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Track:
The Dana Open

Professors link language, culture at U. Arkansas

Ashley Batchelor

Arkansas Traveler (U. Arkansas)

04/07/2005

In a lecture titled "Language and Society," three members of the foreign language department spoke about the Italian, Japanese and Chinese languages and their cultural evolvments.

Tatsuya Fukushima, an assistant professor in Japanese in the foreign language department, spoke about the Japanese language and its background for politeness and indirectness.

The Japanese language is spoken with verbs and nouns that show respect and humbleness, Fukushima said. In the Japanese culture, it is common to put oneself down and the person being spoken to in a higher place, he said.

"You are always great, and I am always worthless," Fukushima said.

Honorific, or formal, verbs are used when describing elders and upper class citizens, and humble verbs are used when describing one's own thoughts and actions, he said. One's own thinking is not ever as good as another's thinking, he said.

"Whether it deserves a Noble Prize or not, my thinking is always stupid," Fukushima said.

The Japanese language and other Oriental languages are spoken in a circular fashion and people are not direct about their thoughts, Fukushima said.

In order to get the central part, people have to enjoy the outer part first, he said. He then used a food analogy for more understanding.

"When reading Japanese writings, enjoy the batter first and get to the shrimp later," Fukushima said.

Americans start out with the most important point first and then give background information, he said. Japanese, however, give the background information first for people to understand where the story is coming from, he said.

In desperate situations, Japanese people can be blunt, but it is typical to always be indirect, Fukushima said.

Louise Rozier, a professor in Italian in the foreign language department, focused her lecture on the Italian language and its different dialects. There are many different dialects used in Italy, Rozier said. They are known to be minor languages, she said.

Characteristics of dialects are that they are oral traditions, limited to literary tradition, confined to a small geographical area and have less social prestige, Rozier said.

Dialects reflect a conscious effort to find the voice and identity of the everyday people, Rozier said.

In the new generations, some Italian dialects and languages are lost. Rozier said she met a few Italian people and wanted to speak with them, but they spoke a different dialect type. However, she understood them when they accused her of not being able to speak Italian because they could not understand her, she said.

The standard Italian itself is a dialect, Rozier said. It originates from the Florentine language, which came from Tuscany, Italy, she said. The reasons it became the standard language were that Tuscany was in

a central location and had economic commerce with Florence and the language was the closest to the spoken form of Latin, she said.

Thirteenth and 14th century writing influences such as Dante, Petrarcha and Boccaccio also used the Florentine language, she said.

The Florentine vernacular was used as a literary language and then become known as Italian in the 19th century, Rozier said.

Italy remains as a bilingual country, though, with people speaking Italian and their own regional dialect in their homes, she said.

The Chinese language also has many dialects throughout the country, said Jenny Xu, an instructor in Chinese in the foreign language department. Xu spoke about the different Chinese dialects and ethnic groups.

The Han is the biggest ethnic group or nationality. Ninety-two percent of the people are in this ethnic group, Xu said. Some of the minority ethnic groups use the same spoken and written language for the Han, such as Hui and Manchu, she said.

The Chinese language is the oldest surviving language and can be used by all dialect speakers, Rozier said. The standard language in China is Mandarin, which has four tones, she said.

There are eight main dialects, Xu said. Cantonese is the oldest dialect, and the Northern dialect is one of the largest and includes Mandarin as one of its language types, she said.

Each province in China has its own languages, dialects and television stations, Xu said.

Cultural Fair

Monday

10:00-11:30 AM
Richard Kimbrough
-WHY WE LAUGH

2:00-3:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Ramon Hendersen
-An African American voice
in the fight against HIV/AIDS

6:00-8:00 PM (DCC Forum)
Family Night
-Crafts around the world
-Origami for beginners John Carter
-Understanding family photographs

Tuesday

11:00-12:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Olga Olivares

2:00-3:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Pat Meierhenry
-the healing power of forgiveness

7:00-9:00 PM (DCC Forum)
Preacher Moss
-End of racism

Wednesday

10:00-11:30 AM (DCC Forum)
Olga Olivares

1:00-2:30 PM (DCC Forum)
-Discovering Thailand (video)

3:00-4:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Randall Snyder
-Exploring World Music

7:00-8:30 PM (DCC Chapel)
Gospel Choir
-Gospel Music

Thursday

11:00-12:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Gregory Sadlek

-English past and present:
History, language, change, and "good english"

2:00-3:30 PM (DCC Forum)
Nonin Chowaney
-everyday is a good day and walking
meditation

7:00-8:30 PM (Gardner Hawks)
Christopher Geary
-shaolin Kempo Karate class

Friday

10:00-11:30 AM (DCC Forum)

Meena Dalal
-caste, class, and gender: women's
work in India

1:00-2:30 PM (DCC Forum)
-Harvesting food and medicines in the
dakota tradition

Opinion

Upcoming Events

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

April 11
Wax hands
from 12-4 P.M.
in the Campus
Center

April 14 and 15
Thursday and
Friday the
bookstore will
be closed

Assistance with
self registra-
tion in the DCC
computer lab
on Monday and
Tuesday from
3-5 P.M.

Student senate
executive staff
applications are
due Monday,
April 11.

Pop vs. gas: the great dilemma

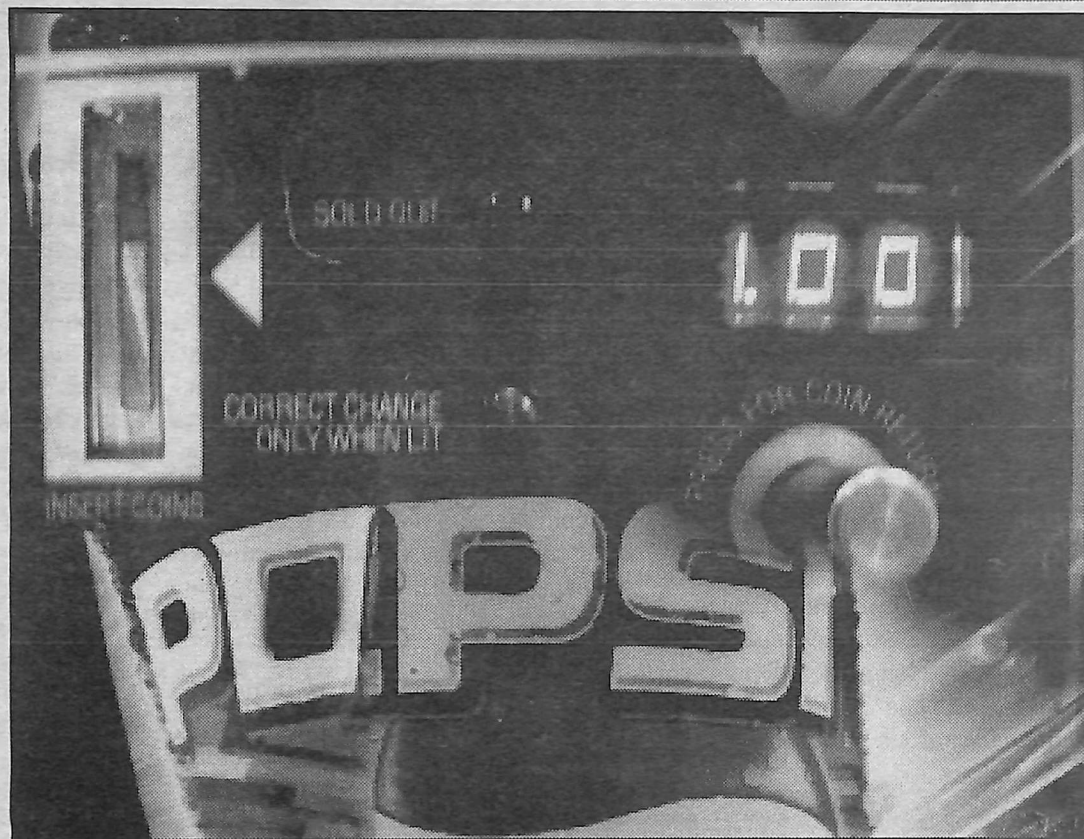
By: Matt Bloomingdale



Sure gas prices are high, but the cost of soda is ridiculous. Bear with me on this one.

Gas, at present, costs approximately \$2.20 a gallon. Your average 2 liter of cola costs about \$1.19. There are 128 ounces in a gallon. Therefore (with one 2 liter containing approximately 66 ounces), two 2 liters roughly equal one gallon. So, we're talking about \$2.38 for a gallon of soda. Heaven forbid you should buy from the vending machines (where you can spend anywhere from \$1.00 to a \$1.50 for 20 ounces) as you would roughly be spending as much on soda as the French do on gas.

So, what is the deal with soda costing so much? Your average pop contains fructose, carbonated water, corn syrup, natural flavors, phosphoric acid, potassium citrate, several other ingredients that you would need a chemistry degree to decipher (or an



English degree to realize that they're a bunch of 50 cent words for sugar) and every college student's favorite, caffeine. All are ingredients found here in the United States. In fact, if you wanted to make your own soda, you could. Actually, the cost of the amount of soda in your average can is less than the cost of the can itself.

Omaha has a Pepsi-Cola production plant, and Kansas City and Des Moines have Coca-Cola production plants. So, the cost to get any Pepsi-Cola or Coca-Cola product to our local No Frills is relatively inexpensive,

Given the fact that gas (oil etc...) is less abundant than the ingredients in soda, the fact that gas has to be shipped great distances (quite often across an ocean), containers and the production of gas

costs more than the cost to produce soda, and the fact that neither you nor me or anyone you probably know can make gas, a comparative price of \$2.20 a gallon seems like a bargain.

That being said let us rejoin reality.

Pop is a luxury. We don't need soda to get to work etc.... Nobody complains about outrageous cost of soda because we don't have to buy it. Gas is different. Demand for gas in this country is colossal. It has become deeply ingrained into our society. Canada and the countries of the Middle East can charge us \$57 per barrel of oil because they know we'll pay for it. In fact, we'll buy it all up.

And, unlike sugar cane, gas can't be grown.

That all being said, what's the real problem here?

It's not the cost of soda, nor the cost of gas. The problem is our dependency on gas.

I don't have any ideas on how to solve our dependency problem (if I did, I'd be at MIT or Yale). But for several years I've heard of electric cars, or solar cars, and engines that run off of fast food oils but how many of us own one of these vehicles. You can blame car manufactures or, if you're a conspiracy theory nut, you can blame the government. The truth is that some blame can be placed on both (despite the whole conspiracy nut comment). Yet, we drive to work. We drive to school. We drive to friend's houses. We drive to No Frills. Any real change must begin with we (I mean us). Think about that the next time you pop a tab.

Opinion



The Pundit

"Resistance Vs. Hope"



Dana College should be more like the Borg. For those of you who know anything about the Star Trek: The Next Generation television series, that might seem a bit odd. For those of you who have not a clue who or what the Borg are, that might seem really nonsensical. For the sake of understanding, I will endeavor to explain. According to startrek.com (yes I am a dork), "*The Borg are without question one of the most fearsome and relentless forces in the Milky Way Galaxy. A massive society of cybernetic automatons abducted and assimilated from thousands of species, the Borg Collective is intent on achieving "perfection" by spreading its influence into every corner of space, consuming technologies, and individuals without conscience, obliterating entire civilizations in its wake.*" Now, unless you have seen the occasional

Star Trek: TNG episode, or watched one of the few movies stemming from the series, you have been missing the gruesome, Frankenstein-esque, wonder that are the Borg. Hopefully by now, you've gotten an impression as to the nature of this science-fictional race. If you are a newbie or you already knew something about them, you are probably really confused right now.

Why in the world, or universe, should Dana College be more like the Borg? It is more than unethical and unimaginable to conceive of Dana College randomly abducting people and consuming individuals without conscience. By now, most people on campus have probably realized that I am not your average Lutheran. While I'm tempted to veer off topic and debate regarding if such a thing as an average Lutheran really exists, I'll get back to the point. What I remember most about the Borg, what defines them in

my mind, is a quote from the movie Star Trek: First Contact (you haven't begun to witness my dorkhood). "*We are Borg. Lower your shields and surrender your ships. We will add you biological and technological distinctiveness to our own. Your culture will adapt to service us. Resistance is futile. We are Borg.*" To me, there has always been something entrancing about the possibility of completely losing myself into a collective group of others. Something about gaining all their advantages, working in spite of my disadvantages, a complete collective unit proceeding as one, always intrigues me. I think that's what bugs me the most about Dana College. I constantly see strife, disunion, and all around chaos. Unchanneled, untapped potential. Students unsure of who they are, of what they want to become. Messages sent and received. Conflicting ideas. Dominating stereotypes. Marginalized beliefs. A great union between us all, sounds like an intangible utopia. I find myself hoping for such a joining.

But does this fit with my personal Christian foundation? Does this fit with the hopes and aspirations Dana College wishes to exemplify? I, like anyone with a conscience will tell you, by all means

no. But just because this does not completely fit into our conceptual frameworks, doesn't mean that there are not similarities to find or insights to learn. So what can we learn from the Borg? It is easiest to see what we don't like. Most people don't like the idea of being forced to give up their independence to live according to someone else's system. Most people probably don't like the idea of running around in space-age outfits of black leather and medal. But the ends are somewhat tempting, even if the means are not. As Christians, we are called to give up our independence and serve one another. As students we are invited to respect the differences of one another and strive toward learning as a community. There is a hope to be shared with the ideals of the Borg, even if their means are a bit disgusting. We as Christians and as students, hope for the day when all things will be made new. We seek for the betterment of the other. We wait for a world without suffering, for us and for those we love. We eagerly yearn and hope for the time when we will be robed in glory and achievement, as graduates and as the community of saints. Borg-like unity is in some ways, a good thing. Granted, we can't hope to travel light-years in the blink of an eye and we

probably wouldn't enjoy those black leather outfits. But we can hope, pray, and strive for greater unity and achievement among our number. It's hard to give up ourselves for the sake of God and of one another. But as we discover every Easter season, God through Jesus Christ, offers us hope, love, and salvation that do not disappoint.

Resistance may be futile, but hope is not.
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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.

Don't forget to
attend the
**CULTURAL
FAIR**

DANA COLLEGE



CULTURAL FAIR
2005

Sports

Track has strong finish at Dana Open

Melissa Respeliers
Staff Writer

The Dana Open track meet was held on Saturday. The meet is usually one of the first meets of the outdoor season, allowing athletes to see what they have to run again all spring.

The Doane College men and women's teams are again looking strong as they took both the men and women's team titles. The men scored 255 points to win it for the men, while the women outscored runner up Nebraska Wesleyan 229.67 to 168.83. Dana men finished eighth with nine points and the women finished sixth with 34.

Leading the way for the Viking men were Eric Jones and John Kaup. Jones took third in the 100 meter dash with a time of 10.95 seconds and tenth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 24.00 seconds. Kaup finished third in the 10,000 meter run with a time of 34:06.02 followed by Eric Bane in fourth running a 35:09.55 and Shane Jackman in fifth in 36:23.26.

The field events were well represented by the men as well as Terrance Almond, Dejuan Draper, and Cliff Tullis took fifth, sixth, and ninth, respectively, in the long jump. In the triple jump, Cameron Schweitzer places sixth jumping 43-07.50 and Rahshaw Sides was tenth with a jump of 41-11.50.

Thrower Jeremy Havener



John Kaup



Eric Bane



Dru McMillan

These runners helped lead the way for the team at the recent Dana Open.

placed tenth in the shot put throwing 43-10 and ninth in the javelin with a toss of 49.02 meters. Emil Gearhart was the top discuss thrower for the Vikings with a tenth place finish throwing 135-05.

The women were lead by Dru McMillan who finished second in the 10,000 meter run with a time of 45:54.18. Cathy Buchmeier finished 8th in the triple jump with a jump of 31-04.00 and ninth in the long jump jumping 13-10.00. Kendra Chapin, running unattached, finished 9th in

the 100 meter hurdles, missing the finals by just half a second.

Brooke McCabe took 11th in the 400 meter dash with a time of 67.62 and Tabitha Kabala ran a strong 1,500 meter run to finish 16th in 5:36.37.

The Vikings will be back in action on Saturday when they travel to Seward, Nebraska to compete in the Concordia Invitational before taking a week off before the Doane Relays.

Upcoming Sporting Events

Baseball

April 9 Vs. Concordia in Blair @ 1:00 P.M.

April 10 Vs. Doane College in Blair @ 1:00 P.M.

April 13 Vs. Bellevue University in Omaha @ 5:00 P.M.

Softball

April 9 Vs. Mountain Marty in Yankton, SD @ 1:00 P.M.

April 10 Vs. Sioux Falls in Blair @ 1:00 P.M.

April 12 Vs. Doane College in Crete @ 5:00 P.M.

April 14 Vs. Morningside in Blair @ 5:00 P.M.

Track

April 9 Concordia Invite in Seward, NE

Viking Sports Information Department's

*Athlete of
the Week*



D. J. Medlin
Baseball