

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Spring break, a time to relax, travel, or make some money
- Softball team opens season with a split
- New Resident Assistants chosen for 1997-98
- Hensley named All-American

# HERMES

DANA COLLEGE



Vol. 77 No. 17  
March 14, 1997



Virginia Maher and Kelly Leimbach are studying in the nice weather on Monday in front of Holling Hall. (photo by Janet Reisdorff)

## Pioneer Memorial is set to be modernized

AMY BENEDICT  
Editor in Chief

How would you like to stand through a professor's lecture? What if you had to "take a number" to use the library's facilities or to find a place to sit and study? What if a windowsill was the only place to lay your notebook to take notes in class because of a lack of desks? Is this the way you would want your college academic life?

According to "A Place Called Dana," by Peter L. Peterson, this was the way Dana College was in 1946. The book explains that Old Main served the college as its sole educational facility, housing all the classrooms, science labs, a library, administrative and faculty offices, music practice rooms, a post office, a small student canteen, and a place for archives. Since enrollment had increased from 97 students in 1945 to 261 in the fall of 1946, Dana College was overcrowded in this one build-

ing. Due to the overcrowding of classrooms, increasing enrollment, more faculty, and inadequate space and facilities for the library, the Board of Trustees approved funds for a new administration and library building in 1946.

The architecture plans were completed by William Ingemann who adapted and modeled the building from a Scandinavian design. In 1947, Korshoj Construction Company of Blair began construction on the new building. Then in October of 1948, the \$270,000 building was finished and ready for occupancy.

Inside the new administration and library building was a library area that had space for 50,000 volumes, a reading room which seated 100 students, and the archive room. This area today is used for admission's offices and the classroom known as Parnassus on second floor of Pioneer Memorial. The building also contained all new administrative and fac-

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## Schneider on the road to recovery

JENNIFER SCHOONOVER  
Reporter

Dr. Paul Schneider, English professor and director of the theater dept., was hospitalized on February 25. Schneider underwent tests and the preliminary diagnosis was a cardiac viral infection. Since then the doctors have concluded that a deteriorated heart valve is the diagnosis, which will require replacement surgery, yet to be scheduled.

Dr. Schneider will not be teaching classes or directing the theater department for the rest of the semester. His classes are being taught by members of the English department. Dr. Ben Collins has been hired to teach the Shakespeare class, and Professor Sieg Krueger and Paul Smith are covering theater production.

The musical *Guys and Dolls* will continue as scheduled and will be directed by senior Tim Marsden. Dr. Schneider's recovery is anticipated to be two months, and he is expected to return for the fall semester.

## Student Program coordinators hired

LESLIE SCHROETER  
Reporter

New student program coordinators for Student Activities have recently been selected at Dana. There were five applicants for the three positions available. Those selected were sophomores Mandy Buttry and Janelle Kahl, and junior Ryan Holtam will return to the position.

The three were chosen by first submitting an application to Student Activities and then interviewing with the Dean of Student Life, two current program coordinators, and a representative from the Student Activities Advisory Board.

Applicants were required to have at least a 2.5 grade point average and be at least at sophomore status by next fall. They were chosen based on their concept of the purpose of student activities and on their other activities (whether or not they

would have enough time to dedicate to the position).

Student program coordinators assist Paulette Alderink, Student Activities Director, with everything from planning activities to budgeting. The job is a paid position that requires approximately 10 to 15 hours of work per week, including a one hour meeting and four hours of office work. Student program coordinators are responsible for planning activities, budgeting funds, implementing activities, and evaluating activities.

One of the requirements of the student program coordinators is attendance at the National Association of Campus Activities Regional Convention which is held in November.

"Being a student program coordinator has helped me a lot to learn to work with people, not only at Dana, but people from other colleges as well," stated Holtam.

## New Senate president ready to jump right in and get his feet wet

AMY BENEDICT  
Editor in Chief

The ballots were cast and Rodney Ronk was elected Student Senate president. He will begin his term April 2.

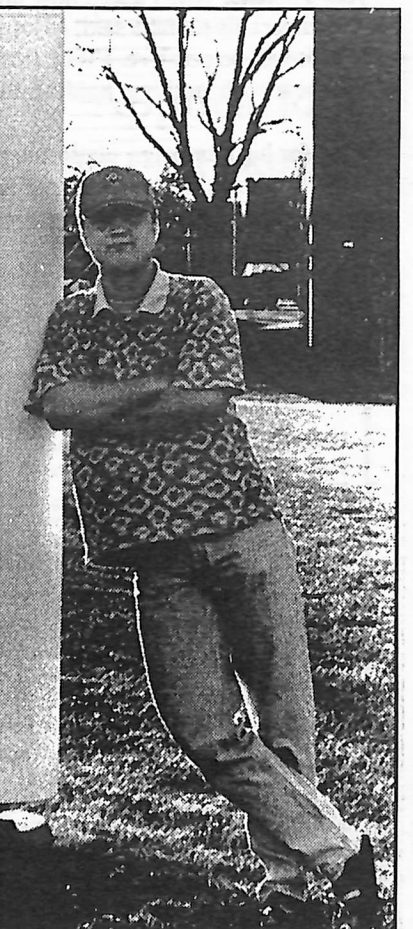
Ronk, an organizational communication and broadcast communication major from Emerson, Iowa, will be a fifth year senior next year. He said that ever since last year when he ran for president as a write-in candidate, and through being a resident advisor in Blair Hall, he had the sense he could lead people and be a positive influence on the student body. It is also his last opportunity in college to do something major. "I want to leave my mark and I am ready to get started," said Ronk.

To get ready to take on the role as Student Senate president, Ronk has been talking to different people who can give him insight on how the Senate functions and what his role is in Senate. "I am talking to faculty, Janet Reisdorff, current Senate President, Dr. Richard Jorgenson and other

See Ronk, page 2

## Dana College

- ← Borup Coliseum
- ← E. C. Hunt Campus Center
- Madsen Fine Arts Center
- Pioneer Memorial Admissions



Senior Rodney Ronk of Emerson, Iowa, was elected president of the Dana College Student Senate on March 5. (Photo by Heather Olsen)

## Women's History Month special; women in politics: then and now

JOHAN WINDMULLER  
Reporter

The month of March is National Women's History Month and the year 1997 marks the 80th anniversary of the first time a woman served in the House of Representatives. It also marks the 75th anniversary of the appointment of the first woman to serve in the United States Senate.

Jeannette Rankin was born in 1880 in California and died just a few days before her 93rd birthday in 1973 in Missoula, Mont.

Rankin became the first woman to serve in either of the two chambers of the U.S. Congress when she took office in 1917 after being elected as a Republican representative from Montana. Montana women became able to vote in 1914 and Rankin was elected in 1916 just two years later. It was not until 1920 that women in the entire country could legally vote.

Rankin was a graduate of the University of Montana and after completing her college degree she began social work in Seattle, Wash., in 1909. During the next five years she campaigned for women's suffrage in

Washington, California, and Montana and eventually became legislative secretary of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

Rankin served in Congress from 1917-19 and again from 1941-43 and The New Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 9, described her as a: "vigorous feminist, a pacifist and a crusader for social and electoral reform." Rankin is probably best known for being one of only 49 members of Congress to vote against declaring war on Germany in 1917. In 1941 she became the only legislator to vote against declaring war on Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor and this is considered the cause for the termination of her political career.

Rankin was also very active in the peace movement during the Vietnam War. On January 15, 1968, at the age of 87, she led a group of 5,000 women calling themselves the "Jeannette Rankin Brigade" on a march to Capitol Hill.

Rebecca Ann Felton (born Latimer) was born in 1835 near Decatur, Ga., and died in Atlanta in 1930.

After being appointed in 1922, at age 87, by Governor Hardwick of Georgia to fill the Senate seat left by

the death of Senator Thomas E. Watson, Felton became the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate.

Felton had graduated first in her class from the Madison Female College in Madison, Ga., in 1852 and married William H. Felton, a local doctor active in Democratic politics. She assisted her husband in his political career by writing speeches, planning campaigns and drafting legislation.

According to The New England Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 4, Felton promoted women's rights but was also known for her prejudice against blacks and Jews and for her advocacy of child labor and lynching.

Mrs. Felton only served two days, November 21-22, before being replaced by newly elected Senator Walter F. George.

Today, in 1997, the 105th Congress has 53 members of the House of Representatives that are women and the Senate has nine female members. The state of California has both Senate seats filled by women: Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

1997 also marks the first time in American history that a woman, Madeline Albright, has been sworn in as U.S. Secretary of State.

## New Resident Advisors hired for next year

JENNIFER BURGER  
Reporter

The new Resident Assistants for the 1997-98 school year were announced on Friday, March 7 after a long selection process. It all began on Prospective R.A. night, when students who were interested in becoming R.A.s came to learn about how to earn a position.

R.A. applications complete with references had to be turned in by the end of February. Cumulative grade point averages were confirmed with the Registrar's office and a check was made to see if any of the applicants were on academic or disciplinary probation.

Interviews were scheduled for the beginning of March. "At the end of the interview the applicant is asked for his or her top three choices for buildings. We try to follow those requests as closely as possible, but we staff according to need," said Trent Pikula, Housing Director.

After the decisions were made, the people who were turned down were notified first of the outcome. JoAnn Beck called and informed those who were offered a position on the staff. Janelle Kahl, the new R.A. on fourth floor Holling, said, "When JoAnn called to tell me I got the position, I was really surprised. I didn't think I'd get a position, much less the one I really wanted!"

Pikula admits that being an R.A. is a tough job. "The R.A.'s two biggest responsibilities are

### Resident Assistants for the 1997-98 school year

<b>Argo Hall</b>	
Jaclyn Smith	- second floor, Senior R.A.
Tara Stark	- third floor
Cheryl Karl	- fourth floor
<b>Blair Hall</b>	
Elaine Rivard	- first floor, Senior R.A.
Amy Benedict	- second floor
Brian Jones	- third floor
Moses Thompson	- fourth floor
<b>Holling Hall</b>	
Sara Crawford	- second floor north
Nina Papousek	- third floor north
Janelle Kahl	- fourth floor north
Bob Spangler	- second floor south
Shane Koepke	- third floor south
Matt Worley	- fourth floor south
<b>Mickelson Hall</b>	
Rich Martell	- second floor
Matt Oestmann	- third floor
Michelle Hurt	- fourth floor
Jennifer Williams	- fourth floor
<b>Rasmussen Hall</b>	
Gerd Bents	- second floor, Senior R.A.
Jason Heft	- third floor west
Heidi Torgerson	- second floor east
Deneen Schriver	- third floor east

being on duty and enforcing policy. It's hard to confront your peers about breaking the rules, especially if they get in 'trouble'. It's a very difficult job."

For Kahl, the good outweighs the bad, "I'm looking forward to getting paid, having my own room, and being a role model to the underclassmen on my floor. Plus by being on the staff I have an opportunity to make new friends."

## Ronk *Continued from page 1*

administrators," said Ronk. He is also encouraging both current Senate members and other students to run as Senate representatives. "I want to encourage people to run. I want people who aren't in Senate to be interested and get involved."

Ronk doesn't have any Senate experience in the past but believes this will have a positive influence on next year's Senate. When asked how this will impact his term he said, "Hopefully it will be positive. I'll be fresh and new with nothing holding me back."

As for big campaign platforms or goals Ronk said he wants to get his

feet wet first before making any commitments for change. "I don't have exact plans other than to get acquainted with everyone and get ground rules set. Hopefully this will get the Senate started off good and carry us through to next year," said Ronk.

He feels that the agenda for the remainder of this year and next year should come from the student body as a whole. Ronk said, "I can't claim to be everyone's voice because that would be 600 voices. However, I want to be the listener and give students the opportunity to be heard."

Being as "polite as heck" and ap-

proachable is what personality traits Ronk thinks will help him be a good listener. "I want to be impartial, a good listener, understand student's concerns and do my best to help. Hopefully, through my aggressive campaigning people saw me and know who I am," said Ronk.

Ronk would like to see more people begin to come to the meetings on Wednesday nights and get interested in Senate. "If only three or four students who are not in Senate come to the meetings and get involved because they are concerned with issues, it would be an improvement," said Ronk.

### THE SOWER WANTS YOU!

The Sower, a magazine of literary and visual arts, would like your submissions. Submissions may include short stories, essays, poems, or any form of art work including photographs, 2-D graphics, drawings or photographs of 3-D pieces.

\* Any visual art work should be submitted to Heather Olsen, Box 616

\* Written submissions should include one paper copy and one disk copy (preferably with WordPerfect format).

Send all submissions to Nicole Havens at Box 157 or to Dr. Kathleen McSharry, Box 1220 or her office, DCC 106

DEADLINE: March 21

# 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.

### Student Senate applications due Friday

Applications for those wishing to run for the 1997-98 Student Senate are being taken. Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- ✓ Have a 2.5 grade point average
- ✓ Be able to attend meetings on Wednesday nights
- ✓ Are not on academic or disciplinary probation

There are six positions open per class for next year's sophomores, juniors and seniors. Applications are available in the Information Center in the Campus Center and must be returned to Box 18. An open forum for all candidates will be on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Linden Room.

C O U P O N

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\*with purchase of a medium drink

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## Spring break lets students travel, rest, relax, shop and make money

JILL DEWALD  
Reporter

The hot sun beats down on your napping body. Your toes curl luxuriously into burning grains of sand as you sip on a tall thirst-quenching beverage. There is no homework, no jobs, no stress. It is just you, your friends and a carefree week of living in another world far away from reality.

Spring break is the time to escape, relax and remember who you are. Dana students will take retreat March 21 and return to campus March 31 when the dorms reopen.

Dana students will be scattered throughout the United States when the joyous time arrives.

Many sporting teams will be participating in tournaments according to coach Kathy Foley. The baseball team is traveling to Oklahoma and the softball team will compete in Texas.

Campus ministry is also making their annual trip to Texas to volunteer their time and energy to others, according to Gerd Bents, head of campus ministry.

If you are not involved in these trips, there are other opportunities to travel on spring break. According to Mike Neef of Carefree Travel in Blair, the best time to make plans is before Christmas. "The best air fare rates and package deals are available then. The air space that was once there is now gone. For example, I have someone now who may have to pay \$500 for a ticket that originally would have only been \$250."

Neef went on to say that if you did not make plans early there are still options that would be fun and inexpensive. He advises environmental activities such as hiking or camping depending on the weather. Snow skiing is also a popular choice among college students this year.

Another choice for students could include a visit to the Mall of America in Minnesota. Sophomores Joni Travis and Tiffany Menard plan to make this a big part of their spring break. Travis said, "First we are going to go through South Dakota to see some relatives and from there it's all shopping, shopping, shopping. I wouldn't have been able to afford it, but thanks to my tax return and relatives that are putting us up for the week, we should be able to

save quite a bit of money."

Seniors Rodney Ronk, Jeffrey Davidson, Michael Storjohann, and Freshman Moses Thompson will be traveling to Arizona to watch the Chicago Cubs during their spring training. Ronk said they also will save a lot of money while staying with Thompson's parents in Mesa, Ariz. "This is the first spring break trip in all my years at Dana," Ronk said. "I'm really excited. I just can't wait."

Other students have opted to stay home during the break. Sophomores Brett "Biff" Schofield and Pat Morris will use their break to earn money instead of spend it. Schofield said he will be at home in Ashland working on a neighbor's farm. He plans on feeding cattle and getting farm equipment ready for the spring planting season.

Morris said he plans on staying in Blair and working away his vacation at HunTel. Morris is an outbound telemarketing sales representative at HunTel.

Whether it be a long trip or just a break from classes, spring break allows students and faculty to clear their heads and get ready to finish out the semester.

## Pioneer

Continued from page 1

ulty offices, eight classrooms, the post office, and a large conference room. There were also two unfinished rooms that were designed for a future chapel and museum.

On Oct. 31, 1948, the administration and library building was dedicated. Later on Oct. 1, 1949, the building was formally named Pioneer Memorial and a metal plaque was placed on the building honoring A.M. Andersen, Kr. Anker, C.X. Hansen, P.S. Vig, G.B. Christiansen and "many other faithful men and women who contributed to the development and influence of Dana College and Trinity Seminary." The plaque remains on the building today.

Since that time, new buildings have been erected and Pioneer Memorial has been changed, but only through interior remodeling. For instance, in 1970, the library was relocated to C.A. Dana-Life Library and new offices were built in its place.

The next remodeling project for Pioneer Memorial is a new elevator. Robert Schmoll, vice president for business affairs, said the elevator is needed to gain better passage to the upper floors. "It will improve access to more offices and the classrooms on second and third floors," said Schmoll.

Ruth Rasmussen, library director who began her first job at Dana in the library in Pioneer Memorial said an elevator is needed for students and faculty that may have difficulty in climbing stairs and adds to our American Disabilities Act compliance.

Business affairs administrators have had the plans for a new elevator for three years. The architecture plans were completed by RDG Schutte Wilscam Birge of Omaha but the college was waiting for special funding which has just recently been donated.

"We are hoping to have construction start after finals and completed

during the summer," said Schmoll. All offices will remain open through the construction and remodeling.

The total cost, according to Schmoll is approximately \$180,000 coming from grants and gifts restricted for this purpose. "Tuition and fees do not pay for any type of renovation," said Schmoll.

The administrators who work in Pioneer Memorial couldn't be happier about the plans for the new elevator.

"It will allow handicap students to come up and see us personally as well as parents," said Pam Shelton, a financial aid counselor whose office is on the second floor. Shelton also said it will help with Sights and Sounds, Dana College's annual Christmas celebration, since the marketplace is on the second floor. "It will allow people to come who wouldn't otherwise be able to climb the stairs," said Shelton.

Ann George, director of alumni affairs, whose office is on the third floor of Pioneer Memorial said she likes climbing the stairs for exercise but understands the need of having an elevator available. "I was on crutches a few years ago and it would have been great having an elevator at that time," said George.

Some students had not heard of the new elevator plans yet but felt that it was a good idea. "It helps add diversity and make our campus more handicapped accessible," said Heather Kelley, a senior from Omaha.

Patrick Finigan hopes the elevator idea will spread to other buildings on campus. "I think they should pay more attention to the dorms and make them more suitable for the handicap," said Finigan, a junior from Omaha.

Jenny Siegner, a sophomore from Vail, Iowa did not think the elevator would impact students. "It is a good idea for the administration workers but I don't know how it would benefit a lot of students," said Siegner.

## Campus Events

March 14-20, 1997

### FRIDAY

Midterm

Noon "Women, the Caregivers," Blue/Gold Room  
8:30 p.m. Movies at Supersaver 8, Campus Center

### SATURDAY

Noon Baseball vs Hastings, Petersen Field  
1 p.m. Softball vs Midland, Zimmerman Field  
7 p.m. Family Fun Center, Campus Center

### SUNDAY

4 p.m. Music Department Recital  
11 a.m. Worship, Chapel  
Noon Baseball vs Mount Marty, Petersen Field  
2:15 p.m. Adopt-A-Grandparent, Campus Center

### MONDAY

St. Patrick's Day

### TUESDAY

11 a.m. Worship, Chapel  
4:30 p.m. Softball vs Morningside, Zimmerman Field

### WEDNESDAY

4 p.m. LARP speaker, Forum  
2:30 p.m. Baseball at Wayne State  
5 p.m. Softball vs St. Mary's, Zimmerman Field  
7 p.m. Movies, Linden Room

### "Hermes Question of the Week"

If you owned your own restaurant, what kind of food would you serve?

Send answers to (acad2/HERMES) or Box 514 by 5 p.m. Wednesday for free meals at the Toll House.

(Last weeks winner, Dennis Pinkelman)



Jon Ruff plays hackysack outside of Mickelsen Hall on Monday. (photo by Heather Olsen)

## Applications being taken for campus media

Positions within Dana campus media organizations are now available to students for the 1997-98 year. Positions available are:

- \* Hermes editor
- \* Danian editor
- \* Survival Guide editor
- \* KDCV program manager
- \* DTV program manager

All are paid positions and anyone is eligible to apply. Applications are available at the Information Booth and are due by noon on Friday, March 21.

## Wrestlers have success at nationals

CARLA JO KRANCE  
Business Manager

Seven dedicated wrestlers represented Dana at the NAIA National Championships in Jamestown, N.D. last weekend. After a strong showing at nationals, the wrestlers returned home with a second and seventh place finish, and a page in history.

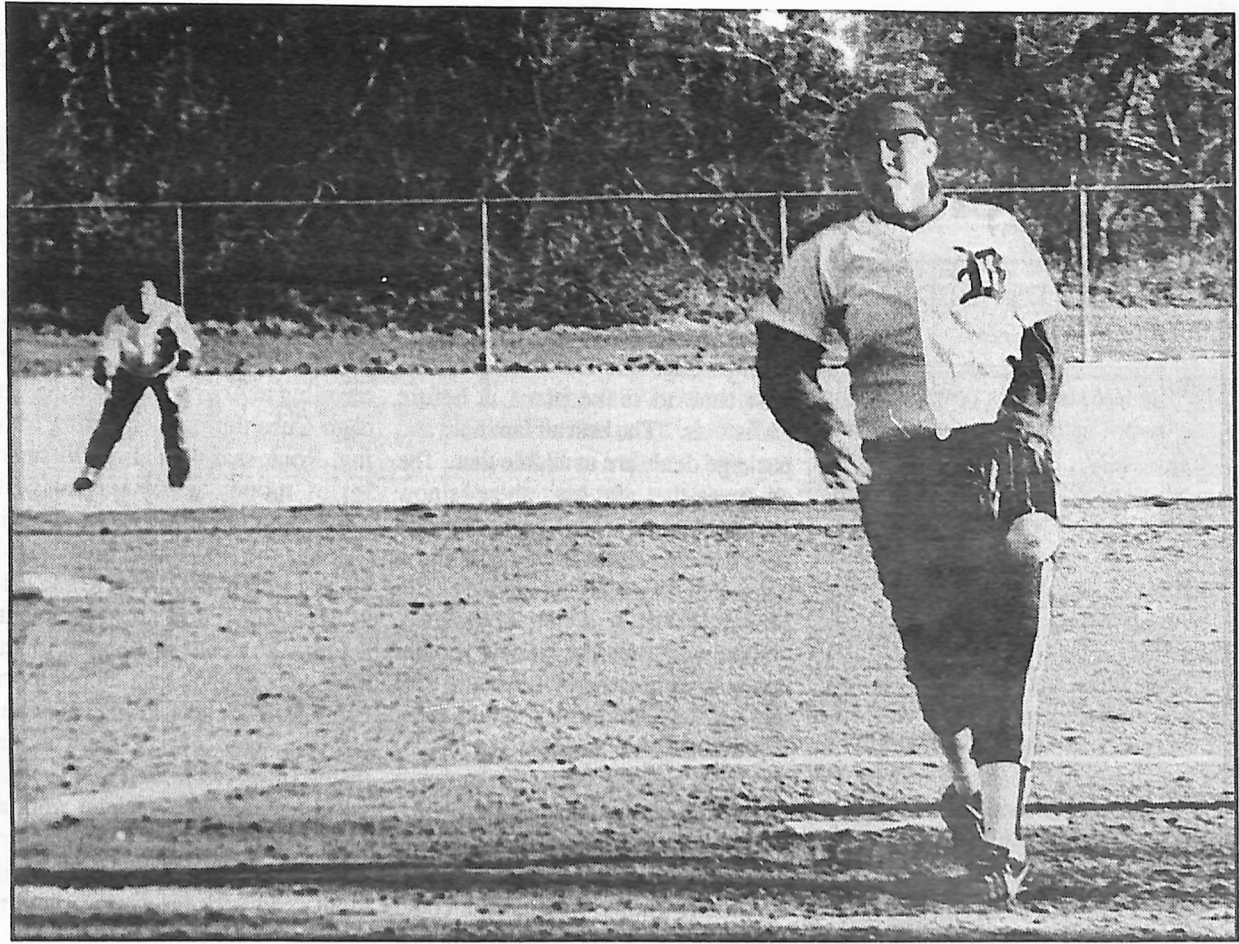
Andy Hensley, with a career record of 101-42, became Dana's first ever national finalist. The exciting match ended 6-4 against Brent Muller of Missouri, with Hensley taking second place in the nation. He also became the first Dana wrestler to be All-American in wrestling for two years.

Steven Jenny finished seventh and ended his first season at Dana with a record of 23-14. Other Viking wrestlers who scored points

at nationals were Justin Smith and Chad Greguras. Greguras, a sophomore from Seward, was impressed with the performance at nationals by Dana. "I was really impressed with the team's performance. We all stepped up to another, more intense and difficult level. This is especially necessary at nationals because of the high degree of competition and skill."

Dana was also represented by Jeremy Rine, Shawn Issacs and Mike Bising. These wrestlers all went 0-2 at the national meet.

After a long but successful season, the Viking wrestlers should be commended on their dedication and commitment. Wrestlers have an intense level of self-control, which is necessary to be successful in this unforgiving sport, and Dana wrestlers have once again proven themselves worthy of the title "wrestler."



Jennifer Schneider pitches against Northwest Missouri State on Tuesday at Zimmerman field as Heather Kelley watches the action. (photo by Heather Olsen)

## Vikings open the '97 campaign with 4-1 record on the road

JAMES PETERSON  
Reporter

Though a week later than expected, the 1997 Dana Vikings baseball team got their season under way last Friday with a game against Bethany, Kan. The opener, originally scheduled March 1, was postponed, due to poor weather. But with sunny skies finally arriving, they took the field in what was the first game of a weekend road trip through Kansas. However, after coming up with just four hits on the day, the Vikings fell by the score of 8-2.

Out to make sure the loss did not spoil the weekend, Dana came back

on Saturday with a vengeance, and it showed in the way they played. After the disappointing showing on Friday, the Vikings broke out in a big way on Saturday in a doubleheader against Tabor, Kans. With scores of 20-5 and 17-8, the team showed that they can put up big numbers, and more remarkably, those 37 runs came in just a total of 12 innings.

With two wins under their belt, Dana took on Friends, Kans., the team that beat them last year in the NAIA Great Plains Regional Tournament. With a little revenge on the minds of the returning players, the Vikings fell behind early in the first game against Friends in the Sunday doubleheader, but used a six run

fourth inning to take the lead. Never looking back, they continued on to tack on three more runs claiming the win with a 9-7 score. Then, to finish off the two-game set and the weekend, the Vikings beat Friends, cruising in a 8-4 victory.

Dana, now 4-1, will put their four-game winning streak on the line against Hastings at home this Saturday, which will mark the opening of conference play, and the defense of Dana's conference championship. On Sunday, Mt. Marty, SD, comes to town for a twin-bill at Paul Petersen Field. Both of these doubleheaders will be covered by KDCV, 91.1 "the JAM" with pre-game at 11:50 a.m., and the first pitch at noon.

## Lady Vikings split in season opener

MARY BRUNS  
Reporter

On Tuesday, March 11, the Dana softball team kicked off the 1997 season playing NCAA Division II Northwest Missouri State.

The doubleheader was the first of eight scheduled for the Vikings this season at Zimmerman Field.

After a 15-3 conference record last season, 25-25 overall, the NIAC champions are fired up again. The aspiring Vikings look forward to another challenging and successful campaign. The team is young, but shows promising talent and intensity, which could cause

surprising upsets in the conference and post season competition.

The Bearcats are a young team, coming off of a 19-25 run last spring. When the Vikings and Bearcats last met, they split a doubleheader, with Dana taking the opener 4-1, and then Northwest topping 7-5.

This time around, Northwest took the opening game 4-1 with Dana closing out the night 6-5. An outstanding player of the game was senior Melinda Almand. Almand went 2-4 with two walks, and played solid defense.

The Lady Vikings will take on Midland Lutheran College in a conference game on Saturday at 1 p.m. at Zimmerman Field.

## Seniors say farewell to their collegiate playing days

GREG KELLOGG  
Reporter

Each year, many seniors share one common, unavoidable truth—their final season of athletics. For the majority of these athletes, this will be their last chance to play their given sport competitively. Realizing this fact can be sobering for many. Some of these individuals will set their equipment aside, only to be used sporadically at best. Others will continue to play, but for recreational or fitness purposes only. Because of this realization, some seniors have set goals that are slightly different from previous years.

Baseball player Mike Gerson said

that as a senior, he feels like an assistant coach. He believes that he must lead the team by example and be a role model for freshmen. Gerson also wants to be more assertive on the field. Individually, his main goal is to stay healthy. However, he would also like to get in better shape and improve his weaknesses from last year. Gerson said that the senior players have met together to discuss their responsibilities for the season, one of which is to prepare the freshmen, both physically and mentally, for the season. The group also thought that the 1995-96 team was successful because of good team chemistry. The group would like to continue that again this year.

Gerson shared that, "If you want to

gel as a team, everyone from freshmen to seniors needs to get along and hang out together."

Chris Togneri, who is a senior catcher, agrees. "Whatever we do, we need to do it as a team. I hope that we can stay together even through the rough times because we have the potential to be better than last year's team that qualified for regionals." Togneri said that if he is called upon to be a role player, one who has a specific job but does not start each game, he would rather accept his role and win, instead of being an everyday starter and lose. He also said that he is cherishing every moment of his senior season because next year at this time, he will no longer be playing baseball. According to him, that puts

things into perspective.

Togneri added, "Last year, coming from Oakland, Calif., I looked at this program and the area with skepticism. I was disappointed that I had to settle on Dana. However, this year, the ego is gone and I'm glad to be a part of the team. I realized that our coaching staff is the best I have ever had. I have learned a lot from them."

Heather Kelley, senior softball player, said that since this is her last season, she would like to play to have fun. She is going into the season with a more open mind. If she has a bad day on the field, she won't let it affect her like it has in previous years. Kelley said that since the team only has two seniors, she will need to take on more of a vocal role as the team

leader. Kelley said that as a senior, she has begun to analyze the game a lot more. She has become better aware of what to do in certain game situations. She also said that because of this, she has a better knowledge of the game.

In her final season, Kelley said that, individually, she hopes to finish the season with a feeling of accomplishment. She wants to feel that she gave it her best and played to the best of her capabilities. She would also like to hit above .300, throw out more than nine runners, which was her 1996 total, and advance further as a team than they did last year.

"Now, introducing the seniors, playing in their final home game of their college careers..."