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Banner News

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SAC sets budget for next year

Jennie Yates
Banner Staff

The fall semester will bring new students, new classes, new activities, and new opportunities. Before all this can happen, the Student Activities Council (SAC) must decide how they are going to budget its money to the various groups on campus.

"Calculate in your head who it will effect," said Shelby Hildreth.

Karol King, SAC member, suggested that Phi Beta Lambda should get less money. She said that they only have 10 members and there are other bigger groups who should get more money.

Many of the members nodded in agreement.

Lori Slight, SAC adviser, said that she talked with each member carefully. The members and Slight discussed each option and brought up their questions and concerns. After talking with each member, Slight then decided on a budget that she would suggest.

The vote was seven to one on the new budget suggestion. After, William Hitesman, executive dean of the Boone Campus, approves it, the budget will be as follows:

Athletics will stay the same at 44 percent.

The DMACC Banner loses one percent taking it down to five percent.

Civil Engineering Tech will gain one percent, taking it to two percent.

Drama and theater lose one percent, leaving it with one percent.

Intramurals was raised one percent to four percent.

Nursing will keep their two percent.

Peer tutoring was taken down by one percent, leaving it with one percent also.

Phi Beta Lambda loses one percent taking it down to six.

Phi Theta Kappa stays the same with three percent.

Rotaract gains one percent giving it a total of three percent.

SAC will stay at 25 percent.

Weight Club will go up by one percent, bringing it to three percent.

These are only tentative budget numbers. Dean Hitesman does not have to approve it. Also, any clubs can come to the SAC and request money at any time.

The next SAC meeting will be held Thursday, April 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the Courter Center. Students, staff and faculty are welcome to come.

The SAC will be approving minutes from the two previous meetings, discussing the activity fee and whether or not is should be raised, finalizing ideas with the mind reader, planning for fall activities and working on a design and discussing costs for the activities pamphlet.

Smoking rule not enforced on Boone Campus

Robbie Maass
Banner Staff

As you may or may not know, DMACC recently made a rule requiring those choosing to smoke to keep a 25-foot distance from all school entrances.

A small plastic sign hangs on approximately 70 of Ankeny's campuses 120 entrances announcing this rule.

Executive Dean of the Boone Campus, Bill Hitesman, however, has chosen not to place these signs on any of its four entrances.

Hitesman said, “At this point, if it becomes a problem where students and staff come to me and say we have a major issue out here and we need to look at this and address this and take measures to correct it, I’ll do everything I can.”
SAC meets with more clubs

Jennie Yates
Banner Staff

When other students had their spring break plans in their heads, the members of DMACC Boone Campus’s student activities council (SAC) had numbers, figures and facts in theirs.

Rotaract was first on the SAC’s agenda. Rotaract’s money goes on the SAC’s agenda. They provide community services and allows traditional, non-traditional and international students to be involved in the group. This year they provided a community outreach to the Boone area with a toy drive, a food drive for the food pantry and they collected hats and gloves for children. The rotaract club at the Boone Campus is the largest in Iowa.

The Civil Engineering Tech club(CNT) was inactive till Feb. 18, when they had their first meeting of the year.

The Land-surveying club was added this year. They have a fund raiser planned for Apr 28. CNT is hoping to have a banquet at the end of the year for the graduating students. One of their goals is to have new students visit firms to get an idea how their field works. Since CNT is new, they are needing new equipment, however it is quite expensive. They are still a new club and they would like to get up and running again.

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) received $720 last year. They are a club with a select membership. To be a member you must have a 3.5 GPA. PTK provides money for the All-Iowa students to go to the banquet. Induction fees and the regional conference bring money in. PTK wishes to hold or assist in hosting a DMACC honors banquet. A tree is being planned to be planted on Earth Day. PTK would like to keep a balance on hand. The Weight club encourages anyone to join. They are promoting health and general well being. There has been new equipment purchase but more is wanted, which requires more funding. Weight club is planning a fundraiser next year.

Interfrat got a late start this year and new equipment is needed. They are also planning on starting new Intramural next year and will need funding to accomplish this.

The meeting was held last March 28, where The SAC decided on a banquet. A tree is being planted on Earth Day. PTK would like to get up and running new club and they would like to start this year.

DMACC students join PTK

Ten new members were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), an honor society for 2 year schools on Saturday, March 30.

Seven of the new inductees are pictured to the left: front row (l-r): Samuel Berbano, Robbie Anderson, Sharon Litchfield, Tenya Roark back row (l-r): Cara Stone, Susan Smith, Kerry Corrigan-Clark. Not pictured are Adam Sisson, Arline Smith, Matt Sprecher.

Jennie Yates, Editor-in-chief of The Banner, presents Debra Carroll of Boone with the “Oh Brother, Where Art Thou” soundtrack. “I was just reading the paper. I had a few extra minutes, so I decided to enter the Banner’s Grammy contest,” said Carroll.

Photo by Robbie Maass
The State Department has proved adept at cynically "certifying" that brutal rightist armies are paragons of democracy.

In Washington, there has been shockingly little debate about the escalating U.S. involvement, which now includes hundreds of "trainers" and extensive intelligence cooperation.

In Congress, most critics have focused on making sure any U.S. aid gives this U.S. aid includes clauses requiring the administration to "certify" that the Colombian military is making progress in cleaning up its miserable human-rights record. Last year's aid bill included such a clause; the current request doesn't; liberals, hopefully, will fight (if they do, they will probably succeed) in inserting one this time.

Such clauses typically aren't worth the paper they are written on. If past actions are any indication of what is yet to come, we can't really trust such "certifications" anyway. The State Department has proved adept at cynically "certifying" that brutal rightist armies are paragons of democracy.

What is needed is a far-reaching debate in Congress, not just a blank check for Bush. Out of Fear, Congress has been rubber-stamping every action by our President in the name of patriotism. I am not interested in having 535 lackeys representing me, rather acting as intended, keeping the balance of power firmly in place. A serious look into the manifestations of such an expansion of Presidential power needs to be explored and a cessation to that broadening of authority needs to occur.

As a proud citizen of the United States, I lament the paltry "oversight" provided by our national legislative branch, especially in all matters military since Sept. 11.

Sadly, I suppose it doesn’t matter, as no one seems overly concerned and not a soul is asking, especially those elected specifically to do so.

Score one for the terrorists, whose actions are changing our government to that one that mirrors one eerily similar to theirs; control in the hands of a single individual. From the ashes of Sept. 11, I suppose it doesn’t matter, as no one seems overly concerned and not a soul is asking, especially those elected specifically to do so.

As a proud citizen of the United States, I lament the paltry “oversight” provided by our national legislative branch, especially in all matters military since Sept. 11.

What are our benchmarks of success? And most importantly, what is our exit strategy for departing this quagmire?

Robbie Maass
Banner Staff

What do you know, Hollywood tried to take yet another good video game and make it into a full-length film. And, unsurprisingly, the movie once again failed to achieve the brilliance and originality the video game contains.

“Resident Evil” is the latest attempt to cash in on video games at the box office. This is the third film based on a video game in the past year following last summer’s dreadful “Lara Croft Tomb Raider,” and the box office flop “Final Fantasy.” But it’s not just a recent trend to make the jump from cartridge to screen. There was “Super Mario Bros.” in 1993 followed by “Double Dragon” and “Street Fighter” in 1994, and “Mortal Kombat” in ’95. With the exception of “Mortal Kombat,” which later released a sequel due to the success of the original, these movies have been a major disappointment to the fans of the game, or anyone just looking for a good movie.

“Resident Evil” is based on the PlayStation game that was released back in ’96. The game truly is a masterpiece for anyone that’s a fan of video games, so it was only a matter of time that a movie was going to be made. Seeing that 1996 was six years ago you would think that the producers and director would have been carefully planning and developing what could have been a good movie. But could’s, should’a, would’a, this movie is bad and puts itself with the list of former games-to-bad movies that I have previously listed.

The film is about an underground corporation called Umbrella that goes bad when a virus, called the T Virus, is released into the ventilation system and transforms all of its employees into zombies. A team of special forces agents are sent underground to what is called The Hive, to investigate what has happened to this company. I bet you can guess what happens from there. Let’s just say not everyone makes it back to the surface.

What really peeved my hive during this movie is the way director Paul Anderson kept trying to scare his audience. I realize that this is a horror movie, but a good horror movie doesn’t try to scare its audience every five minutes. Now I know you’re probably thinking that I’m just a cynical idiot who just wants to bash this movie, but this is something that I learned from a guy named Spielberg: suspense is the key. Take the movie “Jaws” for example. Spielberg took out an early underwater sequence in the film where a dead body pops up on the screen. After test screening the movie with and without it, he found that with the scene added it took away the suspense and horror during the end of the film because the audience wasn’t as vulnerable. Spielberg said that you can only give an audience a good scare two or three times during a movie. In “Resident Evil,” Anderson tries to do it in every other scene and by the middle of this film it wasn’t scary, just predictable.

Also what this film lacked was its attempt at humor. Personally I don’t find Michelle Rodriguez’s one liners of “blow me,” and “I need to get laid,” very amusing. Tacky would be a better word to describe the humor in this film.

The action in this movie was nothing we haven’t seen and the zombie’s aren’t very scary or threatening. The storyline sticks to that of the game but it’s just not as intriguing. Maybe because in the game you were required to think and this movie requires no intelligence what so ever.

The New York Times/

Millia Jovovich plays Alice in “Resident Evil.” This movie is rated “R” and is now in theaters.
Journalists travel to east coast

Students experience New York City

Jennie Yates
Banner Staff

Our first night in New York, Beth Forester, Nate Harrington and I went to see the light tribute to the twin towers.

To reach the ferry for the trip, we decided to try the experience of catching a taxi. This did not work since most of them were already full. Giving up, we decided to ask the doorman at our hotel to help us. He had much more success. When we finally had our taxi, Beth took charge.

“Take us to Battery Park!” she said to the driver.

If you are ever in New York, I do not recommend taking a taxi. The prices are far too much and the drivers drive like maniacs.

At Battery Park, we took the Staten Island Ferry to see the tribute from the water. The three of us huddle together at the back of the boat waiting to see the lights. As the ferry slowly pulled away, people began to see where the twin towers had once stood. I stared at the spot and continued my conversation with my two companions. I hadn’t cried when the tragedy first happened, and I still could not cry. The horn blew and everyone was ordered to leave the ferry. The people who wanted to ride back to the city had to walk around the dock to the same place where we got off. Everyone got back on and the three of us continued to watch the lights.

After we docked, we walked around the city for a while and eventually found ourselves near Ground Zero. We walked around the barricades, occasionally seeing inside of them. Just being near Ground Zero made the disaster so real to me. As we started to leave the area, we stumbled upon the tribute that the friends and family of the victims had made.

There were pictures, poems, flowers, names, parts of uniforms, badges and other mementos of these people. We looked at the faces, memorizing each line and every facial feature. We read the names and the poems too. Seeing all the badges made me realize that there were many places that were devastated by this tragedy. This moment was powerful for all of us. I still could not cry.

Leaving the ground tribute, we went to the base of the pillars of light. The pillars are actually about seven or eight smaller lights, placed close enough together that they appear as one light. Looking up through the lights, it was amazing how far they seemed to travel.

It was quickly approaching nine in the evening. We were still very tired from the early morning flight into Chicago, the wonderful flight canceling incident at Midway airport in Chicago and all the walking we did around New York. We decided to call it a night, but first we needed to find our way back to our hotel. It took a lot of courage, but we rode the subway. Our adventures would not end here, but that story is for a later date.

I don’t know where my lack of emotion in New York came from. Maybe all my hours of video game playing has truly desensitized me, and I am destined to be devoid of all emotion for the rest of my life. Maybe it’s just proof that even the most emotional people can show little emotion when it comes to a few things.
Spring break road trip
Students visit Pentagon and Freedom Park

Pam Snow
Banner Staff

This year for spring break, I headed to Washington D.C., the home of our nation's capital. My friend and I chose to go to DC for two reasons. One for all the monuments and museums, and two for the Pentagon. We headed out by car Saturday morning at 6 a.m. and about 1200 miles later, we were there.

Monday, we went to Arlington Cemetery and were lucky enough to get there in time to see the changing of the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown and the eternal flame at John F. Kennedy’s gravesite. One thing that we didn’t plan on seeing was the Sept. 11 picture tribute located inside the Women in the Military monument. Hundreds of pictures had been sent in by people from all over the world. Lots were from New York, but there were some there that were taken in other countries. One picture that gave me a chill was a lady’s black shoe lying all alone in cement dust after the towers had fallen with footprints around the shoe.

As the pictures went on and on, we reached the section of prints that were taken of the Pentagon. While we were looking at them, a man came over and started to tell us about the pictures. Come to find out, he was a firefighter at the Pentagon.

He and his partner were checking over their fire truck that was located right next to the Pentagon, in front of the side where the plane hit. As they were walking around the truck, they could see the plane coming towards the building. By this time they had already known about the Twin Towers. They ran for the fire station, and like in a movie, they made it just in time. When they went out to see the outcome, they couldn’t believe what they were looking at. The plane had taken out almost the whole side of the building and two light poles. Their fire truck had blown up and flipped from the impact and explosion of the plane. He was there through it all. I have no idea what that man had felt that day, but his tone of voice told his story.

Tuesday, we headed to the Pentagon to see this for our-selves. Walking up to the building we saw a plaque that had the American flag and the Twin Towers with an eagle soaring over them. No civilians could enter the gates without military identification, so we walked around three sides until we got to the side of the impact. Green tarp hung on the fence, so we had to back all the way to the guard rails on the road to see everything. Two large cranes that could be seen from Arlington Cemetery were lifting concrete blocks and beams. Both had American Flags on them. The crew works around the clock, repairing the Pentagon. The pictures I took don’t compared to seeing it in person.

After leaving the Pentagon, we went to see the Lincoln, Jefferson and Washington monuments, stopping at the Korean War Monument and the Vietnam Wall. I have waited for as long as I can remember to see the Lincoln Monument and it was worth every minute. The White House was also something I had wanted to see for the longest time. It was exciting seeing lights on inside, although I can’t really say why. They still aren’t giving tours of the White House, but I enjoyed just looking at it from the outside just the same.

For the rest of my week I got to touch sections of the Berlin Wall in Freedom Park and see Judy Garland’s ruby slippers. I had few expectations and only one disappointment. We went to take pictures of the Iwo Jima Monument, and when we finally got there, we couldn’t get close to it because they were filming a movie called “The Farm” with Al Pacino. All I have to say about that is it better be a good movie.

Seeing American flags flying everywhere I looked made me smile. I recommend going to DC to anyone next year over spring break. It was a trip I will never forget.
Widespread tells all in “Don’t Tell The Band”

Nathaniel D. Hawkins
Banner Staff

The members of Widespread Panic are all eloquent musical storytellers, and nowhere is this more obvious than on their new album, “Don’t Tell The Band.” This sextet has earned a reputation for soaring, energetic live shows, and with, “Don’t Tell The Band,” they capture that magic on record.

The captivating appeal of “Don’t Tell The Band,” is Widespread Panic’s song writing style. The 11 new original songs on the album were mixed in with their older more familiar tour material. The imagery evoked in the album’s title track ranges from a doomed Confederate army bands playing as the bullets flew, to the tattooed string players on the Titanic who performed as the ship sank. “Don’t Tell The Band,” is a commemoration of the triumph that music has had in the face of great adversity, leading to the last line of the song’s chorus: “just let the music play.” Among the many more vivid tales told on the album is “Big Wooly Mammoth,” which warns of the peril in killing off an endangered species. Among songs to look for are the swinging opener “Little Lilly,” which is derived from a Dave School bass line, as well as the Latin melodies of “Casa Del Grillo.”

Of course, such musical brilliance comes naturally to a band that first performed in 1985. The band formed at the University of Georgia as a trio made up of John Bell, Michael Houser and bassist Dave Schools, taking its name from a Houser’s then-nickname, “Panic.” Drummer Todd Nance and percussionist Domingo “Sunny” Ortiz soon joined the fold, and the current lineup was completed in 1992 when Hermann came aboard. Since then, they have earned renown as one of America’s best live bands, often appearing in Pollstar’s “Concert Pulse” chart of the top 50 bands on the road.

The Spirit of the Grateful Dead lives on through Bob Weir and RATDOG

Nathaniel D. Hawkins
Banner Staff

Bob Weir former guitarist from the Grateful Dead entertained a crowd of more than 1,700, in Des Moines at the Val-Air Ballroom on Saturday Mar. 23 with his new band Ratdog.

The perpetual motion of music that is so evident with the Grateful Dead was very evident throughout the whole first set of the show as Ratdog played some of their newer music.

DJ Logic added a new element to Ratdog with his samples and scratching created grain and atmosphere. While never distracting from the show and blending well with the jam sound of Ratdog.

After a half hour intermission between sets, the band came back out and blew the socks off of each of the 1,700 fans there to see them. The set littered with several Dead classics like the opening songs of the set “Blackbird” and “Candyman.” However, when the first notes of “Friend of the Devil” sounded throughout the Ballroom the place went nuts. Buc Broyles a fan from Adel, Ia said, “This is why I’m here, this is what is all about.”

As throughout the whole show the band finished with a few loosely organized jam sessions. For an encore the band played another Dead classic, “One More Saturday Night” which received one final burst of applause from the audience. When the band finally rapped up they had played for nearly 4 hours.

I must say I was a little disappointed with the show as I was informed by a lady sitting at my table that there was an acoustic set in the show the band had played the night before in Chicago. All in all though, the great melodic adventures of the Grateful Dead still live on through Weir and Ratdog.
Bears baseball gets underway

Coach John Smith gives some advice to Mike Peterson as Phil VanBockern waits on second base in the Bears’ home opener. The Bears won one game of the four weekend games against Marshalltown.

Chris Weber, 3rd base, sits in the dugout with his teammates on Saturday.
The Other Side of the Courter

Do you plan to take summer classes?

Renae Walker
Yes, I am, Finite Math and some philosophy class. I’m not sure what it’s called.

Trinity Doughan
Yes, but not here. I plan to take summer courses at NIACC.

Lindsey Schaefer
Yes, unfortunately, Finite Math.

Ted Herrick
I will be taking Comp II with Jan LaVille, a wonderful and delightful instructor, in order to satisfy my graduation requirements.

Horoscopes by Pam

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) You may find yourself overreacting towards other people, particularly with those you think are trying to control you. If you find yourself at odds with someone, try to see where they’re coming from. Romance: Good Finance: Fair Lucky Numbers: 5, 8, 13

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) This could be a good time to work out any unresolved feelings and be more accepting of others. It may be that you are too concentrated on yourself Romance: Poor Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 2, 8, 21

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Providing that you do not act in a jealous and possessive manner, you should be able to relax with friends. You should start finding yourself less isolated. Romance: Poor Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 11, 14, 25

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) If you always have to get your way it will only end in a fight. This will not earn the respect of your colleagues and won’t get you that promotion. Romance: Good Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 4, 18, 24

Gemini (May 21-June 20) A big idea could come to you in a very big way, just be creative with what you do, and someone important may notice. Romance: Good Finance: Poor Lucky Numbers: 3, 17, 19

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Beware of misunderstandings or deceptions. You could enjoy the company of someone who makes you feel more “alive”. A new friend or romance is possible. Romance: Good Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 10, 22, 20

Leo (July 23-Aug 22) You may experience some doubt regarding some seriously pressing matters. This may include conflicts with others that have gotten out of hand that are due to be cleared up. Romance: Poor Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 7, 12, 26

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Life may bring some obstacles or hardships, if you don’t work on changing the unhelpful habits now you may find it hard to ever change. Romance: Fair Finance: Poor Lucky Numbers: 7, 14, 2

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Relationships with those who are close to you are more likely to work out if you keep after the one who wants to get away. Romance: Poor Finance: Fair Lucky Numbers: 15, 20, 24

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) If you resist a need for change now, then upsets might force you to change not always for the better. Make use of every moment that comes your way. Romance: Good Finance: Good Lucky Numbers: 1, 18, 20

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) You seem less tolerant now in your relationships. Yet you might sacrifice something for the sake of a family member. A helping hand is always a good thing. Romance: Fair Finance: Fair Lucky Numbers: 8, 15, 48

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You may be consoling a friend and won’t be as warm as you intend. You yourself may be reaching for affection this is a good time to talk things out. Romance: Good Finance: Poor Lucky Numbers: 2, 11,

DMACC, Iowa Army National Guard to sponsor Des Moines Gaming Group event

DMACC—Sightings of alien and mecha-nized warriors are expected to be seen April 6th in the oddly shaped building resting in the Raccoon River Valley of West Des Moines. The building, often called the Motherep, usually houses DMACC West Campus, but from 10am until midnight, April 6th, it’ll be transformed into the Des Moines Gaming Group’s www.dsmgg.org FireLAN Event. The Des Moines Gaming Group (DSMGG) is an online gaming group that is open to the public. Members range from early teens to senior citizens but all share a love of computer based gaming. The FireLAN Event allows gamers to compete against each other in the same room on various games to include: Unreal Tournament, Quake 3 Gridiron, Counter-Strike, Mech Warrior 4, and others. DSMGG puts on the event and provides the Local Area Network (LAN), CAT5 Ethernet Cable and internet access for the events. Gamers must provide their own computer systems which includes: Computer with 10 BaseT NIC Card Monitor 19” or smaller. Larger monitors require permission. Headphones, as speakers are not allowed or Games, Drivers, OS CDs, Power Cords and Cables. DMACC West Campus along with the Iowa Army National Guard is sponsoring the event which costs $12 for online pre-

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