

# Demi Goddess

## Web site draws admiring fans

BY BRET SCHULTE  
Senior Reporter

Notoriously paranoid about the press and distant to her admirers, actress Demi Moore still receives the unconditional love and support from thousands of fans across the world.

Now, they can call Omaha home.

Since the summer, Demi Moore's Official Fan Club has operated out of Omaha, because of a new "career opportunity" for the club president and founder, who identifies himself only as Scott and would only conduct an interview strictly via e-mail.

As president of the fan club, he shares his feelings about Moore and discusses her career, personal life and gossip with fans from nearly all 50 states and more than 50 countries. The interaction with other fans is perhaps the greatest part of his role as the club president, he wrote.

"My admiration goes along with the opportunity to talk to her fans," he said. "I probably talk to 20 to 50 fans a day. They feel connected to her."

Having created the club in February while living in a small Washington community, Scott said Omaha offered a more central location, working out perfectly with his career move. But that's not the only reason Scott is so pleased with Omaha.

"I love the Big Red," Scott stated. "This was another benefit; I was able to go to the football games. Go Huskers!"

The object of desire well before she ran away from home at the age of 18, Moore has led a checkered life of failed relationships and drug abuse before finding peace with the bulldog-ish, T-shirted actor Bruce Willis. Even now, she receives regular criticism for the entourage of personal bodyguards and assistants she keeps in her constant company, perpetuating her lofty image.

"Her voice initially caught my attention."

SCOTT  
founder of Demi Moore Fan Club

Scott thinks his position as the president of her fan club allows him a chance to dispel the myth that Moore isn't just a bitch in the movies.

"I have the ability to portray her in a positive way," he said. "Many have preconceived notions regarding a celebrity because of what they may read in the papers."

Indeed, Moore has been scrutinized by many publications, frequently contrasting her apparent snobbery with her husband's gregarious and affable character, painting an unfavorable portrait of the actress.

Born Demetria Guynes on Nov. 11, 1962, in Roswell, N.M., Moore was the daughter of a frequently unemployed father, who divorced and re-married her mother twice. At 18, Moore married a musician 12 years her senior, and never completed high school. After a few modeling roles and bit-acting pieces, she landed a recurring part on "General Hospital." Although her marriage quickly dissolved, her career was finally beginning to take shape.

It was when Moore began running with the Brat Pack on the silver screen that she became a recognized talent in Hollywood and gained national attention, including that of the future president of her fan club.

"I first became interested in her when I saw her in 'St. Elmo's Fire,'" Scott said. "Her voice initially caught my attention, and each of her characters (since) seems to have specific moments where they shine in their movies."

Although first noticing the driven and husky actress during the '80s, it was more than a decade before Scott founded an official fan club in her honor, although he never intended to do so.

"I was simply playing around on the Internet with creation of Web pages, and I decided to scan a photo (of Moore) here and there. One thing led to another, and I published the Web site."

Before long, Scott's site was drawing responses from people interested in the up-and-coming actress wanting to discuss and trade information about her. Realizing there was no official fan club for Moore, Scott finally created a fan club for the popular actress from its intangible beginnings on the Web, registering it with the National Association of Fan Clubs in February.

Like any fan club, there are certain obligations and perks.

Annual fees vary by residence. In the United States it is \$22, \$27 for Canadians and \$32 for members in other nations. For this fee, members receive a certificate "suitable for framing," an address to write fan letters to Moore and a quarterly newsletter written by members, Scott said.

But you don't have to pay to be part of the life of the famous and beautiful Moore.

"Anyone can send e-mail with questions," Scott said. "I try to personally answer all e-mail received. I have been able to establish relationships with many of her fans. It adds a nice personal touch."

Interested parties can access the Web site of Demi Moore's Official Fan Club at <http://members.aol.com/InZax580/demi.html> or e-mail Scott directly at [inzax580@aol.com](mailto:inzax580@aol.com).



AARON STECKELBERG/DN

## Papillion-LaVista makes Hollywood connection

BY LIZA HOLTMEIER  
Senior Reporter

Papillion-LaVista High School may look like an ordinary American high school.

About 1,600 students in grades 10 through 12 attend classes there daily, and one of the most exciting events this semester was the state football playoffs.

But something extraordinary is taking place. Twenty feet of Papillion-LaVista's hallways are filled with the cameras, lights and crew of the MTV Feature Film "Election."

Not only is part of "Election" being filmed at Papillion-LaVista, cast and crew of the movie are involved in a guest lecture series with the school's School-to-Work program.

The film is directed by Omaha native Alexander Payne, who also filmed his last movie — the comedy "Citizen Ruth" — in Nebraska.

"Election" depicts a high school election that goes awry when the stu-

dent government adviser, Jim McAllister (played by Matthew Broderick), decides to sabotage the campaign of an over-achieving student, Tracy Flick (played by Reese Witherspoon).

The movie also stars Chris Klein as Paul Metzler and Jessica Campbell as his younger sister, Tammy. It is based on the novel of the same name by Tom Perotta.

The film is being shot with the intent of receiving a PG-13 rating and is scheduled for a spring or summer release.

The production crew for "Election" first visited the school in September.

"They had been looking at Omaha Public School buildings," said Frank Sunderman, Papillion LaVista's principal. "OPS decided they didn't want to participate so they started looking at some of the suburban schools."

The crew took a quick walk through the building on Sept. 4 and decided to film there.

Papillion LaVista administrators

"This has been a really great opportunity for all the students. I don't think they realized all the different facets of the movie industry."

CHERYL BELL  
School-to-Work Program liaison

agreed when they saw how the experience could be used to enrich the school's curriculum.

Sunderman said the primary considerations was deciding the practical worth of exposing students to an industry they knew little about.

Since filming began, the high school and its faculty and students have been involved in many areas of production.

The entire classroom of Broderick's character is made up of Papillion-LaVista students, and a few received speaking roles. Also, a number of teachers received small speaking roles and served as extras in the

film.

To involve the production crew in Papillion LaVista's School-to-Work program, 25 teachers submitted ideas incorporating the film industry into their curriculum.

"The producers have done outstanding work with our school-to-career program," Sunderman said. "They have spoken to a wide number of classes already. Reviews from the teachers and kids have been very favorable and positive."

Production personnel have spoken about set designs, script writing, Web page development, the industry's financial aspects and the social and eth-

ical responsibilities of movie making.

Cheryl Bell, liaison for the School-to-Work program, said many students were "star struck" when the crew first began its lecture series.

"By the end of the class, though, the kids are standing up there with the presenters, and the presenters said the students asked a constant stream of questions," she said.

Today, physics students will have the opportunity to meet an "Election" cameraman who also shot "Apollo 13." The students have been previewing the movie in class in preparation

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