

D-DAYS
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ushered in the decade with a resounding rock style the world came crashing down on Americans, in particular USD students, like a comet. Ted Muenster, who was USD's president from 1998-2007, was the director of the school's Institute of Public Affairs in the late 60s. "When I first started working here I had to sign a loyalty pledge saying I wasn't out to overthrow the government," he said. "I signed it and thinking at myself that if I was out to throw the government and was that sinister I wouldn't hesitate to sign the darn thing. So I didn't know what they were trying to do there except maybe affirm your patriotism."

It was said that after the JFK murder the school, which began its second century of existence in 1962, was under the blanket of discontent.

"I filled the front page with research and a lengthy account of what the campus and country was feeling," Jane Shanard, the Volante's editor and Class of 1965 member, told the Sioux City Journal later. "It was a confusing and heartwrenching time."

The school's newspaper editor couldn't have pegged it better. Issues of America against communism and racial tensions were in the forefront and Vietnam loomed.

In the meantime, students protested the creation of a new student union and how the monies to build it would be gathered. Many took exception to the idea of \$350,000 in student collection fees going toward the project and not having had a voice in the matter.

Ultimately after going through legal channels, they would. So one victory of having the students' voice heard only led to more powerful shouts later.

Vietnam would slowly begin to make an impact in the modern minds' eye in the late part of the decade and would become a dividing force of epic proportions.

A military draft can do that.

"It was frenetic time," current USD president James Abbott and 1970 USD graduate recalled. "I remember sitting in a room with guys as they would draw the numbers for the draft. So you know if your birthday was No. 1 and they drew No.

1 you were going. So there was a lot of soul searching. I did a lot of soul searching, 'What can I live with, what can't I live with?' A lot of guys could not live with the idea of going to Vietnam and some didn't. Some fled to Canada others joined the National Guard.

"Here it was pretty civil. We had marches, and they didn't get out of hand."

Of course with the 1970 shooting of a Kent State student war protester, the USD campus was put on alert with its own issues.

"The reaction to the Kent State shooting was over a dispute if the flag should be put at half-staff for the students that got shot," Muenster said. "That led the occupation to what was the new armory, which is now the new art center. It happened 3-4 days after the shooting. School president Richard Bowen - who handled it very well - sent a few of us over to the occupation to try to talk these students down. It turned into a party with a purpose."

A false bomb threat cleared the building as Bowen allowed the protestors to sit in the football field while a search for the alleged destructive device was held. The president promised students that if no bomb was held they could come back to the building and continue where they left off.

"He had enough credibility that they did what he asked," Muenster said. "I helped looked for a bomb and we searched the building and didn't find anything so we opened the doors back up and they continued on with their hootenanny. That's the kind of kids we have here. They weren't destructive like the ones in Wisconsin or at Columbia where they blew up buildings."

Ultimately the kids went back to class when they realized they had more important personal matters to attend to.

"They were hippies with long hair and we still have some now," Muenster said. "They look like antiques now."

Abbott, like many others, were scared of the war in Vietnam and what it could mean for a young person's future.

"Sure, I didn't want to go," Abbott admitted. "I had mixed emotions where I felt I should do my duty, but it was hard for me to support that particular war. The real unfortunate part was why people in my generation couldn't have honored the

soldiers and still disagree with the war. That's a real disappointment to me when I think back.

"We should have honored them more - the ones who decided to go or were drafted."

Outspoken as the 70s roll in One great improvement on the USD campus as well as across the nation has been the increased respect for women's role in society.

"If you look at my graduation picture from law school in 1974, there was not a single woman in the picture and in business school there were barely any women," Abbott said. "Now in medical school or law school it's about 50-50, which is good... it's the way it should be."

Back then in between all the racial tension and wars across the globe, women continued to fight for their rightful place in American society.

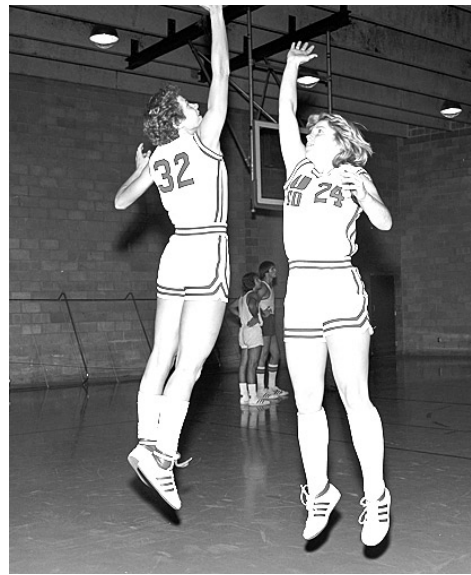
"People today can't comprehend when organizations were all men or all women," 1977 USD alum Bush Fullerton said. "I was in school when the Dakotans decided to get women in there with Title IX back in '76 or the end of '75. Not everyone in the organization supported this and were on the edge about having women in an all men's organization."

The Dakotans and Strollers were power clubs back in the 1970s, almost like non-official fraternities, that boasted groups of proud men.

"I got abuse on the phone saying we shouldn't have gone that way," Fullerton said. "Guys who were current were like 'if that's what we got to do, we'll find some good women.' What we weren't counting on was the backlash from men who had been in the organization 25, 30 years before that didn't agree with it."

Title IX didn't just affect athletics... it was about all walks of life. But sports did take a central role in the increase of Title IX opportunities. "That's when the government got more involved and came out on their side," Fullerton said. "You are going to have men's basketball and women's basketball and equal scholarships on the athletic side. It was a very far reaching law.

"We didn't really know what was hitting us at the time. It was the beginning of a big change. It's like anything where in its



ABOVE: MODERN TECH - The 60s were a time when technology began to really make an impact on college campuses.
Photo Courtesy USD Archives and Special Collections

TOP: SIT IN - Protesting the Vietnam War on the USD campus was, thankfully, a peaceful act. ABOVE: WOMEN'S HOOPS - With the Title IX came the advancement of women's collegiate sports ... amongst other things of importance.
Photos Courtesy USD Archives and Special Collections

infancy, it wasn't as pronounced. You didn't see the cultural shift until later."

The super cool 80s and the reality of AIDS

A lot of people look back on the 80s as being the decade of the teenager or young person.

It had the cool and cheesy music and movies and it was a time of spend, spend, spend under Reaganomics.

It was also an age for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or AIDS.

"They were pretty open to us about going to student health," Kim Burma, Class of 1987, said. "Our sorority was careful about drinking and boys. People were still good about telling people about being careful. It was a large learning curve because if you weren't paying attention to the news or being told I am not sure how much people could know about it."

In the middle of the panic over sex and sexual partners' risk for spreading the disease the 80s never did lose its luster of fun times.

"I was on a Dakota Days

Committee and I was a Stroller," Burma said.

"Stroller Tapping - when you got picked to be a Stroller - and Dakota Days were the same week. It was crazy busy. I was Stroller president and so much was going on. Every fraternity and sorority teamed up and we had floats - do they even make them anymore? It was awesome."

Burma, who was in Alpha Xi Delta, said that she believes that the 80s may be one of the last decades where kids still had to know each other first hand.

"Because we didn't have a lot of technology back then we had to study with people and we had more interaction with our teachers and handwrite all your notes," Burma said.

"When I got there, I was from Iowa, the drinking age was 19 in Iowa and 18 in South Dakota. I joined the Greek System and got to know people and socialize. We did a lot intramurals. We communicated through

word of mouth or flyers or you read the Volante.

"There was a lot more communication verbally. It was a great time to be there. Everyone knew each other."

How would the technological age change all that? Did it really? As the turn of the century approached and passed, USD never lost its footing, thanks to a president named Abbott.

Be sure to read Part IV in the Celebration of Dakota Days series and be sure to stay tuned for the Oct. 10 issue of The Plain Talk.

You won't want to miss it.

The Plain Talk would like to thank the USD Alumni Association for all of its assistance for this project.

CHURCH SCHEDULES

BERGEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The little white church on Timber Road". Worship 10:30 am, Sunday School 9:15 am.

BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC CHURCH

995 N. Sioux Point Road, Dakota Dunes, SD. Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

BRULE CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH, Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 11:00am, Sunday School 9:45am to 10:45am.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Worship Sunday 6:00 p.m., Bible Study Tuesday, 9:00 p.m., Neuharth Center, 624-5398 or 1-800-998-1234

CHURCH OF CHRIST

102 Pros: Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study 9:00 a.m.; Bible Study 12:00 noon; Wednesday Night Classes, 7:00 p.m.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

(LC-MS) 7 South University Street, Vermillion. Divine Service - Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School - Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Pastor Samuel Needham. Contact us at (605) 624-3459 or at lcmsvermillion.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

A Place To Grow: Located at the corner of Crawford & Cherry St. Celebration Service: Sunday during the School year 9:00am and 10:30am (subject to change during holidays) in the summer Sunday 10 AM. Check us out at cornerstonesd.org or call (624-8809) for further information.

DALESBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

30503 466th Ave., Beresford, Pastor Darren Regehr. 9:45am, Sunday School; 11:00am, Morning Worship; Mid-week Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm. (605)253-2622. www.dalesburgbaptist.org

DALESBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

12 miles North of Vermillion on University Road. Worship Services 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Website: www.dalesburglutheran.org

ELK POINT BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday worship at 11:00am, Wednesday evening Bible study at 7:00pm. 101 North Green St., Elk Point, SD 57069. (605)222-1981.

ELK POINT UNITED PARISH

603 S Pearl Street, Elk Point, Pastor David Bambas, EPUP seeks to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ who are fully devoted to loving God and others. Sunday worship at 9:30 AM (nursery available); Adventurezone at 10:30 AM for preschool (3 as of Sept.) thru 5th grade. For more information call 605-356-2008 , epups@iw.net or epunitedparish.org

FAITH FELLOWSHIP of the Open Bible

By Bypass 50 and Highway 19: Sunday Celebration 10:30 a.m. Pastor Tony Armbrust, 624-2921.

Faith Lutheran church

401 Main Street, Makell, NE. Sunday School: 9:00; Worship: 10:00 Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays (605)658-0240 (home) (402)-692-3323 (church).

GAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

9:00 am Worship, Sunday School 10:15 am.

FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA, 44874 303rd St/Po Box 168, Volin, SD 57072, (605)267-2277. Sunday Worship: 9:30am with Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sundays. WOW Wednesday program beginning at 6:30pm for all children 3 yrs old - 7th grade, and confirmation classes for those in grades 8th & 9th.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, Pastor 624-6391 home, 624-4658 church. Time: 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship. Sunday Choir Practice, 11:50 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Vermillion, is a welcome place reaching out to all God's people. Located at 16 N. Dakota St. Adult Sunday School 9am; Sunday Worship 10:25am; Children's Church after Children's Sermon (PreK-5). Welcome Table-serving free meal Mondays 5:30-7pm. Youth Group with Meal (Gr. 6-8) Wednesdays 5:30-7pm. High School Youth Group 7pm. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm. Praise Band rehearsals 8pm. Friday Morning Book Study and Breakfast 6:45am. Call (605)624-2179 for more info. Pastor Rick Pittenger.

GOSPEL CHAPEL CHURCH

708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

SBC, Pastor Steve Ford, 1102 E. Main. Phone 624-4949. Adult's and Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1800 Constance Dr. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m. AWANA Small groups; 9-10:15. Worship May-August 10a.m., 605-624-4862.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

KOMSTAD COVENANT CHURCH

Rural Beresford and Center-ville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

ONE HOUR

Sunday evening Experience at ONE HOUR is comprised of two primary elements: powerful worship and a life-changing message. Worship at ONE HOUR is led by a talented live band in a style that is consistent with todays culture and a relevant teaching message from LifeChurch.tv's senior pastor, Craig Groeschel, via video broadcast. The worship is intense and the teaching is challenging but the environment will be relaxed and casual. ONE HOUR on the USD Campus at the MUC, 6:30pm Sundays! www.one-hour.org

PLEASANT VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL

Highway 12 Newcastle, NE. Worship: 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Pastor Gary Kimm. Come join us!

PROVIDENCE REFORMED CHURCH

830 Madison: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. "We Welcome You To Historic Protestant Worship And Fellowship."

ST. AGNES CHURCH

416 Walker St., Fr. John Fischer: St. Agnes Church and Parish Office, tele. 624-4478. St. Agnes Rectory, 505 Catalina, tele. 624-1995. Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30a.m. Sunday, Weekday Masses - consult weekly bulletin; Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 4-4:45p.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

31903 475th Ave, Elk Point, SD 57025, Sunday Service 10:30 am, Pastor David Bentz.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

corner of Main and Linden. Sunday: nursery available. 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 11:00 a.m. coffee hour. Call 624-3379 for more information.

THE LUTHER CENTER AT USD

Life at the corner of campus and faith. Located at Cherry & Plum Streets, Vermillion. We worship weekly on Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm and host service and fellowship events throughout the year. Visit us online at www.luthercenter.org or find us on facebook!

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