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Banner News

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Expansion planned for DMACC Boone Campus

James Joy
Banner Staff

DMACC’s Boone Campus is seeking expansion in the areas of nursing, classroom space and science labs to allow for the recent growth in student attendance and the aging of current facilities.

Provost Vivian Brandmeyer has compiled several proposals with the assistance of faculty and staff that she believes are of great importance to the Boone campus students.

“This is in the preliminary phase, sort of my wish list for the campus,” Brandmeyer said.

One aspect of the renovation of the current facilities is the updating of the biology, chemistry and physics labs. New “prep rooms” for each of the labs is under consideration along with new hoods and updating the fixtures on the sinks and oxygen connections.

“We are also looking at adding some new benches and work space in those rooms as well,” Brandmeyer said.

Nancy Woods, physics and mathematics instructor, hopes the proposed ideas become a reality.

“These improvements to the labs are a long time coming,” said Woods. “These are not totally new rooms, but a good start,” she added.

An addition to the north side of the building from the Courter Center is under consideration to provide class room space for the nursing department with a classroom equipped with new computers.

Along with the class rooms will be six new exam rooms and office space for instructors.

Connie Booth, Boone’s nursing program chair, is excited about the proposals. “We are really looking forward to it; we have an upcoming increase in demand,” she said.

The nursing program will increase its student acceptance to eight more students per year, starting this fall. They will be accepting new students two times a year, a change from the current policy of once a year.

The new addition north of the Courter Center will also relocate the Knowledge Knook bookstore.

Lisa Savits, who works at the bookstore, is cautiously optimistic. “It’s fabulous! We hope that it happens,” she said.

Multiple cash registers and lines along with increased storage room will accommodate students better, according to Brandmeyer.

“We will increase in overall size and be able to accommodate more items. The relocation of the bookstore will allow for the expansion of the Academic Achievement Center into the area that the bookstore now occupies.

DMACC will be offering a new sports management program in the future, and new additions are planned north of the gym entry with proposed new locker rooms and a new weight room.

Also planned is a general purpose room, along with office space for the new program’s instructor.

As for the possibilities of new weight equipment, Brandmeyer was quick to point out that this is all in the planning stages and nothing is finalized yet.

“This locker room area will be great for our non-athletes to use because many do not use the current rooms we have,” said Brandmeyer. A tentative plan is in the works to recondition the auditorium in the future as well.

Parking is being considered with the other expansions, and the new parking area is proposed to be built north of the main buildings.

At this time is unclear how many spaces would be added if the new parking lot is approved. Boone students have expressed their concern for new parking for several years. So based on student input, this would be a welcomed addition to the campus.

“We are awaiting the proposals of the architect to see what kind of figures we are looking at,” said Brandmeyer.

Depending on the funding available, expansion may have to be limited to only a portion of the proposed ideas.

“If it is necessary to cut ideas, I will get input from all staff and faculty on priorities,” Brandmeyer said.
Student to travel to Cuba over spring break for credit

Jill Sodahl is going where few Americans are allowed to go. Sodahl will be going to Cuba over spring break with other DMACC students, Iowa State students and faculty for credit.

Sodahl is a little nervous about going to the communist country.

“I am afraid that I am going to do something wrong and get thrown in jail,” she says.

Just getting to Cuba and going through customs is a little nerve wracking. If the American security doesn’t like the way someone answers a question the whole group must stay and potentially miss the plane from Miami to Cuba.

This is not the first time Sodahl has traveled over seas. Last spring break this 18 year old from Storm Lake traveled to Spain. She believes it is very beneficial to travel abroad if you are interested in foreign languages. Sodahl is a Spanish major and her trips to Spanish speaking countries helps her become more familiar with their way of life and speech.

“I was spit on last year in Spain; hopefully people are more friendly in Cuba,” says Sodahl. Sodahl believes there was a conflict between Spain and the United States and the people there were angry with the Americans.

The trip to Cuba will consist of a three-part tour. The first two days will entail a tour of Old Havana visiting such places as the Palace of the Captain-General, the Plaza de la Catedral, and Havana’s famous boulevard along the sea. Next is to study Cuban agriculture and the geography of Pinar del Rio during March 16-18. The study will end with tourism during March 18-20 visiting Varadero, the premier tourist area in Cuba.

The cost of this particular trip is a little more expensive than most Spring Break trips costing $1800. What the student gets out of the trip tends to be more beneficial than lying in the sun at a beach. Learning and experiencing a new culture is an excellent opportunity and it’s worth 2 college credits. To receive credit one must read the book, “Cuba Confidential” by Anne Louise Bardach. Students must then write a four to six page review of the book including an overview of the relations between the Cuba and the United States.

DMACC offers a Global Studies course every year taking faculty and students across the world. The GLOS 198 course is going on its second year to Cuba.

This will most likely be the last year to travel to Cuba because DMACC only has a two-year license allowing the United States to visit.

Since Cuba is a communist country with Fidel Castro as the iron rule, the United States does not allow Americans to tour Cuba. The U.S. government does not want to put more money into the country to help Castro rule longer.

To visit Cuba, one must go with an approved group.

Denson changes title to provost

Laura Griffin
Banner Staff

Beginning March 1, 2004, Vivian Brandmeyer’s title changed from executive dean to provost.

According to Webster’s, the provost means the “chief dignitary of a collegiate or cathedral chapter.”

Vivian Brandmeyer

The title is relatively new to community colleges, DMACC President Rob Denson said.

“The title of provost more accurately reflects the wider breadth of job responsibility,” said Denson.

The provost has the responsibilities of enrollment growth, strategic planning, opportunity management, economic development, and workforce training, Denson said.
Canadian Year club to tackle second book over break  
Brandon Kleinke  
Banner Staff

Many members of the Book Club are excited for their upcoming meeting. They will be discussing a Sinclair Ross book, “As for Me and My House.”

The Canadian Year Book Club will be meeting Monday, March 22, at 4:30 p.m. in the L.W. Courter Center. Some of the feedback from some of the members has been very positive.

“Ross has his book narrated by a female character. He’s such a good writer that it’s almost as if a woman is writing the book,” said Dr. Jerrine McCaffrey, head of the book club.

The club members discussed the difference between Canadian authors and American authors.

“I think that Canadians (authors) are more subtle than Americans. I’ve noticed that the British are very similar. Americans almost hit you over the head,” said Kate Auston, a DMACC student.

Stephan Clemmons, a local Ames resident and member added, “It’s hard to compare. They are our next door neighbor.”

“One of the things I definitely like about the group is the different perspectives. Even though all the people read the same book, we all came away with something different. Each person seemed to come up with something different they liked and thought was important,” said Kate Auston.

“I would encourage people to join. It is a good environment in which to learn about writers and their works. Rather than just reading the stories and having your opinion you can get other peoples opinion and feedback,” said Auston.

“We are now at an earlier time so more people can make the discussion. Our first group got us off to a good start,” Jerrine added.

If one is interested in joining the Book Club, Jerrine McCaffrey can be reached at jamccaffrey@dmacc.edu.
Deciding what you want to do with the rest of your life is one of the biggest decisions anybody can make.

Careers are chosen in many different ways. Money, location, interests, and convenience are all reasons for deciding on a major.

Research shows that students who are committed to their career goals tend to have higher grades, and tend to have a lower college dropout rate than students who are still undecided in their major.

"It is not uncommon for most students to change their major at least once in the first couple years," George Silberhorn, Associate Dean said.

Because there is such a demand for positions in health care, the nursing program at DMACC is one of the fullest programs. The nursing program has an increase over the last year because of the demand. Entry-level positions have gone up 12.9 percent in the past year. According to collegegrad.com, businesses like Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Lockheed Martin each project their entry level hiring to exceed 3,500.

"Entry-level jobs projected"
Sometimes it is just better to go out with the girls.

It was 11:45 p.m. by the time we made it to Sips in Ames. I waited with my friends in line for about 45 minutes before we had the chance to get inside the bar. As I stood in line, I saw groups of people skip the line and walk right in. I tried to ignore the yelling and the pushing, but I continued on my way. The girls and I made small talk so I wasn’t ignored.

The dance floor was a little crowded and made it really hard to move. The mirrored wall was lined with men watching the people on the floor. Couples held each other closely as they danced or at least attempted to. I danced for a while until I ignored it until a guy got right in my face and said, “I bet you thought it was me touching you, didn’t you?” Thankfully, the fight that broke out in front of us distracted him.

I turned back around and tried to ignore him since he was the one who was previously yelling profanity at a girl walking by.

“Girl, why do you have to be like that?” the guy said to me.

Again I tried to ignore him. The determination set in, and the guy stood next to me with his “Girl” this and “Girl” that comment. I made small talk so I wasn’t completely rude until he finally gave up. Next thing I knew someone was touching my butt. I did a pretty good job of ignoring it until a guy got right in my face and said, “I bet you thought it was me touching you, didn’t you?” Thankfully, the fight that broke out in front of us distracted him.

Finally inside, we made a quick walk around to see who was there. As we walked past the dance floor, another guy grabbed me by the arm and asked me to dance. I replied with a simple “No,” as I continued on my way. The girls and I grabbed a drink and off to the dance floor we went. I had a Snow Cone, which is made up of Blue Raspberry Vodka, sour, and cranberry juice. If you are 21, you should try it, if not, stick to Pepsi.

The dance floor was a little crowded and made it really hard to move. The mirrored wall was lined with men watching the people on the floor. Couples held each other closely as they danced or at least attempted to. I danced for a while until I ignored it until a guy got right in my face and said, “I bet you thought it was me touching you, didn’t you?” Thankfully, the fight that broke out in front of us distracted him.

At the end of the night he walked my friends and me outside. In front of the bar he gently kissed my hand, told me that he had a great time, and wanted to know when he was able to see me again.

Maybe by the next column of On A Date with Jess, I will actually have gone on a date.
Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ” depicting the final 12 hours of the life of Jesus is a gut-wrenching experience that generates the full spectrum of emotions.

The word passion, in reference to Biblical stories, has developed a romantic overtone. However, the word is of Latin dissent and refers to suffering and pain. This is an appropriate title for this movie, as we witness the graphic scenes of torture throughout the movie, culminating in His crucifixion. This would be a good movie for parents to leave children 16 or under at home.

Gibson wanted to make a movie that accurately depicted the price that Jesus paid as He died for our sins. It is a very brutal movie, and when you enter the theatres, you must be prepared to witness continuous brutality and unrelenting suffering. There has never been a film that portrayed Jesus’ last hours in such a graphic manner. However, the violence is interrupted repeatedly with flashback scenes to offer a bit of respite for the audience, who is at times numbed by the constant violence.

One scene that showed Jesus interacting with Mary showed his sense of humor and sense of happiness. These breaks in the violence really help the audience deal with the imagery. The behavior of the Jewish characters in this movie offered a balanced range of behavior, and does not create the feeling of anti-Semitism, as some critics have suggested. With the exception of the few who call for His death, the rest of the Jewish figures in the movie are depicted favorably. Simon helps carry His cross and is sympathetic by the end of his task; Veronica passes the Roman guards to offer a cloth to wipe His face and offers Him a cup of water, while the Jews in the crowd call out against his torture.

The performance of James Caviezel (Jesus) in this movie is Oscar-winning-caliber. The imagery and cinematography are outstanding, all without the help of special effects. This movie is scored in a way that only adds to the power of the story and doesn’t overpower the scenes. This movie was a deeply moving, personal experience, and it’s difficult to find words to prepare you for what you are going to see. The main point is not specifically what happens, but why it happened and what was the result. This movie doesn’t preach, and it doesn’t try to convert its audience to accepting a religious way of life. The movie’s message of love and forgiveness is entrenched in those that do not let the brutality of the scenes overpower the message.

The Passion of the Christ: Peter, Jesus and John at the Last Supper

James Joy
Banner Staff

Battle of the sexes agree, play receives four stars

She says

Laura Griffin
Banner Staff

A couch, a small table, two chairs, a desk, bookshelves full of books, and a fireplace with various vials set the stage for last weekend’s play, “Murder by Membership Only.”

The murder mystery was very well performed and directed. The set was built realistically and never changed throughout the entire play.

The cast, all returning from last semester’s play, except for three new faces, was a welcome sight. British or French accents added a unique quality to each character. All the actresses did an excellent job of portraying the attitudes and mannerisms of the characters.

Madame Lecoq (Patti Rockwell) performed as a cultured writer who was a good hostess and a very noble person. Her French accent was hypnotic. Octavia Sturges (Julie Sharp) was hated by all who met her, but yet an important person to the Ozczy Club. She eventually gets murdered.

Hester Tandy (Sarah Whitford) played a very knowledgeable mystery writer who liked to use diagrams to help her with her stories. Some of her lines were lost in the speed of her delivery.

The cast was very good at not hinting who the murderer was. During intermission, the audience began to ask each other who they guessed the murderer was while others rushed out to get a copy of the Banner. The Banner has featured stories on the play and the audience was hopping the articles held some clues.

The actresses never over shadowed each other. They in fact complimented each other well. There was not much action in the form of seeing the actual murders, but the sense of mystery would have been gone if we saw the details. The actions were brought out in conversation. It seemed almost like a Murder, She Wrote episode, without the convenience of replay.

The only drawback of the play was the lack of men in the cast. The all female cast made it seem as though the play was for women. The blame is not towards the drama department, but the men of DMAACC. The nine females in the cast not only have the guts to get up and perform in front of an audience, but they somehow maintained an English accent throughout the whole play.
Record-setting season ends in overtime loss for women

Jack Simonson
Banner News

If you ask almost any collegiate coach whether or not they’ll accept a 27 win season, they will accept it in a second. Unfortunately for the DMACC Women’s Basketball Program, it was win no. 28 that didn’t happen.

The Bears saw their season come to an end with a heartbreaking 71-70 overtime loss to NIACC in the regional semi-finals. DMACC had previously defeated NIACC twice during the teams’ two regular season meetings.

“Coach Conrad told us it was going to be a challenge to beat a team three times,” said DMACC star Michelle Smith, who scored 15 points in the loss. And unfortunately for the Bears, it was a little too much of a challenge.

The teams traded blows throughout the first half, with NIACC taking a 28-25 lead into the half. During the second half, with NIACC taking a 28-point lead, the Bears went on a run, and eventually gained the lead back. And with 15 seconds remaining, the Bears scored what looked to be a possible game winning bucket, when sophomore point guard Ashley Austin scored a layup to give the Bears a 62-60 lead. But NIACC’s Janene Fell connected on a jumper with five seconds remaining to send the game to overtime, and the Bears couldn’t survive the Lady Trojans’ as NIACC hung on for the one point victory.

“It was a great game, we just got outplayed,” commented Conrad after the defeat.

Jenny Harle was the only other DMACC player besides Smith in double figures, leading the way with 19 points.

The Bears made it to the semifinals with an 82-43 trouncing of conference foe Southwestern in the quarterfinals, and finished the season with 27 wins, which smashed the previous program’s record of 20 wins, which was set a year ago.

“It was a good season record-wise and everything, but it would’ve been better if we could’ve made it to the championship to play Kirkwood,” said Smith on the team’s season.

Kirkwood will represent the region at nationals, as they hammered NIACC 77-31 in the regional title game.

Although it probably wasn’t the storybook ending the Bears were looking for in their milestone season, there appears to be plenty to be optimistic about for next year. “We return a good base for next season, and we’re bringing in some good recruits,” stated Coach Conrad on the future of the DMACC program.

The Bears will return all but four letter winners next season, and a large percentage of their scoring and rebounding, including leading scorer and rebounder Michelle Smith.

So while another season is in the books for the Bears, and the season didn’t end the way the players or coaches would have liked, Coach Conrad certainly appears to have the program headed in the right direction, and the DMACC Women’s Basketball Program is on the map.

3 at buzzer ends dreams of Danville

Jack Simonson
Banner Staff

“Sometimes you need to get a little luck, and tonight we did,” said Kirkwood Head Coach Doug Wagemester after his Eagles squeaked out a 92-90 overtime thriller over DMACC last night.

He was talking about a three-point desperation shot by sophomore guard Brett Baumgart that rippled through the nets as time expired to give his Eagle’s the win, and a spot at Nationals next week in Danville, Illinois.

After Shaun Williams hit two free throws with 6.7 seconds remaining to give the Bears a 90-89 edge, the Eagles threw the ball in to star James Ebert, who they wanted to take the final shot. Nothing was available for Ebert, however, as he brought the ball up the court, so he dished it off to Baumgart, who had been silent all night. Baumgart then pulled up from the wing, and buried the game winning three, sending a rowdy Eagle crowd into a frenzy, and silencing the DMACC crowd.

“We’re disappointed and devastated,” said DMACC Head Coach Orv Salmon. “I told the guys how proud I was of them. It’s just too bad they don’t get to go to Nationals.”

The Bears certainly appeared to have a good shot at the upset, leading throughout most of the game. After an ugly first few minutes for the Bears, Naim Benjamin buried a three to give the Bears their first points of the game. After DMACC built a 16-9 lead, it was all Steve Clayton. The sophomore from Fort Dodge dropped in the Bears next 13 points to keep the lead for DMACC at 29-21. The lead wouldn’t last for long though, as Kirkwood ended the first half on a 20-9 run, sparked by the hot hand of Ebert from behind the arc.

DMACC came back strong in the second half, sparked by the play of freshman point guard Euvon Turner. His penetration and hot hand gave the Bears a lead they would hold onto until Kirkwood’s Chris Hickey’s jumper tied the score at 77-77 with just seven seconds remaining on the clock. Turner got a look at a running shot in the lane at the buzzer, but couldn’t get it to drop, sending the game to overtime.

In overtime, DMACC led by as much as seven at 84-77, but a 9-2 run sparked by a Hickey three to tie the score at 86-86 put Kirkwood right back into the game. DMACC then lead up to the waning moments of the game, which was an ending DMACC fans would rather forget about.

“That’s the history the last few years of championship games, they usually come down to the last four or five possessions,” stated Wagemester.

The Bears used a balanced attack, putting five players into double figures in the scoring column, lead by Williams’ 21, followed with 20 from Frashon McGee, 16 from Clayton, 14 from Turner, and 13 from Benjamin.

Williams led the Bears in Regionsals, dropping in 18 points in a 74-60 win over Ellsworth in the quarterfinals, and a whopping 38 points in a 95-76 win over NIACC in the semi’s. His performance earned him a first team all tourney selection, joining teammate Turner, who averaged just over 15 points per game for the tourney, as well as controlling the Bears’ floor game.

The loss ended the Bears season at...
The Other Side of the Courter

What are your plans for spring break?

Jessica Shoults
Stratford
“I’m going on my honeymoon in New York or Key West.”

Nabil Sagbin
Barranquilla, Colombia
“I’m going on the DMACC baseball spring trip to Oklahoma.”

Sherri Walter
Boone
“I’m going to St. Louis to visit a friend.”

Damon Vilmont
Ames
“I’m going to watch the NCAA tournament and catch up on studies.”

Jack’s Major League Baseball Forecast

By Jack Simonson
Banner Staff

Here you have it; A biased Cubs fan’s look and predictions for the 2004 season that awaits us, starting with where each team will finish in their respective divisions.

**AL East**
New York-The Yankees had more fun shopping in the off-season than any other team out there, picking up basically whoever they wanted, another winning season for the evil empire.

Boston-The Red Sox missed a golden opportunity to put the Yankees away when they didn’t sign Alex Rodriguez.

Baltimore-The Orioles spent a lot of money in the off-season, acquiring Javy Lopez and Miguel Tejada. Unfortunately they didn’t sign Alex Rodriguez.

**AL Central**
Detroit-The most improved team in the AL Central. May reach the 60 win plateau this season!

Chicago-They only thing Cub fans have to be upset about in the offseason is setting for Michael Barrett instead of Pudge at catcher.

Houston-Roger Clemens and Andy Pettite should help the improved Astros immediately.

**AL West**
Oakland-Billy Wagner and Tim Hudson, and Rich Harden would all be a welcome addition to any teams staff, so it’s hard to bet against the A’s.

Anaheim-Add in Bartolo Colon, Kelvim Escobar, and Vladimir Guerrero to a .500 team in 2003 and the Angels are looking ready to make a run this season.

Seattle-The Mariners will win a lot of games, but just don’t have the power at the plate or the ace pitching that the Angels and A’s do.

Texas-The Rangers finally unloaded A-Rod’s salary, and got Alfonso Soriano in return.

**NL East**
Philadelphia-The only thing that kept the Phillies from beating the Marlins out for the wild card last year was a weak bullpen. Adding Billy Wagner and Tim Worrell to the mix solves that problem.

Florida-The Marlins didn’t unload completely like they did after their last World Series, but they aren’t the same team they were a year ago.

Atlanta-Braves finish with a winning record, but their run in the NL East ends with authority.

Montreal-The Expos didn’t help themselves at all in the off-season, losing Vasquez and Guerrero, and leaving them no chance at contending in the division.

New York-The Mets just can’t seem to win no matter how much money they spend. This year will be no different.

**NL Central**
Chicago-The only thing Cub fans have to be upset about in the off-season is setting for Michael Barrett instead of Pudge at catcher.

Houston-Roger Clemens and Andy Pettite should help the improved Astros immediately.

St. Louis-Why the Cardinals didn’t use the off-season to pick up more pitching is beyond me.

Pittsburgh-The Pirates won’t win much, but neither will the rest of the NL Central.

Milwaukee-New ownership couldn’t be a bad thing for the Brewers. There is nowhere to go but up for this organization.

Cincinnati-A long, long season for Reds baseball.

**NL West**
San Francisco-The Giants are establishing themselves as one of baseball’s “sure things”.

Los Angeles-Good pitching beats good hitting, but unfortunately the Dodgers have no hitting to go with their good pitching.

San Diego-The Padres are an organization on the rise. Could be this years version of the Florida Marlins.

Arizona-No more Schilling, plus a lousy lineup equals a disappointing season for the D-backs.

Colorado-Nobody wants to pitch at Coors Field.

**Playoffs**

New York over Minnesota
Boston over Oakland
Philadelphia over Houston.
Chicago over San Francisco
Boston over New York
Philadelphia over Chicago
World Series-Boston over Philadelphia-Schilling comes up huge for his new team and earns series MVP, as the Red Sox win the series in six.