



# DANA COLLEGE Hermes

Vol. 79 No. 23

April 30, 1999

????? What's Inside ?????

- > Hard work by Dana student pays off with internship opportunity
- > Littleton shooting hits close to home for some Dana students
- > Tracksters have personal bests at Simpson Twilight Meet

## Arbor Day reception to thank Dana's donors

**LAURA HIEBENTHAL**  
Editor-in-Chief

For the fourth consecutive year, Dana College will be hosting an Arbor Day celebration as a way to show appreciation to scholarship donors. With the theme of celebrating children, the festivities begin this afternoon with 150 people expected to attend.

Anne Christopherson, special projects coordinator, said that invitations to this event were sent to donors of named and endowed scholarships, as well as student recipients of those scholarships.

"We feel it's important we give the students the opportunity to sit with donors, be with them and say thanks," said Christopherson. She said "the donors love it" because it gives them a chance to get to know and engage in conversation with the students they help support.

The first opportunity for students and donors to meet will be during an outdoor reception at 4:45 p.m. outside of Pioneer Memorial. During this ceremony two columnar blue spruce trees will be planted near the admissions entrance to the building. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the tree planting.

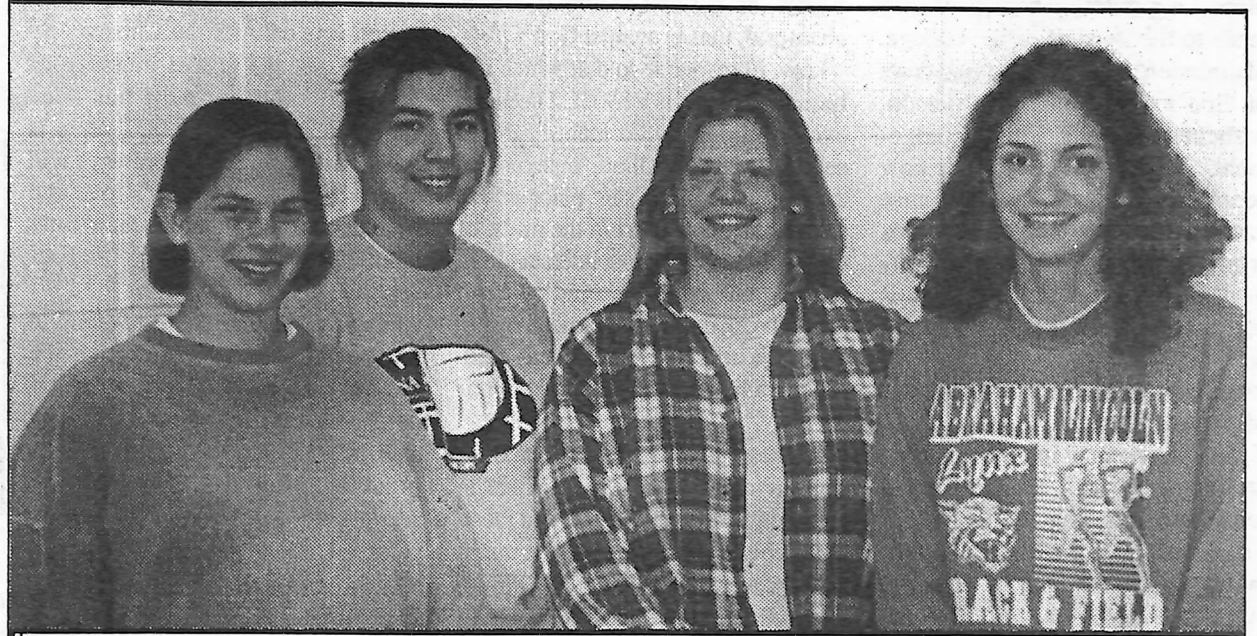
The theme of celebrating children will be carried out through this re-

ception by having children from the Blair community participate in the ceremony. Christopherson said about 30 children will take part in the event and are mostly grandchildren, children or friends of scholarship contributors. The theme of celebrating children is taken from the Biblical passage of Romans 8:14, "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God."

Following the tree planting, donors and students will eat together at a buffet in the campus center. Meanwhile, the children will have a picnic dinner downstairs in the Dragon's Head. Following the picnic, they will participate in special activities provided by Dr. Chris Schnieders and 11 Dana education students.

Schnieders said that children will have four stations of activities that all center on the theme of trees. At one station the children will sponge paint pots that will be used for transplanting trees at the next station. Another station is creative writing about trees and at a fourth station children will be read "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein. Christopherson said after the children finish their activities they will join the adults upstairs to share their creations.

To end the evening, participants are invited to attend the spring musical, "The Children of Eden," in Lauritzen Theater at 7:30 p.m.



German students Elizabeth Lange, Rachel Heitmann, Sarah Pierce and Wendy Troff participated in the annual Goethe Institute test, an advanced foreign language assessment. All four students will be receiving nationally-recognized certificates for their high proficiency in German. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

## European business trip being planned

**CHRISTINA NUTTER**  
Copy Editor

An interim 2000 trip for students interested in European business and culture is currently in the planning stages.

Dr. John Mark Nielsen, professor of English, and Dr. James Smith, assistant professor of business, are planning the three week excursion to Denmark, Belgium and England. Smith said, "It will be a simple, basic orientation to life in a European college and will give some perspective on how European governments perceive their roles in business."

Smith said this is a course anyone could take regardless of major. The focus is business, but students interested in Europe in general would benefit by becoming more familiar with the European Union (EU) and business in Europe.

The three-week trip involves a seven to ten day home stay in Vejle, Denmark, where students will participate with Danish students at Vejle Business College. All instruction will be done in English. "The Danish stu-

dents will be fluent in English," said Nielsen. "Most of them will have visited the United States."

During the Vejle experience, students will visit the headquarters and production facilities of multinational corporations such as Lego Corporation. The Vejle faculty will also arrange meetings with the Danish Parliament (Folketing).

Travel time independent of Vejle Business College is also planned. The group will visit Brussels, Belgium, to tour the EU Parliament and meet with EU trade representatives. They will also visit London and tour the Bank of England and the London financial markets that are similar to Wall Street. Time is also scheduled to visit Copenhagen, Denmark.

Nielsen said he is interested in Vejle Business College by the special information technology program available that is licensed by the EU.

"This is an investment which offers opportunity for unknown dividends," said Nielsen. Students can establish contacts that may lead in paths currently unconsidered and "discover possibilities, both personal and professional."

Smith said, "We're interested in expanding students' horizons."

Nielsen and Smith will be teaching the course jointly. Smith, as a business professor, will lead that area of instruction. Nielsen is participating because of his contacts in Denmark, as well as his interest in business.

Efforts are currently being made toward developing a relationship between Dana and Vejle Business College. Current relations include Laurits Schytz's visit to Dana last spring, President Myrvin Christopherson's subsequent visit to Denmark to speak at graduation ceremonies, Nielsen's visit in January to discuss the itinerary, and the hosting of the Dana Chorale by members of the Danish college.

Semester long exchanges are being planned for subsequent years depending on the success of this trip. "The dream is to establish a Dana House," said Nielsen.

Vejle Business College works in conjuncture with the university in Copenhagen, as well as several other Danish colleges.

Any student interested in the class can contact Nielsen at ext. 7243 or Smith at ext. 7905.

## Three honored with Golden Leaf Awards

**LAURA HIEBENTHAL**  
Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday two current Dana College students and one Dana graduate were honored with Golden Leaf Awards at the spring meeting of the Nebraska Collegiate Media Association.

Amy Benedict, a 1998 Dana graduate and former *Hermes* editor, won first place in the print feature photo-

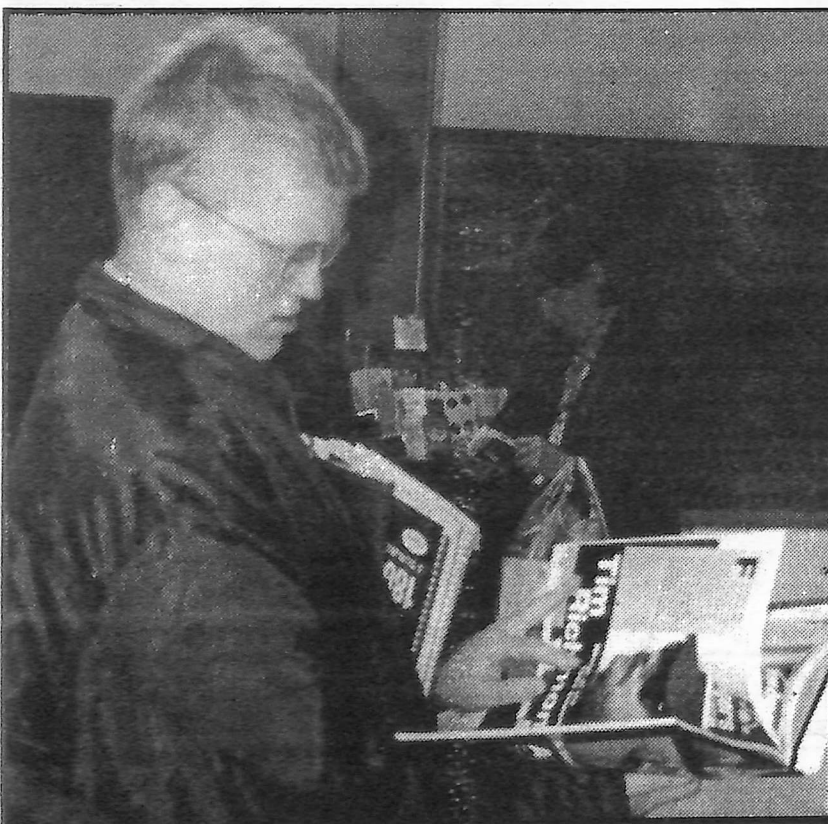
graph category. Her winning picture, entitled "Look Out Below," showed students reaching for falling money during last year's Avalanche of Cash during Winterfest.

Senior Max Riffner won third place in the print cartoon category for a comic from his "Comic Noir" series. Also in the print cartoon category, freshman Derek Davis was awarded honorable mention for one of his "Caricatures."

Winners received their awards during a luncheon at the Embassy Suites

in Omaha. This year's awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the Poynter's National Writers' Workshop.

The Nebraska Collegiate Media Association sponsors the Golden Leaf Awards every spring. Seven schools participate in competition divisions for newspaper, yearbook, radio and television. In addition to Dana, the other colleges in the association are Chadron State, Doane, Hastings, Midland Lutheran, Wesleyan and Wayne State.



Stopping in the campus center to browse, Tom Urban takes advantage of the "Books Are Fun" Book Fair on Tuesday, which was one of many Spring Fling events that continue into the weekend. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

## Letter to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

When I accepted the Call to serve Dana College as campus pastor, I accepted a Call to provide a ministry of word and sacrament to and with this place—a ministry which primarily tends to the students of the college. My mission? To share the good news of God's love with every person, without limits and without judgment. Why? Because this is how people throughout the centuries have known God's love and because this is how I experience God's love in my own life: it is limitless; God's love is not bound by the inevitable short-sightedness of our human understandings. Which is why last fall, when a student came to me and asked if there was something we could do on campus for gay, lesbian and bisexual students, I agreed to sponsor a conversation in the Forum, open to the entire community, to discuss "God's love for gay and lesbian people." That conversation was the genesis of GL2.

It has been said that posters advertising the meetings of GL2 make the recruitment of new students to Dana College more difficult. It has been said that the existence of GL2 makes

it harder to raise money for the college. It has been said that God hates the sin (I think they mean homosexuality) but loves the sinner. It has been said that homosexuality is nothing more than a genital act between two people, an act that is wrong, that is unnatural, that is against God's plan.

I say, in response to that which has been said: This is why GL2 needs to exist! Students who identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender need a safe place where they can find support in the midst of community where misunderstanding, heterosexism and prejudice live. They frequently feel wounded by the language of others. They need somewhere where they can share their pain.

Interestingly, the issues surrounding our community's experience in this area parallel the issues that faced first century Christianity. You might recall that when Stephen and Philip, Peter and Paul began to proclaim God's message of salvation to Samaritans and Romans, to an Ethiopian eunuch and to the uncircumcised—those judged to be outside the traditional faith community because of who they were and how they lived—the leaders of the religious commu-

nity condemned them, arresting some, killing others. The religious leaders practiced this persecution of early Christian witnesses because the leaders did not believe God's salvation could be extended beyond traditional boundaries. They believe salvation was only for the Chosen. So we see that the gospel message of love and salvation as it has been preached for almost 2,000 years is rooted in controversy. It always will be, perhaps because God's love and acceptance of humanity is far greater than our own ability to love and accept one another.

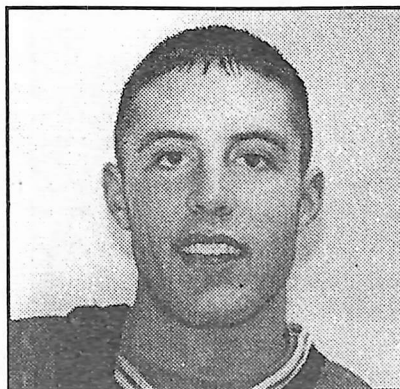
Finally, I would like to respond to those who have suggested that the GL2 group has, as an agenda, recruiting students to an "alternative" kind of lifestyle. I am recruiting students to a way of life that is grounded in acceptance, tolerance, compassion, personal integrity, love of self and others, and self-respect, to lives rooted in the belief that each of us is created in the image of God and loved by God, forever. This is a way of living radically different than any other. I believe it is the way of Christ.

Joanne S. Richmond

## Q&A

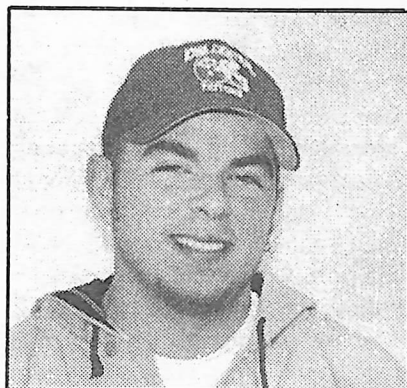
### Education majors give their perspectives on the safety of public schools.

--Question and photos by Leslie Schroeter



Michael Johnson

"Violence in schools wouldn't be hard to get away with."



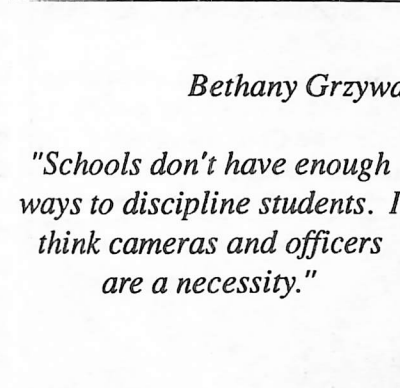
Curt Braden

"I don't think the problem in the schools will ever be totally solved."



Karen Bertelsen

"I think dress codes, armed guards and security cameras are necessary to make public schools safe."



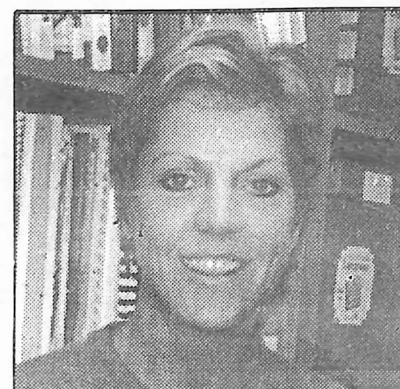
Bethany Grzywa

"Schools don't have enough ways to discipline students. I think cameras and officers are a necessity."



Kelly Medlin

"They're becoming more unsafe because less and less attention is being paid to the students."



**COMIC NOIR** today: **STAR WARS!!!**  
 a max riffner thrillah copyright max riffner 1999

Is that guy constipated?  
 Sadly, no...  
 He's trying to use the Force.

The new Star Wars Movie comes out on the day of the Final. He's trying to will the Prof. into not having it at all.

Guess what class! The Final is actually gonna be LONGER than I thought!  
 ...time for the ol' Dark Side tactics.  
 Is it lighter in here?

Congratulations to the winners of last week's Crossword Challenge:  
 Sarah Pierce  
 Tom Jackson  
 Jeanmarie Nielsen

Spring Fling Movie Night  
**TONIGHT!!**  
 9 p.m. "Office Space"  
 11 p.m. "Urban Legend"  
 Food and refreshments provided by Student Activities

The *Hermes* has two openings for next year:  
**Photography Editor & Business Manager**  
 These paid positions are a great way to gain practical experience, and they look good on a resume! For additional information and applications visit Dr. John Mark Nielsen or Prof. Joan Bucy in the English pod before Thursday.

## This Week @ Dana

### Friday

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Noon hour drawing  
 4 p.m. Quarterback Challenge, Viking Field  
 4:45 p.m. Arbor Day Celebration  
 5-7 p.m. Picnic dinner and giveaways  
 7:30 p.m. "Children of Eden," Lauritzen Theater  
 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Movie night, CC

### Saturday

9 a.m. Recycling  
 Dana College Softball Tournament  
 7-on-7 Dana Football Championship  
 12 p.m. Dana vs. Northwestern, Peterson Field  
 7:30 p.m. "Children of Eden," Lauritzen Theater  
 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Spring Fling Dance, Dragon's Head

### Sunday

12 p.m.-2 p.m. Hawaiian Club May Day luau picnic, The Oval  
 7:30 p.m. "Children of Eden," Lauritzen Theater

### Monday

7 p.m. Used car-buying presentation, Linden Room

### Tuesday

10:30 a.m. Worship, Trinity Chapel  
 8 p.m. FCA, Forum

### Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Bingo, meet in CC  
 10 p.m. Worship, Trinity Chapel

### Thursday

10 a.m. SAO officer election, Forum  
 7:30 p.m. Honors Dessert, CC  
 10:30 a.m. Worship, Trinity Chapel

Now taking applications for...

**Danian layout, photo and copy editors**

**PAID POSITIONS!!!!**

Applications are available at Info Booth and are due Thursday. Call Carrie Reed in college relations for more information.

## Dana student lands internship with prestigious accounting firm

JEN BURGER  
 Features Editor

Vincent Shen has been doing his homework, and this summer all that hard work is going to pay off. Shen has landed an internship at one of the top five accounting and consulting firms in the United States, Deloitte and Touche LLP. Shen will be working in the Omaha office this summer.

Shen has been searching for an internship for several months. He spent hours on the internet and in the career services office looking for a summer position. Shen was hired as a result of enrolling in the Inroads program, a nationwide organization that helps minority students find internships.

He was selected by Deloitte and Touche after an interview. Shen said, "It was pretty competitive. I was selected out of 20 students. It was fun

to go to the interview and meet some of my peers. We are all on a similar career path."

And what is that path? "I look forward to going back home [to China] and using my language and business skills. My dream is to stay with a company and work in that region of the world. I believe the Asian economy is on a recovery. I want to help China's accounting firms run more efficiently."

Shen is eager to work for Deloitte and Touche because they are leaders in his chosen field. "This company is very aggressive. They just want their projects done by quality people," he said. There are many opportunities within the company for Shen. "This company fits my lifestyle. I like to travel and I am very adaptable to most environments."

Shen realizes he has a long way to go within the company. "I will have to work long hours," he said. "The normal hours are 8 to 5, but I want to



This summer Vincent Shen will be an intern with Deloitte and Touche LLP. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

be a good intern. I will need to take time to finish the projects well.

"The best thing about working for this company is that every day there will be new challenges. There are many projects and each one is an opportunity to learn. My business professors say this is the best education I can get."

## Dana not excluded from effects of Littleton school shootings

DEREK FEY  
 Reporter

Although last week's massacre in Littleton, Colo., was well over 500 miles away, the effects of the shooting spree that left 15 people dead weren't that remote.

Freshman Katie Vonalt of Longmont, Colo., knows 20 people from Columbine High School in Littleton. Vonalt's mom sent her names of the people who were murdered and one of her friend's names showed up.

"She knew I played volleyball with some of the girls there," Vonalt said. "She wanted to let me know about that one."

"I was pretty shocked to think that someone I knew was involved in it. I didn't take it very well."

Another freshman had a connection to the Columbine bloodbath. Fresh-

man Brianna Maes grew up in Littleton, and one of her volleyball friends was killed in the gunfire.

"My initial reaction was 'no way,'" Maes said.

However, even closer to home than her volleyball friend was a member of her immediate family. Maes' younger brother attends Columbine High School and decided to skip classes that day. In fact, out of the four people in his car pool, three decided to skip school. The only person to go to school out of the car pool ended up getting killed.

"It didn't hit me for a couple of days," Maes said. "After I talked to my parents about it, it finally hit me."

A Dana football recruit also attends Columbine High School. Senior Doug Brace was trapped in a choir teacher's room with other choir members for nearly four hours during the massacre.

"Naturally our first concern was whether he was at school, involved

in it," football coach Jim Krueger said. "You have all kinds of thoughts racing through your mind when you see something like that on the news."

Krueger didn't know the massacre happened until he got a call from his wife that afternoon. She asked him where the recruit was from and after Krueger told her Columbine, she told him something terrible had happened.

"You have so many things that race through a person's mind right away," Krueger said. "And you just hope that he wasn't one of the victims."

Brace and other members of the choir barricaded the teacher's office so no one could come in.

In an interview with Colleen Kenney of the *Omaha World-Herald*, Brace said, "Before this happened I was thinking that I was never going to die."

"Then I was in that room, in that situation, I was thinking, 'All that has to happen is for one bullet to come through the wall and I'm finished.'"



"I went because they were affordable. I stayed because they're wonderful."

"I first went to Planned Parenthood because I really couldn't afford a gynecologist. I was young, and nervous.

"Now that I can afford to go anywhere, I still go to Planned Parenthood. Every time I go, they're kind and understanding as ever. They're sensitive to a woman's special medical concerns and everything is kept confidential. The medical staff is professional, knowledgeable and up to date about birth control options.

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 Omaha, NE

Ames Center  
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Council Bluffs Center  
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## Track and fielders continue to improve personal bests

**WENDY TROFF**  
Sports Editor

The Dana track team traveled to Indianola, Iowa, on Friday to break personal and school records at the Simpson Twilight Meet. Leading the team's top performances were senior Bob Spangler and junior Scott Stanley.

Three of the top four finishers in the men's 5,000 were Vikings. Spangler carved 21 seconds from his previous best to take the gold in this event. Spangler's dominating time of 15 minutes, 13.64 seconds came within a second of the time held by All-American Ben Sandy, a 1998 Dana graduate.

According to coach Jay Birmingham, Dana's track program trains the athletes to improve gradually; the runners become more and more competitive as the season progresses.

"The nature of our program is one that prepares the athletes to peak, not just perform week after week," said Birmingham. "We focus on the end of the season, the final four weeks."

Following Spangler in the 5,000 were sophomore Aaron Schlote with a time of 15:38.54 and freshman

Derek Fey in 15:43.94. Schlote's time was a new personal best and earned him the bronze, while Fey took fourth.

Stanley also left the meet with cause to celebrate. Running the last two laps of his 1,500 meters unchallenged, Stanley's time of 3:59.13 was a first-place finish and his best time of the season in this event.

Also running the 1,500 were freshmen Allen Wagner and John Tripp, both of whom had personal best times. Wagner's 4:08.31 brought him a fourth place finish, while Tripp earned sixth with a time of 4:08.87. The two also ran personal best times in the 800, Wagner with a time of 1:59.16 and Tripp with 2:00.94.

Sophomore Justin Christensen followed two competitors from Iowa State University in the steeplechase, recording a time of 9:40.34. Christensen's national-ranking mark earned him a third-place finish. Also competing in the steeplechase for the Vikings was sophomore Marc Bierbaum, who improved his personal best time in the event.

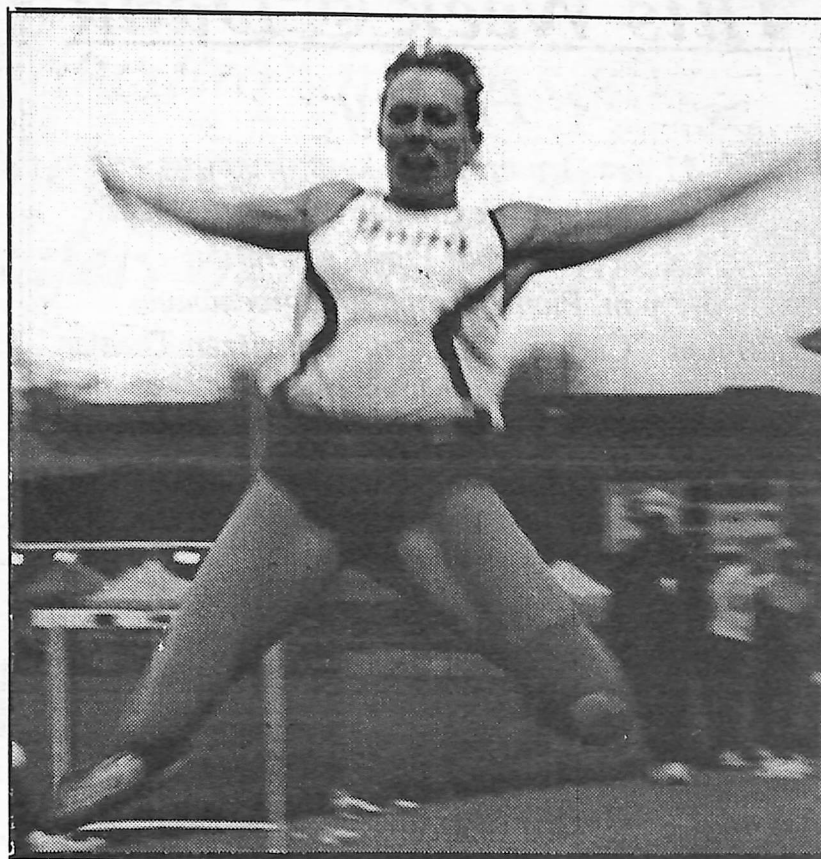
Running the 4x400 relay for the Dana men were freshman Brandon Elwood, Christensen, Stanley and Tripp. The squad placed fourth in this event, while the women's 4x400,

comprised of freshman Natalie Flynn, sophomore Tiffani Nielsen, freshman Sarah Thomas and junior Sarah Klein, took third.

Nielsen led the Lady Vikes with a national-ranking time of 10:40.67 in the 3,000 meters. Nielsen's time earned her a third-place finish and continued her spring record breaking spree. Nielsen's new time knocked 12 seconds from her indoor record in the 3,000 and was 14 seconds faster than the previous Dana record. Incidentally, this was Nielsen's fourth record in an individual event this season.

Also updating the women's records was freshman Renee Boman, who ran the 400. Boman's time of 63.02 was 0.03 seconds faster than the previous school record, which she also set. Boman's new time gave her a fourth-place finish.

Other Vikings who recorded personal bests were Flynn, who ran to a sixth-place finish in the 800 with a time of 2:27.40, sophomore Jessica Chambers in the 5,000, freshman Kelly Kuiken and Klein in the 1,500, junior Amber Weber in the javelin throw and sophomore Brooke Thomsen in the 200-meter dash. Weber and Thomsen tied for sixth in the high jump. Also competing for



Junior trackster Amber Weber strives to gain every inch while soaring through the air during the long jump competition at the Simpson Twilight meet in Indianola, Iowa, on Friday. (Photo by Brooke Thomsen)

Dana were senior Kevin Ronnenkamp in the 800 and freshman Adolfo Morales in the javelin throw. The Viking tracksters compete to-

morrow in the NIAC Championship Meet in Fremont. Field events begin at noon and running events start at 1 p.m.

## Dana women have 3-3 record at NIAC Round Robin Tourney

**DEREK FEY**  
Reporter

The Dana softball team came back from Lincoln last Saturday with a 3-3 conference performance in the NIAC Round Robin tournament.

The first game of the tournament paired Dana and Doane College. The Vikings jumped to a quick three-run lead in the second inning and never trailed the entire game. In the final inning, the Vikings scored one and Doane couldn't answer. Junior Jessi Thomsen hit well at the plate, going 3 for 3 with three runs batted in. Every Viking that came to the plate got a hit against the Tigers. Junior Jennifer Schneider picked up the win for the Vikings.

The Vikings then took on Concordia University. It was a pitcher's dual as both pitchers combined to give up only eight hits in the game. The only runs put on the scoreboard were from Concordia after a pair of errors from the Vikings. Schneider took the loss after giving up only three hits. Sophomore Sarah Graham hit 2 for 3 as the Vikings lost 2-0 to the Bulldogs.

"I think that often times our biggest problem is maintaining focus during a loss," Graham said.

The Vikings took on Midland Lutheran College in the third game of the six-game tournament. Dana came out swinging as the Vikings put three runs in the score book in the top of the first

inning. And three runs is all senior Lisa Cady would need, as she pitched to a one unearned run performance. The Vikings beat the Warriors 5-1, with a three RBI performance from Schneider.

"We played to our best level against better teams," said Thomsen, who went 2-3 with one RBI against Midland College, "but when we play the average teams, we don't play as well."

The fourth game had Dana facing Hastings College. Despite giving up only one unearned run, Schneider had to take the loss as Dana was defeated 1-0. Freshman Meaghan Shea went 2-3 with a double as the Vikings fell to 2-2 in the tournament.

"Every game we get better at different aspects," Graham said.

The Vikings took on Northwestern in the fifth game of the tournament. Cady drove in two RBIs and freshman Lyndsy Walsh added two RBIs.

But it wasn't enough as Dana fell 7-5 despite a four-run rally in the final inning. The Vikings couldn't answer a three-inning, seven-run swing by Northwestern.

"This weekend we proved that we could beat anybody," Graham said. "But at the same time we could lose to anybody."

Dana faced Nebraska Wesleyan in the final game of the tournament in Lincoln. The Vikings matched four errors with six stolen bases and scored nine runs in the first three innings to defeat Wesleyan 10-5. Thomsen brought in three RBIs and

went 2 for 3 as Dana improved its conference record to 6-6.

"I think all along the conference championship has been what we've been striving for," Graham said.

The Vikings played last night against Doane College at home and will host the Dana College Softball Tournament tomorrow. The NIAC tournament is scheduled for the following Saturday.

"I think the conference championship is well within our reach, regardless of our seed," Graham said.

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(Sunday Matinees \*2:00) PG13

**GO** (Starts Friday)  
Fri & Sat 7:10 & 9:35 Sun-Thur 7:10  
(Sunday Matinees \*2:10) R

\*MATINEES ALL SEATS ONLY \$3.00!  
Ending Thursday 4/28...  
Forces Of Nature 7:10 PG13

## Dana men split with NWU

**WENDY TROFF**  
Sports Editor

The baseball team battled Nebraska Wesleyan University in two doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday, ending the weekend with two wins.

In the first game, junior Jason Houston went 4-4 while junior Joe Pope led the team in runs with three. Sophomore Aaron Woodard was the winning pitcher and the Vikings won the game with a score of 15-3.

In the second game of the doubleheader, Houston went 2-3 and senior Rich Martell and junior Ryan Enright each had three runs batted in. At the end of the day, the score

was 10-9 in favor of Wesleyan.

Sunday's doubleheader against Nebraska Wesleyan was at home. Junior Joe Pennucci went 2-2 in the first game, while Pope was 2-3 and Woodard and Houston were each 1-1. Enright had two of the team's four RBIs and junior Sam Breuklander was the winning pitcher. Dana came out on top with a final score of 4-2.

Martell went 2-3 in the weekend's final game. Freshman Kyle Murata had one RBI. This time the score was a little higher, but Dana lost the final game to Wesleyan 14-12.

The baseball team did not play the Tuesday game in Omaha against Bellevue University. Their next opponent will be Northwestern College in a doubleheader at home tomorrow. Game time is noon.

DANA COLLEGE

# Hermes

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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.