

Special Christmas Edition!

Hermes

VOLUME 82
NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 7, 2001

Dana College

Faculty Focus: David Hoppe

Rene Nicolay
Staff Writer

David Hoppe, a psychology instructor and campus counselor at Dana College, is grading some papers in his office, his feet propped up on his desk. He idly highlights a paper in his lap.

I sit down on a chair across from him. Hoppe smiles, and he gives the impression of a man with much on his mind. As a teacher and private counselor, he's probably juggling more than a few matters.

I take a look around his office. It's small. Bookshelves are stacked, and on one shelf I see a picture of his two children. One girl, age eleven, and one boy, about nine. Blonde-haired and grinning, they stare back at the camera unabashedly. They are much like their father.

Hoppe was born in Anamosa, Iowa, in 1952 and left after graduating. Hoppe's home environment was a turbulent one. He grew up in a farm family with more problems than just crops. He's a recovering alcoholic of 10 years.

Perhaps this background nurtured a kinship between students and teacher. Hoppe doesn't have the manner of a know-it-all, doesn't act like he's better than his students. Hoppe's approach is low-key and calming, and it's no wonder that he was voted "Professor of the Year" twice in his ten-year career.

Hoppe has not always been a teacher. Among the many different jobs he's had, Hoppe has worked in a mental hospital. From 1987 to 1990, he worked as a chemical dependency counselor.

"So, working with mentally ill people, was your life threatened?" I ask, already knowing the answer.

Hoppe smiled grimly at me. "My life was threatened. These people were actively psychotic, and I was attacked several times."

He explained to me the dangerous mixture of drug dependency and mental illness, or "duel diagnosis"; the picture was not pretty. Of course, I have heard the horror stories - no

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Sights and Sounds Festivities Invade Dana

Lynsie Cetto
Staff Writer

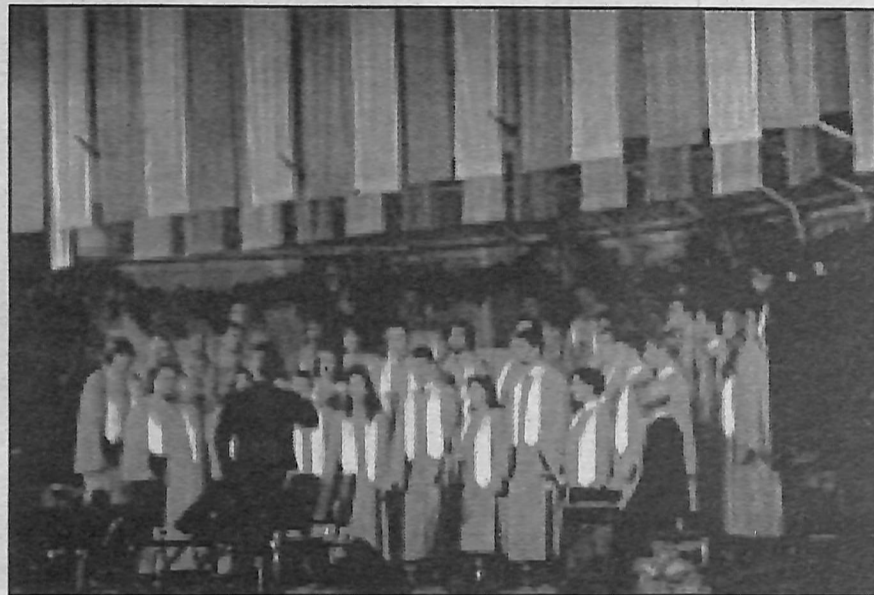
Sights were seen and sounds were heard this weekend as our campus was flung into the festivities of the annual Sights and Sounds celebration.

Alumni, parents and community members joined with Dana students to enjoy many activities.

The Danish heritage of Dana was celebrated with food at the Smorgasbord, dancing with the Scandinavian Folk Dancers and the beauty of Santa Lucia—the Swedish Festival of Lights. Authentic-looking costumes were worn with pride, and there were smiles on the faces of the onlookers as the Viking Encampment group performed a rendition of life at a Viking camp.

Other events included a Christmas play, "All Through the House," in which Dana's drama department showed the talent of some of its students. The cast of the play, written by Dana Theatre director Paul "Doc" Schneider, included Todd Maxwell, Chris Sorensen, Chris Bertschinger, Mary Sutherland, Beth Webb, and Emily Neve.

The setting for Schneider's play is a bar in New York City on Christmas Eve.



Sights and Sounds Saturday and Sunday saw the Dana College Chorale perform Christmas favorites in a packed Borup Coliseum. Their final song was "Gloria" in Latin, when they were accompanied by the Omaha Brass Ensemble. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

"It was a real challenge to be in, because it was about the World Trade Center and all the characters had to deal with losing someone," Neve said.

"It was kinda nerve racking to put something on that topic out there (on stage), but the audience reacted well."

The premier event of the weekend was the combined choral and band concert. Borup was filled Sunday and people waited to get in.

"I was really impressed with how many people showed up to watch," said audience member Jenni Whelan.

As maintenance workers searched for extra chairs, people squeezed into the bleachers, and anticipation continued to build. The crowd quieted and was treated to the beautiful voices of the chorus.

After a short break, the band took the

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS Cont'd on Page 8

Santa Lucia and the Festival of Lights Descend Re-opened Cafeteria Staircase

Todd Maxwell
Staff Writer

The lights are dim, the room is quiet, there is the sense that all are waiting for something. Then, from somewhere unseen, the lovely sound of singing can be heard.

Slowly, the singers come into view. A procession of young women, beautifully robed in white with sparkling garlands in their hair. One

who wears a wreath on her head adorned with candles leads them.

As they come fully into view the candles are lit, filling the dim room with shimmering candlelight. Their song is in Danish, but it is easy to hear that the song they sing is of the fabled Santa Lucia.

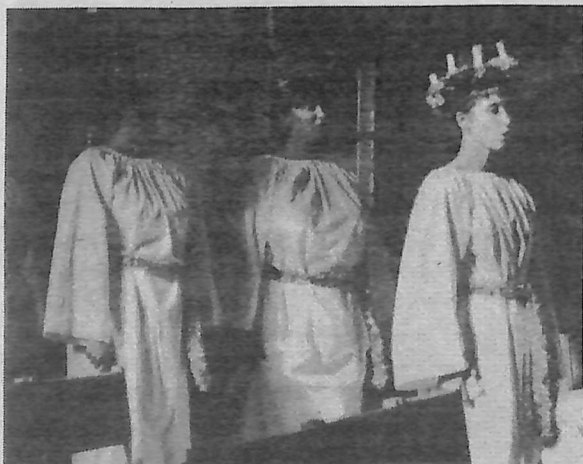
As the song ends, Jeanmarie Nielsen, their director, explains the story of Santa Lucia. Throughout Sweden the feast day of Lucia is celebrated as a festival of lights. No one is quite sure why Lucia, a 4th century Sicilian saint, came to be so revered in Sweden. It is believed that Christian missionaries brought stories of her life to the North, which entranced the Swedish people.

In the early hours of the morning on Santa Lucia day, the eldest daughter in each family dresses in

a white dress with a red sash, and wears an evergreen wreath with seven lighted candles on her head. She carries coffee and buns to each family member in his or her room while singing a traditional song.

Dana College's own Santa Lucia

SANTA LUCIA Cont'd on Page 4



Jessica Gall and Renee Hesseltine during Santa Lucia on Sunday during Sights and Sounds. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Heard of the annual Late Night Breakfast? Each year, the cafeteria hosts faculty, who serve (literally) a late night breakfast. It rocks, and helps relieve finals stress.

It'll take place this year on Tuesday, December 11, 2001, at 10 p.m. in the Cafeteria. Shawn Cook is looking for volunteers to help serve or clean. They start preparing the food around 8 p.m. and begin serving at 10. Clean-up follows until 11 p.m.

Email Shawn Cook if you'd like to help this year.

SPORTS

Wrestling Team Visits Las Vegas: Artis Castillo Stands Out

Marshall Marquardt
Staff Writer

The Viking wrestling team returned from the Las Vegas Invitational held last Friday and Saturday with no awards, but pride.

Sophomore Artis Castillo (184 lbs.) returned from the tournament with the best record, wrestling to a 3-2 record on the weekend and doing it in style.

After losing his first match, Castillo lit a fire that would burn up the second-ranked wrestler at 184 lbs. in the NAIA. And that was just before defeating last year's junior college national champion.

"I thought that Art wrestled extremely well," head coach Steve Costanzo said.

Castillo's first win of the day came over Jesse Roseberry of Div. II Adams State with a pin coming 0:51 into the second period.

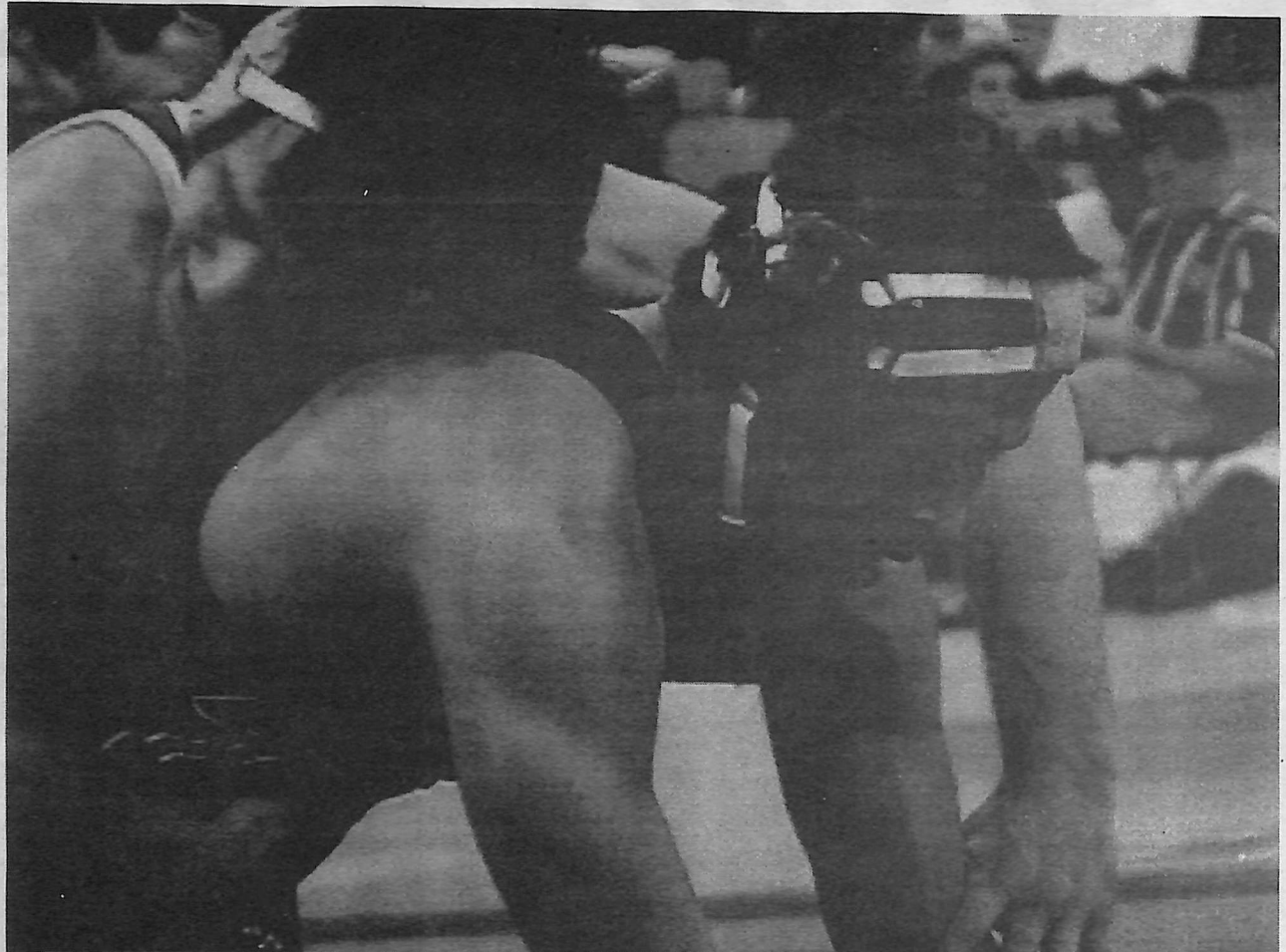
Castillo then pinned Pacific College's Ian Courter, who is currently ranked second in NAIA standings at 184 lbs., 0:08 into the second period.

Castillo made his last stand against defending junior college national champion Josh Birt from North Idaho University, beating Birt 3-2.

Along with the best record, Castillo was awarded the "wrestler of the week" award from Costanzo.

"He (Art) came out of his shell," Costanzo said. "He has been in a shell for the last four weeks. He got that confidence started, which he really needed, and you could see it on the mat where he wrestled very well."

Four other wrestlers scored points for the Vikings. Freshmen Brian Tsutsumi (125 lbs.) and Leister Bowling (157 lbs.), and juniors Nick Schmitt (141



Sophomore Art Castillo (bottom) wrestling at 184 lbs during the Las Vegas Invitational, which was held on last Friday and Saturday. He finished with a 3-2 record, even winning over an NAIA second-ranked wrestler. Photo by the Viking Wrestling Club.

lbs.) and Wynn Fangmeier (197 lbs.) wrestled to a 1-2 record on the tournament.

Tsutsumi decisioned Justin Stanley from Lassen Community College 6-2. Bowling decisioned Aviv Bercovicz of American College 8-4. Schmitt decisioned Wade Brzozowski of Pacific Lutheran College 10-6. Fangmeier decisioned Mike Gerstl of Columbia College 5-4.

Tsutsumi took home with him

Costanzo's "toughman of the week" award.

Other wrestlers that competed for the Vikings were sophomores Sam Melendrez (149 lbs.), Keith Clausen (165 lbs.), Luke Kuhl (174 lbs.), Ryan Tonkin (HWT) and senior Pete Isham (133 lbs.).

"It is about the highest level of competition that we will be exposed to all year," Costanzo said. "We learned how serious and competitive other teams are, from warming up to competing."

The tournament was attended by 53 teams and was dominated by Div. I teams. No NAIA team placed in the top 20 of the tournament.

"One of the best things is that nine of the ten guys that competed at Las Vegas will be returning for at least two more years," Costanzo said. Isham will graduate in May.

The Vikings will get ready to compete at the University of Nebraska at Kearney tomorrow.

Men's Basketball Loses to Northwestern, 96-90

Jon Carlo
Staff Writer

The Dana women's basketball Vikings gave the defending national champion Northwestern Red Raiders a first-half scare in their own gym last weekend. Dana trailed just five points at halftime in Orange City, Iowa, before losing to the Red Raiders, 97-62.

Dana took advantage of poor all-around shooting by Northwestern and played an excellent first half, hitting 50 percent of two and three-point shots. The Red Raiders shot 38 percent from the field and hit only three three-pointers.

The lady Vikings were also on at

the charity stripe, missing only two out of ten free throws attempted compared to Northwestern's 3 of 10 performance.

The result was that Dana went into the locker room down just 37-32 against the Red Raiders, who were ranked third nationally in preseason polls.

In the second half Dana faced a completely different Northwestern squad. The Raiders came out and hit 66 percent of two-point goals and hit 6 of 10 three pointers attempted.

The lady Vikings only shot a dismal 20 percent from the field and made only 2 of 9 three-pointers. They were, however, able to stay consistent at the free throw line, hitting 15 of 16 shots taken.

Dana was led in scoring by Momi Monis, who netted 11 points and sister Mili, who chipped in 10. Janine Jones scored nine points as she hit 3 of 5 three-pointers. Northwestern had four players in double figures, led by Jaime Woudstra with 19.

Tiffany Poole, waiting for a Dana scoring opportunity. The girls lost 97-62 in a game that was very close in the first half of play. Photo by Kjaer Kirkegaard.



Northwestern Defeats Lady Vikes, 97-62

Jason Dannelly
Staff Writer

Orange City, Iowa - Despite knowing that the Northwestern Red Raiders were the number-one team in the nation, the defending national champions, and that they would have to shut down a 6'7", 265-pound center, the Dana Vikings played well in the first half of the game Saturday in Orange City.

Unfortunately, they lost, 96-90. It wasn't as if the Vikes couldn't find any offense. There were a 25-point effort from Derek Hack and a 21-point game from Jon Mauro, and Bruce Erdmann chipped in 10.

Instead, the Vikes could not outshoot the hot hands of the Red Raiders, who fired in 58 percent of their shots for the game. "We kinda expected that," head coach Chris Fear said after the game. "(Northwestern) is a good team. Something they've done for years and years is score."

Dana had a couple chances towards the end of regulation to win the ball game when they had cut the lead to three, 89-86. The Vikes got open looks at the

basket, but could not get the ball to fall as Northwestern extended the lead to eight before Mauro tipped in the final points of the game. The Red Raiders were led by Brandon Jacobsen a 6'7" senior who had 26. Senior Brandon Woudstra had 22, 14 of them in the second half.

"You try and do what you can against (Jacobsen). They've got some difference makers on this team, and that's why they're the defending national champions," Fear said.

Dana led for much of the first half, helped by Mauro's two three-pointers. Erdmann also held a hot hand from behind the arc as he also hit two threes. The Vikings were led in rebounding by Derek Hack (7) and Luke Connell (5). The Vikings will play Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln Tuesday.

Sports Viking Events Coming Soon...

Men's Basketball: 12/14 William Penn 6:00 p.m. here in Blair. Later 12/15 Peru State 3:00 p.m. here in Blair.

Women's Basketball: 12/8 St. Mary 3:00 here in Blair.

Wrestling: 12/8 UNK Open (all day) in Kearney, NE.

Track: 1/19 Doane in Crete. 1/26 USF in Sioux Falls.

FEATURES

Folk Dancers Bring Scandinavian Flare to Sights and Sounds

Marcie Smidt
Guest Writer

Scandinavian Folk Dancers visited Dana College on Sunday to entertain and share knowledge about their culture.

The group of ten, who mostly originate from the Omaha area, included seven adults and three children. The oldest of the group was 79 and the youngest one was three.

The elder of the group and its founder, Poul V. Steffensen is a Denmark native who now lives in Omaha.

The dances included a mixture of gliding, hand clapping and switching partners. The performers did a total of eight dances.

Some of the songs were fast and the others kept a nice rhythmic beat. The Scandinavian folk dancers were quick on their feet, and the children who took part were amazing.

The little three year old and the five year old were more excited than anyone. They knew the moves of the dances and were ready to start onto the next dance.

Every dance they did meant something different. For example, the first

dance, the Alamond, is a Danish dance that requires the dancer to meet new people by switching partners so often.

The fifth dance they performed was called the Fiescer.

"It is more of a picker-upper," Kate said while she was announcing and explaining all the different dances. This was another Danish dance that was faster paced than the others. It was a lot of hand clapping and moving around the floor.

The last performance was the group's signature dance. Poul Steffensen choreographed it and it is suppose to represent homesickness.

The folk dancers were very entertaining and it was a good experience for the audience.

"We practice at least once a week for about an hour and a half," Poul said. "We also travel whenever we get the chance."

The group has traveled quite a bit. They come to Dana and perform along with other colleges and schools in Nebraska. They are all good friends and plan on entertaining people for quite some time.



Folk dancers frolicking onstage in Borup Coliseum. Most were from Omaha. They gave several performances and awed the crowds. Photo by Kjaer Kirkegaard.



ATTENTION RESIDENCE HALL STUDENTS:

The Dana halls close this coming Friday at 10 a.m. All residence hall students must check out for the Christmas Break within 24 hours of their last final. RAs will be doing inspection checks of all rooms on Friday morning.

Residents are reminded to close their blinds, empty their garbage, take care of their plants and fish, lock their doors and windows, unplug all plugs, empty all refrigerators and leave their doors open, and leave the heat on "low" in their rooms.

The halls will be closed until the day, Sunday, January 6, at 2 p.m., right before Interim begins, Monday, January 7. Do not come back early.

Sport teams practicing and playing games over Break need to work with your coaches concerning building entry. Others like student teachers or international students need to check with Mike "Chief" Olson, Director of Residence Life in the Student Center, x7250. Contact him soon.

All students are encouraged to be gone for the 3 week Holiday period. Campus Security is in charge during this whole vacation time, 533-3343.

KDCV "Nowhere Radio"

Interested in helping out at the Radio Station? Or would you like to have a show? If you're interested, contact the Operations Manager Sean Crow at x7542.


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SMORGASBORD

Enjoying the Scandanavian Smorgasbord: One of Sights and Sounds' Biggest Events

Matt Bloomingdale
Staff Writer

Dana College held its annual smorgasbord in the campus center as part of Sights and Sounds last weekend.

The smorgasbord introduced many, including former Omaha mayor Hal Daub, to a wide variety of Danish and Scandinavian food, including creamed carrots, potatoes, salmon, sausage, and the ever popular meatballs.

The smorgasbord also served a range of Danish salads and deserts.

Most students liked the experience of trying new foods.

"It was interesting to see what other cultures eat," said freshman Abby McCarty. "The experience was really good."

Sophomore Emily Neve also enjoyed being introduced to new foods.

"I enjoyed trying food that I don't normally eat everyday," Neve said.

Students enjoyed the diverse deserts, including pudding pies, cookies and crackers.

"The crackers were good," said junior Charlie Kaup.

The smorgasbord also allowed students to enjoy the recently renovated



Perhaps one of the most popular activities during the weekend of Sights and Sounds was the Scandanavian Smorgasbord. Quite a few people flocked to eat from many tables of food, although the price was high (\$15.50 for adults, \$9.50 for children). It was also the first time this year Dana had opened up the main serving lines and the central stairs, after extensive remodeling to add a much-needed elevator. Photo by Lysie Cetto.

cafeteria that was finished this weekend. The new serving line opened up the cafeteria and should relieve the cramped lines.

"The cafeteria was less cluttered and looked really nice," McCarty said.

Though many students thought that the food was not as good

as last year, the overall experience was a pleasurable one.

"I was really impressed with the food and the new cafeteria," said sophomore Lysie Cetto.

RADIO Cont'd From Page 2

Marcie Smidt
Guest Writer

music or use the station's collection.

Nowhere Radio runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week so there are plenty of time slots available. When the station is not playing music by live DJs, a computerized jukebox plays alternative music.

Current DJs like Brian Anderson and Jessica Angus do a Christian Rock show on Wednesday nights from 10 until midnight. Anderson says they "want to get the music (Christian Rock) out more because it's a growing genre."

Each night Anderson and Angus have Nickel Giveaways, and they give away, well, nickels. Callers must correctly answer questions about the music, movies discussed on the show or other subjects the DJs bring up.

"We have lots of listeners," Anderson said.

Another DJ, Soda Pop, describes his show as mainly a music show with not a whole lot of talking. But some guests have included friends and a member of popular local band Venaculas.

Soda Pop is neither a communication major nor in the class and explains he's "just doing it for fun." His music included everything except country and rap.

Next semester's improvements are already under way with new equipment already ordered. A new computer jukebox system will be installed, along with a new CD player, production board, microphones and headphones.

Also next semester, Nowhere Radio looks to get fully involved, providing live on location shows, giveaways, contests and guests. Tune in to 91.1, run entirely by students, for students.

Serving The Masses

Bryant Johnson
Staff Writer

On Sunday, December 2, 2001, the campus center held the Smorgasbord, which is a big part of Sights and Sounds. Hundreds of people came out to eat and have a good time.

Students ate with their parents and enjoyed a Sunday on campus with them. As I walked around I noticed that there were a lot of elderly people. I had never participated in the Smorgasbord or Sights and Sounds before this year. I thought that it was mostly younger people, but I was wrong.

The elderly people were nice and were having deep conversations at their table. The job I was assigned caused me to interrupt and ask them, "Could I take your plate for you?"

After about five hours of nonstop work, the cafeteria started to get quiet and the tables weren't full of people anymore. I thought we were through for the day. Then, about an hour later, a big crowd waiting to eat appeared. I was thinking, oh my God, another crowd—some more time on my feet.

After that the crowd finished, it was time to go home. All the workers were complaining about their feet hurting and they said they were glad to see the day go.

The experience made me have a flash back, but I see the day like this: a fun day gone, a hard day's work led to a job well done.

SANTA LUCIA Cont'd from Page 1

singers carry out part of this tradition by singing traditional Danish Christmas songs as a part of Sights and Sounds. They sing several songs and carols in both English and Danish. This year's singers were Jessica Gall, Maureen Gubbels, Allison Kline and Kori Williamsen, first sopranos; Lisa Glissman and Sarah Olsen, second sopranos; and Renée Hesseltine, Jo Ellen Kanne and Jillian Sheerhorn, altos.

The Festivals of Lights were held first, during the day, in Trinity Chapel, attached to the Durham Center.

Later, the singers descended Dana's recently remodeled staircase (opened just in time for Sights and Sounds) in the E.C. Hunt Campus Center.

After the singers concluded their performance, with Santa Lucia (Jessica Gall) standing in place under her candle-lit wreath, they return to singing the traditional song of Santa Lucia. They leave just as they came, singing in solemn procession into the darkness.

"Santa Lucia, thy light is glowing / Through darkest winter night, comfort bestowing. / Dreams float on dreams tonight, / Comes then the morning light, / Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia."



Actors portraying a Viking encampment. They set up camp in the Black Box and refused to leave on Sunday during Sights and Sounds. Photo by Lysie Cetto.

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FEATURES

Dana Chorale And Concert Band Attract Huge Audience

Rene Nicolay
Staff Writer

They stood under red and white banners, and their voices echoed beautifully as they sang Christmas songs. They wore bright red choir robes that contrasted with the voluminous pine trees that lined the stage.

This picturesque scene isn't from a storybook, but what took place in the Sights and Sounds of Christmas Concert last weekend.

After President Christopherson gave a speech, the Chorale kicked off the concert with "Angels We Have Heard On High." Conducted by Richard Palmer, the group was rumored to be exceptional.

The Christmas concert lived up to the audience's expectations as they sang some well-known carols. On Saturday, soloist Allison Botkin sang "Mary, Did You Know?" and on Sunday, soloist Jeremy Bryan sang "Away in A Manger."

For the Chorale's finale, the students sang "Gloria" in Latin, accompanied by the Omaha Brass Ensemble.

After the Chorale received a standing ovation, the Dana College Concert Band, conducted by William Hall, came on to the stage. After a short but lively fanfare, Hall addressed the audience, as he did before each piece.



Dana College Chorale performed on Saturday and Sunday in Borup Coliseum. Huge crowds of people came to see them as they performed classic Christmas songs. Two soloists, Saturday's Allison Botkin ("Mary, Did You Know?") and Sunday's Jeremy Bryan ("Away In A Manger") also sang. Finally, the Chorale as a whole performed "Gloria" in Latin, as they were accompanied by the professional sounds of the Omaha Brass Ensemble. Photo by Lysie Cetto.

"Be Thou My Vision" was strong in religious undertones, and the dramatic "Overture to Messiah" received much applause.

The band played a piece called the "Toy' Symphony," in which some

members played silly instruments like a whistle that sounded like a bird, a crank, and a whistle with only two notes. The result was a sound like a toy playing in the band that left the audience chuckling.

A proud tradition, the Sights

and Sounds of Christmas Concert adds the needed "Sound" to the title. Each year the songs are beautiful and played to the best of the Dana students' abilities, which just happened to receive standing ovations.

CD Review: Now That's What I Call Christmas

Now That's What I Call Christmas!

Various Artists

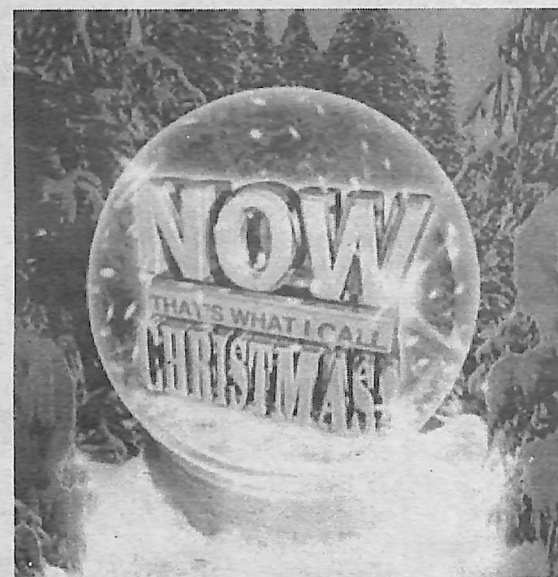
(Universal)

10/23/2001

From Nat "King" Cole's classic rendition of "The Christmas Song" to Britney Spears's "My Only Wish (This Year)," this two-disc collection of holiday songs has something for everyone. With 36 tracks of various genres spread over

two discs, "Now That's What I Call Christmas!" might be the best, most diverse "value-plus" holiday album ever released. The "Now" series is known for bringing together many artists from different record labels to provide definitive collections of hits. Their new Christmas collection is no exception, assembling an abundance of pop holiday classics, from Bing Crosby ("White

Christmas") to Boyz II Men ("Silent Night"). In between there are wonderful classics by Brenda Lee, the Beach Boys, Elvis, and Burl Ives on disc one, balanced on disc two by more recent standards, including Bruce Springsteen's live version of "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" and John and Yoko's "Happy Xmas (War is Over)." Not everything in this collection is for everyone, but any true lover of Christmas will appreciate the variety of this compilation and look forward to finding it in their stocking on Christmas morning,



if they can wait that long.

Todd Maxwell

Director of Special Events: Anne Christopherson

Rene Nicolay
Staff Writer

Thirty years ago, the Dana campus celebrated Christmas and showcased students under the direction of Mrs. Lela Navy. These days, Anne Christopherson carries on the tradition of Sights and Sounds as the Director of Special Events.

Christopherson began as a volunteer 15 years ago, helping with Sight and Sounds, as well as other activities. She enjoyed it so much that, four years ago, she became a Special Projects Coordinator, eventually moving up.

"Sights and Sounds lives with you through out the year," says Christopherson. She thinks of ideas during the entire year, but not without

the help and suggestions of others. "We started doing the concert around three years ago. The music really helps to bring people in."

Christopherson must keep things fresh, with a new variety. The art exhibit and craft sales draws people in, she says. They come to see what's new, so Christopherson and her team must make sure they continually change things.

She isn't sure how long she'll be able to do Sights and Sounds of Christmas. While she is the director and boss, Christopherson is under the Institutional Development Office, so if they decide to end it, she will.

However, she hopes to do it for the remainder of her career here at Dana. "As long as there is support and enthusiasm for my project, I'll continue to do it."

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 these 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 1252, Blair NE 68008. Submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

OPINION

The Many Signs of God

Derek Fey
Guest Writer

"Divine act found right down the road."

As I study to become a pastor, there's one thing that has bothered me about Christianity. As Christians, (I use that term only for the fact that the majority of the campus is "Christian," practicing or not. This term is not meant to be a prejudice against non-Christian Dananites.) it's easy to think that since Christ's crucifixion, there haven't been any divinely inspired acts on earth.

Don't get me wrong, Christ was the ultimate miracle worker, there's no denying it. However, as Christians, we must believe that divinely inspired acts have been in existence since His resurrection.

There's no question God inspired the councils of the first (and later) centuries, as they determined the books that would make up the Bible as we know it (although you crazy Catholics decided to include 12 other books).

But there are even more recent examples of divinely inspired acts. Every day God is working through people in order to create a better situation in the world. Whether it be someone giving their time to help another or someone giving financial support to another, there are plenty examples of it.

However, quite possibly the best example of a divinely inspired act in recent times comes from a fast food chain. Fast food, you say? Yes, the latest miracle is not found in the church, it's found in your local Taco Bell.

The inventor of the Chalupa (unknown), is the most recent sign of Christ working through mankind. This taco has brought immeasurable amounts of joy and happiness to people around the globe. The Chalupa has single handedly bettered the world situation. People are generally happier around the world (except of course for those in Afghanistan whose lives are being destroyed by the United States).

There is a fundamental idea behind this latest divine act. Before, God seemed to have revealed Him or Herself only to those who were spiritual. The fact that God has now revealed Him/Herself through a secular setting is a sign. S/he is trying to tell mankind that the dividing of religions was a mistake and that we should be faithful to the Ultimate, not faithful to our doctrines.

Religion is supposed to guide us to a faith in God. Its purpose is to help us gain an understanding of faith. We use religion to help us worship the Supreme Being more. We don't worship our religion or the church itself. In this respect, we are being idolaters.

The Chalupa has paved the way for religious and non-religious believers alike, to try and understand what faith is all about. Let us use this latest divinely inspired act as a way to unite and understand what our faith means to us.

AIDS Threat Not One To Take Lightly

Last Sat. was World AIDS Day, a weekend day and the day before Sights and Sounds, so it was easy to neglect giving it some thought. It got a little attention on the news (PBS, at least) and I was struck by the fact that the U.S. financial contribution to the global AIDS problem has been significantly decreased in the aftermath of Sept. 11. It just doesn't seem fair to those countries whose populations are dying out.

For my part, I finally watched the movie "Kids." In this show, there was another portrayal of injustice. The girl had unprotected sex only once while

her girlfriend numbered eight or nine, and yet the first girl got infected with HIV. "Casual sex" is quite an understatement re: the behavior of the boy who had infected her.

The theme of this year's World AIDS Day is "I Care...Do You? Youth and AIDS in the 21st Century". I do care about your students. Please abstain or use condoms, preferably with spermicide containing non-oxynol 9. Don't use IV drugs. Stay sober and drug-free so your judgment is not impaired.

Don't become a statistic:
40 million people are living with

HIV or AIDS. 8,000 people worldwide have died of AIDS every day this year. People under the age of 25 represent more than half of all new HIV infections this year, and every minute, more than five young people are infected with HIV.

In the past 20 years, AIDS has claimed nearly 25 million lives.

Take care of yourself. Don't think it can't happen to you. That's what the girl in "Kids" thought. Fair or unfair, it can happen. People care about you. I do, too.

Thanks for reading.

Patti Nielsen, R.N.

DC COMPUTER LAB HOURS: FINALS WEEK & CHRISTMAS BREAK

FINALS WEEK (Dec 10 - 13) Regular hours

Fri (Dec 14) 8 am - 5 pm

Sat (Dec 15) thru Sun (Dec 16) CLOSED

Mon (Dec 17) thru Fri (Dec 21) 8 am - 5 pm

Sat (Dec 22) thru Tues (Jan 1) CLOSED

Wed (Jan 2) thru Fri (Jan 4) 8 am - 5 pm

Sat (Jan 5) thru Sun (Jan 6) CLOSED

Mon (Jan 7 - Interim begins) regular hours
resume

All computer labs in Residence Halls will be
** CLOSED **
from Friday (Dec. 14) until Monday (Jan 7).

Final Exam Schedule

Regular Period

Exam Time

Monday, December 10, 2001

2-2:50 MWF	8-11 a.m.
9-9:50 MWF	noon-3 p.m.
3-3:50 MWF & 7:30/8-8:50 TT	3:15-6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

8-8:50 MWF	8-11 a.m.
12-12:50 MWF	noon-3 p.m.
12:30-1:50 TTH	3:15-6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

11-11:50 MWF	8-11 a.m.
2-3:20 TTH	noon-3 p.m.
1-1:50 MWF	3:15-6:15 p.m.

Thursday, December 13, 2001

10-10:50 MWF	8-11 a.m.
11-12:20 TTH	noon-3 p.m.

Horoscopes

Christmas Edition (Hooray!)

by Lynsie Cetto

Aries March 20-April 19

You are all about fixing things this month. Try not to be too pushy. Also, watch for that cutie who has his or her eyes on you—things are not always as they seem.

Taurus April 20-May 19

You have a lot of physical energy this month; find some way to release all that energy to prevent yourself from getting too jittery. Your luck in love is down this month. If you are single, focus on your schoolwork, and things will work out eventually.

Gemini May 20-June 19

You may need a little extra reassurance from your lovers this month. Find those friends and loved ones who can give you the attention you need and smile for the rest of the world.

Cancer June 21-July 21

You feel like you are wandering around aimlessly, so look for someone special—a friend or otherwise who just may hold your roadmap.

Leo July 22-August 22

As usual, you are full of yourself this month. Try not to let your self-centeredness prevent you from meeting

any people who may be just what you need. So keep your eyes focused outward, Leo.

Virgo August 23-September 21

Be on the lookout and exercise extreme caution: when the time is right, things will work smoothly, yet if you pressure things or go too slowly, your moment will pass.

Libra September 23-October 22

Pay special attention to yourself. Find some alone time to pamper yourself. Your inner thoughts and feelings this month will prepare you for the new year. This is a good time for a Libra to make any New Years resolutions.

Scorpio October 23-November 21

Your artistic self will shine through this month. If you are single, find a creative way to attract that special someone. If you are single, a creative date will help you both fall head over heels for each other.

Sagittarius November 22-December 20

Your inner thoughts will guide you to the things you truly want in life. This month, reflecting inward and sharing those thoughts with someone close will

help you figure life out. This is a great opportunity to become closer to someone, so grab a teddy bear and talk away.

Capricorn December 21-January 19

As always, you are work-oriented this month, but make sure you take the time to really focus on the other things in life. Try to look for the hidden messages that your loved ones are sending, and think about the meanings of your presents, not just what they are. Chances are that someone near to you is trying to tell you something, so open your ears and heart to hear their message.

Aquarius January 20-February 17

You are afraid of commitment to anything. Seize the moment and muster some of your inner strength and you won't be sorry. Your inner thoughts and intuition are perfectly right this month so follow your heart.

Pisces February 18-March 19

A token of your affection given to a loved one this month will make more of a difference than you may ever know. Watch out for financial troubles around the 17th and the rest of your month should be fun.

OPINION

Tips From The Wise: Finals

Lynsie Cetto
Staff Writer

As the semester hurries to a close, stress is at an all-time high. Finals, papers, and Christmas plans consume every waking moment of Dana students' lives. Winter break will be a welcome relief.

With the close of Sights and Sounds activities, the campus has grown eerily quiet, and student focuses have shifted from last weekend's performances to cramming. The Christmas spirit is lost when one is reading chapters assigned long ago and staring at a computer screen wondering what to write.

Finals are a fear looming in the minds of college students. Since these tests can mess up grades for the whole semester, the fear in students' hearts is legitimate and very real. The pressure to do well entices students into late-night cramming sessions and 2 a.m. No Frills runs for brain food.

Students have a lot to think about if their grades are not up to standard. Scholarships can be lost and lives can be drastically changed.

Thus, I have decided to be helpful and give my expert (not really) advice on "how to get everything done and still survive":

#1 Study. The worst feeling in the world is walking away from a final knowing that if you had just opened your notes, you would have done better.

#2 While you study, take breaks. Tests show that you retain information better and for a longer period of time if you take frequent short breaks. So study your religion, then switch to Spanish. You'll be surprised how much more you'll retain. Or take a break to visit some friends down the hall. But a break—not an evening.

#3 With that said, do not put off things and procrastinate. If you force yourself to be up the night before a big exam, you will not score as well as you would if you studied in increments before and had a good night's sleep. Besides, you will feel so much better if you get it all done and can just relax.

#4 Relieve some stress: grab a friend and get a backrub, watch "I Love Lucy" re-

runs, do whatever you need to get yourself in a relaxed mindset to study. (Hint: if you attended Anthony and Lynsie's Stress Relief Program Wednesday, you will know all sorts of things to do to relax and get rid of stress.)

#5 Eat, but do not snack constantly. People tend to snack as they do their homework. If you do this, you are likely to gain your holiday seven pounds before checkouts on December 14th.

#6 Find somewhere quiet where people won't bother you. If you have trouble concentrating and you sit in your dorm room with your music on and the door open, chances are your homework is not very likely going to get finished. Head to your floor's study room, or the library.

#7 Control your panic button. Do not freak out about everything; keep things in perspective the best you can. Once you have turned something in, what is done is done and there is nothing you can do. So just chill and focus on what still needs to be done. If you start to feel overwhelmed, take a few minutes and go work out, run, lift weights, or pop in an exercise video.

#8 Prioritize—set a goal. Do the things most important and with time constraints first. Break all those HUGE projects into little pieces and start with little things you can get done right now.

#9 Get organized; finals time is no time to be searching for things you need. Organize your notes and research for a project before you try to tackle it. You will save yourself a lot of time and the stress of looking if you just stop and organize first.

#10 Above all else, do not miss the annual Late Night Breakfast (Tuesday December 11th at 10 p.m.) We all know it is bad for us to eat that late, but how often do you get a chance to be served by Dana's finest professors and staff members? Besides, you deserve a break!

I hope these tips were helpful. Maybe I will be able to take my own advice and start on my Communication Theory paper . . . we'll see. But hey, as you begin to look at the list of things still yet to do, just smile and think: only a week until I get home-cooked food. I can't wait until winter break.

Christmas Spirit Is Lacking In Recent Light-Thief

Toni Hoffmeier
Staff Writer

It's the week before finals and all through DC; some thief was stealing from you and from me.

A 20-foot strand of Christmas lights was stolen from the Communication/Religion pod on the 2nd floor of DC. Professor Schreiber bought the strand of lights for the pod's light display outside of their offices.

My question is: why would someone be so inconsiderate? These lights were bought to show the spirit of Christmas, meaning that it is the time to share, to give and to love. Where are these characteristics now? Gone with the Grinch?

Probably not, considering the Grinch grew a heart and brought the Christmas items back that he stole.

The light display outside of the pod was meant for all students, faculty and staff to enjoy. Why would anyone want to ruin that?

Essentially, they aren't only stealing from Professor Schreiber, but from everyone who walked past the display. I hope that this does not affect other professors and their feelings about putting Christmas decorations on display, because I love walking down hallways and seeing the lights.

It's a comfort, a feeling of home away from home during the Christmas season. It kind of signals that college friends and professors have become part of your life.

To the thief or thieves, I really hope you are proud. You have taken, what was to be a great display for all to see, away from us. My only question is: Why?

Doing bad things? Need advice?
Don't know what to do?



Please feel free to write Cupid
with relationship questions at:
dearcupid@mail.com

Viking Film Society December (Early Film)

Sunday, Dec. 9th: Charlie Chaplin
double feature.

Look forward in January for the War/
Anti-War portions of the VFS showings.
We'll keep you posted on dates.
Remember VFS is open to all students
and faculty, and is free of charge.

Student Spotlight

by Lynsie Cetto

What is your favorite Christmas Gift?



Darrell Greene, Sophomore
The very first bike my parents gave me, because I have so many good memories of it.



Jayson McCune, Sophomore
First car, because I was finally free to just get in the car and drive. I didn't have to ask my parents first.



Jessica Angus, Junior
My favorite Christmas gifts are always in the stockings because my mom always puts something special in them. It's our family tradition.



Marcie Smidt, Sophomore
When I was 3 my dad gave me a kitchen set. I thought it was so cool because I had so many dishes and everything. I kept that thing forever.

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Let us know what you think!

The Hermes Staff

FEATURES

Sights and Sounds, With Many Activities, Drew Crowds

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS Cont'd from Page 1

stage and performed many classic Christmas songs, blended with some not-so-commonly-heard songs.

The performance was a success. "We worked hard this semester and the concert was a success," said Kari Kristensen, the band's baritone-sax player.



Talented weavers invaded the Campus Center and began producing fine cloth. Pictured here are actually women spinning on a wheel, who produce yarn for the weaving. Photo by Kjaer Kirkegaard.

Overall, the weekend was delightful.

The sights were seen and the

sounds were heard. Mostly, the festivities were a welcomed distraction as finals approach.



Professor Emeritus John W. Nielsen delighted the crowds who came to hear his stories in the Forum. He is the father of current Dana English Professor John Mark Nielsen. Photo by Kjaer Kirkegaard.

From Mental Hospitals to Dana: Hoppe Has Experience

DAVID HOPPE Cont'd from Page 1



Psychology Professor David Hoppe, smiling. What more can anyone say? He's been everywhere, worked at everything. Photo by Kjaer Kirkegaard.

student of David Hoppe's hadn't. The one woman who tore off her clothes and screamed, "He's raping me, he's raping me!" while Hoppe sat innocently in the doorway, eight feet away.

"You spend so many hours around psychotic people who think that blue is the number 7, you begin to question reality yourself," he reflects. Soon, his job at the mental hospital turned sour. Hoppe looks down at his papers, his voice not as soft as it had been as he tells me of the sudden change. He said that, while he enjoyed the part where he helped

people, things began to change, and soon he began doing less helping and more paperwork. Because of this, he quit.

A new job soon followed, a career that Hoppe believes was the most enjoyable. He helped run a halfway house as a clinical director for chemically dependent kids. "I liked it because I had contact with the patients for a very long period of time. They lived there and I saw them every day," Hoppe said.

I wondered out loud if special attachments developed in such a setting, if it was hard to let the kids go back. Hoppe nods. "You'd do so well, they'd get better and then you'd have to send them back to an environment where they'd get all goofed up again."

I nod, though I could never fully understand. The frustration, the anger that goes with the territory. "Why are you in this profession?" I ask.

Hoppe's answer is simple and speaks in volumes by itself. "To help people." Along side his teaching career, Hoppe also has a private center in Omaha. His specialty is addictions (such as

alcohol, drugs, sex, and gambling) and gender issues (cross dressers and transsexuals).

To my question of what he's dealing with now, he answers, "A gambler." He's in his mid 20's. This new patient spent \$8300 dollars gambling and is \$3500 in debt. "He's depressed, suicidal," Hoppe says casually, adjusting his glasses as he stares at his feet on the desk. "He's living in the basement of his friend's house, and his family won't even talk to him."

I raise my eyebrows at the ridiculously high sum. Hoppe arches his eyebrow back at me and smiles, as if to say, "This is nothing compared to what else I've seen." And Hoppe has seen a lot, too much to cover in just one story.

I stand up, shake his hand and thank him for his time. He asks if he did all right, laughing. I laugh and tell him he did fine. I walk out of his office, looking forward to my next class, Introduction to Psychology, and the stories and lessons that make it so unique.

"Nowhere" Radio, 91.1 KDCV Found At Dana College

Marcie Smidt
Guest Writer

Dana's campus radio station, KDCV, has changed its name.

No longer is 91.1 "The Jam"—it now goes by "Nowhere Radio."

Operations Manager Sean Crow says that he didn't feel "The Jam" fit with the music styles of the new Disc Jockeys.

"Nowhere Radio is ambiguous and not specific," Crow said. "Listeners can form their own meaning."

This year's executive staff and DJs brainstormed for possible names.

Among the options were "Viking Radio," or simply "91.1."

Before being called "The Jam," Dana's radio station was known as "Renegade Radio."

At the beginning of the fall semester, Dr. Mary McComb (head of the Communication Department) and Bill Steckis (KDCV's advisor) interviewed possible candidates for executive staff positions. Crow is the current operations manager and in charge of the general overseeing of the radio station, its employees and DJs.

Production director William

Mathis records and enters promos into the computer and is also responsible for general maintenance of the station and its equipment. Chris Headley is the music director and programs music into the computer jukebox. Lars Madsen was named news and sports director and coordinates news and sports updates.

Public relations was assigned to Marcie Smidt, whose duties include advertising, promotions and image of Nowhere Radio. Tony Knuppel is an assistant to the music director and also helps with other duties of the station.

KDCV's name change is not the

only thing that is new this year.

A handful of new DJs have joined the line-up. Along with all the new faces comes a wide variety of music, from D.J. D's Sunday night Hip-Hop, Bob Parson's Jazz and Blues or Jo Ellen Krane's Christian contemporary

There is sure to be music for everyone. Returning veterans include Chris Headley, Tony Knuppel, Rusty and the Radio Bitch and Lars Madsen. Crow says there are only a few simple requirements for a DJ: have two free hours every week, and either supply your own

RADIO Cont'd on Page 3