

# Music Piracy Hits Campus

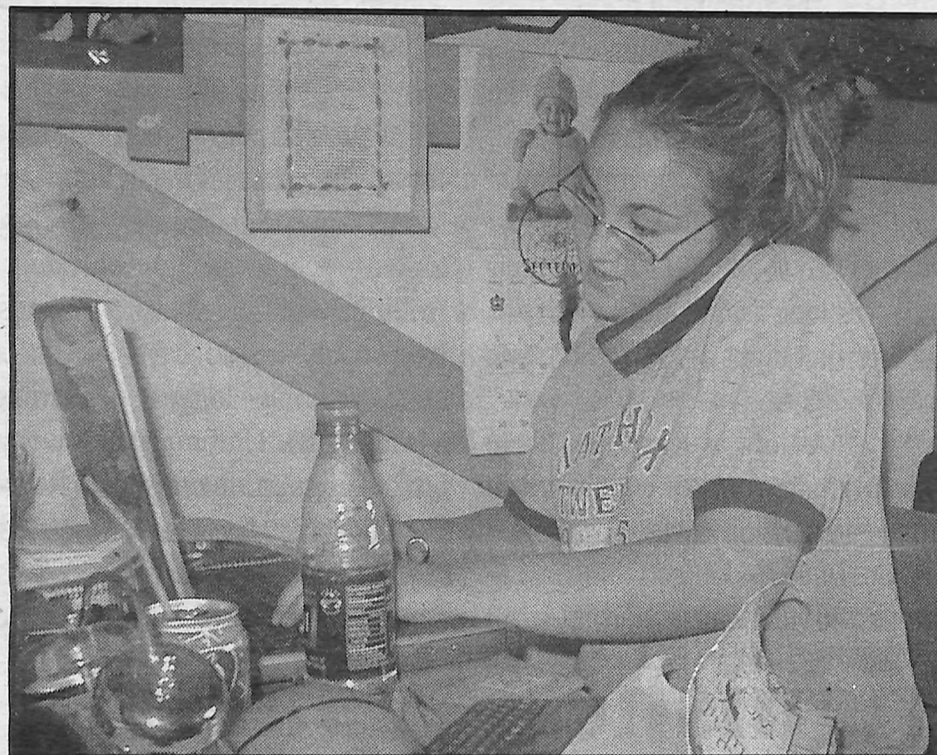
*Could Students Face Lawsuits for Downloading Illegal Music?*

**Matt Bloomingdale**  
Staff Writer

In a recent opinion poll/survey conducted of Dana students (of whom own personal computers) over 65% admitted to using software, such as Kazaa Media Desktop, to share copyrighted music files over the internet.

This comes in the wake of numerous lawsuits filed by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), in its fight against piracy. According to CNN, over 260 suits have been filed this month averaging \$3,000. The debate seemingly has become one of morals. The facts are that sharing copyrighted material (e.g. music, films, and other such files are illegal). However, students, both at Dana and nationwide, question whether or not file sharing should be illegal.

Junior Jennifer Ruckman is one student who believes that file sharing should be legal. "If two people are both willing



*Freshman Jessica Doane works at her computer on campus. Could someone be monitoring? Photo by Lysie Cetto*

to share the music, I don't think there is a problem," said Ruckman.

Sophomore Brandie Carlson understands the legal implications accompanied by downloading music however believes that it should be made legal.

"I think people should be able to share music on the net," said Carlson

So what is the opinion of the RIAA?

"Nobody likes playing the heavy and having to resort to litigation," said RIAA President Cary Sherman to CNN, "But when your product is being regularly stolen, there comes a time when you have

to take appropriate action." So what risk are Dana students at of being sued?

The RIAA filled lawsuits against "major offenders" and defined this term as person who made available over 1,000 copyrighted songs.

However, the RIAA made available an amnesty program, offering offenders a clean slate, for those who voluntarily identify themselves and remove the copyrighted music.

Even with the amnesty program and threats of litigation, many students said that they still will chose to download music.

"I'm aware of the lawsuits," said sophomore Amber

Sprecher, "however, I'll continue to download music." Jason Davis of Dana's Computer Services wonders if perhaps there is a better way to solve the problem other than suing students.

"In my opinion, downloading music should be illegal," said Davis. "I think students should support the artist and buying CD's or used CD's. However, I think the artist should have their album available to preview online. Then, as a consumer, I can make a decision whether or not to purchase the album."

While suits, such as those filed by the RIAA, are making many reconsider there file sharing, others will continue to share. Download.com has had over 2,440,000 downloads of Kazaa Media Desktop, a far greater number than 260. Only time will tell if litigation will put an end to filing sharing.

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# Features

## Students Fight Against College Boredom

**Brandie Carlson**  
Staff Writer

The first rule of fight club is: don't talk about fight club. However, I'm going to forego this strict instruction. If you haven't already seen the movie Fight Club (1999) starring Brad Pitt and Edward Norton, go rent it. Without ruining the movie, here's the general idea: a normal cubical-working, wear-a-tie-to-work kind of guy discovers the joy of black eyes, loosing teeth and going to work in blood-stained

shirts. He then starts what is called Fight Club.

The following are the rules of Fight Club: You do not talk about Fight Club. You do not talk about Fight Club. When someone says "stop" or goes limp, the fight is over. Only two guys to a fight. One fight at a time. No shirts, No shoes. Fights go on as long as they have to. If this is your first night at Fight Club, you have to fight.

A few weeks ago, there was a similar form of entertainment found in Holling hall. Sophomore Tyson Linnell donated his boxing gloves to the cause and a small

group of boys made their way to the Holling lounge. It started out slowly, with the guys persuading each other to jump in the "ring." Soon, men were stepping up to duke it out.

After a few good battles, a crowd gathered and the fighting was forced outside. There were close to sixty people hanging outside of Holling, watching the proceedings. It probably would have lasted for quite a while longer, (according to rule # 8). Unfortunately, it was broken up soon after freshman Reese Cogdill's match. He commented, "We should do it every week. I almost got knocked out and I'd do

it again."

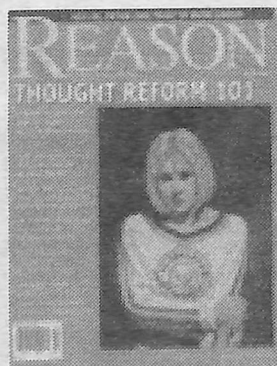
Although fighting doesn't always have a good connotation, all of the matches that night ended on good terms. No one was out to kill anyone, and it was mostly friends fighting friends. Sophomore Nick Ostmeyer said, "It was the biggest event at Dana, with the biggest turnout and most enthusiasm." In fact, everyone enjoyed it so much, many suggested that they make a B.A.H.M. Night out of it. Sadly, that idea has been vetoed. However, it has been rumored that it may be possible to turn it into an intramural sport. Keep an eye out for it.

## FIRE Extinguishes Academic Inequality

**Bernardo Hinojosa**  
Staff Writer

With a staff that includes European-Americans and Jewish-Americans, FIRE (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education), has launched a legal and verbal war against all educational institutions that wish to repress the rights of "freedom of speech, legal equality, due process, religious liberty, and sanctity of consciousness."

The co-creators of the group started off by writing a book on exposing the lack of liberty on most universities. In their book: The Shadow University: The Betrayal of Liberty on American's Campuses, Harvey A. Silvergate and



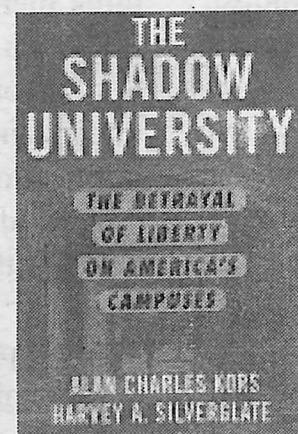
Alan Charles Kors said that, "The University...is...the location where the real agendas of the social engineers of political correctness are most easily identified, and where they are most vulnerable to public exposure. Students can avoid the worse courses at colleges and universities; [but] they cannot escape the politicized university...."

The response to the book was overwhelming with "hundreds of communications and pleas for help from individuals who are the apparent victim of illiberal policies, double standards, intolerable violations of their rights, and intrusions upon their private consciousness." The organization was thus formed, like so many, because of public support.

Many, especially those that have not heard of FIRE, could be quick to disregard the group's strength but from looking at its website (thefire.org), it seems very formidable. They have even worked with such groups as the American Civil Liberties Union. Although only roughly four years in existence, the group has been in publications such as the Boston Globe and the Washington Post, and have attacked many prominent Universities such as Georgetown, CU, OU, Columbia Law School, Penn State, Duke, and many more. (the entire list can be viewed on their website at <http://www.thefire.org/cases.php>)

FIRE has a section on their

website where students can plea for their services. The group also offers free online "Guides to Student Rights on Campus" on their <http://www.thefireguides.org/> website, which includes five Guides: Guide to Religious Liberty on Campus, Guide to Student Fees, Funding, and Legal Equality on Campus, Guide to Due Process and Fair Procedure on Campus, Guide to Free Speech on Campus, and the Guide to First-Year Orientation and to Thought Reform on Campus. These guides have appraisals from the President of the ACLU who says, "FIRE's important guides to various academic freedom are not only enlightening but also empowering."



# Opinion

## Nurse Writes Letter About Safe Sex

In college, a person becomes educated in more than facts and figures. The student learns how to communicate effectively by learning the art of cooperation and compromise. As a life-long learner, I strive to do the same. This is why an unspoken conflict with an unknown student, whom I'll call Jill, leaves me frustrated.

According to one source, Jill has taken the condoms from the desk outside Health Services and trashed them. Everyday, the condoms disappear, regardless of how I word the notes I leave that condemn this behavior.

It is not Jill's privilege to dispose of the contraceptives. They are school property, not paid for by student fees, and not to be stolen for disposal. How is this considered theft? If Jill is not using them for sexual health and pregnancy prevention, they are not rightfully hers. Students first came to me, asking that the prophylactics be placed outside my office because they were too timid to ask where I

kept them inside (corner desk).

According to an article in the Jan. 1997 issue of the Journal of American College Health, three studies have shown that while HIV risks may be reduced by 70 percent to 100 percent via using condoms, only 8 percent to 25 percent used condoms during each sexual act. The author writes that besides having difficulty discussing safer sex with their partner and attitude regarding a condom's inhibition of pleasure, the other main reason for lack of uses is embarrassment in purchasing condoms.

When female student after female student comes asking for a pregnancy test, I never regret making them available. The college as taken a stand against the open distribution of condoms across campus, e.g. in vending machines but the institution recognizes that Health Service deals with sexual health also.

I would appreciate it if she discussed this matter with me and discontinued this behavior out of respect for her peers.

Just last week, I had the opportunity to face a conflict regarding this same subject and the outcome was very positive. In the spirit of cooperation and compromise, we had a discussion that led to a "win-win" situation. This student benefited from being honest after an RA confronted her about covering up the condoms' sign. After we talked, I gave her the choice in ordering some abstinence pamphlets, she was encouraged to present a program if she chose to, an article she brought to me was reprinted for use by others, and a disclaimer was written, stating that abstinence is the only 100% effective method of preventing pregnancy and STD's. Her position is now better represented. Most of all, we left feeling that each of us

had been heard.

At this point, I have no communication from Jill. She chooses to protest alone and anonymously. I believe she should show the courage of her convictions by making them public, even if only to me.

Perhaps during her time at Dana, Jill will learn that the first crucial element in working with others. It is the appreciation of the value that is found in human differences.

For the immediate future, I ask that she leave the condoms for the students who have done their own soul searching and have made their own decisions. The free contraceptives are for them.

-Patti Nielsen, RN, Director of Health Services

Co-Editors: Kathy Wells and Rene Nicolay  
Graphic Design: Chris Johnson  
Staff Writers: Matt Bloomingdale,  
Brandie Carlson, and Katrina Woldseth  
Photographers: Becky Hultgren

## 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.

## Homecoming

Monday, October 6th  
Bingo

Tuesday, October 7th  
Blair 3 Theater

Wednesday, October  
8th  
Karaoke

Thursday, October  
9th  
Powder-Puff  
Flamin'"D" Pep As-  
sembly

Friday, October 10th  
Hypnotist  
Coronation

Saturday, October  
11th  
Golf Cart Parade  
Survivor: Jungle Boo-  
gie

# Sports

## Men's Soccer Shoots for Stellar Season

**Becky Hultgren**  
Staff Writer

The leaves are beginning to fall and everywhere you look you see the black and white colors of soccer balls. The Dana College boy's soccer team has started the soccer season off with a winning record of 6-4. This is an improvement from last years losing record.

Sophomore Justin Watkins said, "I enjoy winning. It shows how far we've come from last year and how far we need to go." Watkins also stated that the team is successful because during games they keep their minds focused on the game and not on other things.

The season started off with a



*Sophomore Justin Watkins fights of Kansas Wesleyan player. Photo by Becky Hultgren*

5-0 win over Grace College followed by two more wins against Cornell College and Mount Mercy College

in overtime. The team's first loss was against Bellevue University. "Bellevue is a good team. They played well as a team, but even though we loss, we learned a lot as a team," commented sophomore center midfielder Brent Lorkovic.

But the loss to Bellevue did not slow down these Vikings. They won their next game against McPherson College and for some that was a major accomplishment. Lorkovic believes that the most impressive win thus far was against McPherson College. "We controlled the game. We played well as a team and we had the ball during most of the game."

The boy's next home game is at 3:00 pm on Saturday, Sept. 27. The Vikings will be hosting Northwestern College.

### Up Coming Sporting Events

◆ **Cross Country Sept. 27 Yankton, SD**

◆ **Football Sept. 27 Blair, NE**

◆ **Men Soccer Sept. 27 Blair, NE**

◆ **Women Soccer Sept. 27 Blair, NE**

◆ **Volleyball Oct. 1 Blair, NE**

◆ **Baseball Scrimmage Oct. 4 Blair, NE**

◆ **Softball Scrimmage Sept. 27 Blair, NE**

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Dodge Center, 4610 Dodge St., Omaha, 554-1040  
Ames Center, 5404 Ames Ave., Omaha, 455-2121  
Council Bluffs Center, 1604 2nd Ave., C.B., 322-6650