

# Campus Policy Burns Smokers

Rene Nicolay  
Co-Editor

A new policy has been set into motion this semester for Dana College. Students must smoke at least 20 feet away from all campus building entrances. Though smoking is allowed on campus, there are few places where smokers have that freedom. If you smoke, you can designate your room as one of those designated smoking areas, unless you're in Argo, in which case, you're out of luck. Smoking in common rooms, such as lobbies, bathroom, and hallways is prohibited. While the added rule of staying 20 feet away isn't strictly enforced, it does fan the spark of discontent among smoking students.

"It pisses me off," says freshman Abby Stella. "Why don't they have designated areas? If we have to be 20 feet away, they could at least make some benches."

Megan Lazoritz, a sophomore, comments, "It's kind of silly to have a rule in place. As smokers, we should be considerate. They should just tell us to move instead of making a rule out of it." She admits



*Sophomore Kelli Inmann, one of many student smokers affected by the new policy, smokes a cigarette outside Blair Hall at night. Photo by Becky Hultgren*

that she as well as her fellow smokers that clustered around DCC last year may have been rude, but that's no reason to treat the smokers like children.

There are some, however, who feel the new rule is a good idea. Ginger Krueger, a junior, appreciates the fact that the smokers no longer congregate around the doors. "If you want to smoke, that's fine. I just don't want to have to walk through a

cloud of smoke when I go to class."

Brittany Webb, a transfer sophomore, whole-heartedly agrees. "I hate the smell of smoke," she says. "I even hate it when people come to class smelling like smoke." Duey Heffelfinger from Computer Services believes the new rule will help keep the campus cleaner. "Smoking can make a mess," he says. "Butts were all

over the ground."

Professor Schneider, a former smoker, has some compassion for the smokers. His only problem with the way things were before was that the smokers "wouldn't get out of the way." But Schneider explains that, since the cigarette receptacles were by the door, it was only logical that the smokers gathered around them. "They'll always migrate toward the ashtrays," he says. "So if you put an ash tray 20 feet away, they'll smoke 20 feet away."

A rumor that has angered some smokers has been going around campus. Some have heard that the money from the smoking fines would go toward the construction of a gazebo for smokers. Dean Chris Jebsen assures that the rumor is not true.

However, the problem of designated areas for smokers will be resolved. In the next week, Jebsen will organize a group of faculty, staff and students (smokers and non-smokers alike) to discuss the implementation of smoking areas. Perhaps the problem will be solved before winter sets in, and smokers have to get their fix in freezing snow.

## Student Senate: Voice of Change

Matt Bloomingdale  
Staff Writer

The 2003-2004 Student Senate held their fall budget meeting Sunday night, allocating funds to clubs and organizations. Though early in the year, this year's senate has already been hard at work. This year's senate has already been hard at work.

"It is our goal this year to further improve campus awareness and the student's quality of experience," said Student Senate President Anthony Metcalf. So far, the senate has made

improvements to the resident halls by purchasing new televisions for Holling and Blair halls, replaced the carpet in the Mickelson lobby, and provided funding for new furniture for the resident hall computer labs. In addition to these improvements, the senate purchased a new DVD player and over eighty new DVD's available to checkout at the campus library.

"Hopefully [the DVD collection] will get more people familiar with the library and the DVD's chosen all have some educational purpose," said Metcalf.

In addition to these campus improvements, the

freshman class finished their election Thursday afternoon. The freshman representatives are (Shannon Young, Heidi Essay, Greg Rickenbacher, Kirk Schjodt.) Student Senate Treasurer Marcie Smidt expressed the importance of the relationship between the senate and the student body.

"If a student has a concern, senate can be an avenue for change," said Smidt. Junior Class Representative Jennifer Muell agreed. "Senate gives the students a voice. Sometimes it can be intimidating talking to a faculty or staff member about a problem," said Muell. "Senate

gives students the opportunity to voice their concerns to their peers."

The student senate will next meet Sunday, September 21. This will be the fall budget meeting.

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## Political Play Rocks the Dana Stage

**Katrina Woldseth**  
Staff Writer

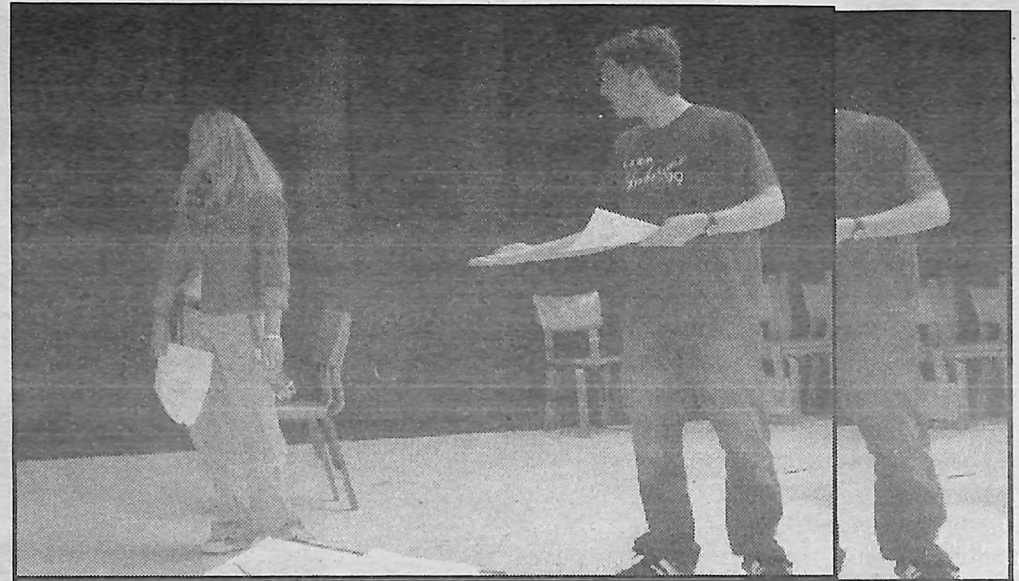
Brace yourselves Dana College -- politics are about to get personal. This fall English and Theater professor Dr. Paul Schneider will give us all a closer look at the real side of politics through his first original full length play, *Soundbite*.

Inspired by a late night political talk show, the play examines and exposes the dark, manipulative underbelly of politics in popular culture. Schneider reveals that he has always been interested with the media while both fascinated and repelled by political talk shows. This show demonstrates the inseparability of politics from personal lives.

Written during Dr. Schneider's sabbatical last spring, *Soundbite* is a savvy and sophisticated whirlwind of the lies, exploitation and hidden motivations that define the modern political world. The story explores politics in

the newsroom, the classroom and even the bedroom- leading its audience through the complicated and deceitful web of contemporary political life. Originally devoting his sabbatical to composing a mystery novel, Schneider shifted his focus to *Soundbite* after a television interview between Bill O'Reiley and Janine Garofalo sparked a notion that just couldn't be ignored. "Immediately an idea for a story popped into my head," says Schneider. "It wrote very well after that."

The show will be performed in the Lauritzen Theatre over Homecoming weekend, featuring a variety of student performers. Included in the cast is newcomer, Kirk Schjodt, who was "pleasantly surprised with the script! Dr. Schneider's sense of comedy is very obvious throughout the play -- there is some great humor and a very interesting twist at the end." Sound intriguing? This brutally honest



Senior Mara Bartlett and Junior Eric Grant-Leanna rehearse their lines at a recent practice in the MFAC Black Box.

smack of witty intelligence and controversy proves for an entertaining and thought provoking experience.

"I want the audience to develop a new perspective, a more comprehensive perspective of the real nature of politics in America," says Schneider "We tend to separate politics from

the rest of people's lives. As the plays shows, all politics are personal. While this play is about politics, it's politics in the context of personal lives."

So dive on in to the ugly side of political affairs, and prepare to get a very close look at the way things really work-up close and personal.

## Computers on Campus in Virus Crisis

**Brandie Carlson**  
Staff Writer

I've heard a lot of grumbling lately around campus about our computers. Now, I'll be the first one to admit that computers are evil. Maybe it's just me, but I'm pretty sure that I give off some weird anti-computer vibe. Sometimes, all I have to do is sit too close to a computer and it goes haywire.

Needless to say, I don't know all that much about computers. So, when I realized that my email time was in jeopardy, I went straight to someone who does, Carla Andersen from Computer Services here at Dana.

Andersen talked with me about all the updates made over the summer. All of the dorm computer labs have new tables and chairs, and all of the

computers have been converted to Windows XP from Windows 98. For my fellow computer illiterates, this means that they are "more stable and won't lock up as much." However, along with new technology come new problems.

You may have already found yourself unable to login to the machines in the dorm computer labs. There is a way around this. Actually, there are two options. First option: you can login by typing "guest" in the username field. When doing this, you will not need a password -- just click "OK" and you'll go straight to the desktop. The second option is to just restart your computer. It should go directly to the desktop. When choosing this second option, instead of logging out, just restart your computer. However, this will not log you in, or enable you

to save to your home directory (a.k.a. your H: drive), so bring a floppy disk or something else that will allow you to save your work. Andersen reassures us that she believes this to be only a temporary solution.

So now that you know how to actually get on to the dorm computers, you may be wondering how campus email will work if you're not technically "logged in." Lucky for you, you don't have to log in to check your campus email. In fact, you can check it from any computer that's hooked up to the internet. All you have to do is go to <http://www.dana.edu/webmail>. When an envelope will appears on the screen, click on the envelope, and then sign in.

While that takes care of some minor issues, that's not all we have to deal with. You've

probably already heard of the computer viruses going around. Some known as "blaster" and "so.big" are two viruses we are battling here at Dana. These viruses are responsible for connection problems and sluggishness. Computer Services has already found more than a hundred infected student machines.

But not to worry, help is on the way! Computer Services will be in the dorms to check student machines for viruses. They will also be installing the Microsoft updates to guard against future worms. They will be in Argo and Holling on Thursday, then in Mickelsen and Blair on Friday from 1:00 to 4:00. Andersen also noted, to protect your computer in the future, it's a good idea to install a virus program and set it to update on a regular basis.

# Opinion

## Point-Counter Point

### The Issue

*This semester is a host of changes for the Dana Campus, including the brand-new extension to the gym. Some students feel this gym is a waste of campus money, while others appreciate the new addition. For your viewing pleasure, the Hermes editors have compiled their own exciting, fast-paced debate.*



**Rene:** The campus dorms are falling apart. The English department is lacking in facilities. Good professors are being fired or leaving for better jobs. And what do we spend our budget on? A gym when we already have one.

**Kathy:** At the same time, though, there are many athletes on this campus. Walk around at about four o'clock on a weekday and you will see there is no one around. Why? That's because a lot of people are at practice. Therefore, they should have a facility that is up to date to sharpen their skills.

**Rene:** But what about sharpening the minds of Dana students? People aren't pouring their cash into tuition just so athletes can lift a better weight. Once upon a time, scholars went to college to expand their knowledge, not their biceps. Athletics is all well and good, but we can't forget the reason we came to college.

**Kathy:** Too true, but if it weren't for athletic money pouring in there may not be as much funds for the scholars on campus. Also athletics help to tie students together on campus. When was the last time you saw a bunch of students cheering each other on during a test? That's right, it doesn't happen. Going to sports events is another big part of going to college.

**Rene:** I agree that athletics are a necessary, fundamental part of the College World, but it's the academics that will, for the majority of us, decide our fate in the Real World. Why can't we have equal amount of recognition for both? Why is it that it's always sports that get better, shinier facilities, and the arts that get cut? I'm not asking for a brand new building pandering only to English majors. All I'm asking is for the guys up top to consider the rest of college students the next time they have room for improvement.

**Kathy:** The Borup construction was not just built for athletes. This is a facility for all of the students on campus to enjoy. Borup is there for all students to improve physical health which in turn helps with energy, which helps to stay awake and possibly improve academic performance. It's not only the arts that get cut but also sports teams on campus that

are suffering in the budget department. We can't blame all our money problems on the athletic program at this school. I guess Borup is the "shiniest" building on campus and therefore is the biggest target.



#### Conclusion

*The only compromise that could possibly arise from this debate is for the budget to be divided equally, but if the student body is divided as much as the Hermes newsroom, it may be awhile before anything is done.*

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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 the Hermes are not necessarily those of the editors, college or the college community.

Hermes welcomes letters to the editor expressing original points of view. Hermes reserves the right to edit all letters according to space availability. All letters must include author's name and address. Under certain circumstances Hermes may respect request to have name 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 4:00p.m. on Tuesday.

**Agree? Disagree? Send your opinion to the Hermes at [rnicolay@dana.edu](mailto:rnicolay@dana.edu)**

## Sports

# Vikings Charge into the New Season

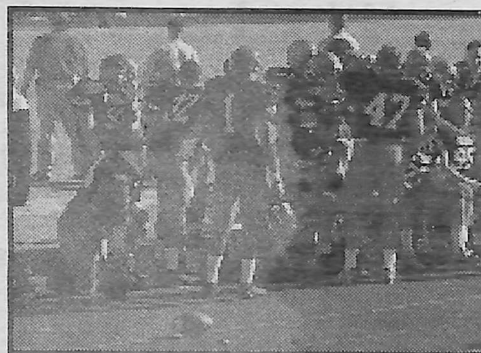
Kathy Wells  
Co-Editor

The weather is getting cooler and the leaves are beginning to change color. This can mean only one thing. No, not only fall -- it's time for football.

Here at Dana it's no different. The Viking football team arrived on campus Aug. 14 to begin their practices for the upcoming season. With a new season comes new players, and this season is no different.

There are approximately 50 freshmen on the roster, but don't let that fool you. There are five seniors to lead them on the field as captains; Ross Jensen, Doug Bargman, Cliff Ellis, Adam Peterson, and Jerrod Phillips.

There has also been a change in the coaching staff. Bill Danenhauer has been made head coach. He is the former assistant head coach and also operates as



*Dana players on the sideline receive coaching for their next play. Photo by Becky Hultgren*

the assistant athletic director. With new leadership the team is really looking to have a great season.

"We have a really good, solid defense," said Sophomore Josh Baldes.

The season was kicked off with a game against long time rival, Midland Lutheran College. It was a close game with a final score of 20-19.

"Us losing to Midland by one point was a heartbreaker knowing we should have

beat them," said Junior Steve Costello.

With the Midland game behind them the team is looking forward to the next opponent on the schedule. The game this weekend against Briar Cliff. It is the first home game of the season.

"The guys are pumped up about this being the first home game of the season," said Baldes.

It is Briar Cliff's first year with a varsity schedule and the Vikes are ready to take them on. Even though this is new to Briar Cliff they are not treating this game any differently than the others. It is still serious business for them.

"If everybody shows up and does their job we will be able to win," said Costello.

In order to do this though the team needs everyone's support from not only the student body but also the community. This is the first opportunity to see this team in action at home so let's show them some support against Briar Cliff.

Your Story Could Be Here!

Contact the Hermes for more information

## Up Coming Sporting Events

- ◆ Men's Soccer Sept. 12 Huron, S.D.
- ◆ Women's Soccer Sept. 12 Oklahoma City, OK
- ◆ Football Sept. 13 Blair, NE
- ◆ Cross Country Sept. 20 Lincoln, NE
- ◆ Volleyball Sept. 12 Blair, NE
- ◆ Baseball Scrimmage Sept. 14 Bellevue, NE

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about me


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Northwest Center, 3141 N. 107th St., Omaha, 496-0888  
Dodge Center, 4610 Dodge St., Omaha, 554-1040  
Ames Center, 5404 Ames Ave., Omaha, 455-2121  
Council Bluffs Center, 1604 2nd Ave., C.B., 312-6630