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X-Country

## Things that go bump in the night...

**Kathy Wells**  
Editor

Ghost stories or urban legends are an American tradition; people pass them from generation to generation. Nebraska has plenty of its own stories but so do many of the colleges. Dana has its own oral tradition concerning certain halls on campus. Upperclassmen make sure to pass on such stories to incoming freshmen in hopes that they too will continue to pass it on. Midland Lutheran, Hastings, and UNL are some fellow colleges and universities with haunting stories.

Dana had three buildings with stories Charles A. Dana Hall of Science, Elkhorn Hall, Madsen Fine Arts Center. According to the site, it's said that people in the labs of DHS late at night have turned around to find a pitch-black, shadowy figure standing in the doorway. In addition, the cause of a mysterious false fire alarm causing the sprinklers to come on and flood the building in the summer of 1999 remains unexplained. Many say it was an angry or mischievous ghost. There are many stories surrounding Elkhorn; but it is said that a ghost haunts 4th floor where in the 1930's he hung himself. The ghost is said to whisper, "shut up" to people and the room that he died in is colder than other rooms next to it. Supposedly sometimes the sound of football cleats can be heard running down the hall. In MFAC, there are reports of phantom piano music coming from empty rooms, as well as a cold "visitor" in the basement dressing area. In addition, a dark figure has been seen darting down the aisles



Some buildings on campus are rumored to have extra inhabitants like the no longer used (clockwise) Elkhorn hall, C.A. Dana Hall of Science, and the Madsen Fine Arts Center. All photos by Chris Johnson

in the empty theater. These are just the stories provided about Dana. It seems many other schools are having haunted experiences too, like Curtis College.

Curtis College in Curtis, NE the dorm rooms are haunted by a guy that hung himself because he was made fun of. It is said that he walks around the halls at night and whistles and makes fun of people and pounds on the floor and doors, but when people go out and check things out there is no one there.

Midland Lutheran College in Fremont has a problem with the theater above the student union being haunted by a caretaker from way back. There are strange noises and eerie feelings surrounding this part of campus.

Hastings College in Hastings there is a ghost of a music professor that has been seen in

human form and as a floating light in the music building named for him. Lights have been turned on and off, as well as sightings of him walking the halls late at night. Altman hall is said to be haunted by Clara Altman. She is a good ghost who protects the students staying there. You hear knocking on doors, lights turn on and off, and radios turned on in the middle of the night.

At the University of Nebraska-Kearney, Conrad Hall was built in the late 1950s and used to house the KSC chapter of the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. The ghost, named Stella after one of the AOPi founding sisters, is said to haunt the west end of the third floor rooms. In particular, room 318. The ghost appears at night, sitting in students' chairs, as well as on their beds. It is said that, students wake up unable to open their eyes or roll

over in bed because the ghost is said to be sleeping next to them. Chairs are often found drug across the tile floors in front of the mirrors. Lights are often found turned on in vacant rooms that have remained locked, and the ghost also is said to turn on water in the bathrooms, where students find it running.

Nebraska Wesleyan College in Lincoln has the ghost of a music professor who has been seen and heard frequently in the old music building on the campus. The professor was an organ instructor, the organ can be heard late at night, and sometimes can be seen sitting at or near the organ. Sightings of the ghost have also occurred at the apartment where the professor lived.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the Temple Building a worker fell from the rafters during cont.'d on page 2

# Features

## Upcoming Events

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

**Movie Night:  
Friday Night  
Lights, Friday  
October 29.**

**Costume Cos-  
mic Bowling on  
Saturday, Octo-  
ber 30, 8-10 P.M.  
Blair Bowling  
Alley**

**Jello Wrestling  
Thursday,  
November 4.**

**Dana College  
Concert band  
presents a Fall  
Concert Sun-  
day, October  
31 at the MFAC  
Theater, 3:00  
P.M. Free Ad-  
mission**

**November 2  
voting carpool  
is looking for  
anyone who  
has a car and  
wants to drive.  
Talk with Sara  
Gutzwiller or  
Natalie Bussing  
if interested.  
Driving times  
are 10:00, 3:30,  
& 6:30.**

## Hauntings on campus

*Continued from page 1*

construction early in the 1900's and was killed as he hit the stage floor. People have heard a noise followed by a crashing sound from the stage. As they come to investigate, there is no one there or anything out of place. A misty figure of a worker in old style clothes has also been seen.

Finally Wayne State College, which has several ghostly stories around campus. Cora, a young lady that killed herself in the basement, haunts Neihardt Hall. The Lay Theater that is haunted by a very

mischievous ghost. The Willow Bowl which is said to be haunted by a young man that committed suicide there a few years ago. A young girl who was playing in the tunnels when her ball rolled into a cubbyhole with bare electrical wires haunts the tunnels between the dorms.

There are always going to be such stories at American universities and colleges. In many cases students will continue to pass on the stories to their younger classmates for a thrill. It is a tradition. To check out these stories and more stories about several Nebraska towns go to [www.shadowland.net](http://www.shadowland.net).

**Looking for some scary movies? The Hermes editorial staff has compiled a list of their top 13 favorite movies!**

1. Exorcist (1973)
2. The Shining (1980)
3. Halloween (1978)
4. Alien (1979)
5. Silence of the Lambs (1991)
6. Psycho (1960)
7. Carrie (1976)
8. Evil Dead 2 (1987)
9. Jaws (1975)
10. Seven (1996)
11. Salem's Lot (1979)
12. Rosemary's Baby (1968)
13. The Others (2001)

*What are you planning to do for Halloween?*

*"Partyin' with Nic at  
Becky's."  
Lindsay Van Horn  
Freshman*



*"Partyin' at Leigh's."  
Nic Albrecht  
Sophomore*

*"Going to see 'saw'  
with Greg."  
Katrina Woldseth  
Junior*



*"Trick or Treating."  
Matt Bryan  
Senior*

# Opinion

## Letter to the editor

Response to "The importance of voting"

Whoa, whoa... the ballot that effect you. Wait one second here. Did I just hear someone encourage me not to vote? Did somebody just tell me that if I haven't totally been following the presidential campaigns, watching the presidential debates on TV, nor totally have made up my mind who will receive my vote in November, I'm not educated enough and shouldn't vote? Let's take a step back here.

So the truth is that most younger voters don't vote. That has been established quite a few times. Only about 50% of all voters show up to the polls on presidential election years, while that number drops well below 40% in off-years. Of course, the majority of those who vote are the elderly. Here's your first reason to vote. The elderly don't necessarily care about what happens with Social Security or Health Care when you're older. They are more concerned about the less distant future. Vote for the candidate that shows the best future for you. Here's your second reason to vote: Not everything on the ballot has to do with the presidential election. You might find propositions on

more locally that you didn't know were there. But that doesn't mean you don't have an educated opinion on them. And finally, let's all just bash a bandwagon that is actually for a good cause (sarcasm). MTV as well as the more local "Rock the Vote" campaigns for youth voting are excellent ways to get our generation to the polls. It's a free country last time I checked. I believe they can try to sway the vote whichever way they feel. Note: This is coming from a registered Republican (who's still on the fence which way his vote will go).

The real truth here is that some people who believe a certain way want to discourage others from voting who don't feel the same way. Since you don't think the same way they do, you are "uneducated." Vote. It's your privilege and your right. Don't make your final decision on the so-called "debates." And if there is one good point to be taken from Megan Hunt's article, it is to get educated on the issues and to learn about the topics. But don't ever let somebody tell you that your voice doesn't matter.

-Trenton Albers



Watching more television than I've intended, I have discovered that I am slowly evolving into a really big loser. Case in point, last Monday an episode of Star Trek: The Next Generation was on SpikeTV. Within this episode, Commander Data, the ship's sentient android, finds himself within a primitive civilization on a remote planet. This civilization isn't primitive to our standards, but if you're used to flying around in a spaceship all day, it ranks as such. Through the course of the episode, Data loses his memory and through an unfortunate series of events ends up accidentally giving the civilization radiation poisoning. He is faced with the stresses of hostile consideration and being outcast by their society. At the same time, he tries to save them from their plight with the scientific means and methods he apparently remembers how to use. While reading this you may develop the impression that watching TV is an inane waste of time, and you're right. However this episode got me thinking, so I'd like to dive into another realm of soft delusions. Strap on your boots, this is going to be thick.

Another collection of shows I watch entirely too much is CSI. When finished with Chorale, I am thrilled there are 'back-to-back' episodes of CSI on SpikeTV. Plus I like to enjoy the current Season 5 as it is syndicated weekly. CSI: New York isn't that bad either, it's the Miami one that stinks, because ...

## The Pundit

"Guide us when perplexed"



well David Caruso can't act. Anyway, as you are probably aware, the theme song for CSI is 'Who Are You' by The Who. I don't understand why, but it sticks in my head and makes me think. I did get to wondering though, what would it be like if we, like Data, lost our memory? Would we retain the ethics, morals, and values that are so vital to our integration with larger society? We can theorize that by looking through our mementos, our favorite CDs, highlighted bibles, old emails, saved love letters, and personal diaries, we could piece together our sense of self. However, we cannot be certain that our personal internal essence, the little hamster that keeps our wheels spinning, would remain with us or be restorable through such efforts. So where am I going with this? If you'll bear with me, there is one solution I can offer.

Data is eventually killed by members of the poisoned civilization; his body rescued and rebooted by his crewmates. After a simple restart, he is back to normal. While we cannot hope for such a simple solution to a hypothetical situation, there is something I believe we can take from these confusing ponderings to our everyday lives. As I was wasting time debating this supposition, the only real answer I found myself believing, was to seize the day. More than likely, we will not be faced with a power surge and sudden loss of memory. But if we conveying the ethics, morals, and values we hold

dearly to those around us, we develop relationships and opportunities through which both we and they are strengthened and renewed.

Communicating values out of a dread of amnesia is not likely enough to get the ball rolling. To get started, we are left relying on our general sense of good will. If we look at this from a faith based theological perspective, we see better how through the sharing of our faith we not only offer ourselves the chance to see how widely and deeply the power of God impacts our lives. We also offer others the opportunity to see hope beyond all sorrow, light in darkness, and direction amidst confusion. If we limit this sharing to a 'fuzzy' secular realm, we are still fostering relationships with other people, opening doors, and to steal a repeated phrase from John Kerry, 'forging strong alliances'.

Some argue that such openness keeps us from conflict 'cough-Iraq-cough'. More importantly, as we share the ways our lives have been impacted by God, Christ, and those who have gone before us, we are making Christ known. Not only to others, offering them new perspectives, encouragement, and peace. But also to ourselves, offering a 'blessed assurance', we were not aware of; giving us the purpose, certainty, and peace that we need so desperately as we struggle in a brave new world. And isn't that what we're looking for? Yours in Christ,  
[danallama@gmail.com](mailto:danallama@gmail.com)

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## Hermes

Dana College

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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.

# Sports

## Cross-country overcomes many obstacles in season

**Kevin Lorkovic**  
Staff Writer

Head Dana Cross Country Coach Robert Spangler "loves coaching." He enjoys seeing his runners improve from week to week. It shouldn't be hard to watch all your runners when your team only includes 15 runners. That's 8 men and 7 women on the whole team. While this is an improvement from last year, it's not even a concern for head coach Robert Spangler.

"We have increased our numbers, but added depth is our next focus."

Even with such low numbers on the team, both the men and women are doing a great job. Spangler's top runners are Ian Latella, who ran the 8k (5 mi) in 26:05 and Dru McMillan,

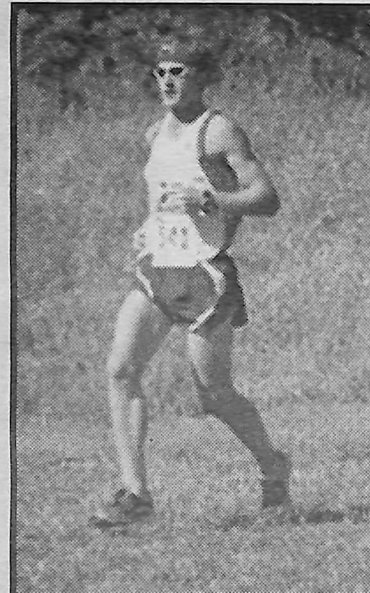
who ran the 5k (3.1 mi) in 19:03.

"We've been doing pretty well so far," Spangler says. "I am pleased with how our athletes have responded when faced with the amount of injuries and uncontrollable circumstances that we have faced. We did win both of our home meets and both the men and women have beaten teams that we were unable to beat at this time last season."

On the women's side, they have finished in the middle of the pack for most of the year. Considering that there wasn't even a full women's team last year, Spangler has accomplished a lot this season.

"I am hopeful that we can qualify a woman or two. Our women want to finish in the top five this weekend," Spangler says.

On the men's side, they are finishing in the top half and are now starting to heal up from injuries.



(Left) Ian Latella and Dru McMillan (above) compete in recent meets.

"Our men want to finish in the top 3 this weekend and I foresee a couple of men getting to run at nationals on the 20<sup>th</sup>."

Spangler then goes on to say how to get involved next year.

"We like to have people that want

to train and improve. It's not about being the best although we do want to earn national recognition. We encourage people of all abilities to join us."

You can contact Coach Spangler via with the team at [rspangle@dana.edu](mailto:rspangle@dana.edu).

### Up Coming Sporting Events

#### Football

Oct. 30 Vs. Hastings in Blair @ 1:00 P.M.

#### Cross Country

Oct. 30 GPAC Tourney in Seward @ 10:00 A.M.

#### Men's Basketball

Nov. 2 Vs. Bellevue University in Blair @ 7:30 P.M.

#### Wrestling

Oct. 30 Black/Red Classic in Blair @ 10:00 A.M.

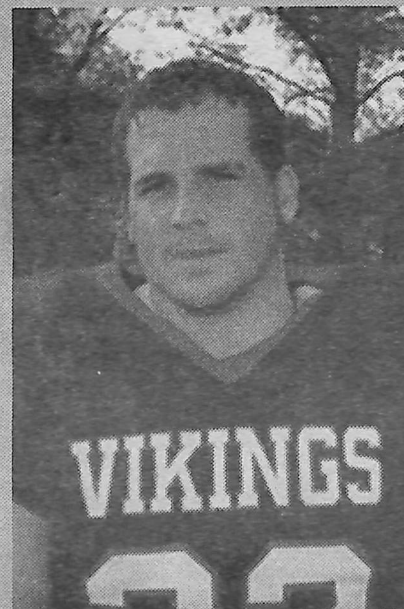
#### Volleyball

Oct. 30 Vs. Dakota Wesleyan @ 7:30 P.M.

### Viking Sports Information Department's

*Champion of Character*

*Athlete of the Week*



**Joe Sweeney**  
*Football*



**Christine Davis**  
*Volleyball*