled "Hollywood and the Native American," will be offered by Dana College, and open to the public. It is being offered as an academic part of the total discovery of Native history through the dramatic work of John Neihardt. This will be a 3 credit hour course taught by Hal Berry, director of "Black Elk Speaks" and a 1966 Dana graduate. The class will be held June 3-July 6 on the Dana campus on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

There will be an opening night event sponsored by the Black Elk-Neihardt Park Board. A special closing performance will be dedicated to Native American veterans. The Native American Commission will also sponsor a craft show in conjunction with the performances.

For more information on this amazing event, please contact Nikki Kinsey, director of marketing and communications, at **402.426.7216** or nkinsey@dana.edu.



Photos courtesy of Hal Berry

Performance Schedule

Wednesday, July 15	8:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 16	8:00 p.m.
Friday, July 17	8:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 18	2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 19	2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

All performances will be held on the Dana College campus in the Lauritzen Theatre in the Madsen Fine Arts Center.

Why I Teach

By Kate Joeckel

I have collected many souvenirs of my life in academe. Some are trivial, some whimsical, some deeply meaningful. I cull the collection periodically, always pausing at the faded yellow folder with J's name scrawled across the front. The folder contains a handful of papers written for my classes. The papers are not remarkable. The author was.

I began taking my courses many years ago, when I taught at a different institution. A vibrant 25-year-old, brimming with vitality, she was determined to earn the degree that had eluded her in her first attempt at college. Six months into her resurrected college career and our budding friendship, she was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

She did not, however, go gently into that good night. She raged in equal measure against cancer and cruel fate and the cad of a husband who abandoned her mid-battle. She also remained a student, ignoring her family's increasingly urgent pleas to quit school and conserve her energy. For nearly two years, as periods of comparative good health permitted, she took notes, wrote papers, read diligently, and participated fully. Finally, the cancer wrapped its tentacles around her brain and rendered impossible further coursework.

So, on an early November day whose biting winds bespoke the coming of winter, I travelled to J's parents' home in southern Iowa, carrying with me not a diploma but a special certificate of achievement. Her mother and I helped J don my academic cap and gown. Her father cued a recording of "Pomp and Circumstance." Amid tears and laughter, with aunts and uncles capturing the moments on film and young cousins clamoring for a spot on her lap, we passed a blessed hour celebrating J.



Ten days later, I attended her funeral.

I taught many of us that just getting "there," whether "there" is a diploma or a particular job or a long-coveted possession, isn't enough. It's how you get there that matters.

Of course, there have been other students with other lessons to impart. There was T, whose *raison d'être*, it seemed, was to provoke me. Ultimately, he taught me a great deal about my own insecurities and assumptions. There was S, who put a face on the injuries of so many "-isms" and crystallized my commitment to teach for social justice. There was B, who taught me to take myself less seriously, and V, who shifted my focus from how I teach to what students learn.

In 1982, when I began my career, college teaching looked like great gig. The job seemed secure and well defined and the hours were flexible. I could spend most of my time reading and talking about ideas that mattered to me. Thirty years or so down the road, I could retire comfortably on a nicely fattened TIAA-CREF account and write something both profound and popular. Did I mention the possibility of wearing jeans and Birkenstocks to work everyday?

My taste in shoes is not the only thing that has changed. Why do I continue to teach? There are many reasons, but among them is the recognition that I've received far more from my students than I've given and learned more from them than I've taught. I hope that doesn't make me selfish or greedy. I know it makes teaching the best gig in town.

Dr. Kate Joeckel is an associate professor of communication and has been teaching at Dana since 2003. She received her bachelor's degree in English, her master's degree in communication and her Ph.D. in communication from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Music And More!

“Music and More!” started as an outreach effort to help fulfill the requests of area churches, provide performance opportunities for Dana’s music students and as a student recruitment tool.

Four years into the program, “Music and More!” director Clare Cowing finds it difficult to identify enough weekends in the semester to fulfill the church and organization requests.

Three graduating seniors have been with the program from the beginning and are the first four-year participants in “Music and More!” Carla Clark of Milford, Neb., Katie Foote of Columbus, Neb., and Jennifer Oerman of Arlington, Neb., may claim, with a smile, that they were “ambushed” to be a part of the inaugural program, but all made it an integral part of their college career.

Even with the vast differences in their academic interests, the friendship of this trio is apparent. The combination of early Sunday morning van rides, learning to play the chimes together and “Clare’s muffins” have created a tight bond among the three, a bond that definitely transcends their majors.

“ Regardless of what my career is, I hope that I can perform music. ”

—Katie Foote

Clark is a history major, with minors in math and psychology. Following graduation, she will be working as an intern at the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa.

Foote is graduating with degrees in English and Spanish. She will be pursuing her master’s in library science at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Oerman is a business administration major with a minor in music. She has secured a job in accounting, human



From left: Jennifer Oerman, Carla Clark, and Katie Foote

resources and job management at Tri-V Tool and Manufacturing in Omaha.

All three will graduate as Morton Scholars, having completed the college’s honors program including a thesis presentation.

Although none of the three are planning a career in music, all indicated they hope to continue performing. “Regardless of what my career is, I hope that I can perform music,” Katie said.

At the onset, “Music and More!” performers began in their comfort zone, solos on their primary instrument or small groups.

Cowing’s own love of chime music encouraged the girls to expand their musical horizons. “I loved chimes, so I purchased chimes for myself. And you have to have lots of friends to play them.” At least seven musicians are needed for a chime performance.

This year, the group was short on youth ministry experience, so Oerman stepped

up to lead Sunday School and deliver children’s sermons. “Once you get going to different churches, you learn those social skills,” she said. “It makes you get out of your shell.”

“It’s been a lot of fun,” Clark said. “The congregations are always so appreciative and it’s interesting to see the differences in churches.”

“Music and More!” is already planning its outreach for the fall 2009 semester, but the graduation of these three young women will be felt. “Oh, they’re gems,” Cowing said. “They have contributed to the success of the group with their consistency and willingness to contribute and of course their pleasant demeanors.”

For more information about “Music and More!” contact Cowing at **402.426.7346** or ccowing@dana.edu.



A “vacation” to GUATEMALA

A typical vacation for a mother and her 22-year-old soon-to-be college graduate daughter would likely involve a shopping mall. Not so for Debbie and Kate Gethmann. They took part in an eye-opening 12-day excursion to Guatemala as part of January’s Discovery Term.

Kate is not new to Discovery Term travel. The senior business administration major has travelled to Europe twice with Prof. Jim Olsen, as a freshman to Paris, Prague and Vienna and as a junior to Rome, Florence and Vienna. But Prof. Jan Potter’s “Destination Guatemala” offered a completely different opportunity, one Kate did not want to pass up before graduation.

Kate was already signed up for the course before it even crossed her mom’s mind to go along. As Debbie looked over the itinerary for the trip, she commented to her daughter about how exciting it sounded. Kate encouraged her mom to come with her.

“As I thought about it, when else am I going to have the opportunity to travel and spend 12 days with my daughter — and she wanted me to go,” Debbie said. “This opportunity was probably not going to present itself again.”

The war-torn and impoverished, yet beautiful and friendly, country of Guatemala, was indeed an experience like no other for the Gethmanns. Their first three days of the trip were spent in the bustling metropolis, Guatemala City. There they learned of Mayan civilization and culture and the realities of present-day Guatemala.



Back in the highland forests, the group walked down a path near patches of tall Mayan corn to visit a group of rural women who have started a weaving cooperative. These women, widowed by the conflict of the 1970s and 1980s, support their families by weaving gloriously colorful items. Following a group presentation, the Dana College group split into pairs and stayed with these widow women and their families overnight in their extremely modest homes. "That was really a once in a lifetime opportunity," Debbie said.

Although the families did not speak English, and even very little Spanish, the Gethmanns found a way to communicate. They brought paper, crayons and mechanical pencils with them that they shared with the children. They joined the widow in the kitchen and tried their hand at making tortillas.

At mealtime, the Gethmanns said they were treated like royalty. Even with a light supper of tortillas and beans, Debbie and Kate received special treatment. They were the only ones who were served bread and eggs and had silverware to eat with. At bedtime, the guests were given one bedroom to themselves while the eight family members slept on the floor in the other room.

"That overnight stay really made a lasting impression on me," Kate said. "For us it was like a campout for one night, but that's the way they live day after day. It really put things in perspective."

For Kate, a highlight of the trip was the group's visit to the ancient ruins of Tikal, home to Mayan people from about 800 B.C. to about 950 A.D. In the midst of the rainforest, Kate had the opportunity to hike up some of the spectacular pyramids. The group also visited the cities of Chichicastenango, Antigua and Panajachel.

Debbie and Kate Gethmann were not the only family pair to make the trip. Senior Jacque Holzer travelled with her mother, Vicki Mumm '05, and senior Melena Selzle had her brother along on the trip.

"It's just a great experience to share with a family member and be able to carry those memories with you for years and years," Debbie said.



defining art

Dana students and graduates are learning about art. They are living it. They are *defining* it.

The following three stories will take you through the successes in their chosen fields, and the role Dana played in getting them there.

Why I Came to Dana

By Mandy Hemphill '10



As a high school senior and prospective college student, I decided to come to Dana for many reasons. When I visited, the students and professors I met were friendly

and welcoming. The campus wasn't too large and Blair offered the small town atmosphere that I was used to, coming from Utica, Neb. It seemed that it would not be hard to get personal attention in the classroom and many chances to expand both academically and socially. This is what a liberal arts college is all about! Now, as a junior in college majoring in graphic design with a minor in communications, I realize how many chances I've had to network with people in all fields of study.

I think it is a little hard to tell how valuable my education is until I get out into the job market. I love how the instructors in the art department take a real world approach when designing our courses, so that what we learn will help us in the long run and prepare us for what is ahead. It is easy to become a well-rounded person at Dana College and I have had some awesome opportunities come my way!

Recently, my roommate and I were chosen to present our artwork to the Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark. Royalty visited the campus to attend a Sustainable Enterprise Conference and help celebrate Dana's 125th year. Last semester I was able to observe and help with the week-long firing of an Ana Gama style wood kiln located near Fort Calhoun, Neb., through my ceramics class. This is an underground

method of firing pottery, some of which Dana students made, in the side of a hill. Some of my pottery was used as a Service Learning Award during a Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration on campus this past January.

Various pieces of my artwork have been displayed in the Bill Thomsen Gallery on campus over the past three years. Two of my most successful paintings have also been selected for an exhibit at the O'Keefe Elevator Gallery downtown Omaha, one last April and one in April of this year. The annual exhibit is put on by the Nebraska Independent College Foundation.

As part of a requirement for Color Theory class my freshman year, I visited the Sheldon Art Gallery in Lincoln and the Joslyn in Omaha. It was truly exciting to see an authentic exhibit of Impressionist art in person and it definitely made Art History class more interesting and relatable.

“ I love how the instructors in the art department take a real-world approach when designing our courses. ”

The experience and connections I gained from the photography class I took as a sophomore turned into a job with Jeff Nelsen Photography in Blair. Working along side a professional in the business is a great way to get involved with something I love and allow my skills to continue to grow.

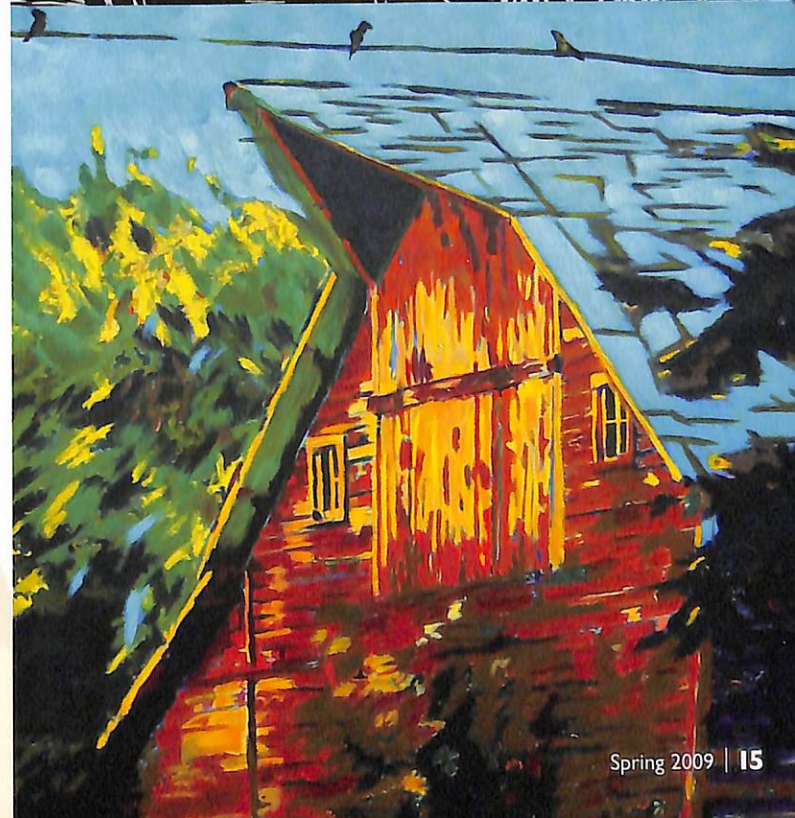
In turn, this led to a second position in Blair, working at the Oni Ha'a Academy School of Gymnastics and Dance, owned and operated by Jeff's wife, Renae Nelsen. I teach gymnastics classes for young children a few nights a week. This networking thing is really paying off!

I also entered photos in the Nebraska Bankers Association Calendar contest depicting "Scenes of Nebraska." The foxes that play in my backyard are now featured in the 2009 edition.

Internships are a must when preparing to get a job in your field of study. In January 2008 I interned in Dana's College Relations office doing graphic design work. This was a wonderful chance to work on my design skills as well as learn about the process of printing on a press.

This past January I worked with Black Elk-Neihardt Park, Inc. of Blair to fulfill my communications internship. I was blessed to meet many people who are important to the history of the Blair community and Dana College.

I am certain that many of these opportunities would not have come along if I had not chosen to attend Dana. I feel that it is a pretty special place where professors want nothing more than for their students to be prepared and succeed in all aspects of life. I'm excited to see how my knowledge and skills will grow even more in the year to come!



Top: Mandy throws a pot in the ceramics studio.

Middle: *Cowboy Way of Life*

Bottom: *Barn*

a little ditty

about Cassandra Harrison

(the artist formerly known as Cassie Green)

By Cassandra (Green '00) Harrison

I remember those first exciting days at Dana. Finally escaping from home, being thrown into classes together with like-minded strangers and becoming inundated with new ways of looking at art, learning about its history, trying not to fall asleep in Color Theory class. Just kidding. I actually thoroughly enjoyed Color Theory. I soon fell into the rhythm of those classes and began to immerse myself in the creative process using methods that I had not yet experienced. I think one of

the most important lessons I learned was that of perseverance. Of sitting in front of a canvas for three hours and knowing that somewhere, within that space and within yourself is the answer. It was finding that answer and knowing when you have arrived at that answer that came with guidance and perseverance, even if that meant completely re-doing that same area during the next three-hour session.

The path since graduation has not been a straight, well-defined road, more like a

meandering dirt track helping me to discover that occupation that really leaves me fulfilled. After graduation, I taught art for two years in Kansas City. I then decided to do something completely nuts and moved to England for reasons based on a story that is not very original, but very potent. Girl meets boy in Switzerland. Boy is British, complete with lovely accent. Girl and Boy fancy each other something rotten. Girl and Boy marry in Cancun then move to England.

I probably wouldn't have been so willing to move if it had not been my introduction to England during the interim January term during my college days. A group of us had a quick spin around the cities of Europe, ogling the insides and outsides of cathedrals. It was then that I determined I would make traveling one of my priorities in life.

Since moving to the UK, I have been involved in many different types of creative endeavours. I was the art teacher at a special needs school for a year while I was setting up my business. The job was incredibly challenging, yet it was also the most rewarding teaching position I have had. I also illustrated a children's book, *Planes, Trains and the London Eye*, which is currently on sale in London at the London Eye Gift Shop and can also be ordered at Borders.

In November 2005 I officially launched my business, *Gee How Quaint*, which was born out of my enjoyment of printmaking. I had really enjoyed my printmaking classes at Dana and wanted to explore that type of medium further. After I got my hands on a Japanese printing technique and bought the necessary Gocco gear, I eventually settled on the idea of creating interesting printed fabric. At the time my sights were set on cushion covers and t-shirts, but I thought that this was a bit too uninventive.



I eventually decided to pair my love of printmaking with my love of travel and rolled out a very niche little business, based on making travel accessories. Shoe bags with dividers, waterproof swimsuit bags and knicker bags are the main staples of the business. My waterproof swimsuit bag proved to be innovative and is now registered at the patent office in the UK.

Every year I've been adding new sections and bringing on new talent to my steadily growing team. I keep to where my talents lay and dish out the rest of the work to those that have the magic touch in sewing. Last year *Gee How Quaint* was involved in a celebrity gifting event. Jennifer Morrison (*House*), Mary Lynn Rajskub (24) and Karina Smirnoff (*Dancing with the Stars*) are just a few celebs now toting a unique *Gee How Quaint* swim bag. We have also enjoyed excellent press in both regional and national magazines and expect even bigger and better coverage in the coming months.

“ The path since graduation has not been a straight, well defined road, more like a meandering dirt track helping me to discover that occupation that really leaves me fulfilled. ”

Within the past year, I have re-introduced myself to creating artwork which is made using a mixed media approach. I first begin with a series of basic linear prints, then add to each print layers of fabric and stitching to create several individual pieces. For the past 10 months, my artwork has been exhibited and sold at a large art gallery in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK. I am also involved in the Maker Faire this year, which is a big celebrating of creativity and innovation. My artwork is inspired by this vibrant city and its surroundings: the old and new architecture of the city, the castles that dot the landscape. There is much to be inspired by.

With all of this activity, I have recently taken on a work placement student. It has been exciting getting another designer on board with fresh ideas and the same get-up-and-go spirit that is essential in this line of work. Sharing my experience with her, as well as my expertise, reminds me how far I have come in just a short period of time. I sometimes lose sight of this when I feel like things aren't moving fast enough.

I am very thankful for the well-rounded education I received at Dana. Most importantly, I am thankful for that team of educational professionals in the art and design department. When I was a student, I always felt encouraged and challenged, both by my teachers and also by my peers. The education I received has given me a confidence to travel, to appreciate trips to Florence, Paris and Barcelona (thanks to those informative art history lessons!), to challenge myself creatively and professionally and to keep on keepin' on.

Top: Bags are just one of the items designed by Harrison.

Middle: Harrison works from her home.

Bottom left to right: Beverly Mitchell (7th Heaven) and Mary Lynn Rajskub (24) with a *Gee How Quaint* swim bag.



What an art education from Dana College did for me

By Greg McBride '91

When I began my freshman year at Dana, I knew that I wanted to major in graphic design. I chose Dana primarily because of the small faculty-to-student ratio, which would allow me to receive more one-on-one faculty time than would be possible at a larger university. It was obvious that Dana would offer me this opportunity. And, after meeting Milt Heinrich and James Olsen, I had a “gut feeling” that these were the men that I wanted to teach and mentor me while I prepared for whatever career

path I was destined to embark upon. I have countless stories of wonderful experiences I had with both professors. But, I was told that I could only write 800 words. So, I'm going to focus on a few distinct experiences that I had with Dr. Heinrich throughout my four years at Dana and how they have benefitted me in my career.

In the fall of 1987, I walked into my first painting class. Equipped with my fancy brushes and shiny new tubes of acrylics. I was ready to create my first masterpiece. I don't remember what our particular

assignment was, but I have a vivid memory of proudly and confidently covering my canvas with vibrant colors and sporadic brush strokes. A couple weeks into class, I was called into Dr. Heinrich's office where he immediately covered my entire canvas with white paint. At the time, I was furious. I had worked long and hard on what Dr. Heinrich and I later jokingly referred to as my “rainbow painting.” How could he do this? What had I gotten myself into? This was definitely the lowest point of my college career... and I was only two weeks into it!

“ Now that I have owned my advertising and branding agency for almost twelve years, I am so grateful for the problem-solving skills that I learned at Dana. ”

But, he had a plan. And, as I reflect back, it was the best thing that could have happened. After my anger faded, Dr. Heinrich and I spent at least a half hour in his office where I listened and learned. We discussed color theory, composition, balance, purposeful brush strokes, and all of the other elements that go into great paintings. But, the biggest take-away that I had from this event was the ability to self-assess my work.

A professor's job is to teach and guide their students. They aren't there to hold your hand every step of the way or to give you the solution to your challenges. In the next four years, I became very good at many of my art disciplines and fell short in other areas. But, the area that I excelled at most was the ability to assess problems and develop solutions.



It was not uncommon for Dr. Heinrich to stand nearby while I was painting and then say something like “Wow. I wish I could have gotten here sooner.” Or, “Well, I suppose it’s too late to start over.” He was always joking when he said it and we’d usually laugh about it. It was his way of letting me know that I should take a step back from what I was doing and give it some critical thought. Sure, he’d always offer me guidance and clarification if I asked. But, most of the time, I’d put down the brushes and figure it out on my own. He wasn’t saying it to be mean or unnecessarily critical. He said it to get me to think and to problem solve.

Midway through my senior year, I walked into class on a Monday morning. I had spent most of the weekend working on a painting for my senior art show. When I left painting class on the previous Friday, I was struggling with this particular painting. On Saturday and Sunday, I painted...and repainted this canvas until I felt it was perfect. I dug deep, recalling what I had been taught in the last three-and-a-half years, and completed what I felt at the time was my best work. Dr. Heinrich pulled me aside on that Monday to let me know that this particular painting incorporated some of the best painting technique he had seen come out of one of his programs in years. This comment remains one of the high points of my years at Dana. Yes, I was pleased to receive the kind words. But, what pleased me the most was that I challenged myself and figured it out on my own.

Now that I have owned my advertising and branding agency (www.envision-grp.com) for almost twelve years, I am so grateful for the problem-solving skills that I learned at Dana. Yes, we have a board of directors. Yes, I have industry colleagues that I can turn to for advice. But, on a daily basis, I am forced to address numerous artistic and business challenges. Time doesn’t always allow for me to seek advice. And, the sole purpose of an advertising and branding agency is to solve our clients’ marketing challenges. If an agency can’t think for itself, they won’t be in business very long.

As I learned at Dana, I teach my employees the importance of self-assessment. I guide and mentor when needed. But, our best work is achieved when my team is forced to challenge themselves and solve their own problems. Countless times, I’ve borrowed from Dr. Heinrich as I tell my designers that it’s “probably too late to start over.” The result is an agency that employs great thinkers, strategists, and artists. It all trickles down to us creating highly effective solutions for our clients. I’m so grateful that Dr. Heinrich had a fresh tube of white paint on that fateful day in the fall of 1987.



Top: McBride with his creative team.

Middle: A promotional piece designed by The Envision Group.

Bottom: An office at the firm.



This page: Conferring of Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Denmark by Dennis Gethmann '71, Chairman of the Dana College Board of Regents (left) and Dr. Raymond Russin, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College.

Opposite page from left: The Royal Couple arrives; Catie Reed presents the Crown Princess with flowers; The Royal Couple enters Gardner-Hawks Center along with President Philipp.

In the presence of
ROYALTY



A BROKEN LEG.

A BOMB THREAT ON THE PLANE LEAVING COPENHAGEN.

EARLY SPRING STORMS THE NIGHT BEFORE ARRIVAL...

None of these issues could prevent or delay a royal visit to Dana College.

On March 24, for the third time in its 125-year history, Dana College served as host to Danish royalty. H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik and H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary of Denmark were special guests to begin the college's 125th anniversary.

In the weeks leading up to the special day, it seemed possible that it would not happen. Only a few weeks prior to their scheduled arrival, the Crown Prince broke his leg on holiday in Switzerland while sledding with his children. A surgery on his fibula put him in a cast and on crutches for six weeks.

The flight of the Royal Couple from Copenhagen to the United States was delayed a couple of hours when a man made a joking remark while boarding the flight at Kastrup Airport about security missing the bomb in his bag. The police took everyone off the plane and employed sniffer dogs to do a search before allowing passengers to reboard and take off nearly three hours late.

Finally, with these obstacles out of the way, there was no further delay. The Royal Couple arrived on campus on a cloudy and windy Tuesday afternoon to a welcoming group of students, faculty, staff, alumni, local media and onlookers who were eager to catch a glimpse or snap a photo.

A following of Danish press, embassy staff, secret service and assistants were close behind as they moved through the crowd. Dana's President Dr. Janet and Rev. Frank Philipp were on hand to greet the couple as they arrived. Catie Reed, four-year-old daughter of Carrie (Larkins '94) and Kenny Reed, presented flowers to the Crown Princess as she stepped from the car.

Immediately following their welcome, Dr. Philipp escorted the Crown Prince into the Gardner-Hawks Center where a crowd awaited his closing remarks to the morning's Sustainable Enterprise Conference.

The Crown Prince was a natural to close the first annual conference as Denmark is a leader in the sustainability movement.

"In the late 1970s—as a result of the last oil crisis—Denmark initiated a number of policies to limit the consumption of foreign oil, spur the production of renewable sources of energy, and develop technologies to conserve energy," he said. "Among other things, the government provided significant public funding for research and development, along with an ambitious publicity campaign to educate the public about what was being done and why. The results of these early investments have been overwhelming and positive."



“By going green, Denmark has become one of the most energy efficient countries in the world,” he said. But this initiative needs to be widespread. “No matter where we live, and no matter who we are, meeting the challenge of climate change is not an option, it is a responsibility.”

While the Crown Prince made his remarks, the Crown Princess made her way to The Forum in the Durham Center where she interacted with some 50 preschool and kindergarten children from Blair who were guided in their activities by Dana’s education majors.

The Danish paparazzi traveling with the Royal Couple were delighted as the Crown Princess travelled from activity to activity, kneeling down to the children’s level and engaging herself in the learning games.



“ To me, the relationship between this College and Denmark is but a microcosm of the great affinity that has always existed between the peoples of America and Denmark ”

—H.R.H Crown Prince Frederik

A crowd of nearly 800, many waving small Danish flags, filled the Gardner-Hawks Center gymnasium later in the afternoon as the Crown Prince and Princess processed in with the Dana faculty for the 125th Anniversary Convocation.

The Crown Prince was dressed in a cap and gown himself as he listened to Dr. Philipp tell of the vision of Rev. A.M. Andersen in 1884 that would become Trinity Seminary and later Dana College. Student Senate President Ernesto Bueno '10 welcomed the Royal Couple on behalf of the student body. Faculty Senate Chair Dr. John Lyden presented the Crown Prince a special 125th anniversary crystal. Women’s soccer captain Mandy Overall '10 named the Crown Prince an honorary “Dana Viking” and presented him an authentic Dana Soccer jersey. Blair Mayor Jim Realph gave the Prince a key to the city.

The Dana College Chorale sang the Danish Royal Anthem, “Kong Christian stod ved højen mast,” in Danish, much to the delight of the Royal Couple. The traditional Danish national anthem, “Der er et yndigt land,” is part of the Chorale’s regular repertoire in European tour years, but the royal anthem had to be learned in a few short weeks.

As a highlight of the convocation, for the second time in Dana’s history, a member of the Danish Royal House received an honorary degree as Crown Prince Frederik was named an honorary doctor of humane letters.

His citation read, in part: “Your Royal Highness’s wide view of the world, your zest for rich experiences, as well as your great interest in the world’s diversity of languages, religion and traditions, are embodied in the values of the Danish Kingdom and of this college founded by Danish immigrants 125 years ago.” He was also praised for his formal education, interest in world affairs and the humanity of others, his career in the Danish armed forces and his patronage of a wide array of cultural and charitable organizations in Denmark.

Top: H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth speaks with Blair elementary and pre-school students. **Second:** H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik is inundated by Danish and American press following convocation. **Third:** H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth adjusts the tassle of H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik during the convocation. **Bottom:** The Gardner-Hawks Center was filled with students and other spectators for the convocation.

In the words of a prince...

The Crown Prince then provided a keynote address praising Dana College and its history. "Since its earliest beginnings, one of the hallmarks of a Dana education has been not only to prepare its students for future success in their careers and private lives, but to make them responsible citizens," he said.

"Dana College is a fine college, indeed. Its establishment and continued existence has required tremendous effort and expenditure on the part of a great many people. While important, I am sure all of this was not done just to advance the interests of Dana graduates. As significant was the realization that in order to preserve a free society, its citizens must be well-educated."

He referenced the previous visits to Dana College by his mother and grandfather and Dana's continued ties to Denmark. "Upon his visit in 1939, my grandfather called Dana College 'one of the strongholds of Danish Americanism.' To me, the relationship between this College and Denmark is but a microcosm of the great affinity that has always existed between the peoples of America and Denmark," he said. The Crown Prince also brought greetings from his mother, Queen Margrethe II, who spoke at Dana College's commencement in 1976.

Several Dana students were selected to meet with H.R.H. the Crown Prince and H.R.H. the Crown Princess during an academic showcase following convocation. Science students Roger Cattle '10 and Hollie Siebler '10 shared information on their butterfly and bee study and outreach projects. Marcus Sladek '09 gave a brief synopsis of his senior capstone history project on Danish immigrant history. Carolyn Kruger '09 and Mandy Hemphill '10 shared some of their artwork with the Royal Couple.

"I am extremely proud of our students who presented to the Crown Prince and Princess," said Dr. Philipp. "They were great representatives of Dana College."

A select list of Dana alumni, board members, students and friends of the college also were invited to briefly meet the Royal Couple during the afternoon.

Upon their departure from Dana, H.R.H. the Crown Prince spoke at a breaking ground ceremony for Novozymes, an international Danish-based company that will begin building a plant in Blair this spring.

The royal visit concluded with a dinner for select Dana College donors at the First National Bank Tower in Omaha. Hosts for the visit were Bruce Lauritzen, chairman of First National Bank of Nebraska and Honorary Danish Consul for Nebraska, and Cindy and Mogens Bay. Mogens is a native Dane who is chairman of Valmont Industries Inc. of Omaha.

"It was a remarkable day for Dana College," said Dr. Philipp. 🍷

Mr. Mayor, President Philipp, members of the Board of Regents, members of the faculty, students, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Thank you, President Philipp, for your warm words of welcome. The Crown Princess and I are delighted to be here on this occasion to help celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Dana College. I also want to thank you for awarding me the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.

Over the years, my family has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with this College. My grandparents visited 70 years ago. And more recently, my mother, Queen Margrethe II, spoke at the commencement ceremonies for the Class of 1976. She has asked me to extend to all of you her best wishes for the future of this fine institution.

The Poet Laureate John Masefield once wrote: "There are few earthly things more splendid than a university." He was not referring to impressive buildings or campus greens—although the campus here at Blair really is quite beautiful. Rather, Masefield was stressing the role of the university as "a place where those who hate ignorance may strive to know, where those who perceive truth may strive to make others see."

While true for others as well, Masefield—unknowingly, I am sure—captured the essence of Dana College. Since its earliest beginnings, one of the hallmarks of a Dana education has been not only to prepare its students for future success in their careers and private lives, but to make them responsible citizens.

Dana is a young college. But measured against the yardstick of what has been accomplished since the founding of Trinity Seminary in 1884, its achievements are impressive. Today, Dana College boasts an enrollment of 550 students from 35 states; it offers its students 24 majors in, among others, Business, Education, and Social Work, as well as, I am told, a minor in Danish; and its average class size is 14.

Dana College is one of only two universities in the United States founded by Danish immigrants. And so the ties between Dana and Denmark are especially close. Every four years the Dana College Chorale tours Denmark and Northern Europe. And during Dana's January Discovery Term, students can study abroad as part of exchange programs with Danish colleges and universities. This truly is a place "where futures are defined."

Upon his visit in 1939, my grandfather called Dana College "one of the strongholds of Danish Americanism." To me, the relationship between this College and Denmark is but a microcosm of the great affinity that has always existed between the peoples of America and Denmark.

You may not know this, but diplomatic relations between our two countries were established in 1791. And while the relationship between the United States and Denmark has always been good, I think it is fair to say that it has never been stronger than it is today. And part of this is thanks to the example of Danish immigrants and institutions like Dana College, Grand View University, and the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn.

Dana College is a fine college, indeed. Its establishment and continued existence has required tremendous effort and expenditure on the part of a great many people. While important, I am sure all of this was not done just to advance the interests of Dana graduates. As significant was the realization that in order to preserve a free society, its citizens must be well-educated.

It was President Wilson who once said that "a university should be an organ of the memory of the state for the transmission of its best traditions. Every man sent out from a university should be a man of his nation, as well as a man of his time."

For some of the students here this afternoon, the friendships, fun and comfort of college days will soon be coming to an end. As you leave the confines of Dana College and Blair to sail out into the broader reaches, I am confident that what you have been taught here will help you thrive in your chosen careers and make you responsible citizens, as well. To the Class of 2009, who will soon embark upon this journey, I bid you Godspeed.

Let me close by congratulating, once again, Dana College and all those who have been associated with her over the past one-and-a-quarter century. You have built a remarkable educational institution. I know you have many exciting ideas about where you want to take this College in the years ahead, and the Crown Princess joins me in wishing you all much success in those important endeavors.

—H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik

Royal Visit not First at Dana

By Ann (Harms '54) George

With the March 24 visit of Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary, three successive generations of Danish royalty have visited the Dana campus.

The first visit came on April 19, 1939, when Crown Prince Frederik's grandparents, at that time Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Ingrid, visited Dana, Blair and Omaha while on a goodwill tour of the U.S. (Crown Prince Frederik became King Frederik IX in 1947 on the death of his father, Christian X.)

The headline in the Blair newspaper the day after their visit reads, "Huge Crowds Welcome Royal Pair." The opening event in Alumni Memorial Auditorium included a short address by Crown Prince Frederik. He began in English, but then, the *Omaha World-Herald* reports, "... as he warmed to his subject he crushed the manuscript and spoke with gestures, in his native Danish tongue."

"We are happy to know how great and sincere your devotion and loyalty is to America," he said, "and at the same time, how you still remember your old country and its people with feelings of gratitude and love. I thank you for the warm reception you have given us here today and I express my sincere wishes for all happiness and success in the future of Dana College." (The wrinkled manuscript with his speech is in a scrapbook that includes the program, photos and newspaper clippings about the visit.)

Marilyn and Mildred Siersbeck, the nine-year-old twin daughters (both later Class of 1951) of Dana's president and his wife, Lawrence '22 and Cornelia (Johnson '26) Siersbeck, presented flowers to Crown

Princess Ingrid, the daughter of Crown Prince Gustav Adolf of Sweden, who later became King Gustav VI Adolf. She invited them to remain on the stage, but they'd been carefully rehearsed, and so they curtsied and left.

At a subsequent tree-planting on the campus quadrangle, Crown Prince Frederik was invited to set an oak sapling into a prepared hole and to shovel in the first symbolic spadeful of earth. To everyone's surprise, he continued filling the hole with enthusiasm. (The tree didn't survive Nebraska's weather.)

“ He [Crown Prince Frederik] began in English, but then, as he warmed to his subject he crushed the manuscript and spoke with gestures, in his native Danish tongue. ”

After a "Kaffebord" reception in what is now Argo Hall, the couple and their entourage left the campus. *The Hermes*, the campus newspaper, reported that "After waving farewell ... their Royal Highnesses hurried to their cars where they received a loud applause and cheers from the crowd outside. ... Students," the article continued, "were indeed proud to entertain such royalty and this proved to be an occasion which shall never be forgotten."

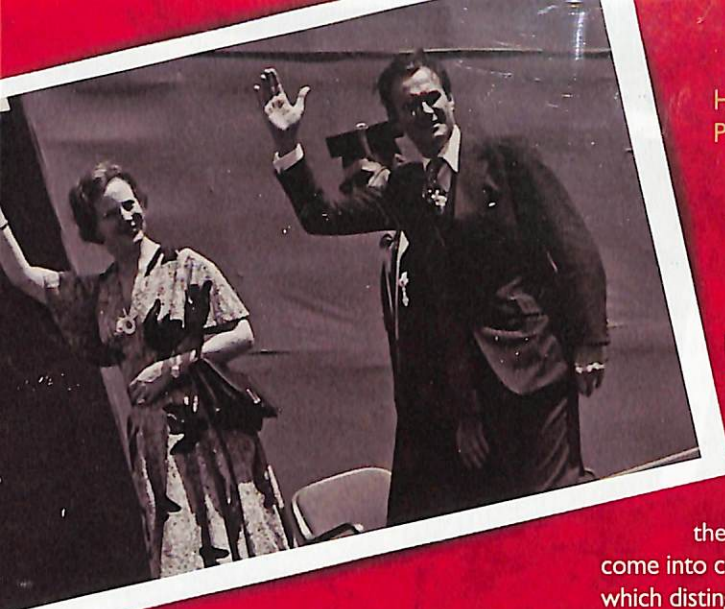
Then on May 20, 1976, Queen Margrethe II and Prince Henrik, a French count and former diplomat—the parents of today's

H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary and H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik at the 1939 tree planting.

Crown Prince Frederik -- visited the U.S. as a salute to this country's Bicentennial, and they made Dana, Blair and Omaha their only stop between Chicago and the West Coast. The announcement of their visit in the *Dana Review* reported that Queen Margrethe would speak at Commencement, the only public address she'd make during their tour.

At the time Queen Margrethe had been queen for approximately four-and-a-half years. According to the *Dana Review* article announcing the visit, her Lord Chamberlain had told Dana President Earl Mezoff, during a trip the Mezoffs had made to Denmark, that she considered her Dana visit the highlight of her trip. The Lord Chamberlain gave two reasons for her interest: Her parents had visited the campus in 1939 and, because she had heard Danish heroic tenor Lauritz Melchior sing for her parents when she was a child, she was looking forward to seeing Dana's Lauritz Melchior Memorial Room.





H.R.H. Queen Margrethe and H.R.H. Prince Henrik at the 1976 visit.

people of a very large country and of a very great nation in which you take great pride. ..." she said. "But each of you," she continued, "although not all of Danish extraction, has also had the benefit here at Dana College to come into contact with some of the qualities which distinguish a small country." These qualities, she said, include "The intimacy, the awareness of being dependent on one another and of caring for one another. Qualities which in a small country are perhaps more apparent and more readily realized and which we in Denmark believe to be ever more needed."

Queen Margrethe was given an honorary degree as a doctor of letters. At the presentation President Mezoff spoke of her

"many activities and accomplishments as wife, mother, scholar, artist, linguist, archeologist. ..."

Dana's official gift to her, announced at the ceremony, was the establishment of an endowed Queen Margrethe II Scholarship that could be awarded annually to two students, one to a Dana student to attend the University of Copenhagen and one to a Danish student to attend Dana.

And, because Queen Margrethe had anticipated seeing the Lauritz Melchior Memorial Room, after a reception in the E.C. Hunt Campus Center and before their departure, she and Prince Henrik visited the C.A. Dana-LIFE Library to view both it and the Danish Heritage Room.

To accommodate a large crowd, Commencement ceremonies were held at Viking Field. In her address, Queen Margrethe recalled her parents' visit in 1939, saying that they had "always preserved warm memories of that occasion."

She also spoke directly to members of the Class of 1976. "You are the young

And in Denmark ...

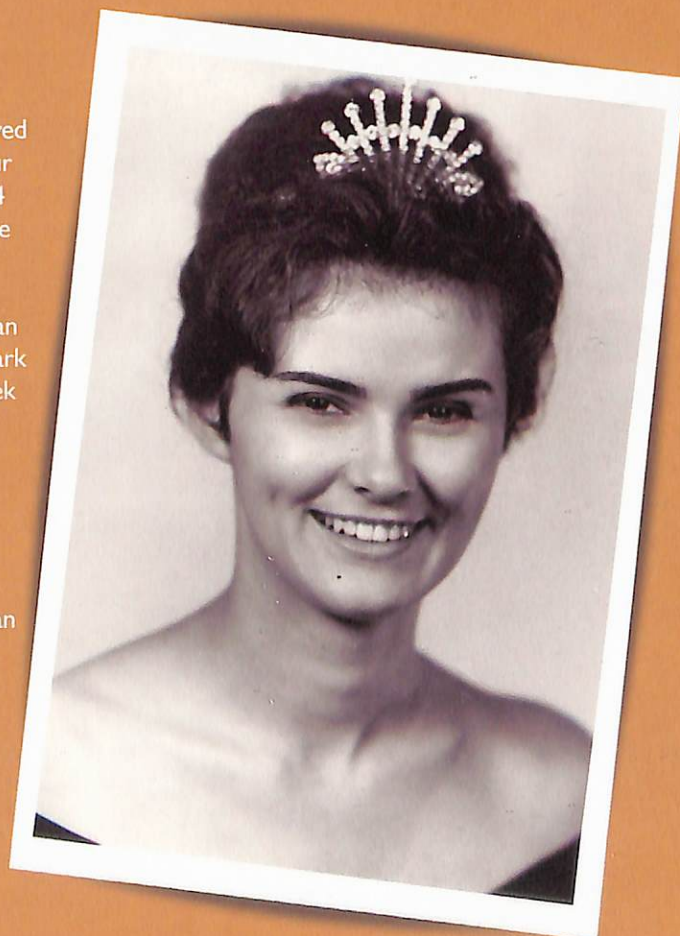
On July 4, 1961, members of the Dana College European touring choir enjoyed their visit to Denmark's Rebild National Park, where the Danes celebrate our national holiday – and where the Choir sang Elizabeth (Liz Anne) Nielsen '64 of Albert Lea, Minn. was among them. But it was her return visit to Rebild the next Fourth of July that brought a surprise.

She was the Dana winner of an essay competition on "How Today's Youth Can Help to Encourage International Understanding" sponsored by the Rebild Park Board, a Danish American friendship organization. The prize was a three-week trip to Denmark that included attendance at the Rebild festival. (There was also a GrandView College winner – both colleges were founded by Danish immigrants – and the two young women traveled together.)

When Liz Anne returned to Dana that fall, she reported in *The Hermes*, the campus newspaper, on what had happened during her second Rebild visit. "In front of me stood a gentleman of better than average height, dressed in an ordinary business suit. He had a friendly tanned face and asked me whether I spoke Danish."

"'Oh,' I said ... 'lidt' ['a little']. And after some more casual conversation, he excused himself. Turning to my friend, I inquired, 'Who was that?'"

"'Who was that?' she gasped. 'That was the King of Denmark!' And so I met King Frederik IX."



Elizabeth (Liz Anne) Nielsen '64

3.24.09 | DANA COLLEGE

SustainableEnterprise
CONFERENCE 2009

Dana goes *green*



On the morning of March 24, 2009, more than 300 business leaders, community partners, educators and students convened in the Gardner-Hawks Center on the Dana College campus for the first annual Sustainable Enterprise Conference.

This inaugural event aimed to heighten local and regional awareness and understanding of sustainability concepts and enterprises in the Blair, Omaha and surrounding areas. Participants were given the opportunity to hear from leaders in the field of sustainability, meet with exhibitors in the industry and network with business, civic, education, and non-profit representatives concerned with issues of energy, the environment and, of course, sustainability.

Sustainability focuses on the triple bottom line – profitability, enhancing the environment and strengthening communities.

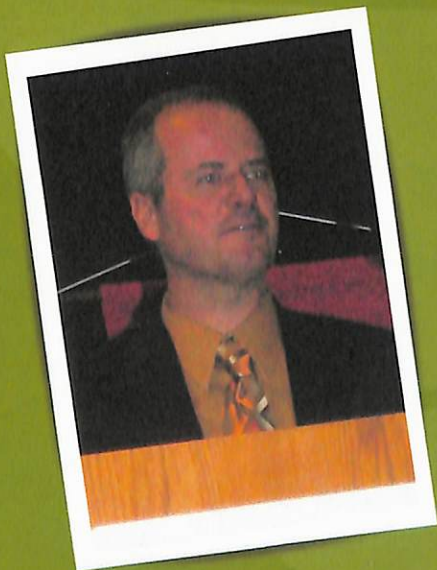
Institute (who received a standing ovation at the conclusion of her speech), Peder Hansen, senior vice president of NorthStar Wind Towers, Eric Johnson, facility manager for Cargill, and Fred Reikowsky, vice president and general manager of Novozymes Blair, Inc.

Four major sponsors were responsible for a majority of the funding for this conference. Thanks to sponsorships from Cargill, First National Bank, Novozymes, and the Nebraska Business and Higher Education Forum, Dana was able to host an event that will now be the first in an annual series. Other gracious sponsors included Midwest Wind Energy, Northstar Wind Towers

What is Sustainability?

For those unfamiliar with the term, sustainability is an idea that focuses on the “triple bottom line.” As businesses are established, there are three main objectives taken into consideration: profitability, enhancing the environment and strengthening communities. Simply put, running a business that positively affects us all.

Speakers for the day’s event included a keynote presentation by Dr. Mary Ferdig, president of the Sustainability Leadership



Udo Gruber speaks for Evonik Industries.



(who covered all of the electrical expenses for the college during the week of the conference,) The Weitz Company, OPPD, Natureworks and Wilkinson Industries.

The event also drew in more than 20 exhibitors with products and services relating to energy, the environment and green initiatives. Those who participated included The Arbor Day Foundation, Boulevard Gardens, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, OPPD, Sid Dillon, The Nebraska Renewable Energy Association, the USGBC Nebraska Flatwater Chapter and Woodhouse.

As an added environmental bonus, all of the plates, cups, utensils, lunch

boxes, conference water bottles and even the conference tote bags were produced using biodegradable materials. Invitations and programs were printed using environmentally conscious methods (including 30% post-consumer waste stock and soy-based inks.) Email invitations were also utilized more heavily than previous events at the school.

The conference, which coincided with the launch of Dana's 125th anniversary celebration, allowed for attendees and exhibitors to not only learn about sustainable enterprise, but to also listen to H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Denmark share his closing remarks.

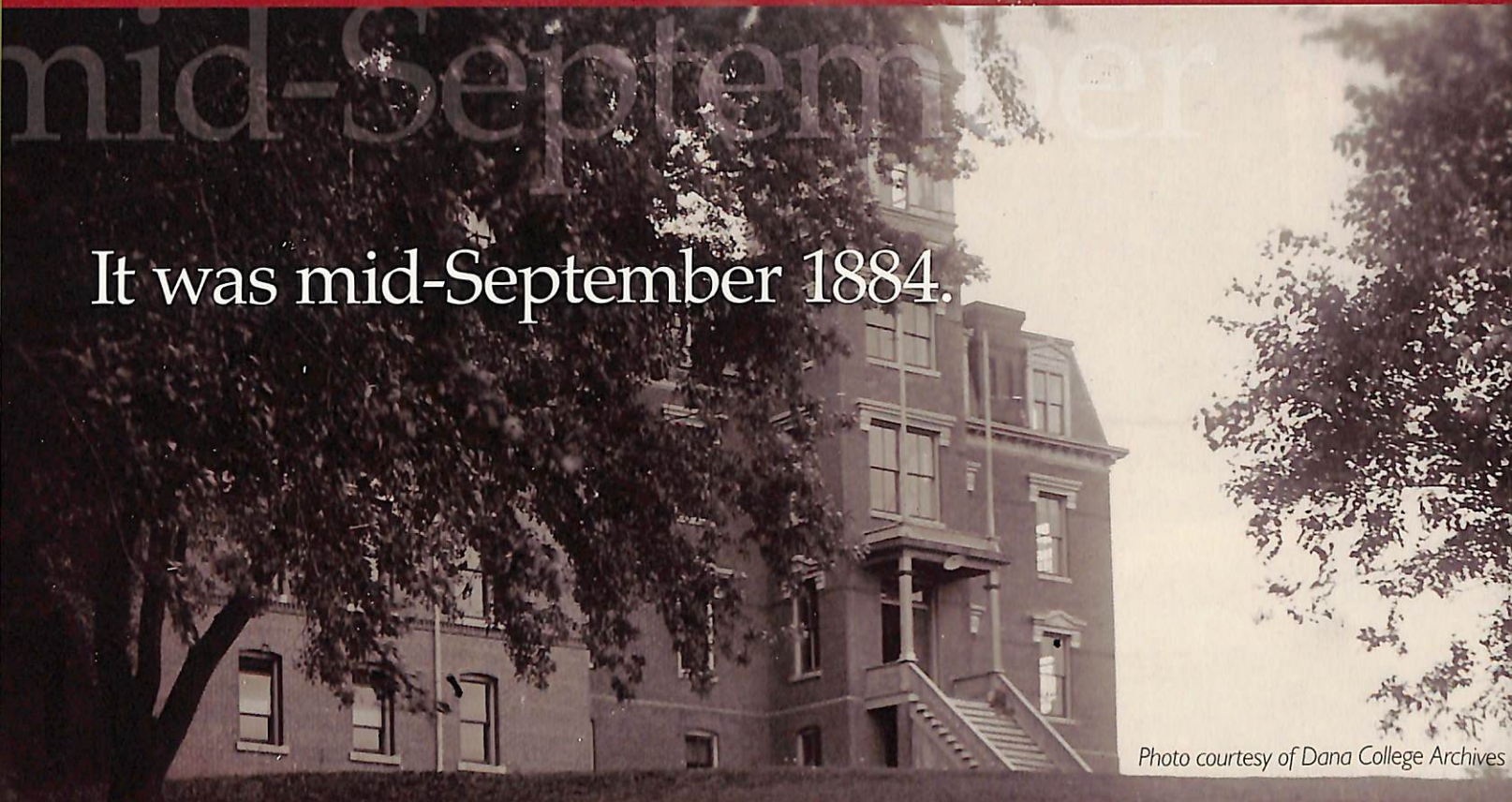
Why Dana?

There are many ties, some coincidental, some planned, that Dana College has with sustainable enterprise. For those who may not be aware, Denmark is a world-leader in the sustainability movement. And, with Danish-based companies such as Novozymes and Northstar Wind Towers breaking ground in Blair, there are enormous opportunities for the college. In fact, as a result of businesses such as these entering into the community, Dana will now be offering a major in sustainability beginning in the fall of 2009. Students will be groomed for internships and jobs directly relating to the work done at these plants.

“ The Conference was an opportunity for Dana College to host state and regional officials and speakers who have expertise in sustainable enterprise, showcase Blair businesses that embrace sustainability, and present opportunities for businesses to exhibit their products and services. We look forward to hosting future conferences in partnership with the Blair business community. ”

—President Janet Philipp

From left: Borup Coliseum was filled during the conference lunch; Eric Johnson speaks for Cargill; H.R.H. the Crown Prince shares his final remarks.



It was mid-September 1884.

Photo courtesy of Dana College Archives

And so begins “A Place Called Dana,” the centennial history of Trinity Seminary and Dana College written by Peter L. Petersen '62. And so begins the history of Dana College 125 years ago.

It is not yet September, but the 125th anniversary celebration of Dana College has already begun and will continue for about 18 months.

Anniversary year events began in grand fashion with a royal visit by T.R.H. the Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark in March (see story, page 18). The Crown Prince received an honorary degree and keynoted a special 125th Anniversary Convocation.

The inaugural Founders Day event is planned for June 13-14. Sessions focusing on the roots of Dana College, its founders and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (UELC) will be a part of the weekend's events. Founders Day is also purposely scheduled in conjunction with Blair's annual city festival, Gateway to the West Days, to offer lots of entertainment opportunities to our alumni and friends. Watch the Dana website for more details about what will become a new Dana summer tradition.

A stage production of “Black Elk Speaks,” directed by Professor Hal Berry '66, will be performed July 15-19 in the Lauritzen Theatre of the Madsen Fine Arts Center (see story, page 9).

On Sunday, September 13, a special worship service will be held at Argo

Cemetery in southern Burt County. Rev. A.M. Andersen served the church there. In the fall of 1884 it was the site of a meeting to form a new Danish Lutheran Church in America. A place to educate pastors for this new church, Trinity Seminary, was a direct outgrowth of this meeting. More details will follow about this unique commemorative event.

Many regularly scheduled campus events throughout the year (Homecoming, Sights and Sounds, etc.) will also have an anniversary flair. The Dana College website will keep you up to date on all of the special happenings of the 125th celebration.

Also as part of Dana College's 125th anniversary, we are seeking to recognize the 125 top alumni of Dana College and Trinity Seminary. Just a sampling of these individuals, in no particular order, are included here and will be featured on the Dana website. You still have time to make a nomination by contacting Carrie Reed, Director of Alumni Affairs and Special Events, Dana College, 2848 College Drive, Blair, NE 68008, or by email at creed@dana.edu.

Senator Paul Simon '49



Paul Simon '49 transferred to Dana in 1946 from the University of Oregon. He spent his sophomore and junior years at Dana and then, at the age of 19, purchased a weekly

newspaper in Troy, Ill., to become the youngest editor-publisher in the nation.

His first paper, "The Troy Tribune," became a part of a chain of 14 weeklies, which he sold in 1966 to give all of his time to public service and writing.

Simon won his first seat in the Illinois House of Representatives in 1954 after two years of service in the U.S. Army as a special agent for the Counter Intelligence Corps along the Iron Curtain. He served in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1955 to 1963. As a state legislator, he worked to achieve fiscal responsibility and to expand public utilities in rural parts of the state that did not yet have them.

He moved to the Illinois State Senate in 1963, serving there until 1968. He was elected Lieutenant Governor of Illinois in 1968 and served from 1969 to 1973.

He served in the United States House of Representatives from 1975 to 1985 and United States Senate from 1985 to 1997. He was an unsuccessful candidate for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination.

After his retirement from politics, he continued to play a role in public life by writing books. He also founded the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University - Carbondale after retiring from the U.S. Congress in 1997. After his death in 2003 it was renamed The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

In 1996 he established the Simon Travel and Study Fund at Dana College to help promote and facilitate travel abroad.

Simon was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Dana College in 1979. He served on the Dana College Board of Regents from 1978-81 and 1985-1996. He held more than 55 honorary degrees, including one from Dana College.

Vivian Jenkins Nelsen '65



Vivian Jenkins Nelsen '65 is the cofounder of INTER-RACE: The International Institute for Interracial Interaction, a diversity think-tank dedicated to improving race relations through

research, education, and consultation.

Nelsen participated in two International U.N. Conferences on Women, advised the Carter and Reagan White Houses on urban issues, and was recognized by President Ford for her work in the resettlement of Southeast Asian refugees.

She is the former Director of Administration at the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and served as the Director of Human Relations Programs for teachers at the University of Minnesota and Hamline University.

In her role as Director of Mission in Communities, Nelsen was the first African-American woman to become an executive with the American Lutheran Church National Offices.

A third-generation educator, Nelsen has varied and extensive teaching, training and curriculum design expertise. As the founding Chair of the Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation and the Minnesota Chapter of the Political Congress of Black Women, she served school districts, city governments and neighborhood councils as a strategic planning consultant, workshop facilitator and trainer.

A Bush Leadership Fellow at Harvard University, Nelsen is respected as a leading authority in her field. She is often sought by public television, network television, radio and print media for panel appearances, editorials and commentary. Nelsen has been quoted in the *New York Times*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Parent Magazine*, and featured in *Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine* and the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*.

She received the Dana College Distinguished Alumna Award in 1986.

Professor Norman Bansen '47



Norman Bansen 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 both Danish and English, positions he held until his retirement in 1986.

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.

Bansen passed away in 2004.

A Place Called Dana

VIKING



Dana's winter sports teams were rewriting record books and leading the nation in Scholar-Athletes. Read more about these outstanding students in our [Winter Recap](#).

Top: GPAC Wrestling Champions Ryan Tuzon, Adam Manz, Jon Wilbourne, and Clayden McKim show off the GPAC trophy.

Middle: Senior Gabe Bross shoots a two-pointer.

Bottom: Senior Tricia Trotter goes in for a shot.

ATHLETICS

WINTER RECAP

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Dana College men's basketball team finished the 2008-09 season with a 15-15 record and was 8-10 in Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) play. Early in 2009, the Vikings hit a hot streak, winning seven contests in an eight-game stand, including victories at Northwestern, Nebraska Wesleyan and Doane.

The men's basketball team also said farewell to six players who played huge roles on the team over the past four seasons. Members of the class of 2009 include: **Gabe Gross** (Omaha, Neb.), **Zach Genant** (Springfield, S.D.), **Doug Huston** (Olathe, Kan.), **Sean Johnson** (Council Bluffs, Iowa), **Eric Maassen** (Hancock, Iowa) and **Jon Person** (Olathe, Kan.).

Bross, Genant and Huston were varsity players for four seasons. Bross scored over 800 points for his career and pulled down 380 rebounds. Genant hit over 55 three-pointers over his career and pulled down over 100 rebounds. Huston rewrote all of the assist records in the Dana College basketball history books.

Maassen and Person were varsity members each of the past three seasons. Maassen ranks 15th in career scoring for Dana College with nearly 1100 points. He also pulled down 540 rebounds and blocked 91 shots. Johnson ranks in the top 20 in assists and steals.

Maassen and Huston earned second team all-conference honors this season, while Person was named to the honorable mention squad. Huston led the GPAC in assists per game in 2008-09 and was named to the *Omaha World-Herald* All-Nebraska first team. Maassen earned second team All-Nebraska and Person was named to the honorable mention team.

Dana had five players earn NAIA Division II Men's Basketball Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes honors. Genant earned his third straight Scholar-Athlete honor, while Huston, Person, and Maassen each earned their second straight award. Johnson earned his first Scholar-Athlete honor. Coach Chris Fear's team led the nation with five individuals earning Scholar-Athlete awards.

Next season, the Vikings return two starters and several other players who earned valuable playing time during the season.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Dana College women's basketball team had several familiar faces on the floor and a new one on the bench this season. Shane Larson took over as head coach of the Vikings during the summer, and there were several returning players to make his first season a positive one. Despite going 9-20 overall and 3-15 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference, Dana showed they will be a force to reckon with in the future.

The Vikings started the season off with a 5-1 record. They took wins from South Dakota School of Mines, Black Hills State, and William Penn.

This season also saw senior **Amanda Bryant** (Treyvor, Iowa) surpass the 1,000 point mark for her career. She also earned second team all-GPAC honors. **Tricia Trotter** (JR, Treynor, Iowa) and Bryant each averaged 12 points per game for Dana this season.

Dana was also strong in the classroom and led the nation with eight Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes. Earning Scholar-Athlete awards for Dana College women's basketball were: **Erin Bazata** (SR, Randolph, Neb.), **Kalen Carlson** (JR, Omaha, Neb.), **Heidi Gowery** (JR, St. Helena, Neb.), **Andrea Koll** (JR, Swanton, Neb.), **Megan Parker** (SR, Onawa, Iowa), **Chelsey Zimmerman** (SR, Tabor, Iowa), **Tricia Trotter** and **Amanda Bryant**.

Coach Larson graduates seniors Bryant, Bazata, Parker, and Zimmerman, but has a very experienced group of underclassmen ready to take on leadership roles next season.

WRESTLING

The Dana College wrestling team captured its third straight official Great Plains Athletic Conference team and individual titles this year. The Vikings scored 105.5 team points and had four individual GPAC champions. Dana's matmen also swept post-season honors announced following the conference tournament.

Clayden McKim (FR, 125, Omaha, Neb.), **Adam Manz** (JR, 141, Council Bluffs, Iowa), **Ryan Tuzon** (JR, 165, Kahului, Hawaii), and **Jon Wilbourne** (JR, HWT, Lake Stevens, Wash.) each captured individual titles at the conference championship. McKim was named the 2009 GPAC Tournament Outstanding Wrestler. Tuzon was named the GPAC Wrestler-of-the-Year and Head Coach Beau Vest was named the GPAC Coach-of-the-Year. The Vikings finished the season with a perfect 6-0 dual record in conference and was 8-3 overall. Dana also placed third at the Northern Regional Tournament in Hastings, Neb.

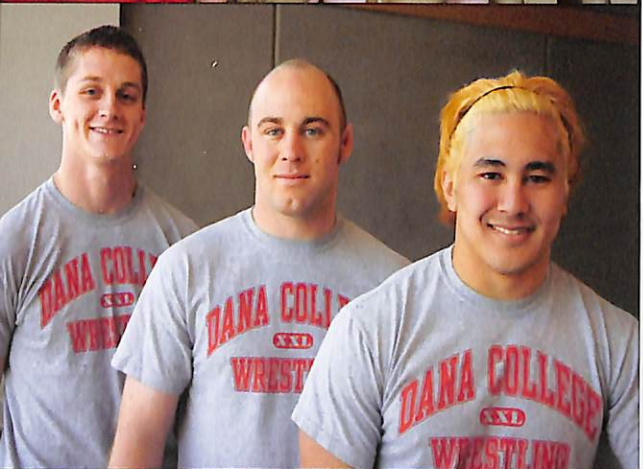
McKim and Wilbourne placed second at the regional meet. **Matt Jacobson** (JR, 131, Craig, Neb.), **Adam Manz** (JR, 141, Council Bluffs, Iowa), and Tuzon each earned third place medals at the regional tournament.

The Vikings sent 12 wrestlers to Oklahoma City, Okla., for the NAIA National Meet. Dana's representatives at the national meet were: **Tuzon, Wilbourne, McKim, Jacobson, Kendall Burke** (FR, Raymore, Mo.), **Travis Okano** (FR, Pearl City, Hawaii), **Dan Pray** (SR, St. George, Kan.), **Torey Seminara** (JR, Pearl City, Hawaii), **Josh Ghobadpoor** (JR, Dahlonega, Ga.), **Ty Costa** (SO, Ceres, Calif.), **Andrew Carrillo** (JR, Parsons, Kan.), and **Brett Brandl** (JR, Madison, Neb.). The Vikings did not earn an individual medal at the tournament and finished 22nd in the team standings.

Dana College had three wrestlers recognized as Academic All-Americans at the National Meet. Earning scholar-athlete honors are **Pray, Seminara, and Hunter Samuels** (SR, Tonganoxie, Kan.). The Vikings had the most individual scholar-athletes in the NAIA this season.

The Vikings lose only two wrestlers to graduation this season. Next year, the Vikings return all but one varsity starter and a deep and experienced roster.

16 VIKINGS NAMED NAIA DIVISION II SCHOLAR-ATHLETES



EIGHT VIKINGS MAKE GPAC ALL-CONFERENCE

The Dana College men's and women's basketball and men's wrestling programs combined for a total of 16 Daktronics-NAIA Division II Scholar-Athletes for the 2008-2009 season.

There were a total of 423 student-athletes recognized as Scholar-Athletes this season.

Four men's basketball teams tied for the most awards with five: Dana (Neb.), Doane (Neb.), St. Francis (Ind.) and Westminster (Utah).

On the women's side, Dana topped the rankings with eight Scholar-Athletes.

Dana's wrestling team tied with Missouri Valley College at the top with three scholar-athletes.

Earning Scholar-Athlete awards for the Dana College teams were: men's basketball — **Zach Genant** (SR, Springfield, S.D.), **Doug Huston** (SR, Olathe, Kan.), **Sean Johnson** (JR, Council Bluffs, Iowa), **Eric Maassen** (SR, Hancock, Iowa), **Jon Person** (SR, Olathe, Kan.); Women's basketball — **Erin Bazata** (SR, Randolph, Neb.), **Amanda Bryant** (SR, Treynor, Iowa), **Kalen Carlson** (JR, Omaha, Neb.), **Heidi Gowery** (JR, St. Helena, Neb.), **Andrea Koll** (SR, Swanton, Neb.), **Megan Parker** (SR, Onawa, Iowa), **Tricia Trotter** (JR, Treynor, Iowa), **Chelsey Zimmerman** (SR, Tabor, Iowa); Wrestling — **Torey Seminara** (SR, Pearl City, Hawaii), **Hunter Samuels** (SR, Tonganoxie, Kan.), **Dan Pray** (SR, St. George, Kan.).

All three Viking head coaches echoed the same sentiment about their players' commitments to success both in the classroom and on the field of competition.

"We are very proud of our guys for what they do on the mat and in the classroom," said Head Wrestling Coach Beau Vest. "It shows the kind of guys we have and the commitment to being well rounded student-athletes."

"I am very proud of our player's academic accomplishments," commented Women's Basketball Head Coach Shane Larson. "To have eight scholar athletes in a single season is proof in our philosophy of developing individuals both as athletes and students. These young ladies are great representatives of Dana College and our women's basketball program."

"It is the second year in a row that we have led the nation in number of scholar-athletes," said Men's Basketball Head Coach Chris Fear. "These young men have made significant contributions to Dana College and are great examples of what college athletics should be all about."

In order to be a recipient of the Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete award, student-athletes must be juniors or above in academic standing; have been in attendance at the nominating institution a minimum of one full year of attendance; have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale) at the time of nomination at the nominating institution; have been certified as eligible.

Top from left: Doug Huston, Zach Genant, Sean Johnson, Jon Person, Eric Maassen

Middle from left: Hunter Samuels, Dan Pray, Torey Seminara

Bottom from left: Amanda Bryant, Megan Parker, Kalen Carlson, Chelsey Zimmerman, Tricia Trotter, Erin Bazata, Andrea Koll, Heidi Gowery



BUILDING A LEGACY

For the past four years, Dana coach Chris Fear hasn't had to think twice about putting one name in the scorebook when he makes out his starting lineup.

Point guard **Doug Huston** (Olathe, Kan.) has started every game for the Vikings and this season set the single-season record (185), the single-game record (11) and the career record (491) in assists.

"To avoid injury or just be talented enough to play in all four years, I'd say that's pretty rare," Fear said.

Huston, the team's co-captain, is leading the Great Plains Athletic Conference and ranks third in NAIA Division II with 6.38 assists per game. He's also averaging 8.9 points.

"I know what I'm going to get from him, he's going to take care of the ball," Fear said. "It's been a great comfort for me. It's something we're going to miss down the line. He's kind of been the heartbeat of our team the last couple of years."

Huston is part of what Fear calls a special group of six seniors. Their names — **Eric Maassen** (Hancock, Iowa), **Gabe Bross** (Omaha, Neb.), **Zach Genant** (Springfield, S.D.), **Sean Johnson** (Council Bluffs, Iowa), **Jon Person** (Olathe, Kan.) and Huston — are scattered throughout the Vikings' record books and five of the six have been NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

"They've done it on the floor and in the classroom as well," Fear said.

The group also helped Dana accomplish another first. On Feb. 24, it was the first GPAC tournament game they've hosted since the league was formed nine years ago.

"It means a great deal," Fear said. "We finish with a winning record, only the second time in several years. A win would guarantee us not just a .500 finish, but a finish over .500. Our program is going in the right direction, and those seniors have been a big part of that."

This story, written by Marjie Ducey, appeared in the Feb. 24, 2009, issue of the Omaha World-Herald. It is reprinted here with permission.



From left: Eric Maassen, Gabe Bross, Zach Genant, Doug Huston, Sean Johnson, Jon Person



THERE'S A NEW FACE ON CAMPUS... WOMEN'S LACROSSE

In the spring of 2010 there will be a new face on campus at Dana College. A new athletic tradition will be born on the hillside as Dana becomes the first NAIA college in Nebraska to offer women's lacrosse.

With a history that spans centuries, lacrosse is the oldest sport in North America. Rooted in Native American religion, lacrosse was often played to resolve conflicts and heal the sick. To Native Americans, lacrosse is still referred to as "The Creator's Game." Legend tells of as many as 1,000 players per side, from the same or different tribes, who played on a field from one to 15 miles in length ... and games sometimes lasted for days.

The sport of lacrosse is a combination of basketball, soccer and hockey. Anyone can play lacrosse—the big or the small. The game requires and rewards coordination and agility, not brawn. Quickness and speed are two highly prized qualities in lacrosse.

An exhilarating sport, lacrosse is fast-paced and full of action stretching the length of the field, with abrupt starts and stops. Precision passes and dodges are routine in women's lacrosse. Lacrosse is played with a stick, the crosse, which must be mastered by the player to throw, catch and scoop the ball.

Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing team sports in the United States. Youth participation in the sport has grown over 500 percent since 1999 to nearly 250,000. No sport has grown faster at the high school level over the last 10 years, and there are now an estimated 200,000 high school players. There are more than 500 college club programs, including nearly 200 women's teams that compete at the US Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates level.

For additional information, contact Coach Kevin Blair at blair.kevin@dana.edu.

THE HEART (and mind) of a CHAMPION



**THIS DANA GRADUATE
IS MAKING A LIVING
THROUGH FIGHTING—
AND HE'S MAKING IT BIG.**

BY KALANI SIMPSON '93

Ben Henderson '06 adds the stage name "Smooth" to his professional moniker, but in personal conversation he laughingly refers to himself as "pretty much a dork."

He's an educated (Dana educated!), well-read, well-mannered man who makes a living "inflicting pain" and trying to avoid being punched in the face.

He is Renaissance man meets demolition man. And he may be coming to a television set near you.

Henderson is an up and comer in the world of professional mixed martial arts (MMA). MMA is a hip, happening, hybrid sport combining characteristics from boxing, kickboxing, various

Henderson getting the decision for the World Extreme Cagefighting Championship.

martial arts, and, Henderson's specialty, wrestling and grappling. And as if to emphasize all this, it is often contested in some kind of cage.

Though inarguably violent and sometimes still bloody, MMA has cleaned itself up for the masses; it's gone mainstream. In fact, it's now huge. Gone are the back-room, no-rules barroom brawls. Now it's under the bright lights, center stage. It's in Las Vegas. It's in your living room. And Henderson's star is rising fast.

Henderson was a senior captain on Dana's 2006 national champion wrestling team and graduated with a double major in sociology and criminal justice. He then set out into the world to make his fortune. He assessed his career skills, even ones Dana's Career Services office may have overlooked.

"I had a natural ability to inflict damage on people, to inflict pain, so let's continue in that direction," Henderson said.

He was set to take an 8-1 professional record into a televised bout in Chicago April 5. "It's a big-deal fight for me," Henderson said. Dana's own All-American was on the broadcast card for WEC (World Extreme Cagefighting) 40, on national cable television. He's moving on up.

"Right now," Henderson said, heading into the fight, "everything's going according to the plan."

He's training and fighting out of Phoenix, Ariz., where he works out with a team called The Lab, and has an apartment with his brother. It seems Henderson certainly has the physical skills to be a professional pain inflictor. But those who remember him at Dana – and he said he still talks to his "brothers from other mothers" all the

time – will know he's not a walking, punching, submission-holding stereotype.

The conventional wisdom is that prizefighters party and brawl between bouts, but Henderson said he'd rather immerse himself for hours at the local Barnes and Noble instead. He can spend all day in a bookstore, lost in the pages, pillaging the shelves. He's a voracious reader, and has a constantly evolving list of favorites, authors, novels, series, etc.

“ I had a natural ability to inflict damage on people, to inflict pain... ”

He loves to talk books, and his website – www.smoothben.com – has a link to "Ben's Library," his list of must reads.

Wait a minute. Did he just say one of his favorite authors is Neil Diamond?

No, no, no. Neil Gaiman. "Have you seen the movie 'Stardust,' with Robert DeNiro and Michelle Pfeiffer?" Henderson said.

Neil Gaiman wrote the book, which, as often is the case, was much better than the movie. "The book was way more poetic."

Yes. Poetic.

This guy's an MMA fighter?

"No offense (to anyone), but I'm not your typical meathead, 'Oh, I want to get punched in the face, bring it on,'" Henderson said. "No. I try to avoid getting punched in the face. It hurts."

Cage fighting was never his boyhood dream. But he had all the skills, and still does. He was a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do at 11, a wrestling state runner up in high school. He was an All-American and team national champion at Dana. He was a captain. He's a tough, tough man.

He said he's the type of person who would be working out several hours a day no matter what his regular job was.

"For me it's just competition," Henderson said. "I love Tic Tac Toe. Whatever it is, I want to win. I want to win bad."

This is true. On his website he lists one of his favorite pastimes as "game night" at the Henderson house.

You think he's tough in the cage, beating some guy with his fists, you should see him in a game of Turbo Cranium.

The man laughs easily. He's self deprecating and passionate. He wants to make sure he mentions his mother, "for always supporting me in my endeavors and putting up with me and that stuff." He promotes reading, for goodness sake.

"Cage fighter" is not your typical job description (not many of them have won the Outstanding Young Alumni award). But "Smooth" Ben Henderson, "Well-Read" Ben Henderson is a Dana success story.

He graduated from high school early. He came to Dana when he was just 17. He credits his time there with teaching him to "grow up, be a man, all that stuff."

Had he gone to another school, a bigger school, he might not have made it, he'd have been kicked out, he said. That first semester of his freshman year, he was bombing out. "I didn't party," he said. He was missing classes, sleeping in. "I was just lazy, you know," Henderson said. "I was just a kid."

Some of his teachers took him aside, told him, "You're too smart for this." He was, and he realized it. He got to work. He became a champion, then a graduate. And he went out into the world.

You might see him soon, now, on a television near you. Dana's All-American is rising in the field of professional MMA fighting. But more than that, he's still working. Still an athlete, but still more than just an athlete. Still reading, and still winning. Still getting better all the time.



Henderson fights Mike Maestas in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada for the Maximum Fighting Championship.



A Note

from the Advancement Office

Just recently I spent some time on campus with Dr. Jeff Langholz '86. He was visiting Dana while he was in the area to speak on global developments in private conservation at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Langholz has a masters in sustainable development and conservation from the University of Maryland, and a Ph.D. in natural resource policy and management from Cornell University. He is currently a professor at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a published author, renowned speaker, and a Fulbright recipient.

What struck me about our conversation was how much his education and experience at Dana impacts him every day in his work and teaching. Langholz said, "Every time I speak in front of an audience, I remind myself to use the skills I learned in Darrell Dibben's interpersonal communications class." He spoke of the personal influence and inspiration from his Dana professors.

Langholz has expertise in Sustainable Development and we talked about the first annual Sustainable Enterprise Conference held on Dana's campus recently. It was reassuring for me to hear from someone with Langholz' background that Dana's focus on sustainability was timely, relevant, and essential. Businesses that value sustainable enterprise are mindful of what is called the "triple bottom line," meaning that they strive to positively impact the global or local environment, the community, society and the economy. I am intrigued by this approach and the consideration given not only to our world today, but to our world in the future and those that will come after us. What example are we setting and what are we leaving our children?

The focus on sustainability at Dana is fitting given the real challenges the college faces in this its 125th anniversary year. We are not alone in our struggles as a small, faith-based, private college. The priority over the coming months will be to ensure the sustainability of Dana itself. The students of today must come first. There has to be a belief, an understanding, and a sense of urgency that what we do today can set the course for future Dana students.

There needs to be a triple bottom line in our advancement efforts that provides resources to the Dana College Annual Fund, scholarships and the endowment (see detailed information below).

We have concluded a campaign readiness study and the feedback received from several alumni and friends of Dana indicates that our focus on current needs is exactly where the focus needs to be. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting and critical initiative. The Dana College Board of Regents has already made personal commitments to this effort. "How will you participate in ensuring Dana College's continued success? We look forward to discussing with you the ways you may want to be involved in this 125th anniversary campaign. The future and sustainability of Dana College depend on it.

Jeremy Bouman
Vice President of Institutional Advancement

The Dana College Students First Campaign: Three Priorities

1 The Dana College Annual Fund

These unrestricted resources are essential to the well being of the institution. This fund bridges the gap in funding for financial aid, faculty development and operating expenses for the day-to-day activities and achievements of the college and those it serves. The Annual Fund is also seen by prospective donors as an indicator of the health of our institution. Also, strong unrestricted support leverages gifts from foundations and corporations. Currently only 17% of Dana alumni support the college annually. Our goal is to increase this percentage to 30% over the next five years.

2 Scholarship Support

At Dana, tuition and fees cover only 55.4% of the operating costs per student. The incoming student body for the fall of 2009 will have higher financial needs than in the past. These students have significant financial concerns that weigh into their decision making process when determining which college to attend. Your gifts of scholarship support in this economic climate, in many cases, will be the deciding factor for the students currently discerning whether or not to attend Dana.

3 The Dana College Endowment Fund

We need to continue building our endowment to a level commensurate with the stature of the College. Strengthening Dana's endowment ensures the kind of sustainability that allows us to remain focused on our mission of offering opportunities to students, forward-thinking in our execution of programming and being responsive to the changing needs of our students and our times. With several endowment opportunities, a strong endowment provides a stable source of revenue, ensuring long-term growth and offering a buffer against economic change.

08 Jenna Gray '08 and Daniel Malone were married Dec. 27, 2008. The couple lives in Temecula, Calif. Megan Hunt '08 and her business, Princess Lasertron, was featured in the *Omaha City Weekly* in February. She creates playful and whimsical bouquets, corsages and accessories using primarily buttons, felt and vintage materials. Visit her website at princesslasertron.com. Catie Ludwig '08 is a display advertising ad designer at the *Council Bluffs (Iowa) Daily Nonpareil*. She and her family live in Woodbine, Iowa.



included Jennifer Wilcox '02, Jennifer Filipowicz '04 and Jon Moench '04. The couple lives in Illinois where Phil is a social studies teacher and high school baseball coach and Katie is a medical biller.

07 Betiana (Gradizuela '07) Simon and her husband, Todd, were featured in "gala," Omaha's charity and society magazine, for their love of the arts and work with the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts and Film Streams, Omaha's first independent movie theater. Abby Stella '07 is working as a medical social worker for Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center in the post-intensive care unit. She lives in Omaha. "Screaming for Silence," a band including Viking football teammates Danny Irwin '06, Casey Newsom '09 and basketball player Zeb Christensen '07 were featured in an article in the *Onawa (Iowa) Democrat*. The headline, "Band Started with College Football Team," speaks to the band's roots in the residence halls at Dana College.

06 Ryan and Dana (Binning '06) Baber are the parents of a son, Kayden Donovan, who was born Dec. 16, 2008. He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. The family lives in Blair.

05 Braxton Fecht '05 has been promoted to a Service Banker II with First National Bank in North Platte, Neb., where he lives. Chris Johnson '05 is working for Swanson Russell in Lincoln as an interactive designer for client web sites and digital ads. Clinton Peterson '05 has opened his own CPA business in Lyons, Neb., where he provides tax preparation, bookkeeping and review and compilation services. Phil Wail '05 and Katie Schneekloth '04 were married July 26, 2008, in Omaha, Neb. Members of the wedding party

04 Garry '04 and Tina (Hackett '05) Clark welcomed a daughter, Azlyn Mae, on March 8, 2009. Azlyn



weighed 6 pounds 5 oz and was 18.8 inches long. The family resides in Bowie,

Md. Garry is an executive director of a non-profit organization in Washington, D.C., and Tina is a second grade teacher in Bowie. Abigail Erpelding '04 and Adam Kutler were married Oct. 25, 2008, in Omaha. Abigail is a medical social worker at Methodist Hospital in Omaha. The couple lives in Omaha.

03 Rachel Ahrens '03 received her master of arts in speech-language pathology from University of Nebraska at Omaha in May. She has a new job as the speech-language pathologist at Karen Western Elementary in Ralston, Neb. Brian and Ashley (Schroder '03) Meyers are the parents of a daughter, Lauren Rene, who was born May 13, 2008, in Juneau, Alaska. The family plans to move back to Nebraska in June. Luke Smith '03 and Janelle Miglio were married July 5, 2008, in Peru, Ill. Luke is employed by Newsome Physical Therapy in Naperville, Ill. The couple is at home in Plainfield, Ill.

02 Brian Anderson '02 is currently teaching art and coaching boys' soccer at Burke High School in Omaha. He and his wife, Molly, celebrated the birth of a daughter, Penelope Kate, who was born in February 2008. Molly and Eric Lee '02 are the parents of a son, Asa Robert, who was born March 6, 2009. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. He joins a brother, Ethan, 2.



Curt '02 and Tiffany (Shellberg '02) Schutt are the parents of a baby girl,

Julienne Ellen, who was born on February 16, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. She joins her big brother, Lane Jacob, who is 17 months old. The family lives in Avoca, Iowa.

01 Heather Stewart '01 is a pediatrician in the U.S. Air Force serving in England. Kale '01 and Danielle (Mozeika '01) Maguire, along with their 3-year-old son Keoki, welcomed another baby boy, Shelby Makahehelo, on September 27, 2008. He weighed in at 8 pounds 11 ounces and was 20 inches long.

00 Karsten and Bobbie (Day '00) Marshall are the parents of a daughter, Rebekah Mae, who was born Jan. 18, 2009. The family lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.

99 Kolette (Haskell '99) and Cedric '99 Satterfield welcomed a baby girl, Haevyn Inara, who was born Nov. 24, 2008. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. She was welcomed home by big brother, Trelavian, 8, and big sisters Briallen, 5, and Rowen, 4. The family lives in Lincoln, Neb.

98 Joan and Carrie Knapp-Daughton '98 of Omaha welcomed



their daughter, Emilee Ann, on Aug. 8, 2008. Carrie quit teaching biology after 10 years at Papillion-LaVista to stay home with Emilee.

After 11 years at HP/Compaq/Inacom, **Ann (Myers '98) Towey** has accepted a position at Gallup as quality assurance coordinator. She works on the public facing web sites at Gallup. She lives in Omaha.

97 Asil and **Jennimarie (Joslin '97) Ingram** are the parents of identical twin girls, Juliana Marie and Anneka



Therese. The girls were born Sept. 19, 2008. Jennimarie writes, "They are our first

children. Things can get a little crazy but we don't know any different, so we do what we have to do. It is such a joy to watch them grow every day." **Rhonda (Dierking '97) Santoni** has been promoted to a tax manager at Frankel Zacharia in Omaha. She works in all areas of taxation and small business consulting. Curt and **Meadow (Rouse '97) Scott** are the parents of a baby boy, Tommy Alexander, who was born Dec. 23, 2008. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 inches long. He joins big brothers McCoy Thomas, 3½, and Beckett Michael, 1½. The family lives in Blair.

96 **Leasa (Stark '96) Brouillard** recently donated one of the illustrations of her new book, "Chloe's Prayer," to Memorial Community



Hospital in Blair. With the onset of her father's cancer in 2005, Leasa faced several questions from her children regarding their unanswered prayers for their Grandpa. In realizing there were so many other children asking the same question that her children had asked, Leasa decided to put the questions in print with this true story. The book is illustrated by Tyrrie Solheim, wife of Dana College Professor

Jeff Solheim. **Matt Rega '96**, principal at Montclair Elementary School in Omaha, was featured in the *Omaha World-Herald* for wearing pajamas to school to mark the halfway point in the school's drive to donate 5,000 cans to the Omaha Food Bank.

95 **Lee Daugherty '95** received his master's degree in educational administration from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas. He is presently on staff of the Hitchcock ISD in Hitchcock, Texas, where he and his family reside. **Tony Collins '95** was nominated as a 2008 "40 Under 40" award recipient in the *Midlands Business Journal*. Each year 40 entrepreneurs, executives and professional men and women under age 40 are recognized. Tony is president and CEO of the Nothing But Net Foundation in Omaha, Neb. His 2007-08 after school program at Belvedere Academy ranked highest in the city. He piloted the "It's O.K. to Play After Dark" program to address gang violence in north and south Omaha and has launched the "Get Up, Get Fit. Have Fun Extravaganza" to help fight childhood obesity. He graduated with degrees in management and marketing from Dana and also participated in the Leadership Omaha Class 28. He was selected "Most Likely to Make a Difference."

93 **Dr. Kenneth Brown '93** was named one of "The Best Doctors in Dallas 2008" as published in "D Magazine" based on a survey of local doctors. Doctors were asked to name "two physicians they would send their patients or loved ones to in 40 specialties." Brown is well-known and sought after for his expertise in colon cancer screening, irritable bowel syndrome and gastroesophageal reflux disease. He has conducted several clinical research studies and has received numerous awards



and recognition for his work in clinical care. **Pam Shelton '93** and Pat West, Jr. were married on October 11, 2008, in Dana College's Trinity Chapel. Pastor Sarah (Voorhees) Hershberger officiated the ceremony. Sarah worked as an admissions counselor at

Dana in 1997. Pam works in marketing for MACC in Blair. Pat and Pam live with Pat's three boys, Patrick, Colten and Wyatt, in Missouri Valley, Iowa. **Lisa (LeMaster '93) Wiebelhaus** completed her master's degree in counseling psychology at Webster University in St. Louis, Mo., in October. She is currently working with adolescent children and their families.

92 **Andrea (Monaghan '92) Stogner** of Largo, Fla., was recently promoted to preschool director at The Early Learning Institute at Great Explorations Children's Museum.

91 **Shelly Edwards '91** of Aurora, Colo., has recently been promoted to administrative care coordinator at the Medical Center of Aurora. She has worked for the hospital since she got her RN five years ago. She has two boys, ages 11 and 12, with her partner of 19 years.

89 **Nathan Kramer '89** of Blair was nominated for the 2009 Volunteer of the Year Award presented annually by Enterprise Publishing. "Nathan works tirelessly for every organization in which he participates and his participation in community organizations is great," noted one nominator.

86 **Jeffrey Langholz '86** presented "Global Developments in Private Conservation: Do They Apply to the Northern Great Plains?" in Lincoln in April at a presentation sponsored by the Grassland Foundation as part of its Grassland Conservation and Sustainable Communities lecture. Jeff is a professor at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California and noted scholar on global efforts in private lands conservation.

85 **Dean Friedel '85** earned a specialist degree from the University of Nebraska-Kearney in December 2008. He currently is employed as principal of Perkins County High School in Grant, Neb., where he lives with wife Shari (Coffey '85), and children, Alecia, 16, Emma, 15 and Claire, 11.

84 *Cindy (Lorenzen '84) Hansen* graduated from Dakota State University in Madison, S.D., on Dec. 13, 2008, with a master's degree in education – educational technology. She teaches middle school technology and geography and high school social studies at Arlington (S.D.) High School. She also advises National Honor Society and Destination Imagination. Her husband, *Jeff '87*, is the pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Arlington.

83 *Steve Peterson '83* of Omaha has joined Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska as vice president of administrative services.

82 *Rev. Kathy Gerking '82* is serving as the interim associate pastor at First Lutheran Church in Fremont, Neb. She was appointed by the bishop to this position while the senior pastor at First awaits a liver transplant. Her family continues to reside in Iowa City, Iowa, where her husband, *Andy Johnson '83*, has been appointed executive assistant for the Johnson County (Iowa) Board of Supervisors. *Liz (Miller '82) Johnson* and her daughter, Kristina, traveled to the Holy Land last summer where they participated in an archeological dig in Tel Dor, Israel. Liz and her husband, *Paul '76*, live in Fremont, Neb.

81 *Amy Hansen '81* received the Midtown "O" Crystal Apple Award in January 2009. Each month an educator in the readership area is chosen based on longevity, commitment and ability to go above and beyond in the field of education. Amy has taught first through third grades in South Omaha schools for the past 27 years. *Brian Serr '81* participated in Austin College's 2009 Law Symposium focusing on the Earl Warren Court. Brian is a member of the Baylor Law School faculty and lives in China Spring, Texas.

79 *Eva (Riley '79) Fujan* was interviewed in the *Midlands Business Journal* for a story on digital information storage. In her role as sales and marketing manager at WorldView

in Omaha, she works with companies on storing business records digitally as an efficient alternative to paper piles.

77 *Dr. John Hibbing '77* was featured in a December 2008 comedy segment on "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart. Dr. Hibbing is currently a professor at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

76 *Steve Probst's '76* 60-year-old family business, Northwest Feed & Grain, was featured in the *Midlands Business Journal* for being one of the fastest growing Purina dealers, and for their support of organic fertilizers before many others in the area did. Northwest Feed and Grain creates specialized foods for many different animals including animals at the zoo; Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo is one of their oldest and largest customers. In the article written by Richard D. Brown, Probst says "[Custom feed is] just another example of how we pride ourselves on diversity of products and services." The company is also a retail store that carries pet food for family pets.

75 *Kurt Jungck '75* of Grimes, Iowa, is a skip tracer with Nationwide/Allied Insurance. He is married with two children, three step-children and two granddaughters. He writes, "While at Dana, I was active in music, specifically piano, vocal and band. I have played keyboards since the 1960s and still do with different blues bands." Last Labor Day he was inducted into the Iowa Rock and Roll Music Association with the rock and blues band, "Terra Firma."

74 *Lane Plugge '74* was recognized as the Iowa Superintendent of the Year by the School Administrators of Iowa organization. Lane has served as superintendent of the Iowa City Community School District since 1999.

73 *Russ Finken '73* has been appointed superintendent at Tri-County Public Schools near DeWitt, Neb., after a one-year term as interim superintendent there. He and his family live in Glenwood, Iowa. *Judith (Walton*

'73) Rasmussen has retired from the FBI after 32 years in information technology development and project management. She won the FBI Director's Award for Excellence in Information Management in 2006 and the *Federal Computer Week* Federal 100 Award in 2006. This award is presented to the top 100 government, military and contractor personnel for high achievement. She lives in Herndon, Va.

71 *John Christensen '71*, chancellor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was honored as the 119th Face on the Barroom Floor at the Omaha Press Club in November.

69 *Bruce Falksen '69* was installed as solo pastor for Glendorado and Good Shepherd Lutheran Churches in rural Princeton, Minn., on Nov. 30, 2008.

68 *Jim Holtam '68* received the Friend of Education Award in recognition of Outstanding Contributions to Education beyond the classroom from Fremont Public Schools after his retirement. He taught for 31 years in Fremont (Neb.) Public Schools. His wife, *Annette (Sorensen '69)*, retired from 20 years of teaching Elementary Art – 1 year, K-12, in Manning, Iowa, and 19 years at Fremont, K-5. She is enjoying grandchildren, traveling, and being creative herself!!



In May 2008 a number of Dana alumni gathered to help *Helen (Hansen '68) Sorensen* celebrate her wedding in San Antonio, Texas. Attending were, from left, *Ralph Hansen '62, Cathy (Madsen '68) Stone, Connie (Andersen '68) Quirk, Tina Zayat '91, Helen Sorensen '68, Jean (Brehm '71) Shelstad, and Gary Shelstad '68.*

61 The round robin reunion from the class of 1961 was held in Elk River, Minn., at the end of August. The group is pictured here enjoying the beautiful Munsinger-Clemens Gardens in St. Cloud,



Minn. Attending were, from left, *Don Heeren, Norma (Parde '61) Heeren, Lois (Lorenzen '61) Olson, Ellen (Andrews '61) Fisher, Rosie (Peterson '61) Glover, Paul Olson '61, Luther Kloth '61, Ken Glover '61, Doris (Siersbeck '61) Kloth, Bob Fisher, JoAnn (Larsen '61) Otto, Wesley Otto, Arlyce (Fuchs '61) Olsen, Charles Olsen, Arla (Siems '61) Mayhew and Tom Mayhew.* Earlier in the day, the group toured St. John's Abby at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn., and saw the exhibit of the handwritten Bible the University commissioned.

58 Former Danians gathered for the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of *Bob and Jeanette Larson* on Aug. 10, 2008, at Pipestone, Minn.



Pictured left to right are *Charlotte (Sorensen '73) Jensen; Marlene Paulsen '58; Jeanette (Paulsen '61) Larson; Dale Jensen '58; Bob Larson '58; Mary (Jacobsen '56) Klopp; Roger Klopp; Winifred (Nikolaisen '34) Paulsen Nelson; Marilyn (Nielsen '58), Alexander and Frank Alexander '57.*

Victor E. Lauritsen Dies at Age 89

Victor E. Lauritsen '41 of Rochester Hills, Mich., died Dec. 30, 2008, at the age of 89. The youngest of 12 children, Victor was the only member of his family to take college classes. He was not able to finish his degree at Dana College because financial struggles and World War II interrupted his studies, but he always held his time at Dana College in high regard.

He worked for the Burroughs Corporation, a company that made accounting machines, for his entire career, retiring in the mid-1980s.

Lauritsen was a long-time contributor to Dana College, first as trustee of the Margaret Nielsen Trust.

The first gift to Dana College from the Margaret Nielsen Trust was made in 1978. Gifts from this fund were designated to religion and religious programming, the Dana College Choir and student health services.

When the trust was closed, Lauritsen designated one half of the funds to Dana College to build Trinity Chapel. The remainder was invested into a charitable gift annuity with Dana as the sole beneficiary. Lauritsen and his wife Margaret continued to gift a portion of the income of the annuity to Dana College in the same spirit Margaret Nielsen had stipulated.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret, and three sons, Calvin, William and John.

57 *Tom Langenfeld '57* of Edina, Minn., has been elected to the USA Track and Field National Masters Hall of Fame. A high jumper, he has won 29 national indoor and outdoor championships in 34 years of masters competition. He won his first national outdoor championship in 1975 at the age of 40 – the first year he was eligible to compete under the rules in effect at that time – and the most recent in 2008 at the age of 73. In all, he has competed in 31 outdoor national high jump championship competitions, medaling in all 31. He has also won gold, silver and bronze medals in world championship competition and has held one world age-group record and three American age-group records. Langenfeld was still jumping close to six feet in his early 50s when he suffered a knee injury while long jumping that cut his high jumping performances by several inches. While primarily a high jumper, Langenfeld has also won five national masters championships in the triple jump and competed occasionally in the long jump and sprints. In the high jump, he has

captured 10 of the last 11 national outdoor championships across three age groups – the last eight consecutively (2001-08). At the other end of the masters age spectrum, he won the high jump in the first five national age group championships he contested (1975-79). In Minnesota, Langenfeld has won 26 state outdoor high jump championships without a loss and has set 17 state age group records in four events – the high jump, long jump, triple jump and 100 meter dash. Twelve of the records still stand.

53 *Mark Thomsen D'53 T'56* of Shorewood, Wis., had his book, "Jesus, the Word and the Way of the Cross: An Engagement with Muslims, Buddhists and Other People of Faith," published in spring 2008. The cover photo featured the Tower of the Four Winds at Black Elk-Neihardt Park near the Dana campus. Then, in September 2008, Mark won a silver medal in the Senior Olympics 200 meter race in Milwaukee, Wis. The effort qualified him for Nationals.

Deaths

Shawn Berg '94 of Osage, Iowa, died Dec. 16, 2008, at the age of 37. He dedicated his life to the family farm and his family. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters.

Sterling West '74 of Omaha died Jan. 3, 2009, of cancer at the age of 57. He dedicated his life to teaching and working with young people. The majority of his teaching career was spent at St. Albert in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He culminated his teaching with Omaha Public Schools at Nathan Hale Middle School and Blackburn Alternative High School. Survivors include his wife, Dee, and two sons.

Ida (Blankenbecker) Marr '73 of Decatur, Neb., died Oct. 21, 2008, at the age of 84. She taught many children in and around Decatur for 51 years. Survivors include her husband, Bud, two sons and a stepson.

Jeanette "Jan" (Frey) Jacob '72 of Arlington, Neb., died Feb. 5, 2009, at the age of 75. She taught in rural schools in Madison and Dodge counties in Nebraska, in Tekamah, Neb., and for 26 years at Kennard and Arlington, Neb., schools. She retired in 1995. Survivors include her husband, Herman, two sons and two daughters.

Barbara (Falk) Kermoade '72 of Council Bluffs, Iowa, died Nov. 12, 2008, at the age of 74. Education was her passion, from when she began teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in rural Nebraska, through her years teaching math, English and Spanish in Council Bluffs and even after her retirement in 2000. Survivors include a son and a daughter.

Rick Jabnke '71 of Fountain Hills, Ariz., died Jan. 10, 2009, at the age of 59 after a battle with cancer. He spent most of his life working in the insurance business, working for the General Adjustment Bureau, United States Fidelity and Guarantee, and for Safeco. Survivors include his wife, Deborah, and three sons.

Eileen Jordan '64 of Blair died Jan. 18, 2009, at the age of 96. She taught elementary education in rural schools in Kennard, Arlington and Grand Saline, Texas. She also did volunteer teaching in Blair.

Rev. Gerhardt Mengers '52 of Alliance, Ohio, died Aug. 11, 2008, at the age of 78. He served Lutheran parishes in Ohio, including churches in West Milton, Berlin Center, Covington and Chillicothe. He retired in 1994, but continued to serve in interim ministry. Survivors include his wife, Ruth (Wagschal '53), five children, and a brother, Gunnar '55.

Cleo Hanson D'50 T'54 of Pomeroy, Wash., died Jan. 12, 2009, at the age of 87. He served Lutheran parishes in Underwood, Iowa, and Kenmare, N.D. He also worked as a space engineer, electrician, mutual funds salesman and appliance repairman. Survivors include his wife, Audrey (Jorgensen '47) Rasmussen; a brother, Wayne '56; and four children, including Nancy (Hanson '69) Mahr.

Thelma (Hansen '41) Kolb of Blair, died Nov. 11, 2008, at the age of 89. She worked as a bank teller, secretary to the East Pottawattamie County Extension directory, and as a clerical worker in the District 66 Schools administrative offices. Survivors include a son, Paul '73.

Friends

Helen Elling of Holcombe, Wis., died Dec. 22, 2008. She was the widow of Pastor Jerrold Elling T'42 and mother of John Elling '73.

Dr. Betty Bullock of Baldwin City, Kan., died Aug. 11, 2008, after a battle with breast cancer at the age of 59. She taught sociology and coached tennis at Dana in the late 1970s and early 1980s. She had been teaching sociology at Johnson County Community College in Kansas.

Duane Benson of Council Bluffs, Iowa, died Mar. 30, 2009, at the age of 80. He was a farmer at Underwood, Iowa. He was recognized by the Governor of Iowa as owning a Century Farm in 2006. Survivors include his wife, Ruth (Larsen '51) Randall, three children and four step-children.

Kenneth Hansen of Omaha, died Feb. 14, 2009, at the age of 88. He taught math and physics at Dana College from 1947-48, and served on the Dana College Board of Regents from 1970-1981. Survivors include four daughters, Linda Larsen '71, Debra Van Steenhoven '73, Patricia Luce '75 and Jane Filipi '82.

Betty Jane Heide Kuessow of Kenosha, Wis., died Dec. 24, 2008, at the age of 79. She was a commissioned Associate in Ministry in the ELCA and helped facilitate six senior centers in various churches around the city. She organized and was director of the first church based Senior Citizen Community Center in Wisconsin, St. Mary's Lutheran Friendly Center for 19 years. Survivors include her daughter Jamie (Heide '75) Kuiken.

Mohr Travels to Denmark

Third-year graduate school student Ashley (Sorensen '05) Mohr traveled with her research to Denmark this winter.

"My boss collaborates with a group at Copenhagen University on glycobiology of mucins in cancer. We went there for meetings with their group and also some other groups he has funding with in Europe," Mohr said.

For Mohr, it was more than a work trip. (Yes, that maiden name was "Sorensen" with an "en".) "While I was there I actually got to meet some distant relatives—my great-grandpa's niece and nephew—so I think that makes them cousins to a certain generation to me," she said. "I've met them when I was younger, but don't quite remember, but it was nice to go out to dinner with them."

Mohr is a little more than halfway through her study in the Cancer Research Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. "Career goals.... well, still working on that," she said. "I'll probably stay in research, but the idea of teaching at a small college like Dana is interesting."

Alumni travel planned to Australia/New Zealand

Professor Emeritus Jim Olsen '62 invites alumni, family and friends to join him on a college-sponsored adventure to Australia and New Zealand in the spring of 2010. Details are pending but the trip will likely be 15 to 17 days in March-April, which is autumn in the southern hemisphere. Both Australia and New Zealand are renowned for their spectacular natural beauty, rich and varied ethnic and cultural heritage and relaxed life style. Details of the itinerary and the cost have not yet been determined, but Jim would like to hear from anyone interested in learning more about this tour as plans evolve. He can be reached by email at jolsen@dana.edu or by phone at 402.426.2765.

Right: A view of the New Zealand Coast



Above: Hagia Sophia at Istanbul, Turkey

Dana students Cristin Bruckman, Jim Olsen, Nickolas Makris, Amy Jackman, Rachel Ness, Lindsey Ellis

Right: Temple of Apollo at Delphi, Greece

Front row: Jim Olsen '62, Nancy (Jensen '72) Gardner; Barb (Wolf '73) Triplett;
Back row: Florence (Benson '60) Rogers, Kathy Ryan '71, Lindsay (Bamesberger '01) Glaug,
Mark Olsen '90, Ken Kemmish '66, Char Les (Grap '68) Kemmish

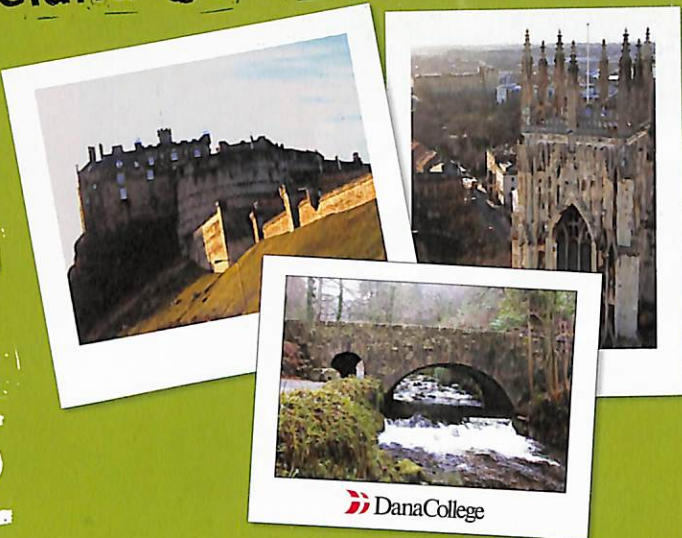
Greece/Turkey

A large contingent of Dana alumni accompanied Professor Emeritus Jim Olsen '62 and his students on the 2009 Discovery Term trip to Greece and Turkey.



Ireland Scotland England

Discovery Term 2010



Ireland:

Tour bus through the countryside, stopping at ruined castles, abbeys, Shannon, Dingle, Ring of Kerry (on the West and SW coast)
 Dublin: Trinity College, St. Patrick's Cathedral, National Museum
 Northern Ireland: Belfast, the Giant's Causeway

Scotland:

Tour the countryside:
 Sterling Castle
 (think Braveheart)
 Edinburgh: Castle, Royal Mile,
 Walter Scots Memorial,
 whiskey tasting

England:

Hadrian's Wall, Medieval city
 York, Salisbury Cathedral,
 Stonehenge,
 Roman ruins in Bath, Oxford
 London: Cathedrals, Tower of
 London, Changing of the guard,
 British Museum

**information subject to change*

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For more information contact Greg Walter at **402.426.7206** or walter.greg@dana.edu

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2009

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|---------------------|--|
| June 13-14 | First Annual Founders Day |
| July 15-19 | Performances of "Black Elk Speaks" |
| August 25 | Opening Convocation |
| September 13 | Special worship service at site of Argo Church |
| October 9-11 | Homecoming |
| December 2-9 | Victor Borge Exhibit on campus |
| December 6 | Sights and Sounds of Christmas |

2010

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| February 2 | Spring Convocation |
| February 20 | Arizona Luncheon |
| April 23-25 | President's Circle Weekend |
| May 22 | Commencement |



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