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Banner News

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“The Voice of the DMACC Boone Campus”

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Bears take conference title


Funding cuts threaten Iowa colleges

Ted Herrick
Contributing Writer

A delegation of three traveled from DMACC’s Boone Campus to Des Moines. The three wanted to show opposition to the Republican-dominated Legislature’s proposal to axe nearly $1.7 million from the budgets of Iowa’s 15 community colleges. On Monday, Feb 26, 200, Jan LaVille, Bear Facts adviser; Michele Thamke, Bear Facts Editor-in-Chief; and Theodore Herrick, student of the Boone Campus made the trek to Des Moines.

The Legislature held a public hearing to obtain input from the public before any cuts were to be made. The $1.7 million cuts in community colleges were only part of a plan that would slash the state’s budget by approximately $40 million.

The public hearing opened at 6 p.m., and shortly thereafter some 60 scheduled speakers spoke on various sides of the issue: whether to chop $40 million from the state’s budget or whether the Legislature should honor its present commitments to the people of Iowa. The first three speakers spoke favorably of the Legislature and of its budgetary cuts and those in the “loyal opposition” composed mostly every speaker from then on.

The mood of those assembled, both legislators and citizens alike, was subdued and respectful of each speaker. Most of the speakers spoke with enthusiasm, making impassioned pleas both praising the Legislature for their “courage” or expressing outrage at the programs that were to be cut.

The first speaker Jeff Boeyink, spoke on behalf of Iowans for Tax Relief. Boeyink offered his thanks on behalf of those “who struggle to pay the bills.” He stated that the “Legislature’s courage at this potentially fiscally critical point” was deserving of the praise of the “average, overburdened taxpayer.”

Probably the most dynamic speaker was Jolene Franken, President of the Iowa State Education Association. Franken voiced concerns regarding the $1.7 million chop in the budgets of community colleges. Franken went on to add that “community college faculty members continue to deliver a top-quality education while making do with limited resources and years of inadequate funding.”

DMACC students ticketed for alcohol possession

Jack Wilson
Bear Facts Staff

On Sat. Feb. 24, 2001, nearly 40 minors were ticketed for possession of alcohol at a party in Boone, according to local news sources. Many of those involved were Des Moines Area Community College students enrolled at the Boone campus, and several of these students were athletes. No arrests were made.

As a result of the incident, several players for the DMACC Bears basketball team didn’t start for the Iowa Lakes game on Saturday, Mar. 3.

While the DMACC athletic department does not have a written policy on underage drinking, Coach Orv Salmon and the other coaches handle problems personally. “Each coach has their own individual policy,” Salmon said. “We didn’t start the players involved. Each action is handled on an individual basis.”

When asked about his reaction to the incident, Salmon said, “There’s a responsibility associated with being an athlete. The disciplinary actions I took were based on the fact that those involved were not acting responsibly.”

According to Linda Plueger, PBL adviser, Phi Beta Lambda does not have a specific policy relating to underage drinking. “As a professional business organization, PBL does not approve of underage drinking. I know that students are asked to sign a good conduct agreement when they attend the National PBL Leadership Conference.”

Franken went on to add that “community college faculty members continue to deliver a top-quality education while making do with limited resources and years of inadequate funding.”

(continued page 3)
**Bear Facts staff attends “Best of the Midwest”**

**Michele Thamke**
**Bear Facts Staff**

Stepping outside one’s comfort zone is not easy, but six **Bear Facts** staff members and their adviser did so this past weekend in Minneapolis.

Three of six staff members enjoyed having their stories critiqued by Marco Bucaglia of TMS Campus, a media service for college newspapers. They said that it was helpful to hear first hand what a good story should do for the readers.

The Best of the Midwest Newspaper Convention, hosted by the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) offered a variety of options in addition to stretching sessions. I thought that the political reporter who follows around Jesse Ventura was funny and interesting,” Aaron Ladage said in reference to Brian Bakst, of the Associated Press, St. Paul. Governor Ventura refers to the Minnesota press as “media jackals” and requires them to identify themselves as such on their press passes.

The classrooms held a small number of student press and advisors, which Sadie Heimbaugh thought was a positive experience. “Each person could get a question answered,” she said.

The published paper was discussed in some sessions, and Katie Prescott said, “I picked up a lot of useful tips on how to improve our paper.”

Spokespeople from different colleges and press publications gave the presentations. The final keynote speaker, Maria Reeve, from St. Paul Pioneer Press gave an informative presentation on internships and job seeking tips. **Bear Facts** staff thought this speaker was excellent.

LaVille, who organized the trip for the students, said, “A weekend away, hearing what strangers think about your reporting and writing skills, often educates a student faster than a semester in the classroom. Also, spending a weekend with most of your staff helps create bonds that contribute to a team effort during production time.”

**To host annual state leadership conference**

**Mary Maben and Valerie Gannon**
**Contributing Writers**

The DMACC Boone campus local chapter of Phi Beta Lambda is entering into its busiest time of the year. This month and next are full of fun and rewarding events.

Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, DMACC Boone Campus is hosting the annual PBL State Leadership Conference. Ten community colleges and four-year institutions will be sending over 100 students to compete in various events. Our chapter has 14 members competing.

We are planning a well-deserved thank you to our maintenance crew for putting the classrooms back to the community we all live in. We have plans to take Easter baskets to the Evangelical Free Church Home and bring a little fun and happiness to the residents.

Some PBL students are also working on publicity for the new Weight Club. So if you see one of our PBL members looking a little stressed out and frantic, you’ll know why.

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**Microbe Niche**

What is that science experiment in my refrigerator?

**Mary Beth Hanlin**
**Contributing Writer, Boone Campus Biology instructor**

How many times have you asked yourself the question, “What is that science experiment in my refrigerator?” It is either black and fuzzy, or white and green and fuzzy and what should we do with it? If you are like most people you throw it away.

Well, what you have is a common mold. The black and fuzzy is a common black mold. We usually find it on bread products. It is the one that was accidentally discovered to be Penicillin, that amazing antibiotic. That is right. A scientist by the name of Alexander Fleming, left his sandwich on a table next to a dish that contained microorganisms or bacteria. Within a few days, the mold grew, and grew into the bacteria plate. What he found so amazing was the fact that where the mold was, no bacteria were found. That is how antibiotics got their start. All antibiotics are products from either a bacteria or some other type of organism, such as mold.

Will it affect me if I eat it? No, even if you are allergic to penicillin. It has to be purified and several steps must be taken to get a strong concentration.

What about the white and green fuzzy stuff? That is also a mold. Remember, molds like dark, damp and cool temperatures, what better place to grow than the refrigerator. If you are in doubt and need to think twice, go ahead and throw it out. Mold is a surface grower and will not penetrate too deep into cheese, fruit, salsa, spaghetti sauce and whatever else it can grow on.

I, personally, cut the mold off of the cheese, and place it in a new bag. With salsa and spaghetti sauce, I lift off the mold with a spoon and use it anyway. You all may be thinking that I am really gross, but I am a microbiologist and I know that it won’t hurt me.

So, if it really grosses you out and you can’t just cut the mold off, throw it away. Remember, all great experiments began as accidents.

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Michele Thamke
Bear Facts Staff

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DMACC sophomore and athlete Darren Johnson improves his fitness at the Boone campus weight lifting center. Equipment provided by U.D.A. weight club at Iowa State Helser Hall.

DMACC lifting club shapes up the campus

Where there’s a will, there’s a ‘weigh’

Karol King
Bear Facts Staff

Lawrence Daniel and Eric Spitznogle are the president and vice-president of the DMACC weightlifting and weight-training club at the Boone Campus.

The club started at the beginning of the spring semester and is designed to help people know how to lift weights the right way. This program can also help you lose weight, firm, tone, shape and sculpt your body according to your goals.

The membership is $10 all year long and for the first couple of weeks, you’ll train one-on-one with a personal trainer, who will help you make a workout program that will give you safe results.

Body fat percentage and measures are taken at the beginning of the workout program; your progress is recorded and you’ll see the results. You can work out as often as you like. You may choose to work out with a partner, which will keep you more interested and will give you motivation to reach your goals.

Lawrence Daniel, a professional weight lifting trainer, also helps people who have been injured to rehabilitate after physical therapy; he is also in charge of helping the DMACC athletes to train.

Students and staff are invited to join this program which may help you look the way you always dreamed.

The gym is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

If you have any questions, you can contact Lawrence Daniel at lod20000@dmacc.cc.ia.us or call him at (515) 432-5299 or you can contact Eric Spitznogle at ces50000@dmacc.cc.ia.us or call him at (515) 290-8110.

Budget cuts threaten Iowa colleges

continued from page 1

education to their students….while their state by state salary rankings have dropped from 25th to 33rd in just the last 5 years."

All in all, a huge presence from political parties was not evident, in fact, many legislators were not even in attendance that evening. Whether any side made progress is what remains to be seen. However, at the time of the writing of this article, it was announced that the Legislature has decided to temporarily table the issue until both the Legislature and Governor Vilsack could sit down and have some input into the process. Vilsack has been publicly critical of these cuts, but has stopped just short of announcing that he intends to veto any such measures.

On Sunday, March 4, 2001, Bear Facts had the opportunity to question Governor Vilsack regarding the proposed cuts in community college budgets. Vilsack said, “I am extremely concerned with any plan that proposes to take away from education.” He added, “For those of you worried about community college funding or the lack of funding, don’t worry. I will veto any bill that crosses my desk that takes away from community colleges.”

As of yet, neither the Legislature nor the Governor has been overly anxious to lock horns with each other on this particular issue, however, if indeed the Governor does veto any proposed cuts in community college funding, the Republican leadership simply doesn’t have the votes to override a veto. A situation, such as this, ensures us that the Governor’s fingerprints shall, to some degree, be on whatever bill comes out of either side of the Legislature.

Science Lab
Body devastating disease

Julie Davis
Contributing Writer

Imagine the feeling of weakness throughout your entire body. You are not capable of even performing normal day-to-day activities. Once you could do all the things that we take for granted. That was before the disease, before the symptoms developed and worsened by the day. Before your muscles gradually started weakening and literally wasting away. The condition I am referring to is known as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). The condition that DMD leaves your body in is devastating both physically and emotionally for the patient as well as their loved ones.

DMD is both the most common and severe form of muscular dystrophies. This disease affects one in 3,500 male children; although very rare, it has been found in females as well. For several decades Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy was thought to be the result of a defect in the structure or function of the skeletal muscle fiber membrane (Hilton-Jones).

DMD diagnosis

Through a technique called reverse-ge netics, the Duchenne gene was identified in 1986. The following year dystrophin, a normal gene product, was discovered. Dystrophin is essential in the regulation of calcium ions in the body. Duchenne cells are lacking in this dystrophin, causing the cell to have too much calcium. The abundance of calcium sends the message to cells to self-destruct. Soon, the usually helpful enzyme, creatine kinase, becomes functionally distorted and begins to slowly eat away the cells. The muscle will only survive as long as the body is young enough to replace the cells as fast as they die. Because of these findings a new definition was established. Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is a lethal X-linked recessive muscle disorder, characterized by progressive muscle wasting and weakening.

This disease is usually diagnosed at two to three years of age. The victim will be wheelchair bound by ten to twelve and eventually die of respiratory and cardiac failure by his or her twenties.

No cure, only treatments

What can we do to help the effected? Unfortunately there is no cure, only treatments to prolong life. Genetic counseling and gene therapy are the most widely used methods as of now. In these methods a normal gene is inserted into cells to rectify the damage caused by a mutant gene. These genetically engineered myoblasts are only temporary, provided they gain access to host myofibers at all. Eventually, they too will be eliminated. A pharmaceutical treatment: nifedipine, a calcium-blocking agent, is being implemented. In the future a live virus, AIDS, may be used. This would “eat away” the cells that cause the victim to be sick. This seems to be a promising treatment, although scientists are not sure yet if it is completely safe.

This is a horrible condition to be faced with. To know every day you are losing the ability to do things that once seemed trivial to you. It would be heart wrenching to watch a loved one endure such a brutal disease. For the children with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, research cannot progress fast enough. Each year as the disease progresses, more and more muscle dies and is replaced by fat and connective tissue. Finding a cure for the young lives affected is a race against time.

Boone DMACC SAC is presenting Frederick Winters, March 14, 2001 from 11-12:30 p.m. in the Boone DMACC Auditorium.
Proposed funding cuts signal beginning of end

Jack Wilson
Bear Facts Staff

So here I am, sitting at my computer thinking of a good way to introduce this editorial without beating around the Bush, so to speak. And as I’m typing, I remember that the computer I’m using was provided by DMACC. What a great country this is, I think to myself, where community colleges are funded by the state so that top-notch education can be afforded by all. Then I remember that it’s the recent news about the Iowa legislature, poised to slash funding to state and community colleges, which brings me to the task at hand.

With nearly $10 million of state and community college funding in their sights, the states’ GOP leaders are certainly taking the foreseen state tax income slump seriously. While it’s not clear how they came to foresee a tax collection pinch, tax breaks which can only be funded by slashing into Iowa’s other #1 resource, education, were deemed necessary. The “reappropriation” of budget resources soon left behind any Iowans in need of state support, as they announced that the Department of Human Services may have to cut the jobs of all but 12 workers in the Des Moines central office. Currently 346 are employed there.

On the education front the legislature is planning to cut state university funding by $8 million, and a $1.7 million reduction for community colleges. As a student, you have to ask yourself why you should pay an estimated fifteen to twenty percent more for your tuition, when the state is prepared to fund the Iowa Vision Project with tens of millions of dollars for dispensing money into projects like a huge manmade rainforest. Money which comes directly and only from the state’s school infrastructure funds.

Educators have responded, but the reaction from the legislature has been one of complete disinterest. Apparently they view the budget as something above the concerns of students, teachers and the faculty that rely on the states support through funding. While Governor Vilsack has decimated the proposed cuts as unnecessary, the voice of the student population has remained nearly silent. If we as students are to continue to expect affordable educational opportunities beyond the high school level, we must stand together and be heard as one voice.

Restaurant Review
Planet Hollywood Goes Suckywood

Matthew Rinker
Bear Facts Staff

If you’re in the mood for an interesting and new experience, then Planet Hollywood is the place for you. Just this past weekend your Bear Facts staff took a trip to Minneapolis for a journalism conference. While we were there I thought I would take the restaurant review on the road.

Located on the top floor of the Mall of America, Planet Hollywood is just one of the novelty restaurants in its location. When I walked up to the entrance of the establishment, I was in awe of all the movie paraphernalia. From Sylvester Stallone to Bruce Willis, I was definitely in movie heaven.

Waiting at the door was a hostess with a wonderful smile, something I like to see when I enter an establishment. She told me that we had a table on the limited selection on the menu. The first thing that came to mind, was hear the cooks yelling out orders. Our server, who was quite unfriendly, soon came and took our drink orders and told us the soup of the day. Apparently at Planet Hollywood, they don’t have specials. After ordering my drink, the menu opened.

While we walked to our table, I was constantly fighting my way though tables tightly jammed together. And it didn’t help that the place was full to begin with. Upon arriving at our table the main thing that stuck out in my mind was how close to the kitchen we were. I could actually hear the cooks yelling out orders. Our server, who was quite unfriendly, soon came and took our drink orders and soon called upon the main course to arrive.

About a half hour after I finished my salad, a party of nine that was seated ten minutes after us was having their food served to them. To top it all off, it was the same server. So far, we had been waiting 35 minutes for our food, so I lit my third cigarette. The food came. Five cigarettes or one hour later, they finally brought the food. At this point I was getting rather upset with the whole wait issue. When I’m criticizing, I tend not to say anything, giving them a chance to fix the problem themselves. Well, they didn’t.

After the food came we didn’t get so upset with the whole wait issue. When I’m criticizing, I tend not to say anything, giving them a chance to fix the problem themselves. Well, they didn’t.

My overall impression of Planet Hollywood was not so good, but I also feel that it is the type of restaurant that someone can go with the intent of goofing around and have a good time. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie. For myself that was not the case. For reason I give Planet Hollywood one half spartans out of four. I not be back but I do think that one should go there just to see the movie.
Mueller announces cast for “Key for Two”

DMACC BOONE CAMPUS--DMACC Boone Campus theater director, Kay Mueller, has announced the cast list for the upcoming production of “Key for Two.” The play will open on April 6 with another performance on April 7, 2001.

What's hot, what's not
Hot spots for spring break

Katie Prescott
Bear Facts Staff

Where are you going for Spring Break? Out of a hundred students asked the DMACC Boone campus, the majority said they weren’t going anywhere. Why? The main factor was money, students simply don’t have the money to fly to an exotic island for a week. Another reason was work, students could not get the time off needed to go anywhere. Some students were taking advantage of Spring Break to visit relatives or their significant other. So far the majority of students are staying right here, 35%, Atlanta, Northeast Iowa, Kentucky and Hawaii had 1%, combined.

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DMACC Spring Break
March 19 through March 23

DMACC Spring Break Hot Spots

Katie Prescott
Bear Facts Staff

What's hot, what's not
Hot spots for spring break

The cast is as follows: Harriet, Olivia Hoff; Gordon, Greg Hager; Alec, Tim Rose; Anne, Sarah Baker; Richard, Al Taylor; Magda, Heather Wargo; and Mildred, Katie Prescott.

Bear Facts Staff

With a cast list that reads like the front-row-seating chart at the Oscars, director Steven Soderbergh (“Erin Brockovich”, “Out Of Sight”) shows the hypocrisy that the US government has created in its fight against the drug war. Unfortunately, “Traffic”, the newest release from USA Films, seems to take on a little bit of that hypocrisy itself.

The film breaks down into four separate stories that gradually weave in and out of each other (think “Pulp Fiction” with less humor and more drug use). Each story takes on a different perspective, from a corrupt Mexican police officer (Benicio Del Toro) with a guilty conscience, to the United States Drug Czar (Michael Douglas) and his crack-addicted daughter. As the stories unfold, you are literally drawn into the lives of these individuals, which gives an understanding of how the drug epidemic affects people from all racial, cultural and economic standpoints.

With all of the big-name talent involved with this picture, I was surprised that some people could be sitting along the beach, sipping a margarita, then invite a couple friends over.

The Bear Facts Proudly Presents
The 2001 DMACC Academy Awards Contest

Official Ballot

Name: __________________________ Phone/email: __________________________

Best Picture:

Deposit your completed ballot in one of the ballot boxes located in the Courter Center, library, or main entrance. All blanks must be filled out to be eligible for prizes.

Best Leading Actor:

Best Supporting Actor:

Best Leading Actress:

Best Supporting Actress:

DMACC Spring Break Hot Spots

“Traffic” shines through own contradictions

With all of the big-name talent involved with this picture, I was surprised that some people could be sitting along the beach, sipping a margarita, then invite a couple friends over.

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With a cast list that reads like the front-row-seating chart at the Oscars, director Steven Soderbergh (“Erin Brockovich”, “Out Of Sight”) shows the hypocrisy that the US government has created in its fight against the drug war. Unfortunately, “Traffic”, the newest release from USA Films, seems to take on a little bit of that hypocrisy itself.

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With all of the big-name talent involved with this picture, I was surprised that some people could be sitting along the beach, sipping a margarita, then invite a couple friends over.

The cast is as follows: Harriet, Olivia Hoff; Gordon, Greg Hager; Alec, Tim Rose; Anne, Sarah Baker; Richard, Al Taylor; Magda, Heather Wargo; and Mildred, Katie Prescott.
DMACC student, Todd Westberg discusses CH2MILL with representatives Dan Sheldon and Jamie Wahl.

Boone DMACC guidance counselor, George Silberhorn, discusses Evangelical Free Church Home with 16-year employee Jan Leichliter.

DMACC nursing instructor Cindy Cory was present for the Career/Technology Fair held February 21, 2001.

DMACC Dean William Hitesman thanks Principal representative Wendy Wilson for attending the DMACC Career/Technology Fair.

Granger High School students Tiffany Bertrand and Shawna Sprott, currently seeking their nurses aide certification at DMACC, discusses Howard R. Green’s policies with Kristine Whiting.

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Following two upcoming approvals this month, Boone DMACC is scheduled to provide Land Surveying, a new career choice beginning Fall 2001. Promoting the new program during the Technical Career Day are (L to R) Craig Johnstone, Newton; Joel Romey, Adel; and Richard Leu, Fairfield.

DMACC student Cory Simonsen displays a house program on the laptop computer. The DMACC Civil Engineering program details building plans, which can be programmed and viewed on computer screens.

DMACC nursing student, Brooke Posegate, investigates the DMACC nursing display.

Non-traditional student, David Freese, DMACC freshman, spoke with CDS representative Julie Rydl about their available programs. Rydl has worked four years as an appointment specialist.

DMACC Boone campus PBL adviser, Linda Plueger, discusses the PBL possibilities with Carrie Cook, Fall 2001 DMACC nursing student.
Scholarship Alert: Grab some $ while you still can

Heather Wargo
Contributing Writer

In the spirit of brotherhood, or “collegeshood,” (a new word that I just made up and is mine, ALL mine) I am being kind and thoughtful, informing all who actually read this missive that there is money to be had. I thought of being a selfish little “B” and not doing this for you, not giving anyone a nudge or shout in the ear, “Hey, you forgot to get your scholarship apps done, and if you don’t move soon you will miss out.” Why would I hesitate in informing you? Because I am greedy, also, I need the money being offered.

However, in the spirit of Lent, I decided to give you all one last heads up. Get your butts down to the registration area to the little cart on the right side wall (sorry, no, I do not use north, south, east or west in my directions because I am from the Eastern US of A), and grab what you can and what money being offered.

A note to non-traditional students—Just because you are non-traditional doesn’t mean money will be thrown at you. I got hosed big-time this year and I have three kids and a husband who is a full time student at ISU. Apply for aid everywhere you can!

Summer Classes

Yeah, there are actually scholarships for summer classes, but I don’t want anyone to apply, so forget it. Sorry, just my greed pushing aside my Lenten spirit. Forgive me. There are five scholarship applications that I unearthed at the little cart in the lobby that one may apply for to use for summer classes—the DMACC Generic, which only requires a 2.0 GPA and enrollment of at least six hours. The Connie Allen Memorial, which requires a 2.5 GPA and residency along with the six-hour minimum. The DMACC Pioneers, which requires a 2.75 GPA, residency and at least part-time status. The Corporate Scholarship, which requires a 3.0 GPA and six credit hours. And the Honors Scholarship, which requires a 3.5 GPA and a minimum of 12 credit hours. Deadline is April 1! One must also include a nice little one page essay stating why they need/want the dough, so get on it, people.

Also, there are scholarships for next fall that are numerous and would take pages to list. Some have due dates coming right up on Mar. 15 (the Marine Corps League and the Phi Theta Kappa) and are transferable or transfer scholarships in and of themselves, so if you are going to ISU next year for Fall and/or Spring, you’d better get cracking now. Go to www.fastweb.com and get on their alert list for scholarships in your major and state that can help. Go to the advisor’s office and ask for help. Go to the ISU web page and dig around. Each college has a list of scholarships, as well as the ISU generic ones.

Get to work! And remember, I need money, too, so don’t write too well. OK? In true Lenten spirit, I wish you luck, just not too much of it!

From the counselor’s office
Other Scholarships Available:

- Beta Sigma Phi
- Rotary Scholarship
- Marine Corps League
- American Businesswomen’s Association

Two students describe Burmese holiday

Khun-Nay Tangbau
Khun-Tee-Seng Tangbau
Contributing Writers

We are from Myanmar, Burma, in southeast Asia. We have been in Iowa about three months. So, we don’t know very much about the culture of the U.S. There are very many differences between Iowa and Myanmar: the weather, the food, the people and the culture.

There are fourteen different kinds of indigenous people in Myanmar, including 132 different tribes. All of them have their own language, but the main language is Burmese. The religions are 88% Buddhist, 4% Muslim, 6% Christian and others.

There are many Buddhist holidays and festivals every year. One is called Thingyan or “Water Festival,” one of the most famous festivals. It is around the middle of April in the Burmese new year. On a spiritual level, the Burmese believe that during Thingyan, the King of the nats or Thagyamin, visits the human world. It’s mainly a festival of fun.

In between getting soaked by people throwing water, there will be dancing, singing, and theatre. In that period, women can kidnap young men, blacken their faces with soot or oil, bind their hands and dunk their heads in buckets of water until the boys surrender and act like a monkey or perform some kind of dance for the girls. During the festival, people become monks for a week, and young guys come to help at nursing homes, taking care of old people.

Let’s talk trash

Katie Prescott
Bear Facts Staff

We’ve seen them here and there, mopping floors or picking up the trash, but has anyone wondered just how much work the DMACC Boone campus custodians put in to make our school look so nice? They’re usually the first ones to get here and the last ones to leave.

Harold Hagaman, an evening custodian at the Boone campus, said that there is a lot more to janitorial work than just mopping floors. Hagaman’s work shift is from one in the afternoon to eleven at night.

Hagaman’s job is to take care of the second floor. He’s responsible for picking up the trash on the floor, keeping the carpets clean, emptying trash cans and checking on the bathrooms.

With so much work and not much help, Hagaman had one thing to say to the students and faculty at DMACC: “It would be nice if people would help out by throwing their trash in the trash can, especially when they’re only two feet away from them.”

Hagaman also asks that chewing tobacco would not be permitted in the classroom. It’s a smelly mess to clean up and can often leave stains on the carpet. Along with chewing tobacco, he wants people to be careful with food and beverages. They are not allowed in rooms with carpet.

A work study program is available in custodial work. This program allows a student to earn money in a job that will work around your schedule. The student is not required to put in full-time hours, and the hours are flexible.

Hagaman also noted that he wouldn’t make any work study employee clean the restrooms. If interested in this job, talk to Gary Johnson, supervisor of buildings and grounds at the DMACC Boone campus.

Two students describe Burmese holiday

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Khun-Tee-Seng Tangbau
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This is our first semester at DMACC. People here are friendly and kind. We like all of our teachers and classmates. And we also like this school very much. Thanks, DMACC.

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Chinese Luncheon for $1.00

SAC & Bear Facts host a Chinese luncheon in celebration of China Year
Thursday, March 29, 2001
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in C108-109.

Tickets go on sale Monday, March 26 in the

Chinese Luncheon for $1.00

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Editor’s Encounters
Rise of feathered friends and family
Exotic birds find homes with DMACC students and faculty

Michele Thamke
Bear Facts Staff

More than family pets, birds are part of two DMACC families; student Tracey Kander, and five-year English instructor, Judy Hauser.

According to Hauser, birds have become popular in recent years, becoming a one billion dollar business, revealing the growth in family size. Individual bird costs are around $500, cages around $700 and food for a month adds up to $40.

Kander’s cockatiels

Kander’s family includes two brightly colored cockatiels that are both less than a year old. She has noticed habit changes during the past six months with the pair. Since mating isn’t possible until the first molting around six months old, and most birds appear female in coloring until then, Kander went by the typical cockatiel trait that males are more vocal.

“The males are great imitators. My male loves to mimic the telephone, and I’ve answered many "false" calls," Kander said. "It can get old almost breaking your neck racing down the stairs to get the phone only to find out it was your bird." Whistling identifiable tunes, her male is noisy in following his traits, while her female rarely makes any noise unless alarmed. Both show alarm by raising their head feathers and either emitting a high-pitched chirping or hissing.

From down-under

Natives of Australia and members of the parrot family, the smaller grey male is a Pied; the white female is a Lutino. Depending on the breed, with aging, markings will change; male’s heads will normally be a darker yellow and females are typically solid colored under their tails.

Cockatiels are great companions because of their characteristic gentle personalities and intelligence. Also, the species is social and requires daily attention, including rubbing their heads and taking them out of the cage and for playtime.

"Bored birds will get aggressive," Kander said. "It’s a must to have toys and plenty of interaction with their humans.

Parrots and cockatiels have long lifespans, so acquiring a bird is a long-term commitment.

Hauser’s conures

While in the past, Hauser had other types of birds, the Mid Iowa Caged Bird Society Show provided the means for Hauser to obtain her two bright green Sun Conures at 13-weeks-old. Upon maturation in over two years, color changes include; bright yellow on their heads and backs, orange around their eyes, green wings and bright blue tails.

Conure characteristics

Similar to cockatiels, Sun Conures require much attention. Hauser usually plays with them two hours daily and sometimes additional hours on weekends. The pair love to be involved in everything she does, "They like to sneak down my arm, grab the pen I am writing with, and try to fly off with it."

Conures have a specific, daily food regimen, including fresh fruits and vegetables. Mornings require mini shredded wheat "biscuits," and afternoons require peanuts and seedballs.

The pair say "phone" when it rings, sometimes say "dog" when a dog is sighted, and "apple." When experiencing something unfamiliar, they scream loudly. "By loudly, I mean that the doors and windows to the house can be completely shut, and I can be standing across the street and still hear them scream," Hauser said.

Aviary connection

A number of DMACC folk have specialized birds of different species. "What I have found fascinating is discovering the number of other people who have birds, like Tracey, Marilyn Prim, and Ted Herrick here on this campus," Hauser said. According to Bird Talk Magazine, the Mid Iowa Cage Bird Society’s Exotic Cage Bird Exhibition is at the Des Moines Botanical Center on Sunday, March 25, from 10-4 p.m. This is free with Botanical Center admission. The contact phone number is (515) 278-9159. "It’s fun to go and see all the different kinds of birds even if you aren’t interested in purchasing one at this point in time," Hauser said.

Michele Thamke
Bear Facts Staff

Stasko joins railroad board of directors

Karol King
Bear Facts Staff

Gary Stasko, Boone DMACC instructor, has been nominated a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Railroad Historical Society, located in Boone.

Stasko has been a member of this non-profit organization since 1986 as a Locomotor’s Engineer; in 1994 he was appointed Corporate Secretary and this is his latest accomplishment. Between teaching and his other activities his schedule is pretty full.

The Iowa Railroad Historical Society is a non-profit organization composed mainly by volunteers. These volunteers work with the train crew or in the gift shop. They make trips from Boone to Fraser, which takes about one hour and forty-five minutes; they make dinners and one of their new goals to build a railroad-oriented library. The trips will begin Memorial Day weekend through October 31, and the dinner train starts April through December. If you are interested on being part of this exciting group, or have any questions feel free to contact Gary Stasko. He’ll be more than happy to help you out.

Congratulations to Robin, Travis, and Max on their new arrival, Hannah, on February 22, 2001!

Bear Facts Staff
**The world of sports loses another hero**

Scott Anderson  
Bear Facts Staff

On Feb. 18, 2001, the world of auto racing and sports in general lost a true legend. During the final lap of the Daytona 500, Dale Earnhardt lost control of his car and crashed into the wall. He died instantly of head trauma.

This is the fourth death in the last year for auto racing. Adam Petty, the grandson of stock car great Richard Petty was killed in Loudon, N.H. Two months later, Winston Cup star Ernie Irvan was killed at New Hampshire International Speedway. NASCAR truck series driver Tony Roper was killed in the last year.

I don’t want to disrespect those people, but Dale Earnhardt nicknamed “The Intimidator” was the heart of the sport. I know I am writing about something that isn’t my strong suit, but when I heard the news I knew I had to do this. I was shocked when I heard the news, and I am still shocked. I admit I am not an auto-racing fan. For years I could not believe people could get excited about watching cars go around a track for three hours. When I was younger I said I watched racing to see the wrecks, and I now regret those statements. Wrecks are not cool, and they are extremely dangerous. Until last year most auto racing accidents saw people able to walk away. I also now realize and respect what NASCAR drivers do. People can mock racing all they want but these guys are driving at speeds of around 190 miles per hour, and inside those cars it gets really hot. Also fans of racing adopt different drivers as members of their family.

I don’t watch racing on a regular basis, but I big reason why I did what I did was because of Earnhardt. His aggressive bumping style of racing led him to 7 Winston Cup Championships and won the hearts of many fans, and the respect of his peers.

My aunt and uncle go down to the NASCAR race in Texas every year and they said that every time Earnhardt would lead a lap the crowd went wild. Earnhardt, despite his rough racing persona off the track he was gentle and caring off it. An example of Earnhardt’s caring side was shown when he sent people to the house of a racing reporter’s house to look after his pregnant wife while he [reporter] was out of town.

Maybe Earnhardt’s best legacy is Earnhardt Inc. Lost in the Daytona tragedy was Michael Waltrip first major victory. Waltrip is a member of Earnhardt’s racing team. This last week another Earnhardt Inc. driver, Steve Park, took the checked flag. This tragedy is tough, but the races will go on. When Richard Petty retired people thought racing was over, but along came Earnhardt. Someone may come along like Jeff Gordon, but one thing is sure, NASCAR is now a lot less intimidating.

**DMACC men win first ever conference title**

Scott Anderson  
Bear Facts Staff

The storybook season for DMACC just got finished with another chapter: conference champs. Shortly after DMACC’s 74-64 victory over Southwestern, the team got word that Iowa Central had upset Kirkwood, and giving DMACC at least a share of the conference title. DMACC then went to Kirkwood who was looking to avenge an earlier loss to the Bears earlier this season. Kirkwood got revenge and prevented the Bears from winning the conference outright with a 72-65 win.

The Bears then went to Clinton on Feb. 25 and the led by only one at halftime, but turn it up in the second half. The Bears outscored Clinton by 17 in the second half to win 93-75 and clinch the school’s first ever conference championship. Shelton Colwell who had a monster game with 33 points, eight rebounds, led the Bears and five blocked shots. Other high scorers were Brian Berkey with 15, Mike Williams 14, and Jamal Jackson with 10 points.

“[The conference title] means a great deal to me and my team,” said Bears Guard Orv Salmon. “Winning the conference title shows we have played well for a long period of time. A title is important to the program from recognition and recruiting standpoint. We also will get a banner to hang up in the gym.”

“[It feels great to be conference champs],” said DMACC Center Colwell. “It lays a foundation for future teams. I think this will be the first of many. The team has worked hard for this, and we have earned people’s respect.”

“It feels great to the first DMACC team to win a conference Championship,” said DMACC Guard Jamal Jackson.

The Bears now go to the Region XI tournament to write their next chapter. Only the winner of the conference tournament goes on to the National Tournament. The Bears are the number one seed and play NIACC in the first round on Saturday March 10 at 1 pm. If the Bears advance, they would play the winner of the conference tournament on Sunday March 12 at 1 pm.

“A whole new season begins March 10,” said Salmon.

**DMACC women win back-to-back home games**

Scott Anderson  
Bear Facts Staff

DMACC used an impressive three-point shooting attack and made free throws down the stretch in defeating Ellsworth 59-48.

“The team played well on the perimeter,” said DMACC Coach Bob Terrones.

Ellsworth jumped out to an early lead at 15-5 when the three-point attack began. After DMACC made a couple of baskets to cut the lead to 20-19. DMACC then took the lead from the Bears at 24-20. DMACC made a defensive stop it was Kelli Busch’s turn as she connected from long range to give the Bears a 20-19 lead. DMACC and Ellsworth traded a couple of baskets to end the half with DMACC leading 24-23.

Ellsworth hit a basket to start the second half with a lead. The Bears came right back with another three by Busch to take a 27-25. With the score tied at 29 the Bears went on a 6-0 run to take a 35-29 lead, but Ellsworth responded with a 6-0 run to tie the game for the fourth time at 35. DMACC then led 40-37 when Ellsworth hit a three to again tie the game for the last time at 40. DMACC broke the tie with the basket by Kelsey Kain. Ellsworth fought to get within 47-44, but DMACC came right back with another three by Kain and a basket by Kelsey Kain. DMACC then led 56-50, and the Bears were able to tie the score in the last moments of the second half, but a 9-0 run by Southwestern pushed the lead to nine at 43-56. With Southwestern leading 54-41 the Bears went on a 9-2 run to get to 52-50. Southwestern responded with back-to-back baskets to take a 56-50 lead. The Bears would not be denied on this night, and showed their toughness by ending the game on an 18-3 run to pull out the come from behind victory.

The Bears had a balanced scoring attack with four players with double digits. KAin led the Bears with 14 points, and Kelli Busch and Alisha Markusz each had 13 for the Bears. As I mentioned before this was the last home game for the Bears and the last ever for three DMACC sophomores: Kelli Busch, Kelsey Kain, and Alyssa Ketelsen.

“We [DMACC] never gave at crunch time and played the whole game through,” said Busch.

“I love DMACC,” said Kain. “I especially loved the fans, parents, and support of the community. I have enjoyed my experience here at DMACC.”

The DMACC women’s basketball team finished its home stand Feb. 21 against Southwestern. It was the last home game ever for three DMACC sophomores, pictured above: Kelsey Kain, Kelli Busch., and Alyssa Ketelsen.

Busch is a sophomore from Boone, IA, and her future plans are to become an entrepreneur and own her own daycare.

Kain is a sophomore from Des Moines, IA. Her major is Secondary Education in English, and her future plans are undecided.

Ketelsen is a sophomore from Ames, IA. Her major is Political Studies, and she plans to transfer to Grand View College.

The DMACC Bears finished their last home game on a winning note by defeating Southwestern 68-59.

The game started with nobody able to take advantage, but midway through the first half Southwestern took a hold of the game with a 10-3 run with pushed their lead to 12 at 27-15. DMACC tried to get back in the game but for every basket they made Southwestern had one to answer it. The Bears finally got a run together after back to back three-pointers by Arriel Bivens and Kelsey Kain.

The Bears would cut the Southwestern lead to three at halftime.

The Bears were able to tie the score in the early moments of the second half, but a 9-0 run by Southwestern pushed the lead to nine at 45-36. With Southwestern leading 54-41 the Bears went on a 9-2 run to get to 52-50. Southwestern responded with back-to-back baskets to take a 56-50 lead. The Bears would not be denied on this night, and showed their toughness by ending the game on an 18-3 run to pull out the come from behind victory.

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“I love DMACC,” said Kain. “I especially loved the fans, parents, and support of the community. I have enjoyed my experience here at DMACC.”

We played well as a team and when we did that we won,” said Ketelson.
DMACC men end perfect season at home

Scott Anderson
Bear Facts Staff

DMACC used a strong inside game to beat Ellsworth 68-61.

“We weren’t hitting jump shots so we many it a point to pound the ball down low,” said DMACC coach Orv Salmon.

The game opened with both teams trading the lead, but after the first few minutes Ellsworth pull out in front and led most of the first half and took a 38-32 lead at the half. This was the first time this season that DMACC had trailed at the half at home.

DMACC opened the second half with an 11-3 run to take a 43-41 lead. After both teams traded baskets the game was tied at 50. The Bears then scored a couple of baskets to take a four-point lead at 54-50. Ellsworth would not give up, but DMACC was able to keep a 4 or 5 point lead till the end when Ellsworth had to foul and the Bears pulled away for the win.

“Ellsworth was able to match our quickness in the backcourt,” said Salmon. “We [DMACC] hadn’t played a conference game in 12 days and we didn’t have that intensity at the beginning of the game.”

Shelton Colwell led the Bears with 24 points. Other high scorers were Jamal Jackson 14, and Rich Borgos 10 points.

DMACC men pass Southwestern

DMACC used an early second-half run and great guard play to defeat Southwestern 74-64 on Feb. 21.

The first half was very even with neither team being able to pull away. DMACC’s largest lead was 7 and Southwestern’s biggest lead was 3 points at the end of the first half. Jamal Jackson led the Bears with 13 first half-points.

Southwestern hit the first basket of the second half to go ahead by five, but the Bears rallied to tie the game at 40. Southwestern came back with back-to-back baskets to take a four-point lead. The game then again became a seesaw affair with both teams trading baskets until a three-pointer by Rich Borgos gave the Bears a 52-51 lead.

Southwestern came right back with a basket to take the lead. The Bears answered with two free throws by Shelton Colwell to take the lead for good. Those free throws started a 13-3 run that ended after another three-pointer by Borgos, his fourth of the game that gave the Bears a 9-point lead. After Southwestern cut the lead to seven points, the Bears answered with Borgos hitting his fifth three-pointer of the game to seal the victory.

“Rich [Borgos] made some big shots,” said Salmon. “Our perimeter players did a good job of hitting jump shots, which opened up the middle. Kevin Alberts played great defense and got some critical rebounds.”

Jackson led the Bears with 19 points, and other high scorers were Borgos 17, Colwell 12, and Alberts with 8 points.
The other side of the Courter
If money was not an issue, where would you go for spring break?

Chad Fick
sophomore

“Maryland, to see my girlfriend.”

Laurence Daniels
sophomore

“Australia, cuz I heard the women are gorgeous out there.”

Deborah Haines
sophomore

“Egypt, to see the pyramids.”

Kip Pederson
freshman

“Cancun, cuz that’s where all the fun is.”

March Horoscopes
Sadie Heimbaugh

Aquarius: The month is going to be smooth sailing so enjoy it, get done what needs to be done but don’t stress. The month can be a lot of fun if you just let it.

Pisces: Your mood may match the weather this month. At times you’ll have lots of energy, and a second later you may be exhausted. Use your highs to your advantage and you’ll make it through just fine.

Taurus: Cheer up, now that February is over you can begin getting back to your old self. If you don’t let little things bother you things could definitely work to your advantage in several different aspects.

Gemini: The month may start off smooth, but trouble will hit mid-month. Stay alert, and think before you speak, if you don’t the trouble will only get worse.

Cancer: That special someone you’ve had your eye on is about to get snagged up, by someone else. Act fast, since it’s you that person really wants to be with anyway.

Leo: March belongs to the Lions. Everything from attitude to grades are going to shine this month. Don’t hold anything back, go with the flow, but strive for what you want and everything will turn from rust to gold.

Virgo: Your relationship may be on the rocks but hold on to the good that the two of you share; this one is a keeper. Look for a surprising twist in your life at the end of the month.

Scorpio: The month will begin with go, go, go, just take deep breaths and try to remain calm. By mid month things should begin to settle down. When the hustle and bustle is over it will all be worth your time.

Sagittarius: It’s a new month, and you feel like a new person. Take all that positive energy and put it to good use. There is something you’ve been holding out on, now is the time to relieve yourself of it.

Capricorn: You may feel indecisive, unsure and even under the weather at the beginning of the month, but a new energetic you is on the rise. You’ll have enough ambition and energy for people to feed off you, and you’ll love it!

Libra: Tone down the sarcastic attitude this month, you are going to meet some interesting people but your attitude could jeopardize this opportunity. Keep your eyes open for financial opportunities.