

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

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- > Editorialist debates the understanding of absolutes
- > NIAC play opens for Dana baseball team

# HERMIES

DANA COLLEGE



Vol. 78 No. 20  
April 3, 1998

## Admission recruitment running on schedule with past years

AMY BENEDICT  
Editor-in-Chief

According to Debra Balzer, dean of enrollment, Dana College is similar with previous years on the number of prospective students that have applied and deposited to attend next Dana year.

The institutional goal for the 1998-99 year is 204 new students. "I think we are right on track," said Balzer. "Our projections show that with the number of deposits we have, we can progress forward to meet the goal."

Although the total number of applications is fewer than in previous years, out of those who have applied so far, only 10.9 percent have withdrawn their application. Last year at this time 11.7 percent had withdrawn. Balzer believes this is a positive percentage. "Our application pool is still very qualified and interested in Dana as a whole," she said.

As of March 27, 45 prospective students had applied and made a deposit for next year. Last year during this time, 48 students had made a monetary deposit. Therefore, the college is only three students off the mark from last year.

Balzer said this is a popular time for prospective students to make their college decision for the next year. She said the average student waits to receive his or her financial aid package before making a final decision. April 1 through May 31 is when many students decide and some even take the entire summer before finally settling on a college she said. High school athletes who participate in fall and winter sports usually make a decision later because of not having time to look for a college said Balzer.

Another reason Balzer feels the goal

for next year is in reach is due to the new programs that are being started or enhanced for next year. Some of these additions include the criminal justice emphasis within the sociology department and the new computer science program for next year. Also, the English as Second Language Program (ESL) which began in 1984 is

*"I think we are right on track. Our projections show that with the number of deposits we have, we can progress forward to meet the goal."*

--Debra Balzer

being enhanced and a new program called FOCUS will begin in the fall of 1998.

The ESL program will now be a one semester program where international students will be immersed in learning English grammar and writing. The program is 12 credit hours and after completion of the program eight of the credits will apply toward the language program requirements for the bachelor of arts degree at Dana. Balzer hopes this will encourage the international students to continue their education at Dana. For acceptance the students will need a score of at least 460 on the TOEFEL and have four to six years previous experience in the English language. To pass the semester program international students must retake the TOEFEL and receive a score of 500.

Balzer said this will be a valuable tool for recruitment of international students. So far 27 international students have applied to Dana for the 1998-99 year. Last year 23 had applied and for the 1996-97 academic year only 11 had applied by this time.

FOCUS is a program designed for students who have gone through a chemical dependency program and have been clean for at least six months. Balzer said FOCUS will offer a chemical-free living area, Alcoholic Anonymous meetings on campus and will emphasize the academic support programs offered by the Learning Center.

Balzer said admissions is using some old and new methods to make Dana visible to students. Mailings to students who inquire about Dana are being increased to keep the college in communication with them. She said approximately every two weeks students receive some type of information or personal message from Dana. Admissions also is advertising in some high school newspapers for events such as Discover Dana Days.

Admissions will also be holding an event in the middle of August for juniors in high school entitled Sneak Preview. This will be an overnight event where prospective students can socialize and see what Dana is like up-close. Balzer said they may play games, watch movies, sit through a mock lecture and/or a financial aid meeting to give students both a social and academic experience on campus. Although it is only March, Balzer said admissions is already looking ahead for enrollment for 1999-00.

"Admissions in general is a very fun environment because you get to help a student shape their future in deciding on a college," said Balzer.

## RESIDENCE LIFE STAFF

1998-1999

### Argo Hall

Senior R.A. Cheryl Karl  
Third floor Lindsay Barnesberger  
Fourth floor Rebecca Dunnell

### Blair Hall

Senior R.A. Michelle Hurt  
Second floor Nina Papousek  
Third floor Jesse Otto  
Fourth floor Brian Jones

### Holling Hall

#### Women

Second floor Audri Brisson  
Third floor Theresa Soby  
Fourth floor Wendy Troff

#### Men

Second floor Bob Spangler  
Third floor Ben Davison  
Fourth floor Aaron Woodard

### Mickelsen Hall

Second floor Jeremy Havekost  
Third floor Kevin Kern  
Fourth floor Lisa Ritchison  
Jessica Langley

### Rasmussen Hall

Senior R.A. Deneen Schriver  
Second floor Perry Mostek  
Third floor Jim Koontz  
Fourth floor Allison Ruhde

## Luck of the draw for students hoping to move off campus

JENNIFER BURGER  
Graphics Editor

It's that time of year again. The time when juniors sign up in the hopes that their names will be selected in the off-campus housing lottery. Application forms will be accepted until 5 p.m. today. Students on disciplinary or academic probation are not eligible to participate.

Junior Jill Dewald said, "I hope to move off campus because I think it's

a good opportunity for me to have experience being on my own. Plus I'm tired of living in a dorm."

"I want to get out of the dorms," said junior Janelle Kahl. "I think it would be a nice change of pace. It's also a transition into real life. We can have candles, too."

"I need to find a place for the summer and it's easier just to stay there during the school year. It's cheaper, too," said junior Tony Eitzmann.

What happens if two people who intend to live together sign up for the lottery, but only one of them is se-

lected?

"I'd be really upset if that happened," said Dewald. "I'd probably just live on campus and get my own room," she added.

"I hope that doesn't happen," said Kahl. "There's really no reason why it would. All my roommates are going to be seniors and they are all 21. I would be upset if we don't all get off."

The lottery is a random selection process in which the applicants' names are drawn out of a box. This year there are 20 possible exemp-

tions that will be given through this live off campus now," said Kahl.

process. Applicants are divided into two groups. Group 1 consists of seniors-to-be and this category is selected from first. Group 2 consists of the applicants who are age 21 or over, but are not seniors. It is possible that all 20 exemptions will be granted from the students in Group 1. After the drawing, any remaining entries will be placed on a waiting list.

"The process seems fair. I think they should allow more than 20 people. It seems like more than 20

"I think 20 is a small number, but other than that it's alright," said Eitzmann.

"I think they need to evaluate an alternative way of deciding who gets to live off campus. Maybe one option would be to take into consideration awarding students for academic accomplishments. For example, choosing students on the dean's list first," said Dewald.

The applicants will know about the outcome of the lottery no later than Tuesday via campus mail.

## In my own words...

by Rodney Ronk

Hello! Another week has come and gone and hopefully everyone is fully recovered from spring break and back in the swing of things. It is good to see that spring may actually be coming this time around, but if it snows at least one more time I wouldn't be surprised.

First of all, I'd like to congratulate everyone who won a spot as a class senator on the Student Senate. It looks to be a good group of people. If I had any advice to offer you, it would be to not be scared to ask the really important questions about the issues you will be dealing with. Not everyone at Dana will be open to listen to some of your comments and concerns, but you will be doing your

job well if you listen to the people that elected you. There are enough people at Dana in "high places" who care about what you think as a student, the key is to keep on asking the right questions and don't stop.

Since I last wrote I have come to realize that being scared to find out what is ahead after graduation is probably a normal fear. I'm not so nervous to discover what sort of career I can begin, just as long as it pays decent. Not that money is so important, but one tends to worry less if there is food in the refrigerator and plenty of money to pay off the student loans!

Finally, the new senate takes over on April 8, so that means my time is

about done. I'd like to take this time to thank everyone that made this year a pretty good one and without you it wouldn't have been quite as productive. Without trying to come up with some sort of list to show what we achieved, I think it is safe to say we can all walk away knowing that we left things better than we started.

I'd like to leave you all on a personal note, I just want to say congratulations to two friends that will be getting hitched in the not-so-distant future. Carla Jo and Lueb, I wish you the best and like everyone else, I'll see you down the road.

Good luck,  
Rodney

## What is behind the idea of absolutes?

VALERIE BENSEN  
Editorialist

There are few absolutes, some people say. The way things are going, it seems that soon we will conclude there are no absolutes that we can know for sure.

For instance, is it always wrong to kill another person? We can't say it is because we give exceptions to killing in war, in self-defense and sometimes as a punishment for crime. Then there are the debatable areas in which killing has or may become acceptable such as abortion and euthanasia. But I'm not about to argue for or against these issues right now; I'd merely like to consider the existence of moral absolutes or absolute right and wrong.

To say there are no absolutes seems easily supported on the surface of our many confusing issues, but in essence the statement itself is an oxymoron. Are there absolutely no absolutes? Is then that statement an absolute truth in itself? If I were to rationalize this, I'd say there might be absolutes but I can't be sure of them and don't know what they are. Then I'd be taking an agnostic view that makes it very difficult to defend

any values or live by them. This view ignores the real evidence of tension in our world between the negative and positive, light and dark, presence and absence, etc.

To simplify the argument, let's say there is a table in the middle of a small, dark room. Three people are in the room and one believes the table is absolutely there even though she can't see it; she knows it is there by using her sense of touch. Another person says there is no table, but never ceases to run into this table with some force as he moves about the dark room. The third person sits in a corner trying to experience life while ignoring the issue of whether there is a table there or not. The first person believes in absolute truth, the second does not and the third could be called an agnostic. None of these viewpoints or beliefs about the table influences its actual existence at all.

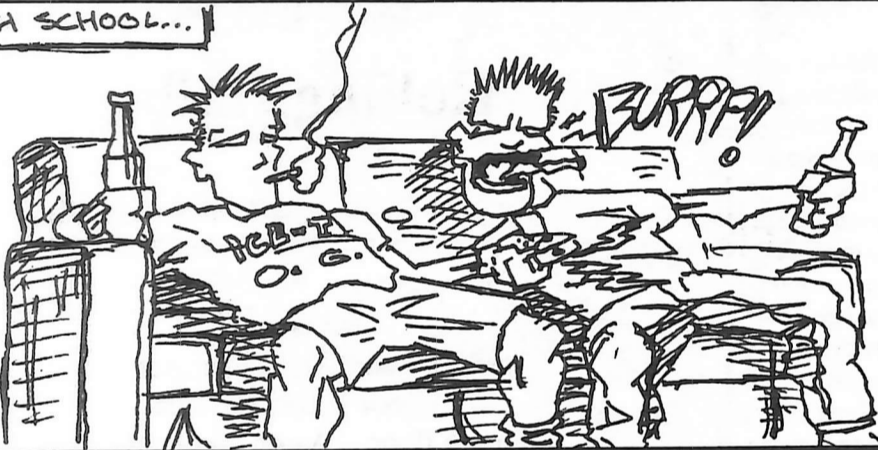
If there is absolute truth there is no way to ignore or argue it away, nor does our belief in it support its presence. Whether we find it and carefully define it, run into it repeatedly or ignore it, it is still there, absolutely absolute. Our best response is to use our sense to know it.

## COMIC NOIR

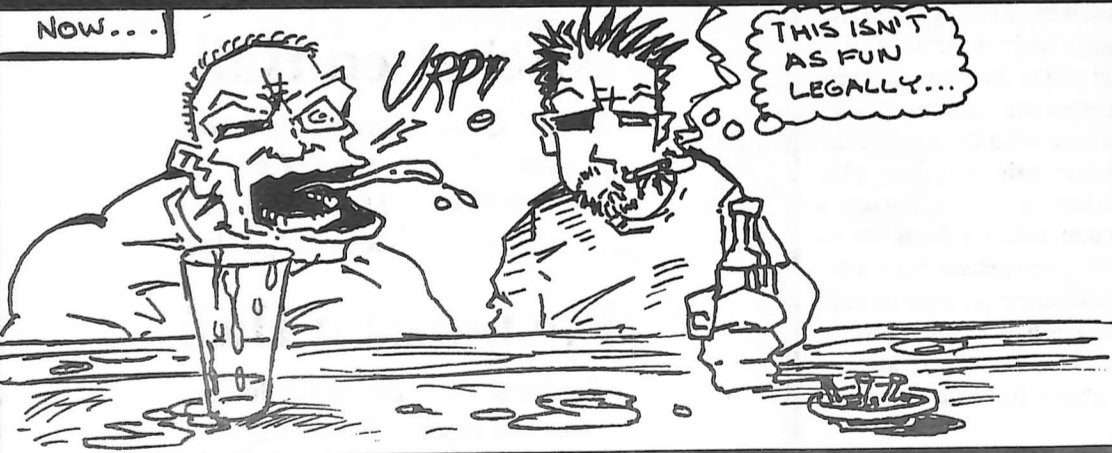
gee-whiz!

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HIGH SCHOOL...



NOW...



### On-Campus Parking Regulations

- On-campus parking requires a vehicle permit—student, visitor or temporary. You can obtain permits from the information desk or security
  - Display your permit clearly
  - Park in designated areas. Reminder: All vehicles off Dana Drive after 2 a.m. weekdays and 3 a.m. weekends
  - Please contact security if you have a disabled vehicle. A temporary permit will be given to allow for repairs
  - Health or injury special permit—should you require special parking, present confirmation from a doctor or Dana faculty member and a permit will be issued for a specified time period
  - Vehicles that acquire \$50.00 in citations will be posted with a warning to tow notice. After issuing the warning notice, drivers will be given a 5-day grace period to pay fines, fix the vehicle or discuss the problem
  - Kevin Schaudt and information desk will be made aware of all warning notices
- Please contact security if you have any questions.**

Poetry Reading  
W.D.  
Snodgrass  
Pulitzer  
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Lauritzen Theater

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## HERMES

DANA COLLEGE

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*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 1252, Blair NE 68008. Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday to be printed in the weekly issue.

## Students being sought for summer conference coordinator positions

**LESLIE SCHROETER**  
Feature Editor

Dana College is not only used as an institution of higher learning, its facilities are used throughout the school year and especially during the summer months for conferences.

According to JoAnn Stute, area hall director and new coordinator of conference services, the summer calendar is relatively full as far as scheduled conferences.

In February, Stute took over the job of coordinating conferences for groups who wish to use Dana's facilities. The public relations office was formerly responsible for setting

up conferences. Stute is basically responsible for preparing contracts, reserving space for people to stay, contacting food service, the athletic department or setting up anything else that the group may be interested in doing while visiting campus. She also gives groups tours if they wish to see the campus.

"I'm the contact person," said Stute. "Groups contact me and I arrange everything for them."

Why are conferences important to Dana? Stute says the main goal of conferences is to generate revenue for the college.

Stute said that most groups that come to the campus over the summer stay at least one night at the college. Most of the groups are children and

teenagers, although adult conferences including the Elderhostel program also hold conferences at Dana.

"This is all very exciting to me because it's so new," Stute said.

Dana is currently seeking two to four students to work under Stute for the summer. Stute said she is looking for students who are self-motivated, outgoing, friendly and easy to talk to. Their duties would include greeting guests, helping set up for the conferences and being around at night to assist the guests. The students will be expected to work approximately 14 hours a week and their schedules must be very flexible. Compensation is living at the college during the summer at no charge.

## Cheap accommodations and services overseas

If you're traveling anywhere in the world this year and you're on a budget, you could get the Hostelling International (HI) card. It's an international membership card that gives complete access to affordable accommodations and services at nearly 5,000 hostels in over 70 countries.

HI hostels offer a casual, friendly atmosphere geared to young travelers with shared accommodations and services like self-catering kitchens, cafes and special programs and activities for hostel guests. All HI hostels are regularly inspected to ensure

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And once you've arrived at your first destination, you can continue to reserve your HI hostel overnights as you go.

For more information on hostels in the U.S. and overseas and for a copy of a free brochure, contact: HI-AYH, 733 15th Street NW, #840, Washington, D.C. 20005. By telephone: 202-783-6161. By e-mail: hiayhserv@hiayh.org.

Hostelling International is a nonprofit organization that promotes international understanding through its network of hostels and educational programs.



Dana faculty member Michael Anderson, assistant professor of trumpet, performs the Johan Neruda "Concerto in Eb" with the Dana College Concert Band at Tuesday's spring concert. (Photo by Brooke Thompsen)

## Student Senators 1998-1999

### Seniors

Amy Klusmeier  
Laurie Grasso  
Jaclyn Smith  
Sandi Frey

### Juniors

Brian Jones  
Mark Knudsen  
Lisa Decker  
Rachel Hospodka

### Sophomores

Brooke Thomsen  
Kelly O'Brien  
Wray Wright  
John Brummer

## Campus Events

### FRIDAY

7 p.m. Off-Campus Housing Lottery Registration  
Roller Skating & Lazer Tag, CC

### SATURDAY

TBA Track, Northwest Missouri State  
9 a.m. Recycling, Campus Ministry, CC  
Noon Baseball, Blair  
1 p.m. Softball, Doane  
6 p.m. Movie Marathon, Dragon's Head

### SUNDAY

Daylight Savings Time, set clocks AHEAD one hour  
11 a.m. Chapel  
Noon Baseball, Doane

### MONDAY

7:30 p.m. Blair World of Entertainment

### TUESDAY

10:30 a.m. Chapel  
3 p.m. Softball, Peru State  
7 p.m. Shaffer Brothers Concert, Chapel  
7:30 p.m. Poet W.D. Snodgrass, MFAC

### WEDNESDAY

3 p.m. Disability Awareness, Forum  
7 p.m. "Name That Tune," Dragon's Head  
10 p.m. Chapel

### THURSDAY

10:30 a.m. Chapel  
1 p.m. Baseball, Blair

### FRIDAY-MONDAY

Easter Break

### TUESDAY-THURSDAY

Housing Registration

## Pulitzer Prize winning poet to visit Dana April 7

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet W. D. Snodgrass will visit Dana on Tuesday.

Snodgrass, winner of the 1960 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, will give a poetry reading at 7:30 p.m. in the Lauritzen Theater of the Madsen Fine Arts Center.

The poet has had a distinguished writing and academic career, receiving the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1972-73. He is a member of the Academy of American Poets and the author of over 30 volumes of poetry and translations. Significant works include "Heart's Needle" (1959), "The Fuehrer Bunker: A Cycle of Poems-

in-Progress" (1977), "The Midnight Carnival" (1988), "The Death of Cock Robin" (1989) and "The Fuehrer Bunker: The Complete Cycle" (1995).

Snodgrass has taught at Cornell University, University of Rochester, Wayne State University, Syracuse University, Old Dominion University and the University of Delaware.

Snodgrass' presentation is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. John Mark Nielsen at 402-426-7243.

This event is sponsored in part by the Student Senate's Special Events Fund.

## Baseball team battles rain, Warriors and Bulldogs

**LAURA HIEBENTHAL**  
Copy Editor

Despite rainy weather and soggy fields, the Dana baseball team was able to open Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference play with doubleheaders against Concordia and Midland. The Vikings swept the games against Concordia but dropped both games to Midland.

On March 25 the Vikings beat Concordia 10-6 and 9-5.

In the first game, Kris Nakasone sparked the Viking offense with a two-run homer in the first inning and gave Dana the 2-0 lead. Concordia answered in their half of the first inning, coming up with five runs on five

hits. The Viking offense was not finished, however, and scored three runs in the second inning, one in the fourth and three in the fifth. Relievers Ryane Doi and Corey Johnson preserved the victory for Dana by allowing the Bulldogs only one more run. Starting pitcher K.C. Tupa picked up the win and Nakasone, Brian Ferguson and Joe Pennucci each collected two hits for the Vikings.

The Vikings used a little help from the Bulldogs in the second game to come from behind for the victory. Entering the final inning, Dana was down 3-4. Concordia then walked four Dana batters, committed three errors and threw two wild pitches. In the process Dana scored

six times and took the lead 9-4. In their half of the seventh, the Bulldogs

*March 25*  
*Dana 10, Concordia 6*  
*Dana 9, Concordia 5*

*March 29*  
*Midland 10, Dana 2*  
*Midland 6, Dana 3*

managed only one run. Viking pitcher Rich Martell went six and

two-thirds innings to earn the win.

On Sunday Dana played their home opener with a doubleheader against Midland College. The Vikings lost 10-2 and 6-3.

In game one, pitcher Larry Dant held the Warriors to one run through four innings. The Vikings also scored only one run in the first four innings. Midland found their offense in the fifth inning, knocking Dant out of the game and scoring four runs on four hits. Now down 5-1, Dana managed one run in the sixth when Ryan Enright singled and scored. Midland then came up with another big inning in the seventh, scoring five runs and winning the game 10-2.

The second game went into extra

innings before the Vikings fell 6-3. After trailing by one in the seventh, Phil Blosser drew a leadoff walk and scored on a single by Ferguson. This tied the score but the Vikings stranded Ferguson on base. In the Warrior's half of the extra inning, Dana allowed three unearned runs by walking two and committing two errors.

Johnson, the starting pitcher, earned a no decision and reliever Sam Breuklander took the loss. On offense, Enright had two hits to lead the Vikings. The two losses dropped Dana to 5-5 on the season.

Tomorrow at noon Dana will play Doane College at Peterson Field. On Sunday the Vikings will play Doane again, this time at noon in Crete.

## Lady Vikes get win over Midland in Hastings Invitational

**AMY BENEDICT**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Dana Viking softball team took the win over the Midland Warriors 8-1 in the Hastings Invitational on March 28. Dana finished the day 1-3 in the tournament losing to Columbia, Mo., 6-1, Park College 7-2 and Dakota Wesleyan 4-1.

In the Midland matchup, the Vikings put out 10 hits in the six inning game. Sarah Graham, a freshman from Omaha, lead in the batter's box, finishing the game with two hits, two runs and four RBIs. Jessica Scoopmire, a freshman from Tucson, Ariz., also picked up two hits for the Vikings. Tara Furstenau stayed aggressive on the mound all six innings to come through as the winning pitcher.

In game two, Dana stayed competitive with Columbia through the sixth and final inning of play, only behind by one run. However, Columbia came back with four big hits, two walks and four runs to take a 6-1 lead that the Vikes could not match. The only run for the Vikings came on a RBI by Kari Wetterberg, a freshman from Norfolk, to bring in Graham. Jessi Thomsen, a sophomore from Omaha, also had two of Dana's four hits.

In the third game against Park College, Dana started scoring early in the first inning on a RBI by Graham that brought in Thomsen. However, Park came right back, out scoring Dana by bringing in two runs in the bottom of


the first and four more in the bottom of the fourth. Park held Dana to only one more run, winning the game 7-2. Thomsen had two hits to lead the Viking batters.

The fourth and final game of the invitational for Dana was against Dakota Wesleyan. The Vikings again came off the bench scoring, getting an early 1-0 lead. The run came on a RBI by Amy Klusmeier, a junior from Sheyboygan, Wis., which brought Thomsen past home plate. This was the only run the Vikes would get, losing to Dakota Wesleyan 4-1. Thomsen was again lead batter with two out of Dana's five hits.

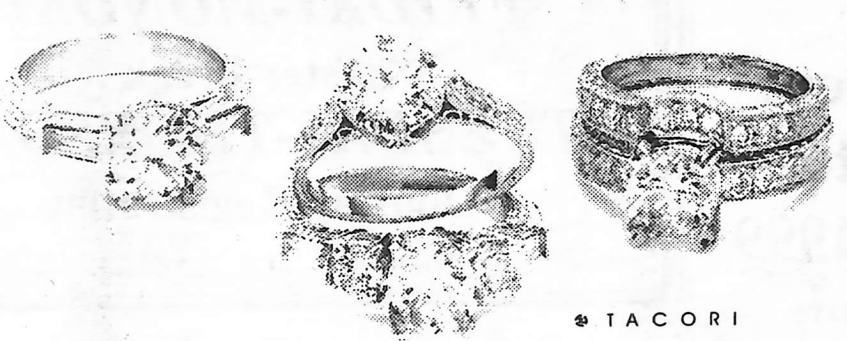
On April 1, the Lady Vikes headed to Maryville, Mo., for a doubleheader. They held the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats to only two runs but were unable to echo Northwest's success crossing the plate losing 2-0. Lisa Shefland, a sophomore from Omaha, and Kari Hall, a senior from Ewing, picked up Dana's two hits.

In the second game Dana did much better in the batter's box getting 10 hits. However, the 10 hits only brought in three runs for the Vikings. The Bearcats had more luck in the second game also, getting 11 hits and eight runs, taking the game 8-3. Shefland, Hall and Lisa Cady, a junior from Omaha, had two hits each for the Vikings.

The Lady Vikes are currently 4-8 on the season. Their next matchup is a doubleheader against Doane College on April 4 in Crete.



*Some things are worth waiting for. This moment is one of them.*




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