

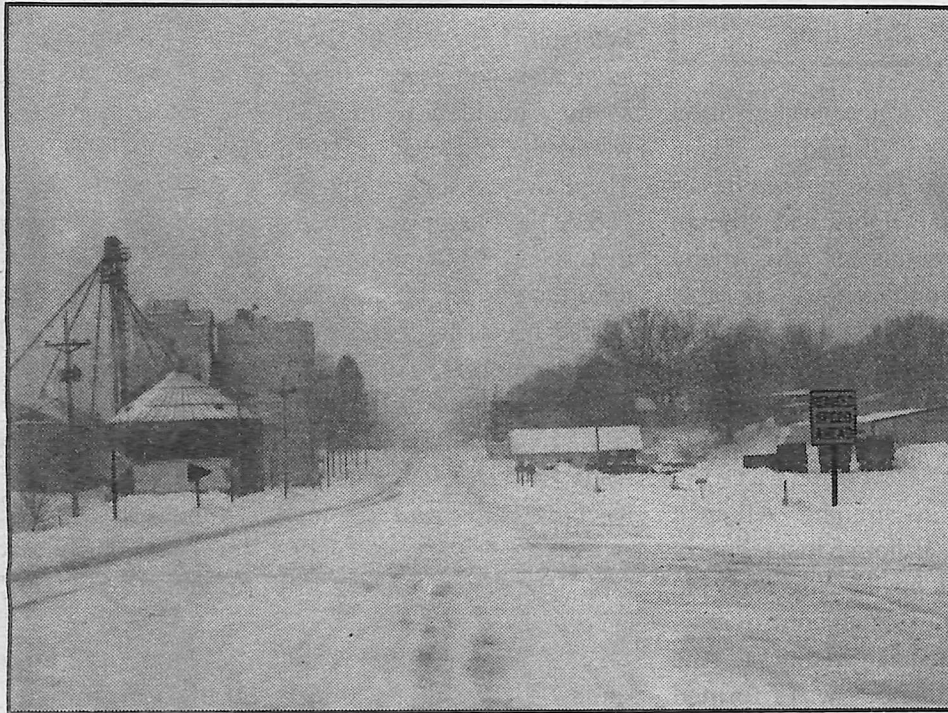
Winter wonderland or driving danger?

Becky Hultgren
Staff Writer

It seems that the white holiday has come a bit late this year. With parts of eastern Nebraska getting 14 inches of snow one week and 10 more inches the next week, some are getting their white holiday a little late this year.

"I would have liked to have a white Christmas, but a white Valentine's Day is okay by me," said Senior Marta Walker. "Snow is fun to play in, but I don't wish for it everyday." Like many, Walker is getting sick of all the snow. Hopefully, according to weather stations, we are in the clear for awhile.

Although the recent snow storms in Blair caused numerous school cancellations, it also caused some headaches. Students who work outside of the Blair community could not attend their jobs the days of the storms because of the dangerous driving conditions. Don't forget the dangerous piles of snow that plows have just left on numerous corners throughout Blair. Almost anywhere you go



Clockwise from left: road conditions prove hazardous; snow piles up from plows in front of Wal-Mart; driving conditions are made worse by snow covering vehicles. Photo courtesy of Becky Hultgren.

you run into the snow banks. Many corners have become dangerous because you can't see over the snow banks to see if there is any traffic coming or not. Many inch their way out carefully and slowly while others just go in hopes of no traffic coming.

Some tips recommended while driving in these icy snowy conditions: plan accordingly – if you know it is icy out, then leave earlier

so that you can take your time driving to where ever it is you are traveling. Use your brakes sparingly – don't succumb to an immediate urge. If you're sliding, don't slam on your brakes, but tap them until you come to a complete stop instead. Hopefully, our little white wonderland has come to an end for at least a while. But until the next snow fall comes, enjoy this snow that we have and be safe at

the same time.

Another thing to keep in mind regarding all this snow is how hard the maintenance staff has been working to get the sidewalks and streets on campus clear. They have been working every day to keep them that way. In order to help them clear the road, everyone should refrain from parking on College Drive Sunday through Thursday from 1

Remembering Sen. Paul Simon

Kathy Wells
Co-Editor

Last night in Trinity Chapel, former students, professors, and admirers of the late Sen. Paul Simon gathered for a memorial service. Sen. Simon passed away last December. The service was opened by Dr. Myrvin Christopherson with kind words and a letter from Simon's wife and his two children, Sheila

and Martin. In the letter, Simon's wife said, "Dana held a special place in Paul's heart." After Dr. Christopherson's kind words, Dr. Sybille Bartels got up and spoke of her admiration for him and his contributions.

Sen. Simon attended Dana until he was 19, but then left to become the nation's youngest editor-publisher. Sen. Simon, however, never forgot Dana. He donated both time and money here throughout his years. He established a fund for

Dana students who would like to study abroad. Since 1996, there have been 65 students who have benefited from this fund. Sen. Simon also was served on the Dana Board of Regents from 1978-81 and 1985-96. He was to begin serving on the board again starting Jan 1. Sen. Simon was also was a professor at Southern Illinois University.

It could not be stressed enough in the service that he was an advocate for education and believed in reaching out to those in need.

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Campus Activities Reminder

LARP session number 2 is Feb. 19, read pages 137-277

H.O.P.E will sponsor a Soul Food night in the cafeteria Feb. 19

Comedian Wil-lie Myles will be performing in the Dragon's Head Feb. 20 at 7 P.M.

Sign up for the campus blood drive to be held, March 2.

Winterfest has been rescheduled for March 5.

Don't forget to watch DVTV every Wednesday night at 9 P.M.

Alliance generates awareness

Rene Nicolay
Co-Editor

A new organization has been formed at Dana College. This club believes in equal rights and human compassion, as do many clubs on campus. It also strives to instill awareness of discrimination, and the history of the oppression of a certain factor of humanity.

Unfortunately, the Gay-Straight Alliance (G.S.A.), though just recently formed, has already been the subject of much controversy. This is unsurprising, as the last alliance was formed roughly five years ago, and thus, a generally new occurrence to recent students. With the graduation of its president, the former club rapidly disbanded, and few remember it.

Freshmen Katie

Spicka and Mandy Hershey, advised by Professor Jo Peterson, have always been advocates of gay rights, so they decided to pick up where the old club left off. They discussed forming the G.S.A. last semester among themselves, but it wasn't until the end of January that all the necessary paperwork was completed.

But why form a gay and straight alliance club at Dana, a campus known for its conservative and religious roots? "I was needed," said Hershey. "We want everybody to feel safe."

"We wanted to raise some awareness," added Spicka. "There *are* gay and bisexual people at Dana College, and they aren't going to go away. There's been so much gay bashing - people being offensive without even realizing it. When something like that

happens, awareness needs to be raised."

It's important to note that this organization is not a gay only affair, as some believe. The word "straight" is in the club's name for a reason. Hershey is a prime example - though heterosexual, she's the president. "My best friend is gay," said Hershey. Through the years, gays have often come to her for help. "I'm a strong straight ally." Something that is greatly needed, as harassment has already begun.

Posters that the GSA have spent hours on have been torn down. Students have made nasty remarks to the club's members, and crank calls are becoming a problem. "Juvenile stuff that's expected," Spicka commented.

"We expected it, and we're prepared for it. We

aren't going to give up," said Hershey.

Among many plans to increase awareness, the GSA is going to give info to students on the upcoming Hate Crime Awareness Week, and ribbons will be given out to anyone who wants to support the awareness.

April 7 is the Day of Silence, where not only gays and lesbians, but heterosexuals as well, will take a day long vow of silence to symbolize the oppression of gays and lesbians. Participants will wear a neck sign explaining the day and its somber but hopeful meaning.

The next meeting is this Tuesday in the President's room, from 6:15 to 7:00. Meetings are scheduled for every other Tuesday, and all students, regardless of sexual preference, are encouraged to join.

Career services tips for seniors

Ann Nelson
Career Services

Prepare for and Practice Interviewing. Once the job-hunt is in full-gear, the most important skill you'll need to master is preparing for job interviews. Become acquainted with the types of interviews you can expect and learn about the importance of first impressions and dress-for-success, but most important of all, learn how to answer various types of job interview questions -- and then practice,

practice, practice. Go back to the Career Services office, pick up an "Interview Tips" handout, and inquire about mock interviews.

11 Network! The strongest and most important element of your job-search is your network of contacts. The majority of all job leads will come from your network - usually about 2/3 of Dana graduates get their jobs through their networks. You've heard the expression, "it's not what you know, but who you know," right? That's networking. Your network

includes your family, your friends, your friends' families, former bosses and coworkers, your professors, alumni, and anyone else that has a personal connection to you or someone you know. Learn now how to grow, manage, and use (and not abuse) your network. If you want some help identifying your network, talk to the Director of Career Services.

12 Attend Career Fairs and Other Career Events. Career fairs are great places to not only find job opportunities, but to

conduct research and build your network. Most colleges have at least one career fair a year, and regional and national career fairs, as well as online career fairs, also are available. If you have a geographic preference following graduation, attend career fairs for that region. Dana's Career Fair will be on March 31 from 11:00 - 2:00 in the Borup Gym (note change of location from previous years).

Adapted from Quintessential Careers www.quintcareers.com

Opinion

Superbowl strikes a sour note

Kathy Wells
Co-Editor

The Super Bowl is typically considered the biggest event of the year for NFL fans. Unfortunately this year, the game seemed to be overshadowed by an uninvited guest performer during the game's half time show. This guest, i.e. Janet Jackson's boob, has made quite a ruckus across the country.

There are a lot of sides to this story. The half time show was produced by MTV on CBS and sponsored by AOL. In the midst of all the commotion, the FCC is getting involved. CBS and its roughly 200 affiliates could be faced with fines of about \$27,000, according to USAToday.com. I believe we all know what the FCC chairman thinks about the whole thing because they displayed his statement over and over again on Monday.

Everyone keeps wondering why there is such a fuss over this incident when there have been things just as bad on other shows and even cable. For one thing, people did not tune in



Janet Jackson bares all with Justin Timberlake at the 2004 Superbowl half time show. Photo courtesy of USAToday.com

for Sunday's show expecting a peep show from Ms. Jackson. It is sad to see that she feels that her career has reached the point when she has to show a lot of skin now to sell some records. When I think of the Super Bowl, I think about when I was a kid and watching it with my dad. I'm sure that hasn't changed much for many families. I

know of several churches that get together and watch it. I had someone tell me a story about a youth minister watching it with his youth group. How awkward would that be for everyone?

I understand that some people saw nothing wrong with it and point fingers everywhere else. My problem comes when there

were 7.8 million viewers from ages 2 to 11. The sad thing is if they had not received their first sex ed lesson then from Jackson and Justin Timberlake it may have happened eventually. Has television gone too far? What point do we reach when enough is enough already? Quite possibly we may have reached and just blew over it like everything else. Isn't true that after you're exposed to something so many times that you are no longer shocked by it?

Another thing that bothers me is when I was watching TV the other night, I heard some guy say that people should have changed the channel when they heard the song begin because they knew how the song ended. Well, what about the viewers who didn't know what was coming -- how were they to know they were supposed to turn off the half time show because it was not suitable for everyone?

There is a reason why we have TV ratings and certain times when programs with explicit language and/or sexual content can be on. It's not like this is the first

time something like this has happened. At the Golden Globes, Bono dropped the F-bomb. But is this just the chance we have to take by broadcasting live? I feel that the half time show is different because it was rehearsed and something like an acceptance speech tends to be more or less spur of the moment.

Then there is the big controversy over whether or not CBS and MTV executives knew that this ending was coming. I recently read on Drudge.com that they had, in fact, known. Honestly, it would not surprise me. How else would you how much you can get away with unless you do it? Sure, there could be a price to pay but that is why we have conglomerates such as Viacom, who own both CBS and MTV.

This brings the question of whether or not stations should be held responsible and I say, YES. Everyone involved in the media field should be held responsible for what they put out. Even this small college paper must be mindful of who might be reading it. I understand that sometimes you can not avoid offending someone. However, there is a level of responsibility that should be maintained.

I think the sad thing is that the topic of most people's conversations is not what a great game it was or maybe even the landmark commercials but the whole boob incident. I feel that this stunt has drawn away from what the Super Bowl should be.

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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.

Got something on your mind? Tell us about it. We are always accepting letters to the editor. Send e-mails to hermes@dana.edu.

Do you have a writer inside that you are waiting to unleash? If so, we are still looking for writers. Contact either Kathy Wells or Rene Nicolay for more information.

Sports

Dana and Midland duke it out

Cliff Ellis
Staff Writer

Despite the assistance from a chorus of Viking horns, the beating of a bass drum, and the enthusiastic student section, the men's basketball team was not able to extend their five-game winning streak this past Wednesday. They experienced a disappointing loss to Dana's longtime rival, the Midland Lutheran College Warriors, 64-81.

Midland was able to create a 21-7 lead at 13:30 in the first half. After that the Vikings were never able to get within less than 10 of the

Warriors steady lead. Nearly all of Midland's shots seemed to fall, while Dana struggled to reach the free throw line due to a lack of hometown calls.

The Vikings never lost sight of a difficult, but possible, rally. The highlight of the game came with 5:10 left in the second half when sophomore forward, Mark Esser, performed a powerful two-hand dunk over several Midland players. Instantly, the Vikings showed signs of new life as senior guard, Chad Harder, capitalized on an important three-point play. This brought the Vikings within twelve. At the peak

of the rally, junior guard, Bruce Erdmann, forced Midland's go-to-guy, #40 Adam Lamprecht, to turn the ball over. The rally ended as Midland's Matt Turner completed his own three-point play.

The Vikings' next game will be this Saturday in Sioux Center, Iowa against Dordt. Their next home game will be February 18 against Morningside. The Vikings have four games until the GPAC tournament, in which they hope to earn a bid for the NAIA tournament in mid-March.

(This story was intended for the Feb. 6 issue but due to the snow, this was not possible.)

**It may be
winter but you
can still go swim-
ming!
Open Swim
is every Tuesday
and Thursday
from 7 to 9 p.m.**

Up Coming Sporting Events

Wrestling

Feb 14 Central Regional Blair, NE 10 a.m.

Track

Feb 13 NWU Prairie Wolf Invitational Lincoln, NE

Women's Basketball

Feb 14 Nebraska Wesleyan Lincoln, NE 5:30 p.m.

Feb 17 Morningside College Blair, NE 7:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Feb 14 Nebraska Wesleyan Lincoln, NE 7:30 p.m.

Feb 18 Morningside Blair, NE 7:30 p.m.

Baseball

Feb 14 Newman University Withita, KS 1:00 p.m.

Feb 15 Newman University Witchita, KS 1:00 p.m.

What do I know
about me

I know
my best
is yet to
come.



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Dodge Center, 4610 Dodge St., Omaha, 554-1040
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