

Hermes

Volume 12 Number 8



Page 2
National Treasure
Review



Page 3
The Pundit
The Economy of Holiday...



Page 4
Spaniard
Reply to Nov. 19 Pundit

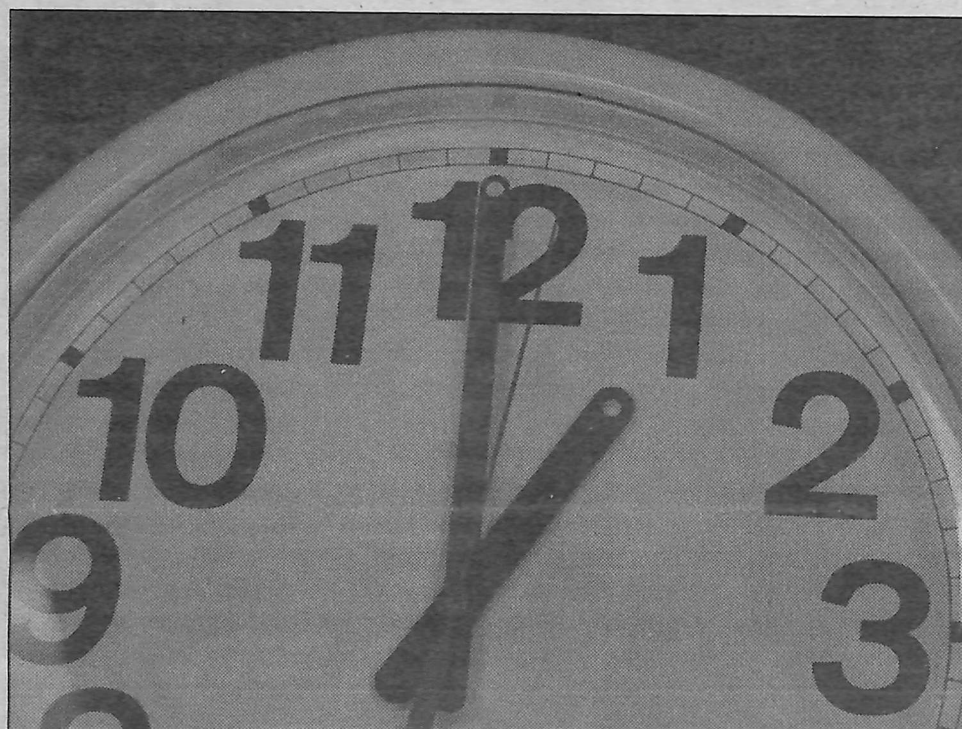
Visitation, a policy that needs to change?

Brandie Carlson
Contributing Writer

You're in your room on a weeknight, watching a movie with a group of your friends, both male and female. You glance at your clock and realize it's 1:03 am. There's still almost an hour left in your movie. Do you kick your guests out? Or go ahead and finish?

Hopefully you're aware that by finishing the movie, you're violating Dana's visitation policy. Presently the visitation policy states: "Students of one sex are permitted to be on the floor or in the room of a residence hall occupied by members of the opposite sex only during Visitation Hours, and only under the specific guidelines of the policy. The Visitation Policy is not to be interpreted as giving the overriding 'right' to any individuals to have members of the opposite sex in their rooms at the inconvenience of a roommate." The Visitation Hours are Sunday-Thursday without escort 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. With an escort the hours are 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. On Friday and Saturday without escort the hours are 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and with escort 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m.

The range of discipline for being in violation of the visitation policy ranges from a warning through disciplinary probation. Additional



It's 1 A.M., do you know who is in your room? You should it could mean disciplinary action. (Photo by Kathy Wells)

sanctions may be assessed, including suspension or loss of visitation privileges.

Now, it's true that you could possibly take your movie out to a lounge and finish it there, without a risk of getting in trouble. What if there was a different situation, for example, you and your significant other are having a serious conversation in the early morning, and you don't want to continue it in the lounge or another public area? If you don't have a roommate, who is it

going to bother? And if you do have a roommate, what would be so wrong with talking about a personalized 'visitation policy' and deciding what both of you are comfortable with?

There are a wide variety of opinions on this topic. Sophomore, Ashley Matteo believes the policy isn't needed. She said, "If we are to be considered adults and make our own decisions then we should be able to decide how long a member of the opposite sex can stay in our room."

Blair Hall Director and

Student Senate President, Matt Bloomingdale, said, "I understand why the college has the visitation policy. However, there are ways it can be improved." Bloomingdale suggests that 10:00 am might be a little too late in the morning, especially when you need to get papers or notes for an early class.

So what are the Dana administration saying about the policy? According to Chris Jebsen, Dean of Students, "The purpose of this expectation is to provide a structured way to allow individual students to have privacy in their own room and living space." Jebsen said that many students see this as a benefit of Dana College. Also, if visitation was left up to roommates to decide, some students may not be comfortable sharing their true opinions, or may not be able to come to an agreement. Jebsen noted that there are other places to meet after visitation hours, such as residence hall lobbies and the Campus Center, which is now open until 2:00 am. He also invites students to voice any concerns about the policy to the Student Senate, he noted that he has never seen this issue formally discussed.

Student Senate is ready to discuss this or any other issue you would like to address. Talk to a Student Senator about your concerns, or show up to the next meeting.

Fall Semester Final Schedule

2-3:20 TTh	Mon. Dec. 13	8-11 a.m.	3-3:50 MWF	Wed. Dec. 15	8-11 a.m.
1-1:50 MWF	Mon. Dec. 13	Noon-3 p.m.	7:30/8-8:50 TTh	Wed. Dec. 15	8-11 a.m.
10-10:50 MWF	Mon. Dec. 13	3:15-6:15 p.m.	8-8:50 MWF	Wed. Dec. 15	Noon-3 p.m.
11-12:20 TTh	Tues. Dec. 14	8-11 a.m.	Noon-12:50 MWF	Wed. Dec. 15	3:15-6:15 p.m.
2-2:50 MWF	Tues. Dec. 14	Noon-3 p.m.	12:30-1:50 TTh	Thur. Dec. 16	8-11 a.m.
9-9:50 MWF	Tues. Dec. 14	3:15-6:15 p.m.	11-11:50 MWF	Thur. Dec. 16	Noon-3 p.m.

Features

Upcoming Events

Winter Dance
December
10@8:00 pm in
the Dragon's
Head

Movie night:
The Green Mile
December 12 @
7:30 pm in the
Linden Room

Decorate a
Stocking
December 13
from 10 am-
2pm

Destress
December 14
from 1-4 pm
in the Linden
Room

Late Night
Breakfast
December 14
from 10-11 pm

Movie
Marathon
December 15-
16 from 9pm-
9pm Free Food!

Santa's
Workshop from
7-9 pm in the
Dragon's Head

National Treasure, Just short of being a treasure

Kevin Lorkovic
Staff Writer

Being a big fan of Jerry Bruckheimer's films, (Black Hawk Down, Pirates of the Caribbean), I was pretty excited about National Treasure, which opened November 18. For those of you who haven't seen it, you may want to wait for the DVD to come out. While I'll agree it was a good popcorn movie, with action happening continuously, it lets you down in the story department.

The plot is almost laughable. Benjamin Franklin Gates (Nicolas Cage) is looking for an elusive treasure that his family has been in search of for generations. In the beginning of the movie, his search team finds a clue to his treasure leading him to believe there is a treasure map on the back of the Declaration of Independence.

Headache of holiday bargain hunters

Emillia Dietrich
Staff Writer

As many students prepare themselves to take their semester final exams for the fall semester, stereotypical housewives and other "bargainers" are heading to the malls and outlet stores in cities and towns across the U.S. For this special season (starting the day after Thanksgiving and ending just before the new year) is dedicated to those who dare leave their cars in search of a new product. Going out and strolling the malls would not be the best idea during this hectic time of the year---one should probably use this time as a "vacation"

I won't spoil anything else, but the plot only gets cheesier with each passing minute. This has become expected of Bruckheimer's films. They are action packed and that's it. I am very willing to suspend my disbeliefs when going to a movie, however, the action in this movie is more unbelievable than an Indiana Jones movie. Cage steals many other historic documents and breaks into monuments all after already stealing the Declaration of Independence. Where is the FBI during this whole time? They just let the Declaration get stolen and it's like they almost forgot about it.

Back to my reference to Indiana Jones, National Treasure is so much like those movies, that if Harrison Ford was staring instead of Nicolas Cage, people would probably think that this is the new installment to the Indiana Jones movies. All in all, it's a very average movie.

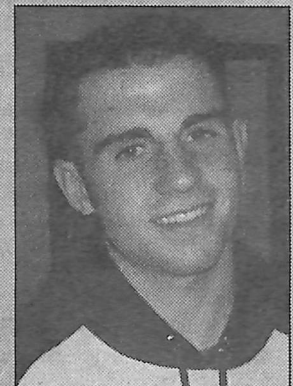
from normal mall-walking and stay home or shop at another, smaller store. From experience, I know how much of a danger zone the mall can be early in the morning on "The Friday." What really surprised me though was how there was way more people shopping at the local (Omaha) Wal-Mart and Target instead of the mall.

I hope not to scare those "virgin shoppers" out there by sharing these stories of horror and mayhem, as I do encourage more people to get out there and get the gifts that they need to buy for Christmas during this shopping season. Help create an atmosphere of fun and excitement---so go out and shop 'til you drop!

What are you doing over break?

"Goin home to Idaho to go skiing."

Brad Moon
Freshman



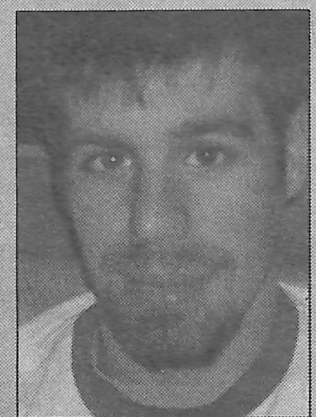
"Making Christmas cookies."

Tristin Young
Sophomore



"Work, hang out with friends and get in trouble."

Brent Lorkovic
Junior

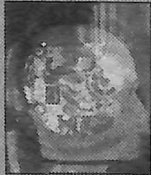


"At home getting ready to go to Germany."

Sybille Bartels
Professor



Opinion



The Pundit

"The Economy of
Holiday Hope"



The day of endless feasting and familial chatter is past. Afternoons of football games and masculine camaraderie are gone. Monstrous spending attacks waged on Wal-Marts and Best Buys have waned to a dull roar. After the dust has settled, we return here, to Dana, sharing one thing in common. Sometime in this break we have been asked "What are you thankful for?" Our relatives ask this around the dinner table. Sermons on Sunday mornings have walked us through the theological implications of thankfulness and repository offerings. We probably witnessed a few people answering this question personally. We are now left to determine publicly or privately, *what it is* that we are thankful for.

Usually our answers are pretty ordinary and routine. Siblings, parents, and grandparents tell us the same things year after year; how they're thankful to be an American, thankful for family, job security, their faith, their wife's cooking, or how they're thankful for

another John Madden-filled afternoon in front of the boob tube. While I can appreciate the genuine gratitude shown for one's personal relationships found through family, friends, and faith, after a while it usually gets old. I wonder why that is. It's not that family, friends, and faith are valueless. What sickens me the most is how we Americans forget what we value. After 9/11 everyone bonded together. We held doors for one another and were genuinely concerned about those we stood in line with at the grocery store. It was shocking, to have these displays of concern and affection pour back into our social interactions. Conversely, I think it's shocking and even disturbing, how we find ourselves not concentrating on what we are thankful for, until late November comes around. It doesn't make sense to me. Do we not consider our fellow Americans as special until a multitude of senseless deaths occur? Do we not value family, friends, or faith at other times of the year? What is going on here,

really?

After everything is said and done, our failure to care is ultimately to blame for this inconsistent self-disclosure. In a society driven by self achievement, we consistently fail to care for the other, for **each other**. We consume, spend, and trade our time, talents, and possessions with little regard for those on the receiving end of our societal transactions. We focus less on the people involved in our lives and more on things that give us immediate and unquestionable fulfillment. I think that's demeaning. I think we're saying with our thoughts, words, and our deeds that we do not consider anyone to be special but ourselves. I think that's more than a little bogus. We all have friends and acquaintances; some bound to us in love; essential to our hearts and intrinsic to our self-identity. But for those who aren't indispensable assets in our lives, how do we consider them? Are they worthless, without value?

I would argue that there is a value found in all people around us. We are all 'endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable Rights', but there exists an unspoken message that we receive simply by being in the midst of one another. Knowing we are not alone in our sufferings or our triumphs, we find an assurance that helps us rise to our feet, strive further, and assist those in need. In The

Four Loves CS Lewis writes "Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art, like the universe itself (for God did not need to create). It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things that give value to survival."

To me, it matters not so much as **what** I am thankful for, but rather **who** I am thankful for. The passions, ideals, and beliefs held dear by those who have made positive contributions for others in the past, continue to make them now, and will make them in the future; it is **these people** and **these manifestations of selfless grace** that I am truly thankful for. It is their sacrifices that revitalize us, give us hope to carry on; a hope that inspires, and a hope that does not disappoint. So, as we give thanks and prepare for the coming hope of Christmas, let me ask you this. How do your offerings and your friendships fulfill the hopes of others? What hopes are unfulfilled but yet could be? Open your hearts to each other. See Christ in your neighbor, look beyond their faults and see their need.

Discover something
small and beautiful,
danallama@gmail.com

Dana stacks up to Omaha's 'Seussical'

Emillia Dietrich
Staff Writer

Have you ever seen a musical or any other type of theatre production produced by a high school or college, and then went and saw the same show "professionally"? You may or may not know, but our own Dana College recently performed their version of the Broadway show "Seussical." Now the Omaha Theatre for Young People has also started their own production of the show, and my friend and I went to view the December 4 show. I have one thing to say about the Omaha show.... ours was better! Not only did our performers out-sing the other actors, but also our dance routines and on-stage movements were more in sync with other on-stage performers unlike the Omaha performance. There were areas where the Dana production lagged however, areas such as costumes and stage props. Don't get me wrong, they were well thought of with the sources available, but the Omaha show had excellent costumes and an excellent stage. I enjoyed both shows, but I came up with the concept of using our actors/actresses with the Omaha costumes and stage...creating the perfect Seuss experience.

Editor: Kathy Wells
Graphic Design: Chris Johnson
Staff Writers: Tom Jackson,
Kendra Johnson, Becky Hultgren,
Sara Siebler, Kevin Lorkovic,
Matt Bloomingdale, Bernardo Hinojosa

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.

Hermes

Dana College

Opinion

The Spaniard

*"The French and English fear the Devil
The Devil fears the Spaniard"*

Dana high is fine. There are always going to be things wrong with a school, but like the C.I.A., we never hear what they do right—just what they screw up. Placing the blame entirely on the freshmen, as THE PUNDIT did, is not the way to go about things. That's just snobbery. College is a place for study, a place for sports, and a place for fun. This isn't a college run by nuns with rulers.

Speaking from the perspective of a junior, I like the freshmen class a lot. They are very easy to get along with. I have noticed no difference between how they behave and how my class behaved when we were freshmen.

My freshman year was a breeze with nothing but introductory and general education classes. I had a good 10 hours to kill every

day. I was so bored one day that I spread fliers of "Homer Simpson Appreciation Week" in response to the "Gay Appreciation Week" fliers. If THE PUNDIT doesn't want an atmosphere where people have fun (albeit with a bit of immaturity) then I suggest transferring to a military academy.

A lot of these freshmen lived really isolated lives in small towns and are just coming to grips with freedom. It takes a few years to get used to it, but that's what college is for. I've noticed the higher grade someone is, the more they care about their schoolwork because the harder the classes get. They also realize they have to get a job after college ends.

The only specific thing that THE PUNDIT said the school should do, as he put it in bold letters,

"alcoholic consumption needs to be strictly enforced." I think the RAs do a good job enforcing it. The only people I have seen caught with alcohol are those dumb enough to make loud noise as their breaking the law or those rare occasions where someone told the RA. The school isn't going to catch those that drink quietly because they'd have to infringe on our rights and their not communists.

Even if the school put into practice THE PUNDIT's other suggestion of having alcohol be "allowed on campus and strictly enforced," will not make fewer "people come to class drunk or hung-over" or lower "the after effects of their imbibing around our dorms." Nobody who drinks on campus now is going to stop if they legalize it, because most are underage. Instead

to regulate it, RAs are going to have to go to every room that has alcohol and card people—is that really going to make anyone's lives easier? Not everyone on campus that drinks is 24 and married.

THE PUNDIT did do something correct, s/he removed his name from the last issue of Hermes. Maybe s/he anticipated the backlash—I know who the author is and as much as I want to, I'm not going to say it, because I fear for his safety. Having 1/3 of the class hate you for blaming them incorrectly is not the best way to make friends in college. To use a politically correct expression of today, **THE PUNDIT should learn to be tolerant of others.** Written by: Bernardo Cueto bcueto@dana.edu

Upcoming Sporting Events

Men's Basketball

Dec. 12 Vs. Dakota Wesleyan in Mitchell, SD @ 4:00 P.M.
Dec. 18 Vs. Dordt in Sioux Center, IA @ 3:00 P.M.
Dec. 29 and 30th Teammakers Classic in Mitchell, SD

Women's Basketball

Dec. 10 Vs. College of St. Mary in Blair @ 7:30 P.M.
Dec. 12 Vs. Dakota Wesleyan in Mitchell, SD @ 2:00 P.M.
Dec. 17 and 18 Hoop N surf Classic in Honolulu, HI
December 29 and 30th Teammakers Classic in Mitchell,

Wrestling

Dec. 11 Vs. UNK Open in Kearney, NE @ 9:00 A.M.
Dec. 18 UNL Duals in Lincoln, NE @ TBA

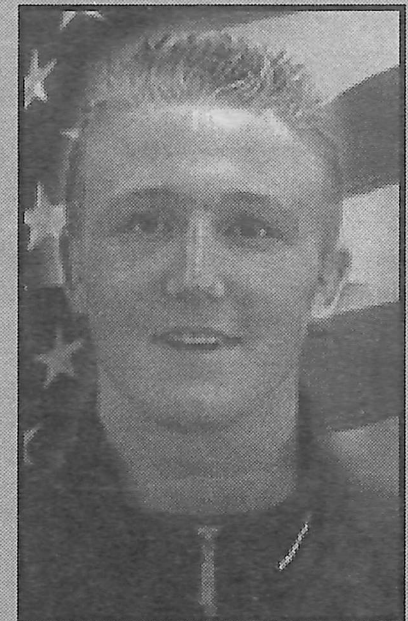
Viking Sports Information Department's

*Champion of
Character*



Heather Fischer
Soccer

*Athlete of
the Week*



Glen Rhees
Wrestling