

# Kwikkel gives Borup tours

Recent tours enlighten students, faculty, benefactors and parents about the new construction

Rene Nicolay  
Feature Editor

Dana College is going through many changes this year, one of the most notable being the Borup Coliseum expansion. The building was built in the early 1960s. As Dana's athletic teams grew, Borup became increasingly crowded, but now, thanks to the architects of RDG Schutte Wilscam Birge and the construction team of Weitz Co., the construction of the expansion is going a month ahead of schedule.

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week, Mark Kwikkel gave tours of the construction currently going on. Kwikkel is an Athletic Trainer on contract from OrthoWest, a group of seven orthopedic surgeons in Omaha who provide sports medicine, athletic training, and orthopedic services. Kwikkel, whose father was in the construction business for several years, has kept tabs on the construction since its beginning.

"I was dubbed the Official Tour Guide," he laughed. "I don't go to the formal meetings or make any real huge decisions."

Borup is the fifth athletic building project Kwikkel has witnessed.

The expansion will provide more room for athletes and non-athletes alike. The new gym will be much larger than the current one, even including a four lane running track. "We won't be able to hold track meets or anything like that," said Kwikkel, "but it will really come in use on rainy days when students just want to run."

In addition to the track, a curtain system will be rigged, which will allow two different teams to practice at the same time, while students run. Part of the flooring will be wood, while most of it will be a synthetic material, much like the outdoor track, only smoother. Eventually, the department would like to be able to drop down batting cages.

The other gym will still be utilized. "It won't go to waste," said Kwikkel, "by no stretch of the imagination." Classes and intramurals will still be held there.



Borup Coliseum: A peek into the future entrance hallway of Borup. To the left is the new gym and right of the photograph is the old gymnasium. Dana's trainer, Mark Kwikkel, gave tours Wednesday and Thursday of the new addition. Photo by Lynsie Cetto.

The new gym is connected to a "grand hallway." The ceiling is two stories high, and the concrete walls will have the Dana D engraved into them. Kwikkel believes the hall could be rented out for wedding receptions, and used graduations and staff meetings. On either side of the hall, the end walls will be glass. Kwikkel says he thinks the hall will be a very important part of the building. "I imagine that after Convocation next year, we'll all meet here," he says.

On one end of the hallway is a staircase, leading up the loft-like gathering place on the second floor. This lounge area

overlooks the hallway, and can be used for students and teachers alike to relax and talk. "Coaches can meet with recruits, and people can just hang out," said Kwikkel. From this lounge area is a hallway, where the new offices for the coaches, as well as classrooms (including a multimedia room), have been built. In addition, there will be a Hall of Fame conference room for staff and alumni to enjoy.

The Borup expansion will really help Dana College with the financial pressure it's been under. The Athletic Department is hoping to bring in basketball camps, and even the National Wrestling

Tournament.

"When students come to visit Dana and see the expanded Borup, I think they'll really want to come here," Kwikkel said. He believes that the new Borup will help with recruiting. "I think this building can really bring in 50 new students."

Perhaps he's not far off. With construction so far ahead, Dana is hoping to take full possession of the building by July 16.

By the time next semester rolls around, Borup's new training room, whirlpools, and grand hallway will be available for all, athlete or not.

## Scientists discover possible life on Mars

Dark streaks on planet surface may indicate water and microbial life exists in the sands of the 'Red Planet'

Matt Bloomingdale  
Editor-in-Chief

Is there life on Mars? The age-old question may finally have an answer.

Recently, the Mars Global Orbiter captured photos of dark streaks on the surface of the red planet, several on the slopes of craters below the planet's sea level.

In the past, NASA and others in the exploration program have attributed the creation of these streaks on the planet to wind erosion. It was believed that the wind of Mars blew the light-colored dust away exposing the dark bedrock surface.

Now scientists believe that these streaks can be accredited to the flow of

liquid; flowing water incredibly similar to the rivers of Earth.

Many of these now-believed rivers are concentrated near Olympus Mons, an active volcano on the Mars surface. While there has never been any dispute that there is a considerable amount of ice below the surface, it is believed that the geothermal activity of the giant volcano is causing either the release of liquid aquifers or subsurface ice to melt and breakup through the surface.

As the water passes on the surface, it leaves a dark streak of polished rock. Because the process is currently taking place on Mars, it is generating enormous amount of interest.

So does this mean that there is life on Mars? David McKay, a NASA space scientist at the Johnson Space Center in

Houston suggests that the possibility is likely.

McKay was a leading analyst of ALH 84001, a meteorite from Mars that included a fossil of a microorganism.

McKay believes that the dark streaks

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Coalition forces cannot advance on the ground as supplies attempt to catch up.

#### 3 Atlas Generation

Editorial: our generation is being asked to do the largest task of them all.

#### 4 Softball team optimistic

Dana women expect to have a successful season with several returnees.

**Event:** Shakespearean Evening  
**When:** April 8th at 8pm  
**Where:** Black Box, MFAC  
**What:** Performances of scenes, critical analysis and lots of fun. Free to community and students.

## U.S. ground units stop; air strikes continue

Operation Iraqi Freedom continues to develop as supply trains struggle to catch up with advanced Army units. In Baghdad, air strikes destroy a palace, intelligence complex, and fedayeen training center, among others.

Jeff Mangus  
Assistant Editor

Though American warplanes and missiles continue to destroy sections of Baghdad, U.S. ground units appear to have encountered a lull in their encroachment of the capital.

Senior American officials acknowledge that some American Army forces are less than 50 miles from Baghdad, but they say that many of these units are waiting for supplies and reinforcements before resuming their push toward the capital.

Gen. Tommy Franks, who is in operational command of the invasion of Iraq, released an optimistic assessment of the war's progress, and insisted that everything is proceeding according to plan.

In an afternoon briefing in Qatar, he said, "Where we stand today is not only acceptable in my view, it is truly remarkable." He added that the Iraqi regime understands its proximity to extinction: "The regime is in trouble and they know it," and added, "I have not seen credible evidence that this regime is controlled from the top," meaning that Saddam Hussein could have already been killed.

The air war against Baghdad continues to destroy key elements of the Iraqi command structure, say senior American officials. American planes and missile struck the city on Saturday night and Sunday morning, destroying another presidential palace, an intelligence complex, and a training site for Iraqi fedayeen paramilitary units.

Fedayeen units continue to provide the greatest resistance against U.S. forces as American units pause deep inside the country. United States infantry units in Nasiriya have encountered significant fighting against fedayeen, as have British marines fighting for command of Basra in the southeast. Supply trains, which have had trouble reaching American troops, have taken fire from fedayeen mortars and been forced to turn back.

Republican Guard positions have also proven difficult to conquer. Troops near Karbala are using rockets to attack Iraqi troops, while others are preparing to assault Republican Guard entrenchments closer to Baghdad. Terrorism has also been a problem for U.S. military units, as a suicide bomber killed four soldiers at a checkpoint, and on Sunday an attacker drove a pickup into a group



A CH-53E Super Stallion lifts off the deck of USS Kearsarge to re-supply Marines fighting for control of Southern Iraq on March 23, 2003. Kearsarge is deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom, the multinational coalition effort to end the regime of Saddam Hussein. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Department of Defense.

of American soldiers outside a base in Kuwait, wounding fifteen of them.

In what was perhaps the strangest and most symbolic military action of the war so far, British commando units infiltrated Basra, the second largest city in Iraq, and destroyed two statues of Saddam Hussein. Spokesmen for the British government said the strike was supposed to help incite a rebellion in the city and reassure the citizens that Hussein will

indeed be removed from power.

Reinforcing earlier comments from senior British and American military leaders, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers said that upcoming battles in Iraq would be even more difficult than the present ones. "You just can't predict when the regime will tip," he said. "I've always said that the toughest part is yet to come, that it will not be linear in terms of how tough the fight is. So I would think the toughest fighting is ahead of us."

## War protestors must remember U.S. troops

A USA Today and Gallup pole reports that 75% of the people said no and only 23% said yes when asked "Did the US make a mistake invading Iraq?" Although this particular pole shows strong support for the war, Operation Iraqi Freedom has met hostile controversy from parties both for and against another invasion in the Middle East.

Each day the media broadcasts footage depicting angry Americans protesting against the military actions since March 19<sup>th</sup>. What are they actually protesting against? Are they protesting because "Little Bush" is just finishing what "Big Bush" started? Do they feel Americans are labeling Saddam Hussein as a terrorist plotting beside Osama Bin Laden? Regardless of personal feelings and convictions, these people are forgetting to

remember the most important aspect about any military action: the troops.

If the American public displays low opinion of governmental decisions that revolve around military, this directly affects the morale of the troops. The latest technology not only allows each troop a great advantage in the field, but also allows him or her intimate contact with news events around the world, including public opinion about the war.

According to CNN, retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. David Grange and analyst reports President Bush is not only owning up to his responsibilities, including the lives of coalition forces, he personally has been trying to boost the morale from all services. "Talk of commitment like President

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can be attributed to a dormant microbial life form. His belief is that the water is rejuvenating the dormant life form and the dark streaks could be attributed to the growth of the organism (similar to the growth of moss).

"I'm suggesting this seriously as an explanation. I would like to see somebody demolish it ... but it seems to me that with our current data we cannot exclude it," McKay said.

Scientists also see a connection between

this water and the formation of several dark dune spots on the planet's surface.

The spots fluctuate in size. In the view of many researchers, the dramatic changing of the size of these spots can be attributed to biological activity of minute organisms, acting on the dark spots.

While many researchers believe that there is indeed life preserved in the ice below the Martian surface, there is still no indisputable evidence of life on Mars... for the time being.

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# Hermes

Dana College

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.

## 'Atlas generation' must carry world

I've often wondered about the legitimacy of my generation. We're the hope, right? Our youth and idealism will turn this perverse planet into something truly good. We will save the planet through some immaculate, politically-correct revolution. We'll put the world on the path of righteousness without self-righteousness. It will be safe to sleep at night. But I can't sleep at night. Not when I know that there are people at the highest level of my government planning the first big human rights violation of the third millenia A.D., and they're going to justify it with patriotic nonsense like my "liberty," or "a humanitarian war."

Look at the past three thousand years of civilization. What's different? Are we truly that much more advanced or more civilized? There's still an aristocracy; they just hide behind political jargon and a Byzantine system of tax law. There's still feudalism, it's just called Acquisitions and Mergers now. There are still atrocities, they're just white-washed by media and turned into a glossy episode of Dateline. There's still imperialism, but it's conducted on Wall Street.

George W. Bush called my generation the "future hope." The chance to correct three thousand years of repeated abuses in power was set neatly on my generation's shoulders, just as the proverbial buck has always been passed. This time it's different, and people of all

ages sense it. Something has gone horribly wrong in our country, and the responsibility for it will fall squarely on our shoulders. So I call us the Atlas generation, burdened by a world too confusing to comprehend, and mired in the apathy of the era.

"...I call us the Atlas generation, burdened by a world too confusing to comprehend, and mired in the apathy of the era. So we seek knowledge, and we kick the dust from our shoes."

— Junior Jeremy Stoll

So we seek knowledge, and we kick the dust from our shoes. I've spoken with people from around the country and there seems to be some form of this gathering everywhere. College campuses are organizing, organizations are marching. Communities are taking action. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The greatest tragedy in social change today is not the clamor and clash of the bad people, but the silence and complacency of the good."

Now, more than ever in our lifetimes, we need to take control, turn off the TV and raise our voices. We don't need an economic stimulus package, we need a national revival. We don't need a nuclear proliferation policy, we need to consider

individual life a precious commodity. We don't need an attack plan, we need to lend a helping hand to the unknown, unheard people of the world that are the undeserving recipients of first-world, self-serving national interests. We don't need retribution, we need revolution. The world

is smaller now than it ever has been! In this age of push-buttons, low-guilt, high-wire balancing acts where the strings are seldom seen, we need to "love thy neighbor" like never before, because who knows

when they'll have the bomb? North Korea was a negligible footnote until they cordoned off a piece of the Japanese Sea for nuclear testing. The United Nations was created in the wake of possibly the greatest tragedy in human history, World War II. It was created to prevent the complete devastation of weaker nations at the hands of international bullies. It wasn't created to legitimize a bully's war and to bend under heavy-fisted diplomacy. The United States was once a beacon of freedom and democracy to the people of the world. We've become a tyrant in the international community, answering opposition with intimidation or outright violence.

However, weaker nations are now rallying, and if we continue our present course, we risk counter-attack and the most immediate consequences of our actions.

But there's hope. Never in history have grassroots organization had the power and potential that they have today. The Everyman and Everywoman can defy the fat cats on capitol hill that raise their glasses of crude oil in a toast to the trembling children of Afghanistan, Iraq, West Papua, East Timor, Guatemala, Colombia, Romania, Egypt, the Palestinian state, and a thousand other places C-Span hasn't even mentioned.

Independent presses can undermine mainstream propaganda, setting wrongs right, and half-truths whole.

Propaganda: George Bush declares, "Of course, we prefer a peaceful solution."

Truth: The Pentagon recently ordered 77,000 body bags for potential U.S. casualties.

The revolution relies on a role-model: the generation ahead must show us Atlases where and how the true power for social change lies. As George Washington said during the birth of our country, "In a free and republican government you cannot restrain the voice of the multitude."

It's obvious that the multitude is not being heard by the republican government.

— Jeremy Stoll

## Moran's comment on Jews may be valid

Pro-Israeli lobby is influential in American politics, as is Israel, an American ally: have they pushed for war with Iraq?

"Every time we do something, you tell me America will do this and will do that...I want to tell you something very clear: Don't worry about American pressure on Israel. We, the Jewish people, control America, and the Americans know it," said Ariel Sharon, on Israeli Radio October 3, 2001, in response to threats of American intervention in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Jim Moran, Democratic Representative for Virginia, made comments that outraged the Jewish community on March 11. He stated that the push for war would be over if it did not have the support of the Jewish community. "American Jews are responsible for pushing the country to war with Iraq."

Six Democrats, Reps. Henry Waxman, Tom Lantos of California, Martin Frost of Texas, Sander M. Levin of Michigan, Benjamin Cardin of Maryland and Nita M. Lowey of New York, were all co-signers in a letter to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi in response to Moran. All the signers were, according to the Associated Press, Jewish. The letter stated that, "[The comments] are grossly irresponsible, and were given at a sensitive time when inflammatory comments...can unleash unintended and dangerous consequences."

The comments Moran made were very brave. Since a member of the House of Representatives is elected every two years, public opinion is very important. The powerful pro-Israeli lobby, spearheaded by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, can have a devastating affect on an incumbent's chance of re-election.

To make things worse, recent criticism against Israel is, according to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic. The six Jewish Democrats also stated that, "We hope that...he will decide not to seek re-election...Should he seek re-election in 2004, however, we cannot and will not support his candidacy."

How correct is Moran? It is interesting to note that Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary of Defense, and Richard Perle, chairman of the Pentagon's Defense Policy Board, are both Zionists. Perle was even the former director of Israeli's Jerusalem Post Newspaper.

But what would Israel gain from a war against Iraq? According to Free Arab Voice, Iraq destroyed the ancient kingdom of Israel several thousand years ago. Iraq does not have the capacity to do that again, but they are a strong nation.

Former Zionist, Henry Makow, said on his alternative news website "Etherzone"

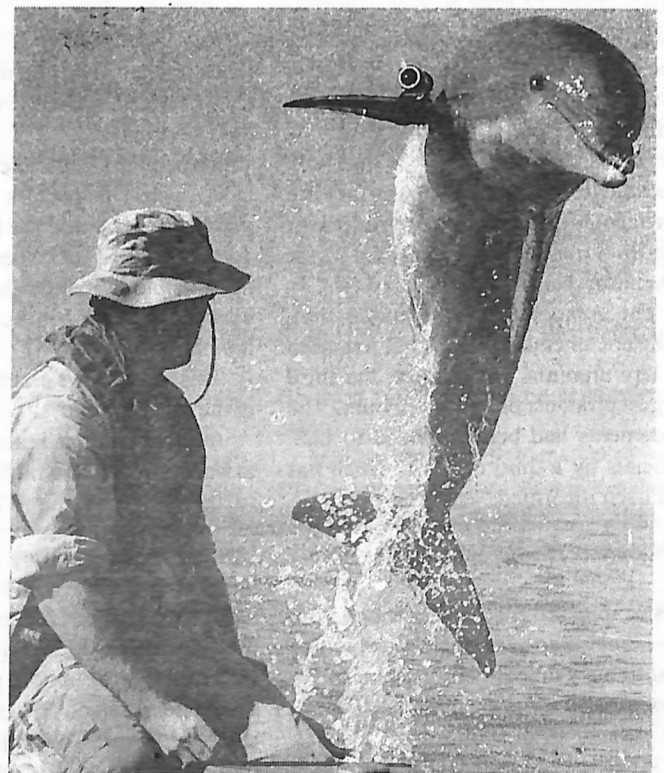
that the Zionists have two reasons to push the United States into war.

First, that Israel is the only country that fears Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Second, a nullification of Iraq's power will help Israel to be unfettered in their policy against Palestine.

Yet with all this evidence that the United States is biased on account of its friendship with Israel, the facts and details are still not enough to prove anything.

Besides Moran, Sen. Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia has also taken a step to discredit the push for war. Rockefeller is the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee and has



K-Dog, a bottlenose dolphin, works for the Navy in the Gulf to locate underwater mines. Two such dolphins are used in the Arabian Gulf. Photo courtesy of U.S. Department of Defense.

asked the F.B.I. to investigate forged documents that the Bush Administration  
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## Viking softball team prepares for new quest after conference title

**Marshall Marquardt**  
Sports Editor

The Vikings return 16 players from one of their most successful teams ever last year, and add nine freshman to complement the returnees.

Dana's women have only three seniors, but have a very talented core of eight juniors and five sophomores, as well as some talented freshman that were top players in high school, who will all look to add to the win total of last year.

Recently the Vikings hosted their own tournament at the Blair Softball Fields, losing the championship game and taking second place.

The Vikings also competed in the Sun West Tournament over Spring Break, going 4-3 overall, with one game that got rained out.

Dana's team started conference play last Tuesday against Midland Lutheran College, losing both games, but in close fashion.

The Vikings are led by second year head coach Tom Armstrong, and first year assistant coach Jim Monen, who comes from Bellevue University after four years of being an assistant coach.

Their record is currently 9-6, with their next game today at Mount Marty College at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.



Junior third basperson Lindsey Fox prepares to snare a ground ball in a recent game. The team expects to have a successful season. Photo by Andrea Smith.

## Baseball: Winning

**Marshall Marquardt**  
Sports Editor

The Viking baseball team picked up right where they left off last year: winning games. The Vikings, after their recent spring break journey to Florida and back, are currently 9-17, having had six games cancelled or rescheduled earlier in the year due to weather.

The mens' roster gets bigger every year, going from 13 players four years ago to 38 current players on the team, according to their website roster.

This is due in large part to head coach Damon Day, who starts his fourth year as the Vikings head coach. Assistant coach Chad Gorman starts his third year with the Viking baseball program.

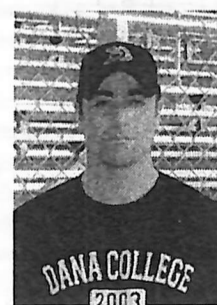
The Vikings are currently ranked 5th in NAIA Region IV, not far behind the first place team, who holds a 12-14 record.

Several newcomers into the Viking program include five freshman and numerous transfers and returnees. The Vikings also have nine sophomores, but the majority of their roster are juniors and seniors, which means a lot of experience.

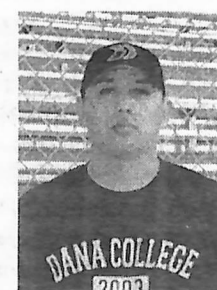
The Vikings have 19 juniors and five seniors that they will depend on for leadership throughout the year. Two key senior players include pitchers Phil Wail and Nate Landa.

The men start conference play and are looking to improve on last year's record and finish in the conference.

The Vikings' next game is tomorrow at Nebraska Wesleyan starting at 1:00 p.m. Their next home game is April 9.



Senior pitcher Phil Wail



Senior pitcher Nate Landa

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used for evidence in its claim against Iraq. The Associated Press stated that Colin Powell has rejected any claims that the United States was responsible for the forging of the documents in question. Rockefeller asked the F.B.I. why they did not recognize them as forgeries and if the documents were part of a large scheme of disinformation.

The Associated Press stated that, "The documents indicated that Iraq tried to buy uranium from Niger...the third largest producer of mined uranium. The documents had been provided to U.S. officials by a third country, which has not been identified." Israel?

Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin, said that a foreign government may have been trying to push a deceptive campaign for their own ends.

Mohammed El Baradei, the head of the U.N. nuclear inspectors in Iraq and the man who uncovered the falsehood of the documents, said his inspectors have found no credible evidence that Saddam has been advancing his nuclear weapons program.

This recent news creates a further hole in the cause for war.

Another possible reason we are going to war is to gain Iraq's oil fields. According to the biography at whitehouse.gov,

Condoleezza Rice, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, was a former member of the Board of Directors for Chevron, which will benefit greatly if the United States controls Iraq's oil fields. And there is also much linking George W. Bush with oil. Whatever the reasons for going to war, you can be assured that they are not in the public's interest.

The United States soldiers cannot be human shields for Israel! Nor can they be led by the interests of oil any more. This has to stop!

— Bernardo Hinojosa

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Bush expressed encourages troops from all services and nations of coalition...Commitment convinces the troops that if someone dies, they did not die in vain," Grange said.

Whether one agrees or disagrees about the war, it will continue regardless. Americans need to focus on what is happening overseas to our brothers and sisters who have made the commitment to protect our rights, and in doing so, may lose their lives. On March 24 two

U.S. pilots were shot down in their helicopter southwest of Baghdad. The two looked in good condition as compared to five other soldiers (including one woman) captured the previous day. Television footage depicted eight other soldiers' corpses also thought to have been captured with the other five POWs.

As of now, the U.S. is unsure of the status of these troops. It has also been reported by Reuters that Saddam Hussein has promised to give any Iraqi who shoots down a U.S. helicopter the equivalent of \$16,500.

Miles and miles of sand, an eight hour time change with little or no sleep and daily interactions with an unstable people who can change in a matter of seconds are just a few obstacles our troops face on a daily basis.

Finally, some or even many of the troops may disagree with this action as well, but they have been assigned a job and are only carrying out orders. What we must remember is they are only protecting everything America stands for, and only displaying negative attitudes will hinder these efforts.