A Significant Moment

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Neil R. Baumhover *

The photograph on the past cover of the Iowa State University Veterinarian brought a flurry of phone calls and even a letter. The photo of the clinic area in the Veterinary Quadrangle brought back memories for many alumni, especially for Dr. Robert Norton, a 1944 graduate and former editor of this journal.

After having a telephone conversation with Dr. Norton, I conclude my experience on this journal has been similar to his. I believe the ISU Veterinarian and the people on it have provided me with one of the most unique opportunities anyone can have at this university.

What is curious about my position is that I am not a veterinary student. Graphic design and journalism are the two majors that I am pursuing. I have found that among the campus publications, this journal is unparalleled in international prominence, rewards and perils.

Iowa State's Parks Library utilizes this publication in its exchange program with scholarly publications from other universities. Complete satisfaction comes from having edited an article with your staff members and having conferred with an instructor on the new version. The perils are found in the push to meet deadlines and the eleventh hour inserting of headlines where a spelling error may ruin the credibility of an article for a reader.

This will be my last issue as editor and layout composer. In return for a tremendous education in the operations of a publication, I would like to thank the journal advisor, Dr. John Greve, and everyone with whom I have worked. I especially thank Patrick Webb, who was on the staff when I joined in the fall of 1994. As treasurer and elder, he has managed the journal's annual fund allocation process and the day-to-day workings with ease.

Working at the veterinary college, I have had a unique career as a design student!

"You know, we just don't realize the most significant moments in our lives while they're happening," said Burt Lancaster's character in the motion picture Field of Dreams. "Back then, I thought, 'Well, there'll be other days.' I didn't realize - that was the only day."

I am glad I seized the opportunity to work on this journal when I did. I am also grateful to those who provided support in the endeavor. V

* Neil Baumhover is a fifth-year graphic design and magazine journalism undergraduate, Iowa State University.