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Crushing two teams in recent tournament, the Vikings return tired but triumphant.

Officials arrest two in sniper case

Matt Bloomingdale
Editor-in-Chief

Police officials arrested two in connection with the Maryland sniper attacks that have claimed the lives of 10 people and injured three.

John Allen Muhammad, 42, along with his 17-year-old stepson, John Lee Malvo of Camden, New Jersey were arrested on federal firearm charges, at 3:19 a.m. Thursday morning.

Though investigators close to the scene were hesitant to link the firearm charges to the sniper attacks, the two men had been wanted as material witnesses pertaining to the attacks. During the arrest, officials recovered a rifle that fires the same ammunition as those used in previous sniper attacks. More significantly, officers located a mysterious compartment in the car's rear that would potentially allow a rifle to be concealed but easily accessible while driving.

The men were arrested when a motorist saw a vehicle that matched the description given by authorities.

The arrest came hours after Maryland law enforcement officials released a photo of Muhammad, describing him as both "armed and dangerous."

The men were found sleeping in a 1990 blue Chevrolet Caprice at a Maryland rest stop just off Interstate 70.

Here, officials found the civilian version of an M-16 assault rifle (called an XM-15) that fires the same .223 ammunition used in the sniper attacks that have left many in the states of Maryland and Virginia terrified since the first attack on October 2.

Richard Dyke, the owner of the company which engineered the gun, said the XM-15 is usually equipped with a 10-round magazine. Dyke did say that the XM-15 was a popular target-shooting weapon and could be highly accurate, scopeless, within 50 yards. A skilled marksman, he said, could be more precise from a longer range.

Officials plan to test-fire the rifle so that they may compare their results to the bullet fragments found from previous sniper attacks

Hermanson: actor turned critic, professor

Born in Louisville, he's an expert on theater lighting design, Vladimir Nabokov and Donald Barthelme

Jeff Mangus
Assistant Editor

Some people might think summing up the hormones and yearnings of your teenage life into a few paragraphs is hard.

Dr. Scott Hermanson nailed it in one sentence: "I grew up in Louisville, Kentucky," he said, "and you might take note that I said Loo-ah-ville, not Loo-is-ville like some of you Nebraska types; I stayed in Louisville until I was 18, then

joined the navy and was shipped off to Guadalcanal."

He studied me, looking bug-eyed. I wrote it down anyway, even though it was either an obvious lie (he's just over 30) or grounds for commitment into an asylum. "No, I'll be truthful," he said. "I went to college."

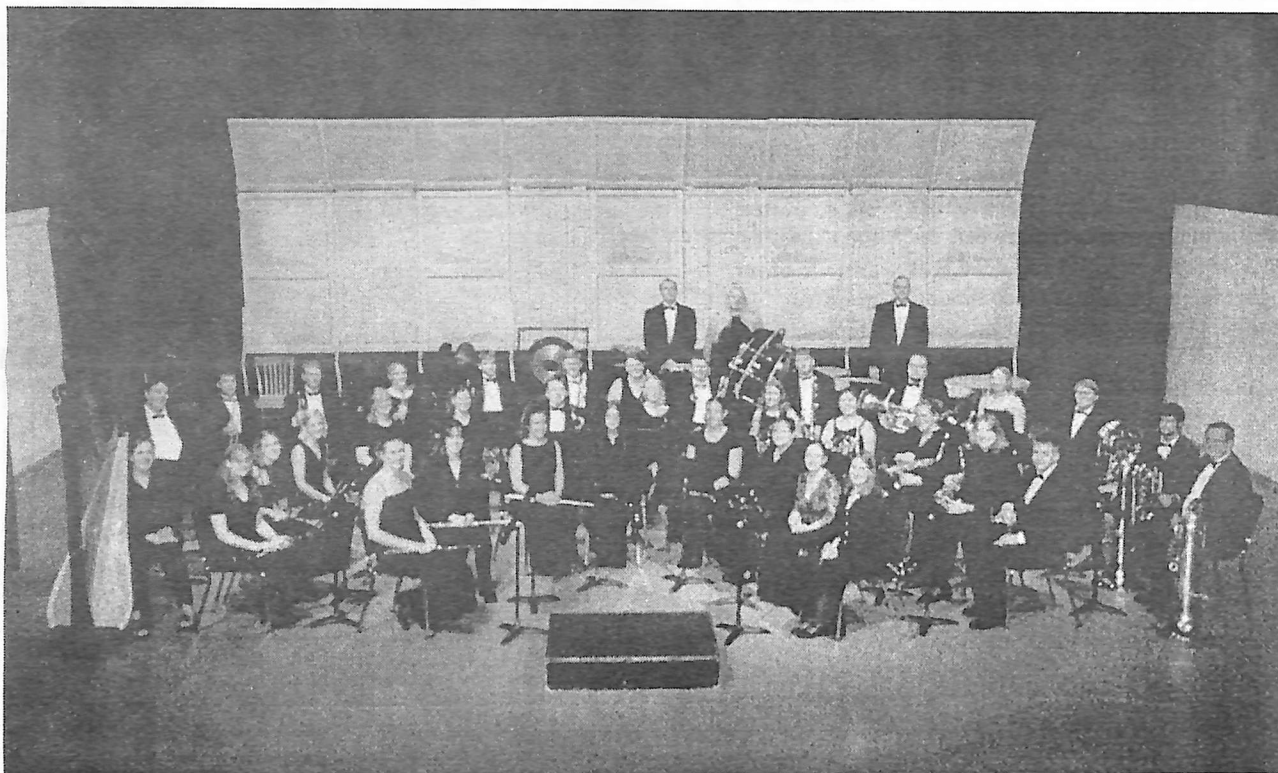
Like any aspiring high school graduate, Hermanson said he aimed high. "I applied to Stanford and Berkeley," Hermanson said. "They turned me down because I was an arrogant elitist. So I

went to Northwestern instead. They had a nice campus."

He entered college with a deep appreciation of the performing arts. Hermanson began as a theater major, a career he claims was cut tragically short by the discovery that he wasn't a good actor. He did manage to appear in one production at Northwestern: a Greek tragedy performed by a graduate student was short on strong-armed, silent types.

Hermanson Cont'd on Page 3

Concert band performs Rimsky-Korsakov, Haydn



Dana College Concert Band: Sunday afternoon saw students and adults attending performances of musical greats like Rimsky-Korsakov and Haydn, along with others like Persichetti, Huffine, Arnold and Starer. Photo by Lysie Cetto.

Christen Neben
Staff Writer

Students were treated to a concert Sunday by Dana's own concert band, who played a variety of pieces, including selections from Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Josef Haydn.

"I thought we did really well. The turn out for the performance was excellent," said senior Heather Wonders.

The concert opened with the tech-

nically challenging but beautiful "Procession of the Nobles" (Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov), a well-known piece from the opera "Mlada."

Next was "Rondo for the Trumpet" (Claude T. Smith), featuring Michael Anderson on the trumpet solo. "Psalm for Band" (Vincent Persichetti) followed, leading into the next signature piece, "March for the Prince of Whales" (Josef Haydn), which was literally created for the Prince.

"Them Basses" (G.H. Huffine), a favorite of many tubists and trombonists, was next, and was succeeded by "Lyrical Music" (Robert Starer) and finally "Little Suite for Brass No. 1, Op. 80" (Malcolm Arnold, arr. by John Paynter).

Professor William Hall, who conducted the pieces, said, "I thought the concert was excellent. We played at

Band Cont'd on Page 2

New clubs: S.A.D.D. and Circle K begin anew

Students plan day where they are dead to fight drunkenness, and Circle K lures membership with pizza

Lysie Cetto
Staff Writer

Several new clubs have been born at Dana this year as students take an interest and become involved. Recently, Viking students have begun the process of starting chapters of Circle K and S.A.D.D. Both of these clubs are service-based clubs that say they are looking forward to helping the community and campus.

S.A.D.D. (Students Against De-

structive Decisions) is a group that focuses on drunk driving issues. Community service projects are geared to raise student awareness of issues on the subject.

Events such as "dead-day," speakers and other projects should find their way into Dana Campus life soon. "I am joining S.A.D.D. because I believe in the mission, and everything is easier when you have support. Besides, I have never been involved in an organization quite like this and it sounded like fun," said

sophomore Jennifer Ruckman.

The Circle K club drew quite a crowd at their initial meeting; members from their UNO, UNL, and Midland chapters were present to inspire Dana Students. It helped that pizza was present.

Service events can range from serving the campus community, the Blair community, or the region. Some students have volunteered already to join the local Kwana chapter and help with the Hal-

SADD Cont'd on Page 2

Druidic 'Samhain,' Roman 'Feralia'

Halloween's history is as varied as the modern ways we celebrate it. Celts, Romans, and the Irish, to name a few, all invented different versions of the same idea: the day of the dead

Rene Nicolay
Feature Editor

Before parents rushed to supermarkets to get their kid the latest Spiderman costume, people celebrated Halloween differently. Once upon a time, Halloween wasn't as mysterious as it sounds.

Originally, Halloween was a pagan festival of the dead. The ancient Celts called the festival "Samhain" (meaning "end of summer") and celebrated the arrival of winter and the beginning of the Celtic New Year. Samhain was a solar festival marked by sacred fire and fire rituals. During the height of the Druids, the priestly caste of the Celts, all fires except those of the Druids were extinguished on Samhain. Householders were charged a fee for the holy fire which burned at their altars. All other fires were to be extinguished and were relit from the sacrificial fire.

Samhain marked the third and final harvest, and the storage of provisions for the winter. The door between the worlds of the living and the dead was thought to be opened, making communication between the living and the dead much easier. On the night of the festival, the souls of the dead freely roamed the land of the living.

In Rome, the festival of the dead was known as Feralia. This holiday was supposed to give rest and peace to the departed. In addition to prayers for the deceased, the Romans would make sacrifices and oblations (gifts and thanks).

This festival was celebrated on February 21, the end of the Roman year. By the 7th century, All Saint's Day was introduced by Pope Boniface IV to replace the pagan festival. It was observed on May 13, and then later changed to November 1 by Gregory III. The Greek Orthodox Church observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

But what about our time-honored custom of taking candy from strangers? Trick-or-treating has a few probable origins.

An old Irish activity practiced by peasants was to go door to door, collecting money, cake, cheese, eggs, butter, nuts, apples, and other goodies in preparation of a festival. Another likelihood of the origin was the begging of "soul cakes," or offerings for yourself, usually in ex-

change for promises of prosperity and good luck.

Some traces of the ancient past can still be found in our Halloween celebrations today. As well as souls of the dead wandering around, demons, witches and numerous spirits are believed to be active and at the peak of their spooky powers. No wonder those costumes are so popular. If you can't beat the supernatural, join them!



Dana alumna Tami Ahrendt performed Thursday evening at a SAO function in the campus center for National Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

SADD Cont'd from Page 1

loween Night they put on every year here in Blair.

This club gives students a chance to give back to their communities and have a lot of fun doing so. Sophomore Rebekah Kehm participated in a similar club in high school. She said, "This club is a lot like the ASTRA club back then. I had a lot of fun helping the community at the time. This sounds like a great organization, and it's a great way to meet new people."

Both clubs are still in their formative stages and are looking for interested people to join. If students are interested in the opportunity to help the community and build resumes, meeting times and locations are posted in the Campus Center.

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the level that we usually play musically towards the end of fall semester."

The audience consisted of a broad mix of students as well as adults there to support the band.

Freshman Cameron Schweitzer said he was impressed.

"Every instrument blended together wonderfully," he said, "to create a truly riveting performance."

Another concert band performance will occur in a little more than a month during the Sights and Sounds of Christmas, which is scheduled to run December 6 and 7.

Fiction section: ever had a mysterious phone call?

Outside the rain comes down in sheets. Lights are out. The phone rings. Melanie, not understanding who might be calling her, picked it up

Melanie adjusted the afghan closer to her body, feeling the cold of the room seep into her skin and settle in her bones. Sighing, she glanced out the window to the dark sheet of rain outside.

First the heat...next the lights, she thought, purposely avoiding looking toward the kitchen table where the stack of unpaid bills was waiting. Ever since her husband died, money had become more and more of an issue.

Richard...

Lowering her head to her hands, Melanie wept silently, longing for her lost husband and the comfort he gave her.

Lightening streaked across the sky, followed by a crash of thunder which snuffed the room into darkness.

It wasn't until the shrill ring of the phone sliced through the room that Melanie realized the lights were out. Wiping away the trail of tears on her face, she picked her way through the darkness to the ancient rotary phone.

"Hello?"

Silence on the line. A sudden burst of static. The dial tone.

Melanie glared at the phone as if it were the embodiment of all her troubles and slammed it back onto the base. She

turned and was about to make herself some tea when the phone rang again. Frowning, Melanie stalked back over to the phone, picked it up and shouted "Hello!"

"Mel..."

The voice was distant and low. Melanie strained to hear the voice through the symphony of static. "Hello? Hello! Who is this?" she demanded, wondering where the trickle of fear came from as it dripped down her spine.

The voice on the other end moaned. She opened her mouth to speak, but after a guttural noise, the phone clicked off.

"What the..." Melanie mumbled to herself, gazing at the receiver. The weather was a little too rough for crank call, wasn't it? *The...weather!*

The power was out. The lights were out, so the phone would be out too, wouldn't it? Melanie swallowed, her shaking hand gently placing the phone back on the hook. With a sudden burst of adrenaline, she dove behind the stand and ripped the phone's cord from the wall.

Panic had begun to trace its icy fingers in her mind, and when thunder

crashed again, Melanie shrieked. Heart pounding, she stared at the phone.

Minutes passed...perhaps even an hour had passed before she found the will to leave the phone. She turned, berating herself as a fool, when the phone rang again. Eyes wide, she gazed at the disconnected phone.

When she didn't pick up the phone, the answering machine got it. After the cheerful message Melanie and Richard recorded was over, static filled the room.

A low groaning and somebody was whispering her name. Then, after a click, silence.

After a sleepless night, Melanie went out into the storm-ravaged town to escape the tomb-like quiet of her house. Without thinking, she had driven to the cemetery where her late husband was recently buried.

Melanie's feet made wet noises on the earth as she walked to where her husband lay six feet below the earth. She looked up from the ground to stare at the phone line that had fallen - directly onto her husband's grave.

- Rene Nicolay

Hermes

Dana College

Editor-in-Chief: Matt Bloomingdale
Assistant Editor: Jeff Mangus
Graphics Editor: Natalie Hornig
Sports Editor: Marshall Marquardt
Feature Editor: Rene Nicolay
Photo Editor: Lynsie Cetto
Advisor: Lisa Schreiber

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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 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Smoking rules that apply to public buildings might be appropriate in private settings like college campuses

Laws and regulations enforced at Dana College: no parking on the drive after 2:30 a.m. Students must check in guests planning to stay on campus overnight. No candles or other unauthorized flammables in the dorms. No alcohol on campus. Residents cannot drop golf balls, water balloons, or grapefruit from fourth floor Blair Hall to first floor.

Also: theft. Arson. Murder.

Laws and regulations not enforced at Dana College: no smoking outside (within ten feet) of any state or public building. Now, before everyone starts a frenzy, it's true that no building on the Dana Campus is neither "state" nor "public".

But perhaps the administration, after consulting with the students, ought to adopt the law for our own buildings.

What's the difference between our

buildings and those of the public? Are they built differently? Is there different grout? Two styles of interior design: public and private? Are there two stacks of boards in construction yards: one for public buildings, and one for everything else? No. Of course not.

I want to make this clear: this editorial is not stating that this campus should adopt a no smoking policy. Smoking is a choice, as is not smoking. I don't judge anyone because they make the decision to smoke. People have free reign to make their own choices, something that this college praises (as it should). Who is to say that my choice to not smoke is any better than a person's choice to smoke

(besides the FDA, the Surgeon General, or any person who has developed lung cancer from smoking)?

"Just because someone has the right to do something doesn't mean that courtesy to others should be ignored."

Sophomore Matt Bloomingdale

I take the stance, however, that though you are free to make your own choices, they should not affect the well-being of other students.

And I hear the screams now: "Second hand smoke is not a serious problem." "We have a right to smoke on this campus."

Before someone wants to make the argument that second-hand smoking is not a serious problem, talk to the 53,000 families that lost someone to second-hand smoke last year.

Let's put this statistic in perspec-

tive: imagine 100 colleges the size of Dana College. Annually, all of the students die.

There have also been studies which show second-hand smoke can be as destructive and unhealthy as first-hand: people not smoking don't get the benefit of a filter.

To be honest, I don't suppose that second-hand smoke will instantly claim the life of any Dana student through a moment's exposure as students enter and exit the Durham Classroom Center.

But it *will* have an effect on their health, and it doesn't help that they're forced to do it every single day.

Just because someone has the right to do something doesn't mean that courtesy to others should be ignored. Give those students coming and going from class some fresh air.

— Matt Bloomingdale

Hermanson Cont'd From Page 1

Hermanson was the man for the job. "I did a lot of method acting for the part," he said, smiling, remembering his battle to become the character. "I had to get into his head." The character, he remembers, was endearingly named Soldier #2. Soldier #2 appeared in a battle scene after the fight had been completed, saluted, and quietly began to drag body bags off the stage. "The play was horrible," Hermanson snorted. "Lots of wailing, and keening, and beating of breasts. The graduate student who directed it had already flunked once."

These experiences solidified Hermanson's despair about theater and prompted him to broaden his horizons. He acquired a second major: English. Theater design, however, was a major source of income during his four years at Northwestern: he worked in small theaters in the city as a lighting designer. Hermanson graduated in 1991 with his two degrees, one in theater and one in English. Along with his lighting experience, he now had two other life skills: expertise in the fiction works of Russian writer Vladimir Nabokov, and expertise with Donald Barthelme, an unusual American writer who died in 1991.

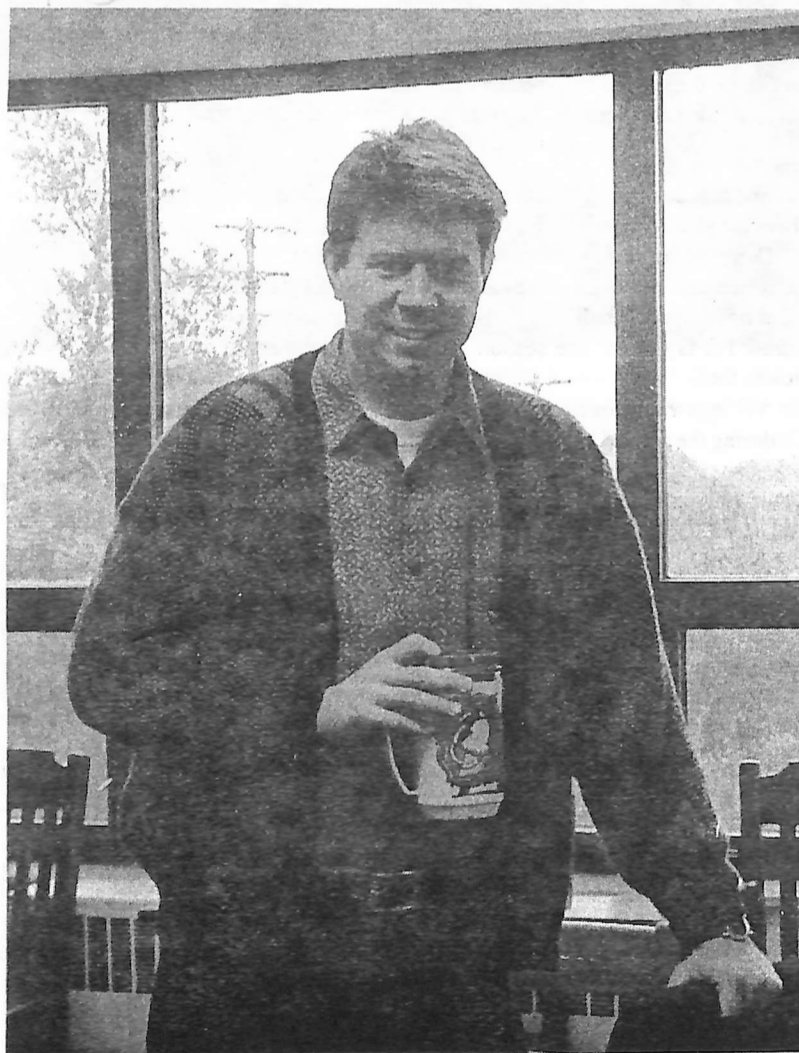
After assessing the job market, and discovering that these specialties were not in great demand, Hermanson moved to Champaign-Urbana to live with his girlfriend. They both bussed tables to pay for rent and food. Hermanson also discovered an opening at the local community radio station, WEFT, and began volunteering as a disc jockey who played blues, rock/folk, jazz, and did a lot of poking fun at Garrison Keilor.

"It was what radio should be," Hermanson said, "although I suppose this might offend some people. Radio really should be the antithesis of Clear Channel."

After volunteering for some time, he became the development director for the station. The job, according to

Hermanson, consisted mostly of garnering support for the station (begging for money), teetering on the edge of bankruptcy for months at a time (unsuccess-

literary criticism he was reading: Tom LeClair, Hermanson felt, consistently produced criticism that was profound, original, and from the same viewpoint he him-



Radio celebrity Dr. Scott Hermanson drinks his coffee. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

ful begging) and watching his hair fall out (which had turned gray). He was fired and found a job at a record store shortly thereafter.

Eventually, he began to think seriously of returning to college for graduate work. The question was where he would go. A name began to reappear in

self possessed.

He put it this way: "After three years of being a drain on my wife's resources, I found my guy Tom LeClair and said, 'I want to work with him.'"

Hermanson researched LeClair and discovered that he was both an active critic and a professor of English at Cin-

cinnati. He contacted LeClair, arranged to meet him, and toured the college. Hermanson then applied, enrolled, moved to Cincinnati, and began graduate work for his master's degree in English. While there, he said, "I drank lots of beer, made lots of friends, played a lot of soccer, got officially married, and read more books than I'd ever thought possible."

Hermanson stayed in Cincinnati for five years. His wife, Judy, didn't like the city much. The couple finally moved to Chicago where she could find a decent job and he worked feverishly on his dissertation. During the time, Hermanson said, "I played 2000 games of Solitaire. But I did finish my dissertation."

His next step was wrangling a job at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), where he was employed as a lecturer. "Exploited labor," he said, smiling. "They get cheap guys like me to teach for \$20,000 a year instead of an older professor getting \$40,000 for the same thing. I shared an office this size with two other people for two years."

Hermanson noted that he's happy at Dana, which was his next move. "I wanted a small college," he said. The location is a pleasant change, too: "I also love seeing cattle and horses on a daily basis. There are no rural areas anywhere near Chicago, the sprawl is so bad."

While Hermanson teaches Dana students, his wife Judy has been brainstorming house design projects that keep them busy on weekends.

"She's more handy than I am. Last Saturday I sat on the couch reading 'Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man' while she installed a entire sink in the kitchen," Hermanson said, smiling sheepishly.

"I hooked up the washer a while back. It took me eight hours of hard labor. She put the whole sink together and completely installed it in about an hour. You know what? Even the little sprayer nozzle works. It's crazy."

After 63-19 defeat, Dana men prepare for Midland

Marshall Marquardt
Sports Editor

The Viking football team hosted Sioux Falls last Saturday, losing 63-19.

Although the score was uneven, the Vikings actually showed much improvement throughout the game.

In the first half, the Vikings scored only seven points to Sioux Falls' 49. In the second half, however, the Vikings put up 12 points to Sioux Falls' 14.

"We scored more points on them than any team has all year," offensive coordinator Bill Danenhauer said. "I have to tip my hat to these guys. They had something to prove and went out there ready to play and I thought that they did a good job."

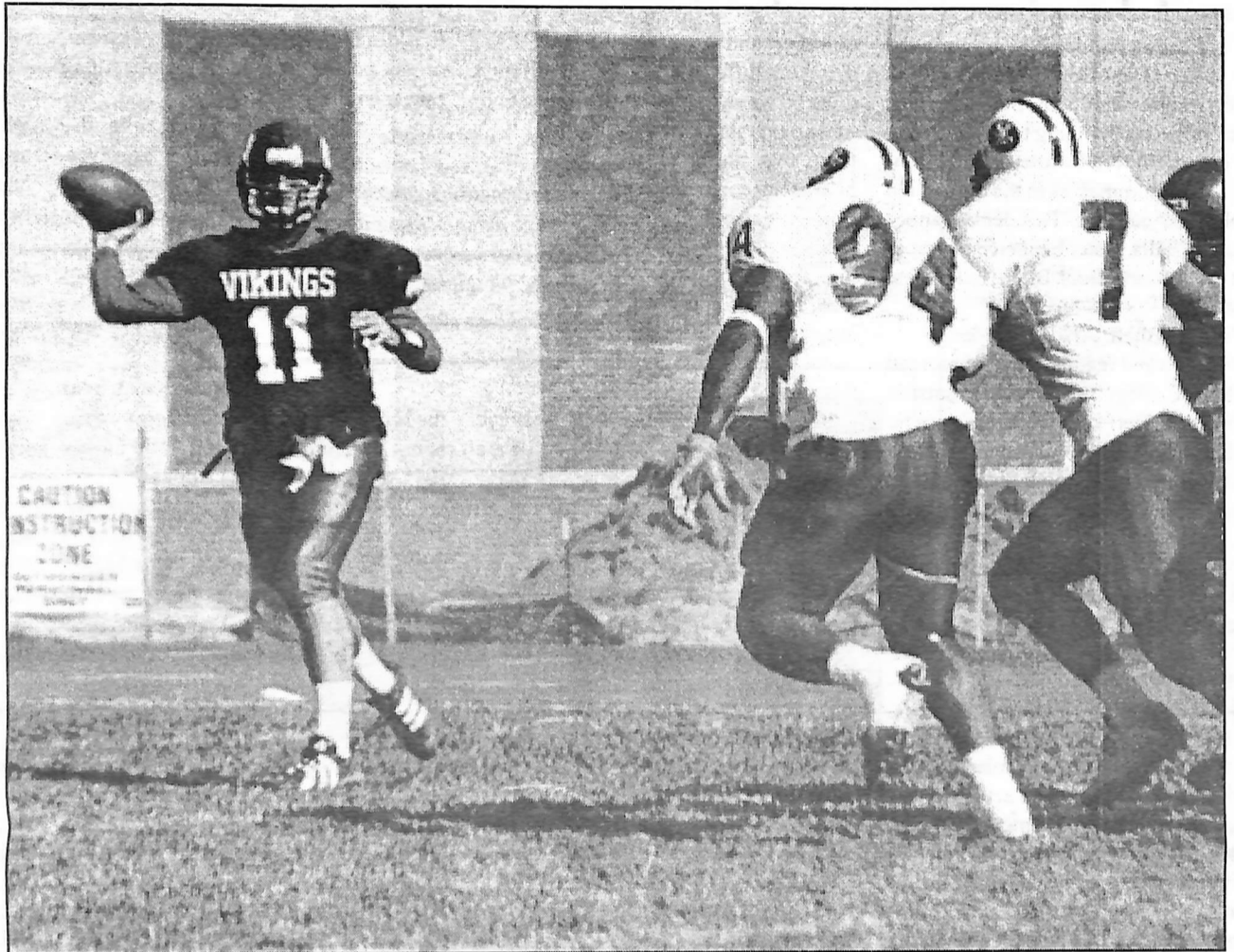
The Viking defense (led by Luke Smith) held the conference's leading rusher to only 94 yards, but they did give up 324 yards in the air. Smith racked up five solo tackles and seven assisted, while Alex Gum had two solo tackles and 10 assisted.

On the offensive side for the Vikings, the receivers had a big day as well as quarterback Charles Wright. Wright threw an amazing 61 times, completing 32 of them for 246 yards and one touchdown to Kio Coffie. Wright also scored the other touchdown of the game for the Vikings with a one yard run. The Vikings also completed 18 first downs in the game.

"Our receivers caught the ball and our offensive line pass-blocked extremely well," Danenhauer said.

Receiver Dave Abbott hauled in 10 catches for 131 yards on the day. Coffie also had 10 catches for 40 yards.

Passing seemed to be the only way the Vikings could get anything done this past weekend, as they netted a loss of 16 yards rushing on the day.



Junior Chuck Wright, quarterback (11), prepares to either throw the ball downfield for a touchdown or take evasive maneuvers to avoid the giants 94 and 7 who are coming for him in order to sack him for a loss. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

"No one has been able to run the ball on them all year long, so we had to air it out," Danenhauer said.

Starting running back Chevas Lamoya did not carry the ball and full-back Andrew Iva is out for the season with a broken foot.

The Vikings capitalized on two field goals during the second half of play.

Cory Ray drilled both field goals (from 31 and 33 yards) to put up six points on the scoreboard.

The Vikings plan on running the triple option tomorrow with quarterback Dan Irwin at the helm.

According to Danenhauer, the team has also installed a new, secret formation that they are calling the "Saber-

tooth Tiger."

"Our new formation should work tremendously well against the Midland defense," Danenhauer said.

The Vikings head to Midland Lutheran College in Fremont tomorrow. The Vikings are 1-5 overall (0-4) and Midland is 2-4. The game is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m.

Viking women destroy N. Wesleyan, 6-0, while men fall 0-4

Marshall Marquardt
Sports Editor

The Viking women's soccer team shut out Nebraska Wesleyan on Wednesday night, 6-0.

The women took aim and shot the ball 25 times on their way to the six-goal game, while the Viking defense held Nebraska Wesleyan to only four shots all game.

Melissa Respeliars and Kylie Bair shared time between the goal posts, saving all four shots taken on them.

Jeannie Mayotte led the team with two goals, but is questionable to play tomorrow due to suffering a strained MCL.

Amanda Reddish, Tanya Dugan, Michelle Glanz and Jenny Filipowicz scored the remaining four goals to put the game away.

Julie Miller led the team with three assists while Stephanie Miller and Amy Fullenkamp each had one as well.

Filipowicz, on a down note, is suspected to be out for the season with a

separated shoulder.

The Vikings face off against Briar Cliff College here at 12:00 p.m. tomorrow.

On the men's side, the soccer team has been struggling lately, but believe that they are constantly improving.

Faced with numerous injuries to key players and the need to continually juggle the line-up, the Vikings have been scoreless in their last three games.

This has, however, given the younger players on the team a chance to step up and show off their talents as well as obtaining valuable real-time playing



Freshman Brent Lorkovic dribbles. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

experience.

In the Viking's most recent game, they hosted the Nebraska Wesleyan Prairie Wolves, losing 4-0.

The men will host Briar Cliff College tomorrow after the women play. Their game will begin at 2:00 p.m.

Volleyball team claims second at Grand View Tournament, winning two

Marshall Marquardt
Sports Editor

The Viking volleyball players won their second game of the season last weekend, beating William Penn college of Iowa, 30-24, 30-23, 31-29.

The win came during first round action for the ladies in the tournament at Grand View College in Des Moines, Iowa.

Despite winning their first game of the tournament, the team then lost to Grand View in three straight sets.

The ladies did not give up, however, coming back the next game to take their third win of the season in three straight sets, winning 30-15, 30-19 and 30-11 against Faith Baptist College.

The Vikings met Grand View once again in the championship game, losing 19-30, 16-30 and 27-30.

Erin Williams and Momi Monis were named to the All-Tournament Team. Williams led the team with more than 30 kills for the weekend and Monis led the team in digs with over 30.