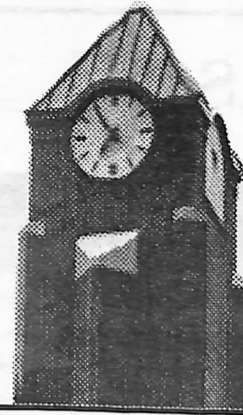


**WHAT'S
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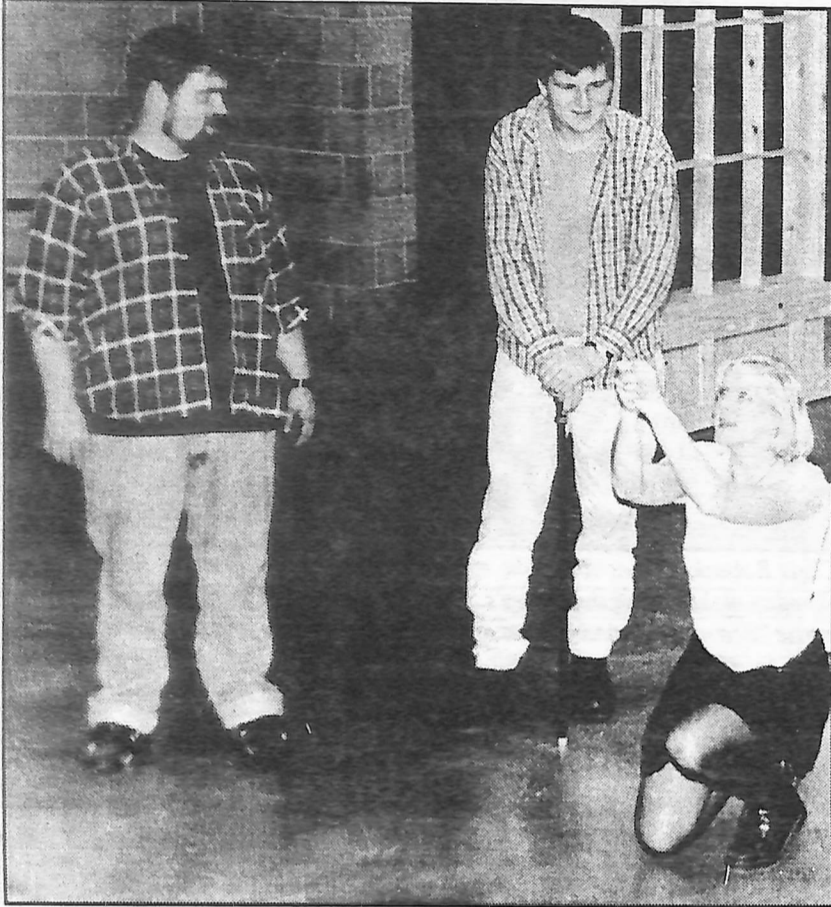
- > Mayo sheds some light on the mailroom's operations
- > Vikings end season 12-20
- > Graduating seniors get prepared to graduate with a list of responsibilities
- > "Star Wars" a thrill for old and young fans

HERMIES



Vol. 77 No. 15
February 28, 1997

DANA COLLEGE



Sonny Larsen, Jason Heft and Elizabeth Moberg practice a scene for the upcoming Dana College Theatre Department's production, "Much Ado About Nothing." (photo by Chris McCain)

Low enrollment causes weekend college degree to be phased out

JANET REISDORFF
Graphic Editor

Weekend college degrees will soon be a thing of the past at Dana. Starting this year, the weekend college degree offering will be phased out.

Low enrollments over the last few years have led school administrators to re-evaluate the overall degree-seeking program. They concluded that without investing major resources towards improvement of the program, it is not feasible for the future. While the actual degree program will be

phased-out, evening and weekend courses will continue to be offered as needed.

The decision arose after lengthy discussions of the subject in the last few years. Paul Formo, Academic Dean, sights one of the largest factors for the low enrollments at Dana as distance. "The structure of adult programs is changing. The delivery is now being taken to the students," said Formo. "Some are becoming less place oriented whereas we are very place and time oriented."

Another large variable Formo noted was the cost of enrollment. Formo said, "Most (weekend college) pro-

grams are sustained by the strength of businesses who pay their way. We are not attracting the number of students from Omaha that we anticipated." With such few people enrolled, the college can no longer afford to offer courses towards a weekend college degree.

Since the weekend college degree program began at Dana in the fall of 1986, several other area colleges also began to incorporate adult-oriented programs, lessening the interest many would find at Dana. Registrar Nancy Penna gave another reason for the

See Weekend, page 2

Lil' weekend activities for lil' siblings

CARLA JO KRANCE
Business Manager

Dana's campus was the site for lil' siblings last weekend. This traditional event, sponsored by RHA (Residence Hall Association), was a weekend full of activities for Dana students and their siblings. There were about 20 siblings who attended the kick-off event on Friday night, which featured the video "Toy Story" and ice cream sunades in Mickelsen.

Waking up bright and early Saturday morning, students and their siblings enjoyed cereal and cartoons. From there it was time for crafts in the Dragon's Head. This included sand art, friendship bracelets, puppets, and other crafts. "The sand art was the most popular activity during craft time but they seemed to enjoy them all," said Julie Seeba, RHA president.

The siblings then had the option of swimming before the carnival. The carnival was attended by about

20 participants. Games included pick up ducks, ring toss, Nerf basketball, darts, and card games and board games, with candy as the prizes. The highlight of the carnival was toy fishing and a balloon pop at the end.

"Overall, the weekend went pretty good. It's amazing how exhausting it is to be around kids all weekend. I had a good time, but it's good to be done too," said Denecia Siemers, treasurer of RHA.

RHA is sponsored by JoAnn Beck.

Who decides on athletic scholarships?

JOHAN WINDMULLER
Reporter

Have you ever wondered if it is possible to be accepted into college based on athletic ability alone? Is it true that as long as you can perform well in athletics you will be alright in the world of higher learning? Did you ever catch yourself thinking that athletes receive special treatment?

These questions are often asked in regards to the athletic program at any given college or university in America, but how can they be answered at Dana?

According to Viking football coach and recruiter, Larry Brown, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics has set standards any prospective athlete must meet in order to be accepted and compete at any school associated with them. These guidelines are: a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average, a minimum score of 18 on the ACT and a minimum class ranking in the top half of his/her class. A prospective student-athlete has to meet a minimum of two out of the three.

These guidelines alone make it important to keep academics in mind when looking for athletes to play at Dana. Coach Brown also pointed

out the fact that Dana's guidelines for acceptance are even higher than the minimum standard set by the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics. At Dana any student has to have a 19 on the ACT to be accepted compared to the minimum score of 18 set by the NAIA.

Coach Brown also made it clear that he, as a recruiter, pays close attention to grades as well as playing ability when looking for future players for Dana. He said, that in his opinion, smarter students make better athletes and the student athletes with the higher GPA's are more likely to stay in school for the full four years. "We make it clear that school comes first and that getting a degree is more important than football...but of course we would like to win a few games along the way too."

Dana mens' basketball headcoach, Dave Jense, also stressed the importance of looking for prospects with high academic achievements. Coach Jensen looks for players who meet the standard for receiving an academic scholarship, which are a 3.0 GPA and a 21 on the ACT.

According to Coach Jensen this works two ways; first, by receiving an academic award, the student will receive more total financial aid, and



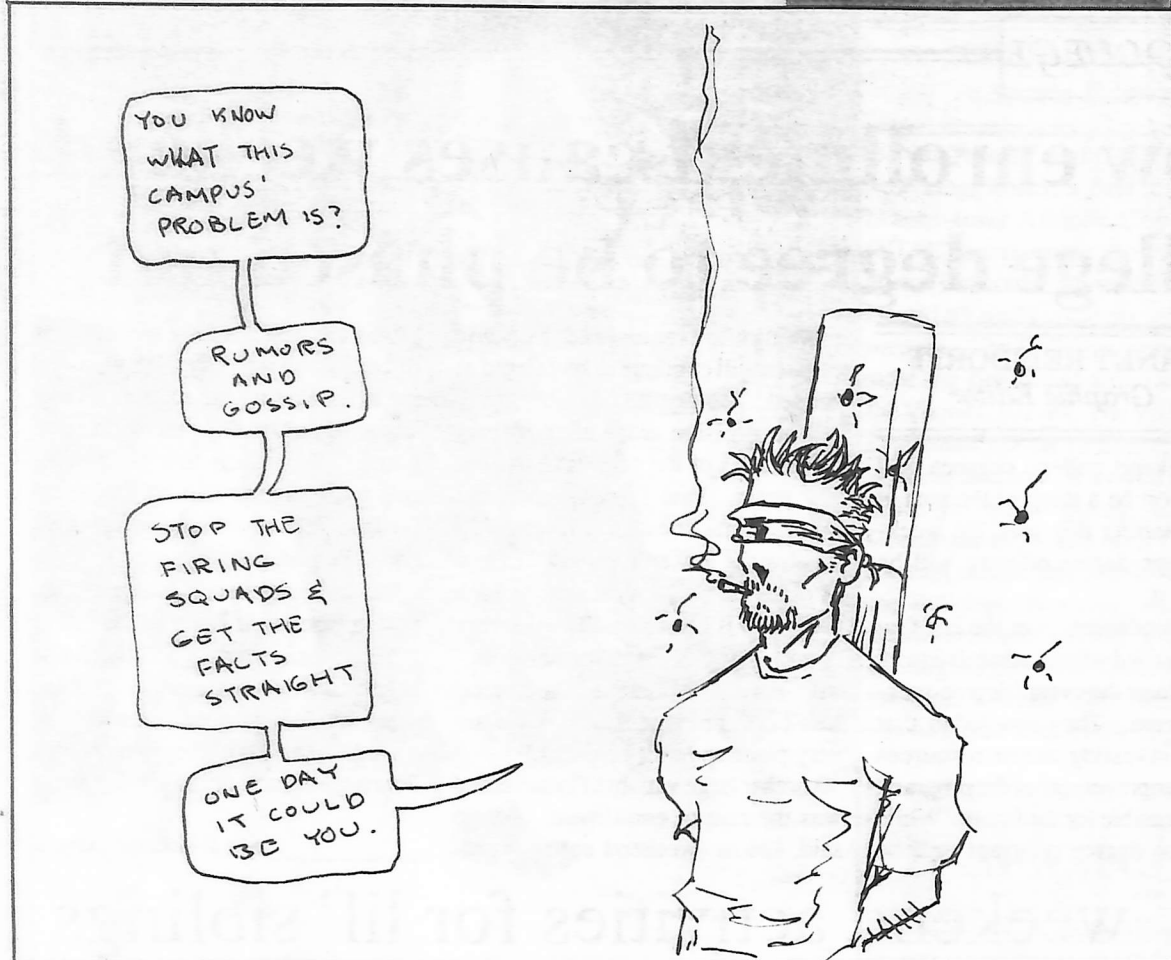
Nina Papousek and her little brother Tyler eat breakfast last Saturday morning for cartoons and cereal in the Dragon's Head for Little Siblings' week. (photo by Janet Reisdorff)

See Athletes, page 3

COMIC NOIR

gee-whiz!

© 1997 Max Riffner



Chris Boback of Lincoln spoke to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on Monday night during the group's meeting. He showed the group part of the movie "Braveheart" and encouraged the members to stand up for their faith when faced with adverse situations in life. (photo by Janet Reisdorff)

Star Wars trilogy remembered

HEATHER OLSEN
MOVIE REVIEW

"A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away..." With the re-release of George Lucas's hit films, "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back," many old and new fans flocked to the theater to see those famous opening words span across the big screen. Star Wars, now digitally remastered with added footage, is once again the box office leader.

I was one of the lucky fans who actually got the opportunity to see both films on opening night. I was only a

toddler when the "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back" opened and have only seen the films appear on a television screen. I grew up with Star Wars action figures, wanted my hair to be like Princess Leia's and wanted to marry Mark Hamill. (As I look back I realize I would have been happier with Harrison Ford). I was mesmerized with Star Wars, like much of the world. Our society loves this heroic, good vs. evil, good wins story with cool special effects. When I watched the movie with SDDS (Sony Dynamic Digital Sound) I found I loved it even more. The sound of the battle scenes was so clear and

so overwhelming, I could feel the vibration in my chest. The special effects, which were ground breaking at the time of the filming, are today still unbelievably sophisticated. The added scenes helped complete the films by giving the viewer background information and by smoothing transitions.

I would definitely recommend "Star Wars," "The Empire Strikes Back," and the soon to be re-released "The Return of the Jedi" to any fan, old or new. You can discover for yourself why many critics have called the Star Wars Trilogy, one of the greatest film sagas of all time.

Weekend

Continued from page 1

recent disinterest, "People are less willing to give up weekends. There are also so many other adult programs in Omaha now."

Penna states there are less than 10 students close to degree completion and they were notified of the phase-out earlier this week. For those who can complete their degrees in a reasonable amount of time, courses will be offered to them as needed. "Those who enrolled in the fall will be facilitated to day program or another program. We will do the best we can to serve their needs," said Formo.

No new students will be accepted at Dana in a weekend college program, but as Penna states, "Students who are currently in the program may be disappointed, but the numbers are so low, it won't affect a large number of people."



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HERMES

DANA COLLEGE

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Hermes is written and published by students of the Dana College Communication-Print Media Department on Fridays during the fall and spring academic year. Content of the paper is developed independently of the student government, faculty and administration and does not reflect the policies of those groups. Opinions expressed in Hermes are not necessarily those of the editors, college or the college community.

Hermes welcomes letters to the editor expressing all original points of view. Hermes reserves the right to edit all letters according to space availability. All letters must include the author's name and address. Under certain circumstances Hermes may respect requests to have names omitted at time of publishing.

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

International students experience Dana College

BIAMA SABIYA
Reporter

Dana college has admitted students from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Namibia, Denmark, Japan, Nigeria, England, Canada, Tanzania, Equador and Chile.

International students and minorities on campus express satisfaction about the learning techniques and skills they have aquired. They express satisfaction of being in the college, having high skilled lecturers, bringing cultural acceptance to the community and Dana college, specifically, through the president Dr. Myrvin Christopherson, and the director of multi-cultural affairs Don-Fanon Chaney-Thomas, as

well as the administrative staff of the college.

The students express that Dana College is a challenging environment that teaches leadership quality to all students, bringing cultural acceptance, and cultural learning and values.

The students note that the lecturers are preparing students for the real world to be faced after graduation. They also note that they need more than just to learn, but to have the skills of learning techniques, knowledge, capability and expeirience to serve with the acquired knowledge.

The students also considered Dana College the very best school to learn and have the knowledge with proper understanding and skills.

Graduation draws near for seniors

AMY GERKEN
Reporter

For seniors, graduation is just around the corner. With so many things to get done and plan for, there is little time left to enjoy before getting out into the "real world." The time at Dana has gone by faster than expected. Some never thought saying "I can't wait to finish college" almost everyday for the last four years would make it come any faster.

Of the 180 students who started as freshmen in 1993 at Dana, only 52.2 percent of us have stayed and will graduate this year, according to statistics kept by John Scheuth. So what happened to the other 47.8 percent? Some just dropped out, more have transferred, and many are now taking five years to graduate.

The seniors should be thankful that we made it this far and appreciate what it took to get here. The registrar's office lists a total of 114 seniors who have applied for graduation This does include incoming transfers and fifth year seniors. Anyone who is nine credit hours short of 128 can go through commencement. Although this number may vary between now and commencement, the Class of 1997 will be one of the largest in almost 10 years.

What do seniors achieve by graduating from college? Well, most would probably consider a good job, right? Then there is the \$17,125 debt the average student has out in financial aid. The Financial Aid Office will reassure you though by letting you know you are not required to start payments until six months after graduating. Start saving now for the \$210 monthly payments you'll

be making for the next ten years.

Hopefully, the seniors will have jobs where they can make enough to pay off our loans and still survive. Even though about 90 percent of them do not already have jobs in line, there are ways to get help. Career Services assists many students in putting resumes together, prepare one for interviews, and help one find a job within your field. Last year 87 percent of the seniors used some part of Career Services. By the time the Class of 1996 graduated 74 percent had jobs. Within six months after graduation, Career Services reports that 98 percent were employed within their field.

By Sunday, May 18, the Seniors will be relieved it is over. Even though there are people and things they will miss, it is important for them to take the next step in their lives and start a new beginning.

Athletics

Continued from page 1

second, the smarter student will be a better player in the long run.

Coach Jensen summed it up by stating: "If I have to choose between two prospects of about equal playing ability, I will always choose the one with the better academic record."

Dana women's basketball coach, Kris Grappendorf has taken academic standards for her athletes to an even higher level.

When a player joins the women's basketball team she receives a hand-out of academic conduct guidelines. This handout makes it clear that the primary goal of the team is for each student to graduate from Dana College and it states that simply meeting the minimum NAIA standards is not an acceptable goal for the student-athlete on the team.

Coach Grappendorf also makes use of a class attendance policy which follows the following guide-

lines: after a total of three absences, the player will be suspended for one game; after four absences, the player will be suspended for three games; and after five absences the player will be dismissed from the team. This means that any member of the team that has five unexcused absences from her classes will be asked to leave the team.

The players' grades are reviewed at mid-term and at semester and if any one receives a GPA under at 3.0, or receives any D's or F's, the player has to report to the learning center five days per week for one hour.

Dana athletic director, Kathy Foley, also said that academics are of major importance. She said that it comes down to the student athlete with the higher grades will be the one who stays all four years and that is what Dana is looking for.

Court Lovato, a junior basketball player, said that athletes at Dana do

not receive any special favors and are even looked down upon at times. "It sometimes feels like you have to prove yourself in the classroom because you are an athlete."

As a non-athlete, sophomore Jennifer Schoonover does not feel that athletes are treated any differently than any other student on campus. She said, "Special treatment of athletes may be happening here but I have never noticed it."

Admissions Counselor, Bobby Loud, stated that anyone wishing to play sports at Dana goes through the exact same process for admissions as anyone else. "There is no special treatment for athletes here... participating in a sport is a privilege."

All the sources interviewed agreed that athletes receive the exact same treatment as anyone else at Dana and that it is impossible to get through college here on athletic ability alone.

Campus Events

February 28-March 6

FRIDAY

9 p.m. Natalie Cote Band Concert, Borup

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Baseball at Kansas Wesleyan
7 p.m. Name That Tune contest

SUNDAY

11 a.m. Worship, Trinity Chapel
1 p.m. Baseball at Bethany, KS
6:15 p.m. Student Senate Book-a-thon

MONDAY

6:15 p.m. Student Senate Book-a-thon
7 p.m. Senate Candidate Forum, Linden Room

TUESDAY

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Bloodmobile, Argo
6:15 p.m. Student Senate Book-a-thon
7 p.m. Mock Interviews

Mayo provides explanations to mailroom frustrations

GREG KELLOGG
Reporter

Have you ever been frustrated by the amount of time it takes to receive U.S. mail? If so, then you're not alone. Nearly all Dana students experience this at one time or another throughout the year. Before you take it out on Mary Mayo, Communications Center Coordinator in the Information Booth, understand that the fault lies at the Blair Post Office.

Mayo says that all incoming mail arrives at the Blair Post Office and is separated into Dana mail. The Dana Maintenance Department picks up Dana's mail each morning from the

Post Office. Once it arrives in the information booth, it is sorted again according to the box number, and finally placed in the students' mailboxes.

Mayo suggests that students wanting to receive mail from off-campus should include Dana College in the address. This will speed up the delivery and cause less confusion at the Post Office.

If a student knows that he/she will be moving, they should fill out a change of address form. This will ensure that they receive their mail within a reasonable amount of time. If a student is expecting a package from home, he/she can notify the information booth. One of the staff

members can contact the Blair Post Office, and they can sort the package properly and speed up delivery time.

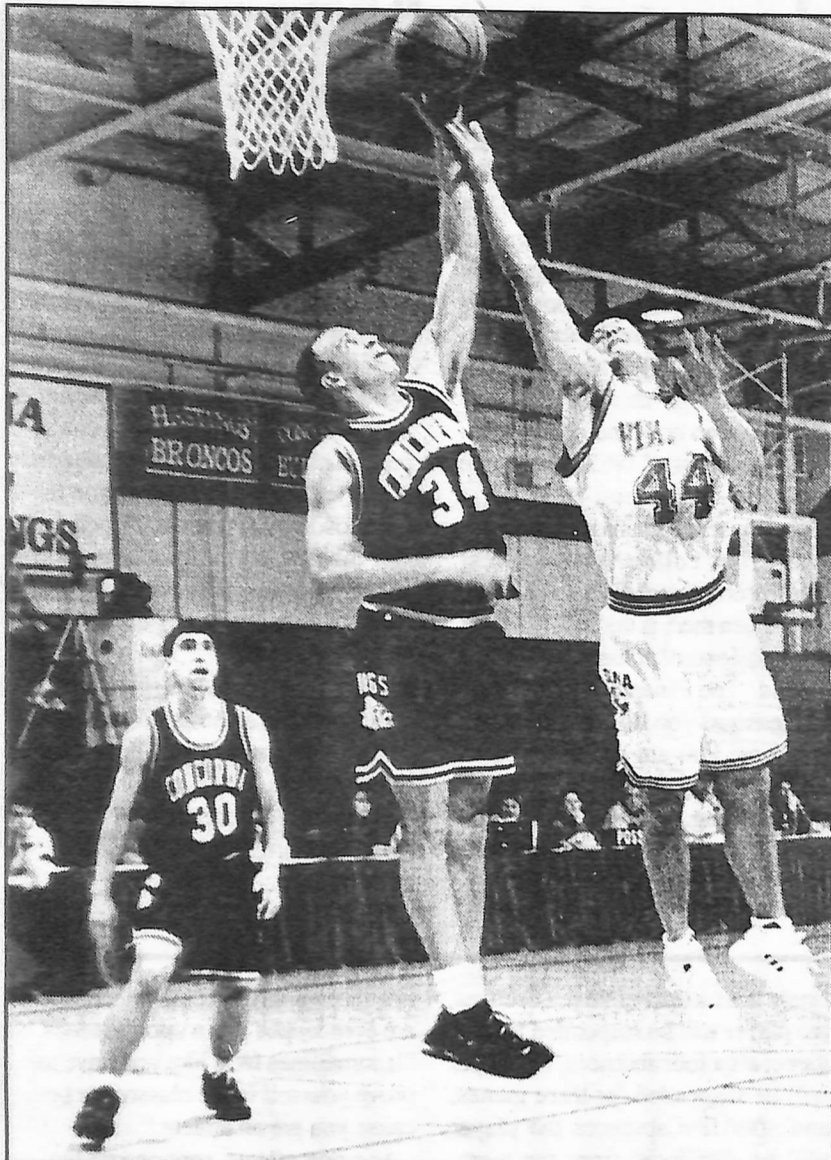
This year, campus mail is sent much faster compared to last year. There is always someone in the information booth that sorts and delivers mail to the mailboxes. Last year, when the mail room and information booth were separate, the times available to pick up or send mail was limited.

Although it may seem to take awhile to receive mail, it is much quicker compared to last year. Many improvements have been made and things are much smoother. So the next time your package is late or missing, think twice before taking your frustration out on Ms. Mayo.

Applications being sought for Senate Executive Staff

Applications are available for those wishing to run for Student Senate Executive Staff. The positions include president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. All applicants must be of junior status by next fall, have a 2.5 GPA, not on any form of probation and be in full time attendance at Dana for at least a semester.

These applications are available in the Information Booth and are due by 5 p.m. today. An open forum will be held for all those running on March 3 in the Linden Room at 7 p.m.



Michael Babbitt goes up for a layup against Concordia. (photo by Heather Olsen)

Vikings stunned as Concordia steals tournament win Tuesday

CHRIS CHANCE
Sports Editor

On Tuesday night, the Dana Vikings hosted a first-round Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC) tournament game. Dana hosted Concordia in a match-up of the #4 and #5 seeds in the six team tournament. The Bulldogs came in and stole the first-round win away from the Vikings, 101-99. The Vikings finished their season 12-20 overall.

In the first half, it looked as if the Vikings were going to blow Concordia away with an 8-0 lead in the first minute and a half. Quickly, the Bulldogs came charging back to score seven unanswered points. The scoring output by both teams made the game a thriller. The Vikings took the half-time lead of 54-53, but not

before an exciting first half of big plays. In the first half, both teams shot an amazing 54 percent combined.

In the second half, neither team led by more than four points in the final ten minutes. The Vikings were controlled by foul trouble to add even more frustration to the game. Shawn Fasbender, Michael Babbitt, and James Walsh all had three fouls to start the second half.

In the final five minutes, each team traded punches to take the lead but neither team would take the fall. Concordia led 96-92 with less than three minutes to go. The Vikings were able to pull away the 97-96 lead on a Nathan Babbitt three-pointer with two minutes left. On Concordia's final possession with the Vikings leading 99-98 with 22.5 seconds to go, Nathan Babbitt almost

sealed the victory with a steal but Concordia's Jeff Larson maintained possession of the loose ball and passed it to Jason Boyd who passed to Ben Limback for an open three-pointer. This gave Concordia a 101-99 lead. With 4.4 seconds to go in the game, Dana had one last chance to run one play. Dana's Chris Cundiff took the inbound pass to half court then passed to Nathan Babbitt and Nathan Babbitt's three-point attempt rattled in and out of the rim as the crowd's hearts sank in defeat.

Seniors Nathan Babbitt and Fasbender played in their final collegiate basketball game. Nathan Babbitt scored 39 points, had eight rebounds, and six assists. Fasbender added 16 points and eight rebounds. Bryant Marchese also was in double figures with 10 points.

Tracksters score big at conference meet

JENNIFER SCHOONOVER
Reporter

Dana runner Ben Sandy continued to stack up medals on Saturday at the Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC) Indoor Track Championships in Lincoln.

Sandy won both distance races and bumped his total NIAC championship tally in men's track and cross country to seven. He scored 20 team points out of the 33 total for Dana, and placed fifth for the men's team standings in just the third year of competition under Coach Jay Birmingham.

For the Dana women's team, Amanda Buttry finished fourth in the mile run for the best effort of the day, and Amber Weber placed sixth in the high jump and

triple jump. The Dana Vikings scored six team points and finished seventh in the team race.

Sandy defended his two-mile indoor track championship from last season and added the indoor mile to his victory list as well. In the mile, Sandy ran away from the field early, but still finished with a strong time of 4:18.89, which was two seconds ahead of Doane's Brad Vogt. He challenged his competitors in the two-mile with his winning time of 9:35.77. Doane's Tyler Marsh timed six seconds behind with second place.

Max Grady established a Viking school record in the 880-yard run placing third with a time of 1:57.83. Jason Mitchell earned fourth-place honors in the men's 440 meter with a time of 52.36 seconds. This time was over two seconds better than the

previous Dana indoor record.

Will Hardin scored points for Dana in the long jump by placing fourth with his top leap of 22' 3 3/4". The Viking's mile-relay team added a team point by placing sixth in that event.

Buttry broke two Dana records including her fourth-place accomplishment in the mile. The sophomore finished with a time of 5:23.30, and broke the old school record by over nine seconds.

Weber set a school standard in the women's high jump by clearing 5-2, for sixth place. She also placed sixth in the triple jump with a top distance of 32' 3 3/4".

The final indoor track meet for the Dana Vikings will be the NAIA National Championships held at the Devaney Sports Center in Lincoln today and tomorrow.

Lady Vikes look to avenge loss

GREG KELLOGG
Reporter

The Lady Vikings traveled to Concordia Saturday for their last regular season game. The Bulldogs used clutch foul shooting to edge the Vikings 74-72 in overtime. Kim Wilken led Dana with 19 points, while hitting 6-of-10 from three-point range.

Susan Weddingfeld scored 17 points and had nine rebounds, while Jodi Bradley had 13 points. Sarah Klein led the Vikings in assists and steals with four apiece.

Dana led 64-61 when Concordia's Amy Masek was fouled on a three-point attempt with 19 seconds left in the game. Masek hit all three free throws to tie the game at 64. The Vikings had one last chance in regulation as Jennifer Dierks' jump shot

fell just short.

With three seconds left in overtime, and the score tied at 72, Concordia's Jami Hadwiger was fouled while scrambling for a loose ball.

Hadwiger sank both free throws to give Concordia a 74-72 lead. Dana never got the opportunity for a last-second shot, as the inbound pass was thrown away.

According to the latest Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference (NIAC) statistics, Jodi Bradley is fifth in assists and seventh in scoring. Susan Weddingfeld is third in field goal percentage, while Nichol Buenning and Kim Wilken are tied for sixth. Sarah Klein is second in free throw percentage, and Wilken is eighth. Jennifer Dierks is currently seventh in rebounding.

Tonight, the Vikings travel to Concordia for the first round of the NIAC post-season tournament.



Basketball player Greg Sealock directs some of the 'Lil Vikes basketball players during the Saturday night half-time show. (photo by Heather Olsen)

Intramural Basketball

6 p.m. Phat Boyz
vs.
Dream Team

Team Biff
vs.
Six Players &
Gump

7 p.m. Rebels
vs.
Wet Dream
Team

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