



HERMES



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The weekly newspaper of Dana College, Blair, Nebraska

December 4, 1992

A Christmas gift to the community

Sights and Sounds of Christmas celebrated this weekend

By Sara E. Olson
Page Editor

"It is an opportunity for students to sing, play and perform before a larger audience than we can ever provide for them in any other way," Dr. Myrvin Christopherson said about the annual Sights and Sounds of Christmas weekend. "It is the single biggest magnet we have."

This is known to be the single greatest event that happens at Dana.

This Sunday, Dana will host 3000-5000 people from area communities, who will come to enjoy traditional ethnic Christmas celebrations, entertainment and the Scandinavian smorgasbord.

The day begins at 10 a.m. with an ecumenical worship service and continues throughout the day with special programs, visiting choirs, a dramatic production by the theater department, a combined band and choir concert and a very popular Scandinavian smorgasbord.

According to Burke Peterson, event coordinator, "The response to the traditional Sounds of

Christmas concert and smorgasbord has increased dramatically over the last few years."

The event of "Sights and Sounds" was started 23 years ago under the administration of Dr. Earl Mezzoff. Phil Pagel, Lela Neve and numerous faculty and staff helped prepare the place for

— " *[It] is a gift from the students back to the community.*

--Phil Pagel

the festivities. It started with an annual concert and took off from there.

"[The Sounds of Christmas concert and the art displays along with the dramas] is a gift from the students back to the community. It is a showcase of student performances," Pagel said.

"My first Sights and Sounds was in the winter of 1986. I was proud of the event then, and I am still proud of the event now, probably because I am proud of Dana

students," Christopherson said.

The smorgasbord is put on by Rob Krumm and all of the finest chefs of ServiceMaster from around the country.

"It is a big draw for people. I doubt you could find a better Christmas smorgasbord any place in the country," Christopherson said.

Will the new building draw any more people to the event?

"Yes, it could be an attractive part of this year's drawing of people to the event.

There are a lot of curious people who have heard about the loss of Old Main and who have assisted us and have heard about plight, and I suspect that there will be some people who want to see what we have done," Christopherson said.

Although, in the past, the weekend has been a great success, some people have been worried about the amount of stress that it puts on the faculty, staff and students, and they worry that the event is no longer any fun.

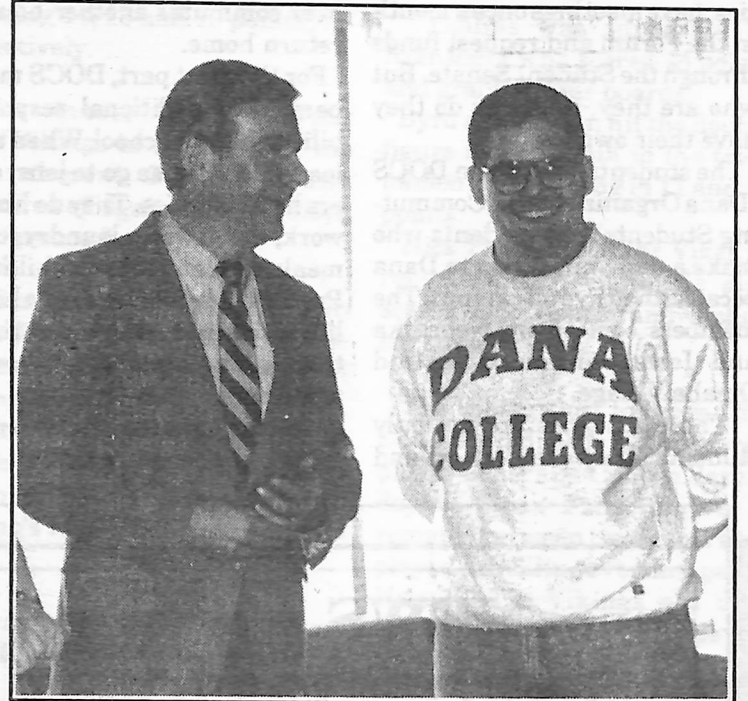
"It is a horrendous amount of work," Christopherson said. According to Christopherson, they have been trying to make some changes over the past few years, while "preserving the event but reducing the stress on faculty, staff and students."

"I just think it is a remarkable community event. From the pastor preparing the morning worship to the choir and band director and all of the students involved.

"I guess one of the things I hope happens is that the Dana students take advantage of the opportunity," Christopherson said.

"I know sometimes the students feel that they give up the campus to 'all the people.' I do not believe a lot of students feel that way.

"I hope they [the students] can participate in the pride of the event, since we do the biggest event of this sort of any college or university in the region," Christopherson said.



Lisa Welch

Congressman Doug Bereuter visits with Student Senator John Wolf Wednesday during his visit to Dana. Due to redistricting, Washington County will become part of Bereuter's district on Jan. 3. Bereuter said that he is a major supporter of post-secondary education, and he is willing to help Dana in many areas. He is looking forward to serving our area well.

LAEx grades show superior freshman and senior papers

By Carrie L. Larkins
Editor in Chief

The first semester of the new Liberal Arts Experience course (LAEx) has come to a close. The final papers have been graded and will soon be returned.

"The comments made to me have been quite positive," said Dr. Sybille Bartels, coordinator of the LAEx course. Narrative comments written on the evaluations have not been compiled at this point.

The reflection papers, a new course requirement, were read and evaluated by at least two faculty members who had participated as discussion leaders this semester. A holistic grading approach was used.

Faculty members got a chance to read papers from across the board. The LAEx program combines all students, freshmen to seniors, of all majors. "It is an excellent assessment tool of how students are doing as a whole," Bartels said.

The freshman and senior classes excelled on their reflection papers. Forty-seven percent of the freshman LAEx students and 48 percent of the senior LAEx students received an "A" on their paper. Nineteen percent of the seniors earned a perfect score of 10.

Thirty-six percent of the sophomores received an "A" as did 30 percent of the juniors.

Freshman students had the highest average with 8.3. Seniors averaged a score of 8.0 followed closely by sophomores with 7.9 and juniors with 7.8.

This semester's course incorporated several media. One novel, three movies, two presentations and a reflection paper made up the course requirements. Previously the Liberal Arts Reading Program (LARP) was based solely on the reading and discussion of three to four novels.

The LAEx course is very flexible. "We continually review the course content and requirements," Bartels said.

For example, half of the faculty suggested reading two books and viewing two movies for a more balanced use of the media. This suggestion will be implemented next semester.

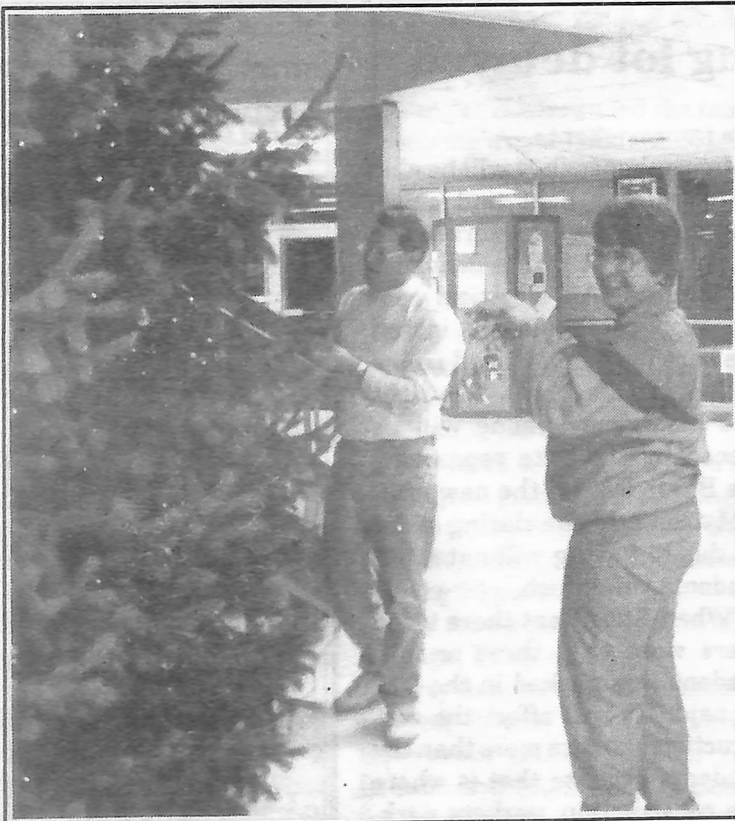
Bartels emphasized that suggestions and comments are always welcome.

THIS WEEK

--Who are D.O.C.S.? pg. 2

--Basketball and wrestling results, pg. 3

Deck the halls



Kris Flack

Burke Peterson and Professor Carol Haussermann helped decorate the tree in the Campus Center Tuesday in preparation for the Sights and Sounds of Christmas celebration.

Who are those DOCS people?

By Peggy Madsen
Guest Writer

Who are those people who call themselves DOCS? They put posters up about Halloween parties, have meetings once a month in the Forum and request funds through the Student Senate. But who are they, and why do they have their own group?

The students who are in DOCS (Dana Organization of Commuting Students) are students who make a daily migration to Dana because they live off campus. The members come from Nebraska and Iowa communities and Omaha Village.

These students are not only students. They are mothers and

fathers, wives and husbands, older students or just students who live at home.

One student actually commutes one hour each day to get to campus and then after classes and other responsibilities are over commutes another hour to return home.

For the most part, DOCS members have additional responsibilities beyond school. When they leave Dana some go to jobs, others have families. They do homework, housework, laundry, cook meals and tend to their children. Precariously they balance a home life with a school life and at times the balancing act gets overwhelming.

Many of the active members of DOCS are considered "non-tra-

ditional" students because they are older. The change in lifestyle when an individual returns to school after several years is enormous and frightening. Adjustments are required in attitudes, priorities, and daily schedules. Truly, returning to school after an absence from the educational system of several years can be rather traumatic.

That is why DOCS was formed. This organization gives commuting students the opportunity to have an outlet for the frustrations that can build up.

It is also a means by which the commuting students can participate in on-campus activities. Most of the activities of other organizations are planned in the evening when many off-campus students are needed at home.

DOCS understands that schedules usually don't allow for that extra time and budgets often can't expand enough for child care and additional travel expenses. In DOCS, a student who commutes is automatically a member, unless he/she specifically requests to be eliminated from the list.

Once again DOCS is available for moral support and advice. Members who have already experienced these situations are always willing to take time to relax and discuss the situation with other students. They also willing to talk to traditional students any time about concerns they may have in their lives.

On Halloween you saw several members dressed in costumes and tasted their Halloween treats. Look for them again today in the Dragon's Head with more homemade treats for Christmas. Stop by, say hello, and have a treat.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Matson receives award

Dale Matson, superintendent of buildings and grounds at Dana College was recently honored with the college's Heart of Dana Award.

Matson has been at Dana for 32 years, first as a campus engineer and then as superintendent of buildings and grounds, a position he accepted in 1980.

Matson received a framed certificate and a watch bearing the Heart of Dana logo.

Twister Tournament to be held

Student Activities Board will host a Dead Day Twister Tournament on Monday at 2 p.m. in the Argo Lounge.

If you are interested, please sign up in the information booth. Teams of two people are required. Drinks will be provided and prizes will be awarded.

Student project displayed in The Forum

The new gallery exhibit in The Forum is entitled "Cultura Media Americana: The Culture of Mesoamerica from 1000-1550 A.D."

This is the advanced humanities seminar project of senior Ann Gibbs, an English/Humanities major from Greenfield, Iowa. It will be displayed through Interim 1993.

Jamaican Jam Christmas party to be held

Student Senate is sponsoring a Jamaican Jam Christmas Party after Sights and Sounds on Sunday from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. in MFAC.

All you can eat Godfather's pizza will be served at 7 p.m. in the upper foyer. Pizza tickets must be purchased today for \$3. A dance will be held in the black box at 8 p.m. Admission to the dance is free.

Resident assistant needed for Mickelsen Hall

Applications are currently being taken for a resident assistant in Mickelsen Hall. One male is needed for the position which begins Jan. 3, 1993. Applications can be picked up in the Student Services office.

For more information contact Kevin Schaudt at ext. 7253.

DOCS hosts Christmas party today

DOCS members will serve Christmas cookies and punch today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Dragon's Head. Special music will be provided by jazz composer Bill Thompson from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Retrospective on The Forum

Jeanmarie A. Nielsen, Director

When I became the director of the new center for the liberal arts—The Forum this past summer, I was eager and at the same time unsure of what would be new and what would be discarded or at least kept the same. For students new to Dana this fall, The Forum may not have a particular or unique identity. For those veteran students, The Forum "used to be called Parnassus" and has a direct correlation to the Humanities classes. With that is carried a raft of connections—Hum events, Hum study guides, Hum reserve readings, Hum films, Hum volunteers and perhaps more.

As we move into the new general education curriculum, Humanities will no longer be what it has been for over 20 years. And as we physically move from Pioneer Memorial to the new building, The Forum will no longer be the place associated with one particular course or department. The Foundation course, portfolios, capstone course and LAEx, to name a few of the new courses, circulate around and through The Forum.

But more than that, The Forum serves as a daily meeting place for students, faculty and staff. The Forum has been very active in hosting the regular Student Senate meetings, faculty colloquia, of which there were four, Thursday morning events, German Club, DOCS and KDCV meetings, political

candidates, three gallery exhibits, a used book sale, an English tea and several receptions.

The Forum Student Assistants give an hour a week in helping to staff the desk or by a variety of other ways. In our fast-paced, full-scheduled days it is difficult to volunteer the precious commodity of time, but there are many students whom I would like to acknowledge and thank for their time and assistance this semester—Steve Lewis, Kevin Wass, Matt Leaf, R.J. Redden, Marcus Albers, Meredith Dickerson, Jerri Pedersen, Jon Neunaber, Chad Foust, Dwight Albers, Roxane Fenton, Shannon LeFave and Ann Gibbs. Special thanks go to Mrs. Betty Rogert for her pleasant efficiency and competence and to Karl Hermanson for his artistic vision and know-how.

The Forum is evolving and as this year continues the new Forum will further take shape in purpose and function as we prepare to move to the new building. It is my hope that faculty and staff will continue to find The Forum a place to plan activities, meetings and events.

It is an even greater hope that students will come out in larger numbers to read, talk, study, eat, have coffee, meet friends, and get involved in the inner workings of The Forum.

Pavement of parking lot delayed

By Becky Baumker
Page Editor

Moisture has postponed the construction of a new parking lot southeast of the Borup lot until spring, according to Dale Matson, maintenance supervisor.

The construction company contracted to build the lot said last week the ground was too soft and wet to begin construction. It was decided to postpone the construction until early next spring when the ground will be firmer.

The school decided to pave the lot to create more parking space for students and visitors, Matson said.

It will cost approximately \$27,500 to pave, paint and install a light and emergency phone in the lot. This money is coming from a fund designated for cam-

pus improvements.

Matson hopes they will be able to install the light and emergency phone during interim. The light for the lot will be delivered in January. An electrical construction company will install the base for the light and phone if the weather holds. The light and emergency phone will be placed by the gate separating the Borup lot and the new lot.

Matson said the closing of the lot due to paving will not affect students that much.

"When I went out there today there were only three or four student cars parked in the lot," he said. "It will affect the construction workers more than the students because that is where the construction workers park. It will inconvenience them more than the students."

Dragon's Head Weekly Specials

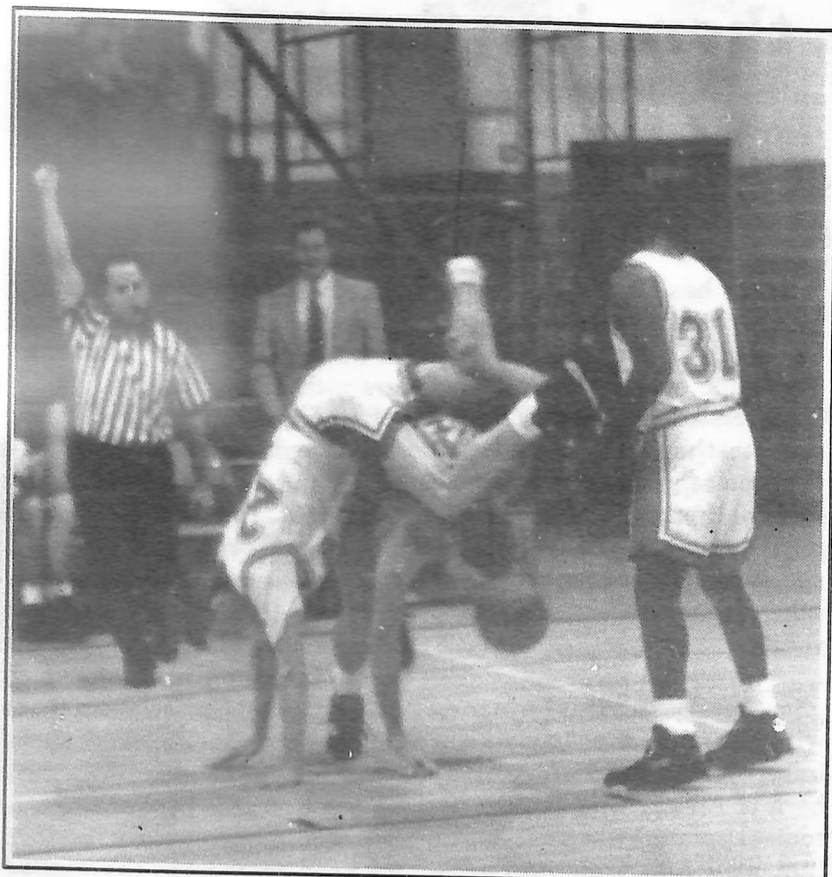
Monday
Chicken and noodles
Biscuits

Tuesday
Sloppy joes
French fries

Wednesday
Chicken strips
French fries

Thursday
Barbecue beef sandwich
Chips

Friday
Spaghetti
Small salad



Kris Flack

Jeff Dale shows a unique method of defense in a recent Viking contest. Intense play made the game of basketball resemble football. Tony Collins (#31) looks on.

Vikings split games at tourney

By Robert Boyd, Jr.
Reporter

Saturday the men's basketball team played in the Mount Marty Basketball Tournament. They were hoping to rebound from their disappointing 68-99 loss to Northwest Missouri State Nov. 24.

They had a tough job ahead of them without senior Larry Walters and sophomore Rob Coursey, both of whom are averaging double figures in scoring for the season.

The Vikings did bounce back in the first game by beating the host team, Mount Marty, 72-68.

Dana defeated Mount Marty due mostly to tough defensive play. Mount Marty only shot 39 percent from the field and committed 17 turnovers.

Dana was led by guard Tony

Collins. Collins played a good all around game by pouring in 20 points, pulling down six boards, and dishing out six assists. John Arensberg, Andy Dotson and Lee Byrd also played solid games by scoring 14, 13 and 10 points, respectively.

The win over Mount Marty put the Vikings in the finals of the tournament Sunday. Dana squared off against Concordia, a conference foe.

Dana kept the game close in the first half. At halftime, the score was 46-49 in favor of Concordia.

In the second half, the Bulldogs pulled away and eventually won 96-85. This loss dropped Dana's record to 5-3 for the season.

Despite the loss, Collins played another great game by scoring

32 points, 52 for the tournament, and grabbing seven rebounds. Collins is averaging 24.5 points a game this year and is pulling down seven rebounds a game.

Collins was supported by Arensberg who scored 16 points and grabbed four boards.

Byrd and Dotson hit the double figure marks again in the tournament by chipping in 11 and 10 points.

Nick Prosocki led the Vikes in rebounds with eight. He also scored four points and dished out three assists.

The Vikings lost to Briar Cliff College Wednesday. Dana will play Sioux Falls College Saturday in Sioux Falls. This is a rematch between two teams who played a thrilling overtime game Nov. 17. The Vikings won that thrilling game and hope to do the same on Saturday.

Dana wrestlers start season

By Kari Fjelstad
Reporter

On Nov. 18, the Dana wrestlers began their season at Buena Vista in Storm Lake, Iowa. Freshmen Ron McNichols, at 118 lbs., and Victor Hundley, at 177 lbs., both won by fall. Junior wrestler Scott Stickler, at 134 lbs., won by major decision. Dana lost the dual 16-28.

The UNO Open was held on November 21. Eighteen Dana wrestlers competed against opponents from a wide range of

schools. Some of the schools that attended the open were University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, University of Mary from North Dakota, and University of Wyoming.

Hundley, at 167 lbs., and sophomore wrestler Harold Short, at 190 lbs., both placed sixth in their weight classes in the 20-year-old-and-under age division. Junior wrestler Kyle Lindelof, at 220 lbs., placed fourth in the open age division.

Dana's next meet will be Saturday at Fort Hays in Hays, Kan.

The team anticipates an even better showing at this meet. The next home wrestling event will be Dana Duals, scheduled for Jan. 15. The Dana Invitational will follow on Jan. 16.

The wrestlers have a challenging schedule of upcoming meets. Fortunately, they are not plagued with as many injuries as last season. Team goals include having a winning dual record, winning the conference competition, and qualifying at least seven wrestlers for nationals.

There is a total of 24 wrestlers currently practicing at Dana.

Tough defense sparks victory

By Carrie L. Larkins
Editor in chief

A strong defense propelled the Dana Lady Vikings past Park College and Dordt College in non-conference play.

The Vikings defeated Park College 62-54 in Parkville, Kan., Nov. 24. Strong defensive efforts from Melanie Hild and Heidi Grappendorf made the difference in the game, according to Coach Kathy Foley.

Dana and Park played to a 29-29 tie at half. Finally with about 10 minutes left in the game, the Vikings were able to break the game open.

"We started to play some pretty good defense and were able to score some easy buckets. When the game was on the line Kris [Grappendorf] took control and did what had to be done," Foley

said.

Jennifer Edelman led the team in scoring with 23. Kris and Heidi Grappendorf were both in double figures with 11 each.

Dana's 72-58 defeat of Dordt College Tuesday was a "great game for us," according to Foley. "It was a tremendous effort from our returning players and we had freshmen that came in and did a solid job."

Foley cited several players who had a good game for the Vikings. Senior Cathy Shaw gave her best offensive effort so far this season scoring 20 points. Edelman continues to be a steady force for the Vikings, Foley said.

Marcy Schwarten "came in and played hard," Foley said. Schwarten pulled in nine rebounds and scored key buckets for the Vikings.

"We have freshmen that are getting better all the time," Foley

added. Stacy Spencer and Brenda Mechels are two freshmen non-starters who saw playing time Tuesday night.

Kris Grappendorf was a scoring force with 19 points and Edelman tallied 14. Edelman also grabbed nine rebounds.

The Lady Vikings travel to Lakewood, Colo., to compete in the Colorado Christian Tourney this weekend.

"We will have two very, very tough games," Foley said. "We need to go to the gym with our defensive effort at its best. If we can play as well defensively there as we have been, we'll be in pretty good shape."

Dana meets up with South Dakota Tech (5-1) tonight. Colorado College and Colorado Christian are the other two teams in the tournament.

The Vikings take a 4-1 record into the tourney.

What's Happening This Week? December 4-10

F

RIDAY

10 a.m. Chapel, PM 318
10 a.m. D.O.C.S. Christmas party, Dragon's Head
11 a.m. Jazz composer, Bill Thompson, Dragon's Head
Women's basketball, Colorado Christian Tourney

S

ATURDAY

All Day Wrestling at Fort Hays
7:30 p.m. Men's basketball at Sioux Falls College
Women's basketball, Colorado Christian Tourney

S

UNDAY

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS
7 p.m. Jamaican Jam Christmas party, MFAC

M

ONDAY

DEAD DAY--NO CLASSES
10 a.m. Chapel, PM 318
2 p.m. Twister tournament, Argo Lounge

T

UESDAY

Final examinations begin

W

EDNESDAY

11 a.m. Chapel, PM 318
7:30 p.m. Men's basketball, Mt. Marty College at Dana

T

HURSDAY

10 a.m. "Heart of Dana" Campus Coffee, CC



ALL YOU CAN EAT

GODFATHER'S PIZZA

FOR \$3!! BUY YOUR TICKETS

TODAY AT NOON IN THE CAMPUS CENTER



Politoons by Plowman



Yes, Somalia, there is a Santa Claus

By Matt Plowman
Art Editor

The Christmas season is finally here with Advent. For students and teachers it means a well-deserved break; but for the rest of the world it means a time for awaiting the Christ child and a spirit of giving—beginning with God's gift of life and grace. Though I must admit in America, other motives are afoot.

Our generation is unfortunately following a generation of the "Me Era". Efforts to help neighbors, build community life, become stewards of the environment, and be civic servants have fallen to selfish attitudes. Today people ignore community service, dodge taxes for social programs or education and walk by the sick or homeless.

For a generation, and continuing, Americans have looked inward into their selves and their own needs, blinding themselves to the needs of others. People in the last 20 years have had to "find themselves" in an effort to build a preconceived, ideal character by a wandering search for something that seems to them lost.

I was fortunate to grow up in

an area where this rarely occurred. People there held hard convictions and let work gloves, life, and a simple faith mold their person instead of an inner, blind search.

There has also been a movement in America to create controversy, not for any real purpose—but out of a fear of not being remembered. Many Americans feel they will be forgotten if they don't shock people and push societal limits. It is one thing to rebel because of conviction in issue, it is another to rebel for the sake of rebellion—which is only vanity.

So what does all this have to do with Somalia, a poor civil-war infested, starving country at the horn of Africa? The answer becomes apparent when one learns that many Americans are opposing Christmas efforts to militarily secure the nation (with UN backing) and get supplies and medicine into the interior.

By the end of the year mortality for the Somalians will equal the population of Nebraska. What are the reasons for opposition? Opponents have stated that helping Somalia isn't in our national interests—in other words, it's not going to affect us, so why help them?

It becomes quickly apparent that it isn't our politicians or foreign policy that is to blame for this immorality, but the selfish inner turn of the American people. We are more concerned with being popular (or radical) or owning a CD player than we are with helping others. For most this is their constitutional right, but for Christians this is unacceptable. Many times constitutional freedom and Christian mission come into conflict; this is one of them.

Somehow this nation has got to tap into the Christmas spirit of giving; and Christians need to follow their Lord's example of giving life. Politically, if we can't or won't do this because of economic or military priorities, then we need to entrust the United Nations with more power and resources so that the world can step in for Somalia.

We as Americans, one way or another, need to throw our selfish needs aside (and maybe the almighty dollar) to give a gift. So we can at last, in the spirit of Christmas and Christ, say "Yes, Somalia, there is a Santa Claus."

Elderhostel patron expresses concerns

My evaluation of this period and program would be as follows:

Ruth Sather, the hands-on-in-charge person was kind, considerate, efficient and charming. Under her care and tutelage nothing was lacking in creature comforts.

The faculty showed not only excellence and proficiency in their respective disciplines, they manifested a seriousness not usually found in such programs, e.g., where ethical and moral questions were raised, they faced them squarely and honestly. They also took great care to understand and make allowance for [participants] such as myself—the superannuated pursuing advance studies in the liberal arts, which is what the Elderhostel program is by definition.

The Dana College campus is a lovely setting that would be enhanced by more trees. One is surprised to find such a place rather barren of trees. The construction in progress, I realize makes it difficult to keep the place tidy, but surely a cursory check of the grounds around the buildings would eliminate the empty beer bottles and used (I guess) condoms just outside the window at Mickelsen Hall.

"Alright gang. Company's coming. Let's police the grounds."

As to the general tone and style and spirit of Dana College of the liberating arts—the studies that liberate from ignorance, fear, superstition and violence, one dare offer the following observations after a short week of taking notes.

1. The cheery "Hi" is noticeably absent from students on this campus. Much fewer than a third of those encountered face-on said hello. (I kept score because at St. Avilla in Kansas City the students were unfailingly friendly.)

2. Perhaps this studious avoidance of common civility results from another observation I couldn't avoid, i.e., the young here seemed distracted or preoccupied. One couldn't help speculating, "What is it that is so compelling, so all-consuming of the inner self of these young people that they seem lost to the present moment? What is it? Fear of the future? Fear of failure in class? (No one fails today, do they?) Could it be the still, small voice arousing shame and remorse for failure to meet the demands of probity and rectitude in personal and academic life?" Something, along with the nearly complete absence of books has the young

appearing to the just anyone walking by on the street—they don't obviously appear to be students.

3. The segregation in the dining hall probably indicates segregation in the dorms also. To an old civil rights activist this is sad and seeming proof of his daughter's half humorous, half serious observation, "All your time, energy and money spent on behalf of the poor was wasted. You should demand your money back from the NAACP." She was only half serious, of course.

4. Finally, if education is character, not just mere training in the skills and profession, but character, i.e., we are changed for the better and that change can begin the first day on campus for the serious students. Surely no one comes to a campus like Dana College determined to leave after four years the same person as when she or he arrived. Surely such intellectual obscurantism, such emotional obtuseness is self-defeating and renders null and void the best efforts of the best minds the human race has produced.

Something of a start in the character change process on the Dana College campus should be to silence the sounds of cultural barbarism polluting the air with

the noise of rock music. These pestilential sounds coming from the upper rooms of Mickelsen Hall violate the air space of all who are forced to endure the poison. A first civilized step in the kind of character that should come from this setting should be the use of headphones for those reluctant to leave the jungle sounds behind.

Paul Douglas
Elderhostel program
November 1992

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Art portfolio. 31 x 23 zipper case in excellent condition. \$20 or best offer. 426-2252

This is the final *Hermes* of the fall semester. I would like to thank all reporters and contributors for all their hard work. The next issue of the *Hermes* will be January 15.



HERMES



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Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments by calling (402) 426-7328, or via Dana College, Box 1086, Blair, NE 68008. Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday to be printed in the weekly issue.