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Students get new place to hang out



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Introducing 'The Pundit'



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Football looks forward

VOTE: Let your voice be heard

For 18-24 year-olds, only 36.1-42% of those eligible to vote did so in the 2000 election.

Kendra Johnson

Staff Writer

"To make democracy work, we must be a notion of participants, not simply observers. One who does not vote has no right to complain," this quote from Louis L'Amour speaks straight the young people of America. Especially for college students, reasons for complaint abound: the cost of everything from tuition to health care to gas, the difficulty in finding a good job, and international issues like the war in Iraq. Complaining rarely creates any change or improvement, however. It seems especially pointless when one considers that almost every college student in America has the power to make a difference, the power to vote.

Around the world, people are giving up their lives for the right to vote. Here in America, the self-proclaimed epitome of democracy, people have also had to fight and sacrifice for a say in the goings-on of the country. Those between the ages of 18 and 21 have only been able to vote since 1971 when Congress acknowledged the idiosyncrasy of forcing young men to fight for their country without allowing them to vote for the leader of that country.

Young Americans of the past placed immense importance and value on the right to vote. Whether young Americans today realize that is

unclear. One thing is clear, however: young Americans today aren't making use of that vote. According to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), the voter turnout rate for 18-24 year-olds decreased thirteen percentage points from 1972 to 2000. Of that age group, only 36.1-42% of those eligible to vote did so in the 2000 election.

The reason behind young Americans' voting inactivity revolves in a vicious cycle. Many college students don't vote because they feel like their vote doesn't make a difference and is not sought after. These feelings are greatly generated by the fact that candidates tend to ignore young voters in their campaign strategies. Candidates don't focus on young voters because they prefer to spend their energies on more consistent sources of votes. They are reinforced in these motives by the continually declining numbers of young voters.

But the fact remains, the votes of young Americans, both individually and as a group do matter. Numerous efforts are underway to bring home this message. One such effort is the MTV-sponsored "Choose or Lose" campaign, working toward a goal of 20 million 18-24 year old voters in this November's presidential election. MTV works with the Rock the Vote organization to spread the importance and improve the ease of voting. Another organization, the New Voters Project, also aims to publicize the importance of voting. It has projected that America will have 23.9 million 18-24 year olds in 2004.



Citizens use their right to vote across the nation. With numbers dipping in the 18-24 year-olds, it's important to register.

To give that number significance, the last presidential election was decided by 500,000 votes nationwide.

Regardless of their political affiliations or beliefs, students here at Dana should take advantage of the gift that is the vote. And it's never been easier to do. Rock the Vote's website, www.rockthevote.com, provides a quick and easy way to get registered. Once registered as voters, students will receive a voter registration card telling them their precinct as well as their polling location.

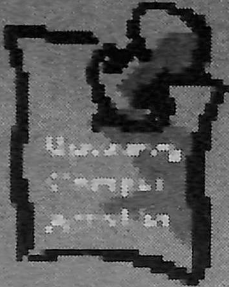
The website also makes it easy to obtain an absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots are especially convenient for college students who may be registered in their hometowns but can't make it there to vote on Election Day. The ballots are sent through the mail and are added to the total along with all the other votes.

Several other websites, such as www.mtv.com/chooseorlose and www.newvotersproject.org, provide information about the procedures and importance of voting, coverage of the candidates and the issues, and ways to spread the word about voting. They also hold links to even more online voting resources.



Features



**Open Swim
Tuesdays and
Thursdays at 7:00
P.M.**

**Auditions for Eric
Grant-Leanna's
senior theater
project Sept 17
at 6:15 P.M. All
those interested
are encouraged
to attend.**

**LARP Sept 23,
Ender's Game
pgs 173-324**

**Kori Williamsen's
Voice Recital
Sept 24 12 P.M.
and Sept 25 7:
30 P.M. in Trinity
Chapel**

Library adds new place to just hang out

**Sara Siebler
Staff Writer**

Renovations made at the Dana College Library over the summer, under director Tom Nielsen, were many. They included the addition of several online conveniences: Interlibrary loan request forms are now available online. So, if Dana doesn't have what you're looking for, requests can be sent to other libraries all over the country - and to request a book you don't even have to leave your computer. Also, Oxford Reference Online has been added providing about 100 reference books. And, approximately 5,000 netlibrary books have been



Students enjoy the new Dragon's Tail.

added, bringing the total to over 20,000. Check out more about online resources at www.dana.edu/library.

Other changes that have been made regard the "room formerly known as the learning center." Director of the learning center, Lori Nielsen, has moved her office

to DCC and the vacated room will now function as both a student lounge and a classroom. Reservations for class use and special activities can be made at the front desk. Amenities added to the "Dragon's Tail," as the room is now called, include a microwave, snack machine,

pop machine, and 65" TV. Upstairs in room 302 will be the new location provided for tutors.

A recreational reading section has also been added to the library, located on the main floor. And, as for new equipment, a Mac computer and printer has been added, and also a new copier. This year, students can use cash, change, or a reusable copy card with a complimentary \$1.50 worth of copying privileges.

Finally, the student senate has purchased 56 new DVDs, and the library has continued to increase the size of the main collection and the book sale as well. So, stop by and check it out!

The many ways to fight boredom this year

**Becky Hultgren
Staff Writer**

Most college students these days not only look for a college that contains the major they want but they also look at the city the college is located in so they know what there is to do in free time. Blair, a city with approximately 8,000 residents, may not offer much to do but surrounding cities do have many possibilities for you to try during your free time.

Even though Blair is a smaller community it still has some possibilities to choose from when looking for something to do. There is a YMCA that offers a basketball gym, aerobics, weights, swimming and more. You don't even have to get a membership

you can get a day pass or day membership for \$3.00 or if you want a monthly membership it only cost \$21.50 per month. If you are more of an outdoors person Blair has their own Golf Course. The Blair Bowling alley also has open bowling every weekday until 6 p.m. and on weekends until 10 p.m. The cost of bowling is \$2.75 a game plus a \$.50 shoe rental fee. The Blair 3 Theatre has movie showings every night of the latest popular movies. For daily shows students pay \$5.00, and matinees are \$4.00. If you would like to see what is playing log onto the internet and go to www.Blair3Theatre.com.

If you want to get out of Blair and you have a car or a friend with a car, Omaha is only 20 miles South of Blair and offers

many things to do. If you are more of an art person, you can always travel to the Joslyn Art Museum. The museum features works from antiquity to the present. If you are more into the theatre arts then Omaha offers the Orpheum Theater, which allows national touring companies to bring the best of Broadway.

If you rather be shopping, Omaha offers plenty of shopping possibilities. There are 4 main malls in Omaha, Crossroads Mall, Westroads Mall, Oakview Mall, and the newest mall, Village Pointe Mall. Not only are there plenty of malls but there are also major shopping plazas. For more information about shopping areas log onto the internet to www.visitomaha.com.

For those who

like to stay out all night, Omaha does offer a night life. There are a few dance clubs in Omaha, a few have 18 and over nights but a lot are mostly 21 and over. Best way to find out would be to call the club before you leave town to make sure you are old enough to go. For numbers of clubs and more nightlife in Omaha log onto the internet and go to www.omahanightlife.com.

If all else fails, grab a deck of cards, grab a few friends, and play card games but add a few new twists to make the game more lively for you and your friends, or you can make a bag of popcorn and have a movie night with your friends. Even in smaller communities it is possible to find things to do in your free time, even if that means driving 20 miles.

Opinion

Constructive Gripping

Matt Bloomingdale

It being the beginning of the year, I find that there is not too much to comment on. I can always take cheap shots at freshmen however, under some current circumstances; I find it in my best interest to save that topic for another day. Instead, I turn to, perhaps, the second most accessible target on campus: food service.

Now, before many of you begin to believe that this commentary is going to be one that disparages our food service, I implore you to bear with me for a few more inches. I have heard several comments, mostly from freshmen, many from sophomores, and a few from juniors (not many at all from seniors, as we have long-learned that change takes approximately 6.2 years here at Dana) about long lines and bad food. I am merely commenting on the remarks I've heard.

While, true, the long lines are quite annoying, I have little sympathy for the freshmen who complain about them. Actually, the long lines are your fault. First, there are a lot of

you. And, no offense, you are slow. You take forever scanning your card and an eternity deciding what you want to eat (be appalled now, wait till next year's freshmen arrive). Does this make the long lines completely the fault of the freshmen? No (a point I'll address later).

Second, many of us, upperclassmen, have commented on the quality of food; "it was better last year etc...." This is something I can agree with. I do believe that, thus far, the food last year was better than the food currently being served. However, rumor has it that the change in menu items was something passed down from the corporate levels of Sodexo (our food service provider for those of you who are not aware).

As many of you know by now, I'll be the first to complain about something however, I'll also be the first to try to fix it. While you certainly have a right to express your disapproval of our campus food (after all, you are paying for a meal plan), I would ask that you express your disapproval practically

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The Pundit

"The Song Remains the Same"
Tom Jackson



The citizens of this country and peoples of the world recently paused to remember the events and victims of September 11, 2001. Everyone is familiar with these tragic events; while some are more learned than others since the publication of The 9/11 Commission Report. Since this tragedy, there has understandably been much curiosity and finger pointing going about. People are angry that such malicious intent was not known or prevented. People are angry that George W. Bush is basking in the fires of destruction to boost his ratings. People are angry that war is still upon us, without much sign of an end. When it comes to how our country and world has been affected since this tragedy, people are just all around angry. Some people are sad. This too, like their anger, is understandable. The sudden loss of so many lives and so many loved ones, the destruction of buildings that defined the identity of so many people, all the aspects of this sudden, unexpected brokenness wrought upon our country is more than sufficient to move people to heart-wrenching emotion.

Shortly after the events of September 11th 2001, former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "I am certain that I speak on behalf of my entire nation when I say: Today we are all Americans". United in our sorrow and linked in our loss, all grieved in one way or another. I,

myself, recall sleeping very little on the evenings of September 11th & 12th 2001. I sat up late at night; waiting for hope, watching CNN, and praying. Having experienced loss in some form or another, we all were linked to those directly affected by this tragedy. However, now I believe that this time for sorrow is most definitely past. I believe it ultimately does more harm than good to carry such pain with us. Yet just a few days ago, as I watched the airwaves become plastered with coverage, and listened as I heard ministers preaching once more on the issue, I got the distinct impression that America will not let this go. And should we? Should we bury this tragedy in the sand, tell the grieving to 'get over it', and continue our everyday routine existence? While most will respond with a resounding 'By no means!', I would like to offer that there is something more to be learned here, something beneficial to take from all this.

It has constantly astounded, worried, and scared me, that only after such tragedies the likes of September 11th, and the recent school massacre in Russia, will people be prompted to assist, care, and change. Why does it take such tragedy and heartbreak to spurn us to action on the behalf of others? Why do we forget their need and value? Have the tragedies of our past not been enough to cement the value and frailty

of human life in our hearts?

Personally, I get very angry. It is not only when injustice is done to those I love, or to those loved by my friends or family, that I am spurned to such anger. It is when injustice, harm, and hardships befall on *any* people. The people of the world do not have to be linked to us by blood or lineage to deserve our goodwill, for we are all linked as one. We are children of God. We are all entitled to the life and freedom that comes as heirs in the life, death, and resurrection of His Son. Believers and non-believers alike. While I know I cannot convince everyone to become believers and stewards of goodwill, it is my hope that the belief and faith in such action will spread.

Should we bury this tragedy in the sand? No, but we have buried our dead. Should we forget this tragedy? No, but we should emerge from this era of darkness and grief. We should live our lives anew with the knowledge that there is no better time to care for others than now. It is hard to deal with the loss of those we love. But the hope there is revealed when we celebrate their lives and their loves, and carry every good thing about them with us. It is through the same manner than we carry and share the message of hope from our Savior. Should we not add the voices of those we love to his song? He makes our sorrowing spirit sing, danallama@gmail.com

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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.

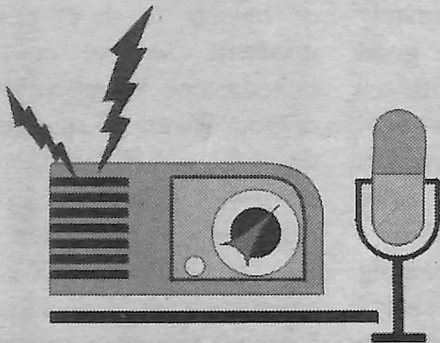
Hermes welcomes letters to the editor expressing original points of view. Hermes reserves the right to edit all letters according to space availability. All letters must include author's name and address. Under certain circumstances Hermes may respect request to have name omitted at time of publishing.

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

Sports

Don't Forget!

If you can't be at the game, you can listen to it on **91.1 FM KDCV** or on the internet at: www.huntel.net/kdcv



Gripping Cont.'d from Page 3

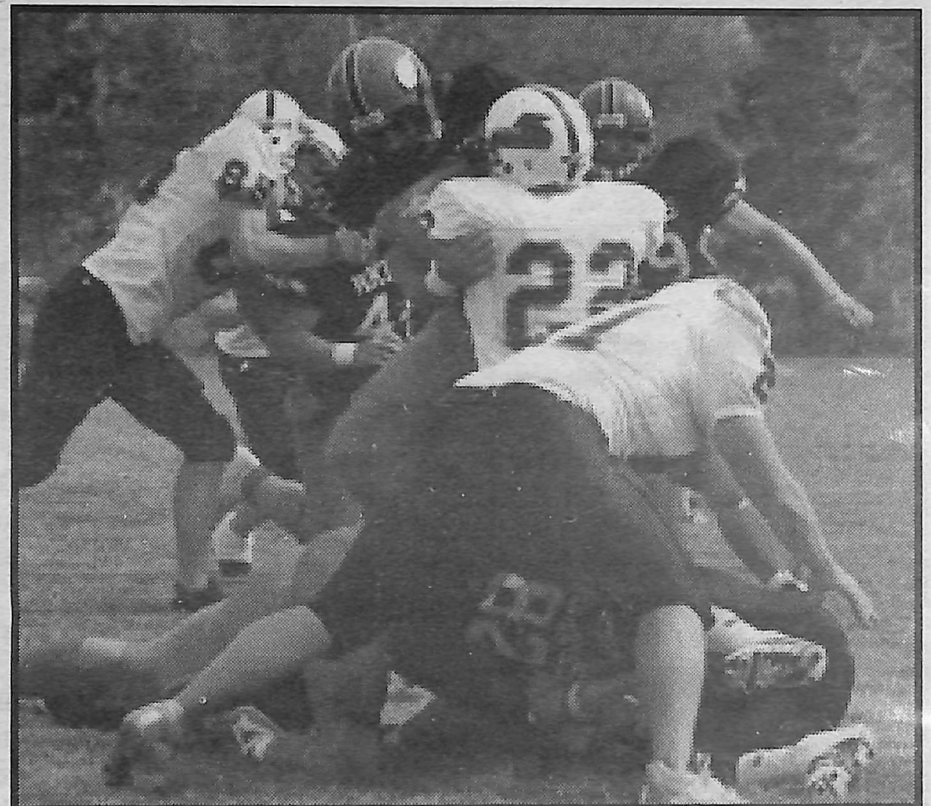
by filling out comment cards rather than griping about it to your friend in the lunch line.

In addition, before you go accommodating two lines.

That all being said, and that fact that I have a few more lines to fill of my ever so popular musings, I would ask that all of us (freshmen through seniors) do more this year to aid in solving our campus problems rather than simply moaning about them in the halls.

Any comments or suggestions about this editorial can be directed to hermes@dana.edu.

Football looks forward to improving upon season



Players battle it out at the recent Midland game at home. They will be at home again this Saturday. Photo www.dana.edu

Upcoming Sporting Events

Football

Sep. 18 Vs. Morningside in Blair at 1:00 P.M.

Men's Soccer

Sep. 18 Vs. Bethel College in Minneapolis, MN @ 3:30 P.M.
Sep. 19 Vs. Saint John's University in Minneapolis, MN @ 12:00 P.M.
Sep. 21 Vs. Nebraska Wesleyan in Blair @ 3:00 P.M.

Women's Soccer

Sep. 18 Vs. Graceland University in Lamoni, IA @ 2:00 P.M.
Sep. 21 Vs. Nebraska Wesleyan in Blair @ 5:00 P.M.

Volleyball

Sep. 17, 18 Bethel College Tourney
Sep. 20 Vs. York College @ 7:00 P.M.
Sep. 22 Vs. Hastings College @ 7:30 P.M.

Cross County

Sep. 18 Woody Greeno Invitational in Lincoln @ 10:00 A.M.

Women's Golf

Sep. 18 Doane
Sep. 24 Peru State @ Table Creek Golf Course @ 9:00 A.M.

Kevin Lorkovic
Staff Writer

Though being 0-2 at the beginning of the year, the Dana football team isn't discouraged.

"We're not basing the season on two games," said assistant coach Allen Freisen.

The football team has started out 0-2 this year, losing 27-30 to Midland Lutheran and 13-21 to Briar Cliff.

The first game of the season against Midland saw the Vikings with the lead going into the fourth, but couldn't end it that way.

"We knew it was going to be an uphill battle against Midland. Out of the 27 seniors Midland had, they started 18 of them, while we out there starting sophomores," said head coach Bill Danenhauer.

The team and coaching staff were disappointed by the loss, but, as Freisen put it, "We still have

a positive attitude and lots of enthusiasm."

Danenhauer agrees by saying, "We are in a very good conference, one of the best in the NAIA, and simple mistakes can change a whole outcome of a game. There's no need to get upset at ourselves."

Offensively, Danenhauer likes to throw the ball. "We're giving ourselves the name of River City Offense. We're going to sling mud around and hope it sticks."

On the defensive side, Freisen says, "we just need to not give up the big play. Losing that play hurts the team as a whole."

Danenhauer looks ahead by stating that, "we just need to believe in ourselves, and come prepared.

We need to tie our shoes, tape our ankles, and come to play no matter who we're playing."

The football team is back in action at home this Saturday when they will take on Morningside at 1p.m.