

The Danish National Performance Team in action at the Gardner-Hawks Center on Thursday night. All photos on this page by Chris Johnson

Danish National Performance Team thrills campus

Kathy Wells
Co-Editor

Bright costumes, bodies flying through the air, and great flexibility: these are all the things that one would have seen when the National Danish Performance Team came to campus. Last night the team put on about a two hour show in the Gardner-Hawks Center. There were students, faculty, and people from the community present to watch.

The team was developed by the Danish Gymnastics and Sports Association (DGI) to promote Danish gymnastics around the globe. DGI has about 1.3 million members in Denmark, with about

5,500 local clubs. The team has 28 members. There are two team leaders, Rie Toftgaard Nielsen and Erick Morales Hansen, and a tour manager, Anders Christian Amstrup. They are currently on a 10-month long world tour which includes South Africa, Australia, Japan, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, U.S., Germany, Czech Republic, France, and Denmark. They traveled with Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark to South Africa. They have also had several stops on their tour here in the U.S.

This is not the first time the group has been to Dana. It was actually one of the first events held in Borup Coliseum. It is also the first non-athletic event held in the

Gardner-Hawks Center. There were several sponsors involved in making this event happen.

The gymnasts did routines using modern music, humor, and their own traditional dance. They used trampolines to wow the crowd, vaulting themselves high into the air. There were even references to pop idols of past and present. There was not a dull moment through the entire performance.

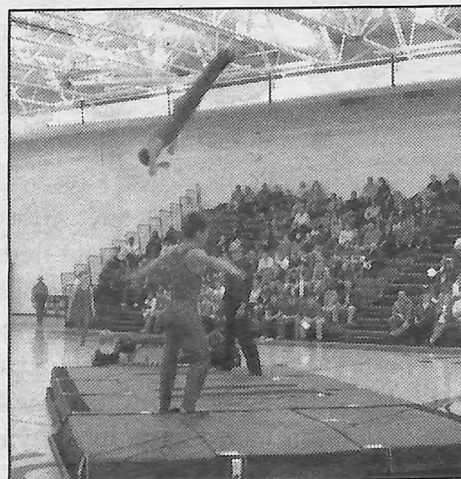
The performance was only a climax to their visit. They arrived earlier in the week. On Wednesday and Thursday they did a workshop on campus, toured the facilities, and even went into some of the classes and interacted with Dana students. They even had an opportunity to

enjoy unique dining experience in the cafeteria. They also gave workshops in Arlington, Tekamah, and Elkhorn-Kimballton, Iowa, while here.

This was yet another cultural experience offered by Dana to not only students but to everyone in the surrounding community. Dana College itself, as you may know, has ties to the Denmark. The institution was founded by Danish pioneers. Is it any surprise, then, that we would continue out friendly relations with the Danish? For years to come, we can hope to experience more Danish culture – from crafts to backwards flips.



Above: The team performs The Ugly duckling. Right: One gymnast vaults into the air for the crowd.



Above: Ladies and Gentlemen, Elvis has left the building. The team showed their sense of humor.

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Campus Activities Reminder

Student Directed One-Acts playing Friday & Saturday @ 7:30 P.M.: "Approaching Lavendar" directed by Emily Neve "Circus Lady" & "Lou Gehrig Did Not Die of Cancer" directed by Mara Bartlett.

Get your free ticket to The Passion of The Christ. Ticket sign-up is in the campus center.

Winterfest dance is to be held on March 5.

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

Students gain experience directing *One-Act Plays open tonight in Laureitzen Theater*

Becky Hultgren
Staff Writer

Are you in the mood for some comedy? If you are, you should consider going and seeing one, if not all, of the three one acts being put on at Dana College's Lauritzen Theater this weekend. The three one acts that are being put on are Circus Lady, Lou Gehrig did not Die of Cancer, and Approaching Lavender.

Mara Bartlett, senior, is the director of Circus Lady and Lou Gehrig did not Die of Cancer. Her cast includes Christina Ulmer, Andy Miller, Joe Blackstad, and Katie Spicka. Circus Lady is originally written by Jason Miller and is about a woman who is suffering from obesity and thus causing problems between her and her son. Lou Gehrig did not Die of Cancer is also originally written by Jason Miller and



Sophomores Joe Blackstad and Christina Ulmer rehearse a scene together at a recent practice. Photo by Chris Johnson

is about an ex baseball player and a woman who's son is on the baseball team. The main point of this one is the overall relationship between a father and a son.

Senior Emily Neve is the other director and she will be directing Approaching Lavender. Originally written by Julie Beckett Crutcher, this humorous one act is about two women who are meeting their future step mother and

the complexity of sisterhood and the changing of families. The cast includes Linsey Cetto, Kori Williamson, and Tabby Holman. The two sisters are meeting their step-sister for the first time and then they meet up with their step mom.

To find out more go to the one acts which begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and see how the family becomes one with out major controversy.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month, and we at the Hermes believe the history of civil rights and affirmative action is an intricate part of America's history. Below are some great quotes from important figures in black history.

"I am America. I am the part you won't recognize. But get used to me. Black, confident, cocky; my name, not yours; my religion, not yours; my goals, my own; get used to me." -- Muhammad Ali

"You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man." -- Frederick Douglass

"The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to." -- Marian

Controversial Film Ignites Spiritual Debate

Cliff Ellis
Staff Writer

Mel Gibson's controversial movie *The Passion of the Christ* opened in theaters this past Wednesday, February 26, 2004. This depiction of the last twelve hours of Jesus Christ's life has caused many viewers to accuse Gibson of circulating anti-Semitic undertones. Gibson, a devout

Catholic, strongly opposes this viewpoint and claims that he "wants to show the humanity of Christ as well as the divine aspect. It's a rendering that for me is very realistic and as close as possible to what I perceive the truth to be."

In an interview with ABC's Diane Sawyer, Gibson was asked who killed Jesus. He responded by saying, "The big answer is, we all did. I'll be the first in the culpability

stakes here." Later, Gibson explains that, in the film, he was the one holding the stake that is driven through Jesus' hand. He wanted to show viewers that all of mankind was responsible for Jesus' crucifixion because of everyone's sins. Gibson says the film is "about faith, hope, love and forgiveness. It's about Christ's sacrifice."

Students at Dana College will have an opportunity to view this

film at the Blair 3 Theater on Tuesday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. Also, several churches in the Omaha/Blair area are focusing on this film as a topic to assist individuals with understanding the film's implications. Here in town, Country Bible Church is conducting an eight-week series that will dissect several aspects of the film, including its authenticity regarding people, places, and actions that are depicted.

Opinion

Chick flicks: True love or just wrong

Gina Christmas
Staff Writer

I am a female but I have sworn off chick flicks. I don't think anyone doesn't understand what consists of a chick flick. It's those typical movies that purposely try to make everyone in the audience cry and swoon. Usually, you can guess the ending and pretty much every other word. Film critics don't usually use the chick flick term. They try to call them romance films or even generalize them as dramatic features. But in the end, those movies are only chick flicks.

I can't see those movies because they make me want to fall in love – in the wrong way. Those movies show love in its absolute perfection. A completely unattainable fashion. Everything works out and everyone is happy. I am not an expert on love and I haven't even been in love, but I do know that love is not perfect. Those movies make me eager for this unrealistic love, which isn't the way to anticipate something like that. I am ready for love, but



Photo courtesy www.movieclub.com

it would be easier to find it if I wasn't propelled to look for it.

I first started to denounce chick flicks after I saw one called *Bounce*. This movie starred Ben Affleck and Gwyneth Paltrow. Of course, they fell in love and everything was based on chance. It all started with a plane crash that killed Gwen's husband only because Ben gave up his ticket so the man could get home to his wife. Ben felt guilty and found Gwen to apologize but ended up

falling for her. There was more drama thrown in each and every way, but the main conflict was the wondering when Ben would tell her everything and if they would stay together. This movie was unrealistic from the beginning but what hurt me was the way love was depicted. This love was painful. I remember sitting there watching the movie and wanting to cry, not because it was a magical moment, but because my heart actually hurt. This woman had lost so much, but found some

comfort from this man and his love. What made this so painful was how the woman had grown into the new love but then found the attachment through her dead husband. Once I was done watching this movie, I was mad. I was mad to see love be so vicious and insensitive.

Now, the last chick flick I saw put me over the edge. This one is a recent release called *Win a Date With Tad Hamilton*. I went and saw this with a couple of my friends and realized this movie was the definition of a chick flick. You know, girl pines for movie star. Then girl actually wins contest to go on a date with the star. The movie star falls for her but the one close friend loves her too. Girl finds true love with friend that was always there for her. How precious.

Now in this movie, I did guess the ending. I wouldn't call it guessing, though, as it was so obvious in this one dimensional

film. So, the movie was bad, but it got worse. My friends actually enjoyed it. Trapped between both of them, I was surrounded by the most painful sounds ever: "Awwww!" They actually found things cute and were even surprised when things ended happily ever after.

The thing that bothers me is what these movies project. Nothing in life works out exactly how you want it. These movies are so unrealistic. I think these movies could actually hurt someone. It's not right for little girls to believe that life is perfect. I know it plagued my mind when I was young to believe that love was easy. Only after living in the actual world did I learn that was only an ideal. But I worry about the little ones whose hearts will

break when the movie star they love doesn't fall for them.

Chick flicks are just wrong. I don't like the projection of perfect love. I know I won't find perfect love. So I won't expect it, but the only way to do that is to avoid the brainwashing effects of chick flicks. I stand by my decision, because the truth is, chick flicks really aren't that good of movies to begin with. -- Gina Christmas is a pseudonym for the individual members of a writing course at Dana.



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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

Basketball wraps up season

Kathy Wells
Co-Editor

The lady Vikings basketball season has come to a close. Their last two games were played against Morningside at home and Doane in Crete. They ended their season with a 0-18 conference record and 1-28 overall.

In the game against the Morningside Mustangs, junior Samanta Alapa led the Vikings with 12 points and shot 5 of 11 from the field. Junior Carmen Woudstra came in behind her with 11 points. Junior Michelle Glanz led the team in rebounds with seven and put up nine points of her own. Another notable player in that game was freshman Nicole Hull, who scored seven points

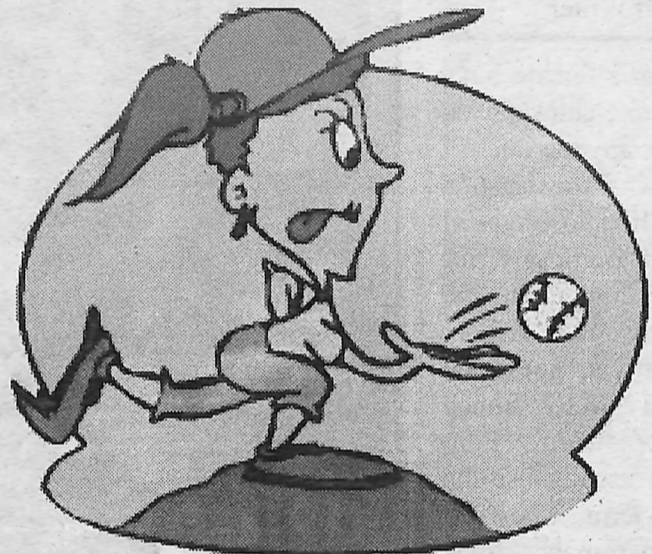
and had four assists. Despite their effort they fell to the Mustangs 90-50.

Their final game of the season was played on the road against the Doane Tigers. Glanz led the team in points scoring 17 and shot 6 of 9 from the field. Alapa had 15 points and 5 rebounds. However, the Tigers defeated the Vikings 105-54.

The seventh seed men able to earn a bid into the conference tournament. There they faced the Morningside Mustangs, but were defeated 81-75 ending their post-season. In regular season play, the men held a 9-9 conference record and were 15-15 overall.

Both teams are now done with their seasons. They will now look ahead into the season to come and the new talent it will bring

Don't forget to use the certificate given to you complements of the softball team to Bruegger's Bagels that was placed in your mail box!



Show your support for the lady vikings. These certificates are good through Sunday, February 29.

Up Coming Sporting Events

Track

Feb 28 NWU Indoor open Lincoln, NE
March 4-6 NAIA Indoor Championships, Johnson City, TN.

Baseball

Feb 28 Bethany College Lindsborg, KS 1:00 P.M.
Feb 29 Bethany College Lindsborg, KS 1:00 P.M.
March 2 Bellevue University Blair, NE 12:00 P.M.

Wrestling

Feb 27 NAIA Nationals, Great Falls, MT
Feb 28 NAIA Nationals, Great Falls, MT



Are you interested in becoming an RA? Come to RA Information Night!

Where: The Forum

When: March 1st @ 9:00 P.M.

R.A.I.N.

If you have any questions contact Jason Davis

Phone: 7256