

1-24-2007

## Banner News

Joseph Maduol

Tim Larson

Mary Elizabeth Drahos

Jessi Hackler

Liz Jay

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Joseph Maduol, Tim Larson, Mary Elizabeth Drahos, Jessi Hackler, Liz Jay, Quintez Gillespie, Eden Hinrichs, and Steve Fisher

## Lost Boy receives citizenship

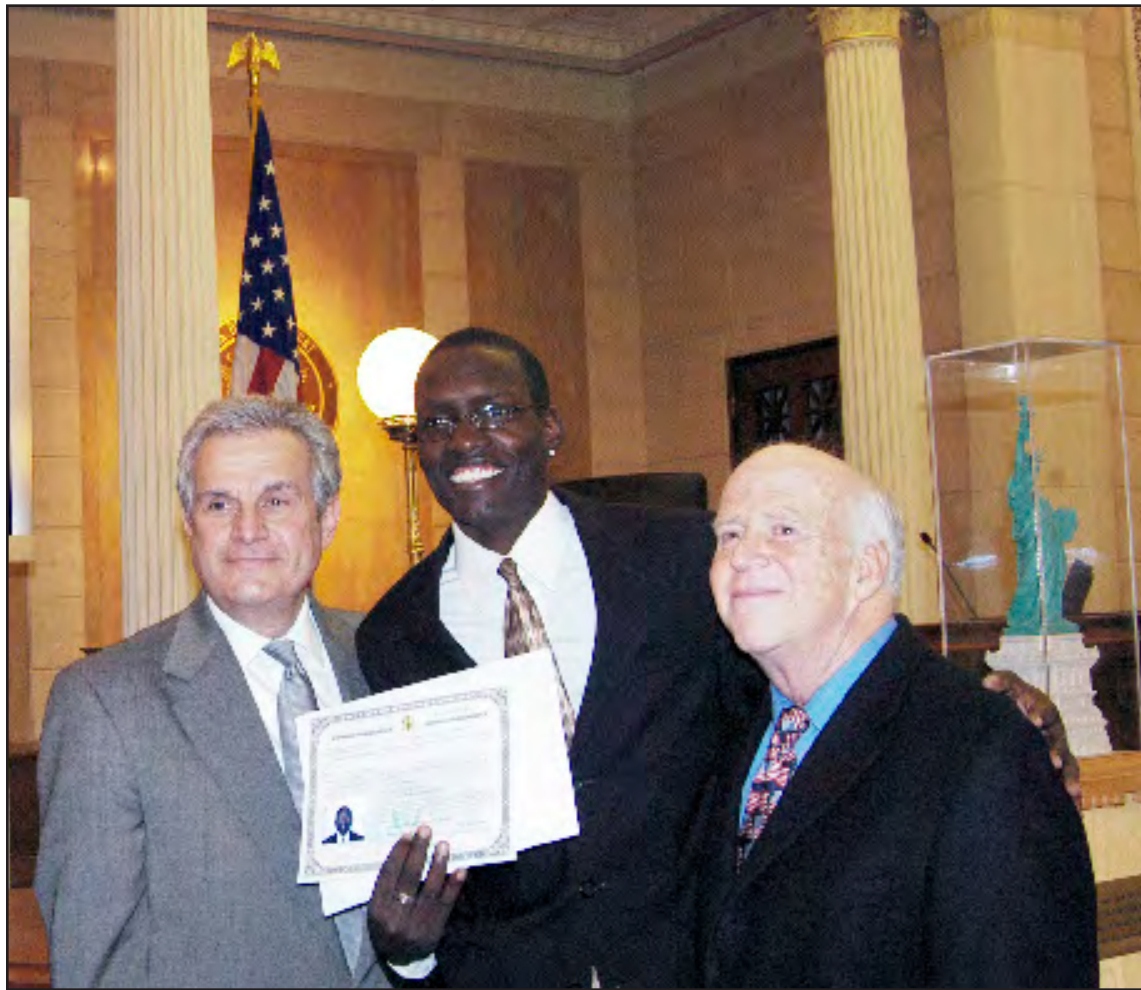


Photo: Contributed

Iowa Secretary of State, Michael Mauro, and presiding justice present Joseph Maduol his U.S. citizenship last Friday afternoon.

**Joseph Maduol**  
Banner Staff Writer

*Editor's note: Joseph Maduol, DMACC student and Des Moines for Darfur founder, became a US citizen on Jan. 19. The following is the (abbreviated) story of his experience in Sudan. The story is written by him, from his perspective.*

Leave your things and run! I raced from the marketplace and right into a huge horse with a

militiaman pointing a gun at me. I stopped. I could not move.

The thing that scared me most was a big horse, and here was the biggest horse I had ever seen standing in front of me like a wall. The horse was topped by a man with a rifle screaming at me with words that made no sense, in a language I could not understand.

My heart was trying to leap from my body. Someone grabbed me from behind, another Arab, yelling at me and waving his gun.

What was he saying? My mind was not working. I was sure he was going to kill me. All around me, I saw people screaming and falling on the ground and not getting up. He pushed me back toward the marketplace with the other kids, boys and girls who could barely walk, along with 5-year-olds and bigger kids like me, ages 8 to 10. Everyone was crying and screaming for their parents. I was crying, too.

What was happening to us?

The older kids, including my friends Joseph, Chol, and Aguem were herded into another group and the women into a third. They were all crying. The bodies of Dinka men were lying all over the marketplace.

My parents were back at our farm. Scared, I wanted to be with the big kids from childhood. They were supposed to be looking after me. But they were in the other group, and I was afraid to go to them. I looked around the marketplace for help, but all I could see were those bodies of the men not moving, the blood running from them like water in little rivers, going nowhere.

I had never seen a dead body before. When an old person in our village died, they would not let the little kids see the body. Now I saw more dead bodies than I could count--some without heads, others looked as if they had just decided to lie down in the dust and sleep.

People always ask me how I felt at that moment, and all I can answer is that I had never felt such terror, confusion, and helplessness before--or will again.

I wanted my mother; I wanted my father to pick me up onto his shoulders and carry me away from this terror. I felt so many feelings at once, than I suddenly felt nothing. My entire body and mind turned numb as I waited to be killed. But with no Dinka men standing, the killing seemed to be finished.

While a few militiamen

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## Avalanche in Colorado hits close to home

**Tim Larson**  
Editor in Chief

The avalanche that hit US Highway 40, through Berthoud Pass, on Jan 6 was the largest to hit the pass in 50 years. In the path of this avalanche was a van from Ames, carrying part of a group from Oakwood Road Church. The van was hit broadside by the snow rushing down the side of the mountain. It was thrown from the road, rolling nearly 300 feet down the mountain. The decent was stopped only when the van collided with trees on the mountainside.

The van carried Jordan Cook, the driver, Darren Johnson, Darren's wife Sarah Johnson, Mark Bland, and Peter Olsen.

Rolling down a mountain in a car is not an experience most people can relate to. "It's hard to describe rolling in a car. If you ever see a movie that shows a car rolling, it's actually pretty accurate. It's bizarre and surreal. You don't see anything but white and what's inside the car" Cook said.

"As we kept rolling I was waiting for something to cause more pain. And we got to the bottom, and there was nothing," said Cook. When the van stopped rolling Cook was the first to climb out of the vehicle. It was Cook who first called 911. "I was told that I was very calm and helped calm everyone down. I don't know why exactly, I wasn't scared. But I can tell

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Photo: Sarah Johnson

Jordan Cook (second from left) and rescuers survey the remains of van that was hit by an avalanche as he drove home from Colorado almost two weeks ago.

# Avalanche hits close to home

continued from Page 1

you full well that I wasn't scared to die. It wasn't this realization that 'well I know I'm going to heaven.' The car was rolling over and over and over, I figured this was it; and I thought 'well I'm ok with that.' When we finally hit the ground and nothing happened it was like 'oh I'm still here'" said Cook.

The reason for their Cook, is quick to point out, is God. "My life isn't defined by an accident where God saves me, God saves me daily. When we drive down the street, it's just as real then as when you get hit by a freak avalanche. I was asked over and over again by reporters 'Do you think God saved you?' Well, sure as heck he did, holy cow."

The rest of his answer, Cook said, never made it to air. "[The reporters] asked me 'do you think you were saved because of your faith in God?' This never made the newscasts, it's all been edited out. Of course I'm not saved because of my faith. People that believer in Jesus Christ as their personal savior die every single day. Whether they're murdered, whether they die of old age,



Photo: Sarah Johnson

**Rescuers keep Darren Johnson (laying in foreground) bundled in jackets as they prepare him for transport back up the mountain. Johnson suffered five broken ribs and numerous bumps and bruises in the accident.**

whatever, they all die. I full well believe that God saved me, but not because of anything I did. In this life our faith does not guarantee us a good life. That's one of the things I really tried to get across."

Mark Bland, one of the passengers in the van, was ready to die. "I was waiting

for something to come in the window." Bland said that circumstances of the accident were the best they could be. "One of the [rescuers] was one of the foremost experts in avalanche [search and] rescue."

Darren Johnson, the most seriously injured of the group with five broken ribs, said,

jokingly, that Cook has the story wrong. "Jordan got it all wrong. When we landed Mark got him a Kleenex and helped him stop crying. And then he and I lifted the van off of him, Mark carried Jordan [Cook] up the hill and I rescued everyone else."

Joking aside Johnson said, "It could easily have been the end. We could have died or we could be right here, and here we are."

Johnson's wife, Sarah, remembers what was going through her mind as they tumbled down the mountainside. "I've thought about his at random times, what's it going to be like when I die? What am I going to think about? I always think of all the things I could do better or do different. But in that instant there wasn't anything I would change."

Referencing Cook's comment from earlier Sarah Johnson said, "I agree with Jordan [Cook], God could have allowed us to die, and that would have brought him glory as well. I wasn't scared of that, but I'm defiantly glad that it isn't over."

## LOST BOY

continued from Page 1

guarded us, the others began collecting the food that was left in the market and loading donkeys with big baskets on the side. A man picked me up and deposited me in one of the donkey baskets.

They did the same with the other little kids. Some of the women ran to their children, but the militiaman stopped them by beating them and pushing them away-and screaming those words that made no sense, in a language I could not understand.

They waved their guns, and the screaming, crying women turned quiet.

Behind the horsemen, the soldiers, and our donkeys walked, the older Dinka kids and women were forced to our carry the very things that we all had selling and buying not long before.

Some children still bear the physical scars of slavery. Magok Fiel was captured in a slave raid in 1995. He was shot in the upper arm, but a militia raider still bound Magok, by this arm, to a horse; dragging him along until his arm was separated from the rest of him. He was left unconscious to die, but he was rescued after the raid.

Slave rescuers collect children captured in slave raids, like the one in which Magok was taken, and return them back to their villages and families. I look into the eyes of the children waiting to be redeemed and remember the deep pain of slavery.

In almost every audience I tell my story to, someone ask me "what kept you going?" "I explain that our desire see our parents again was strong. But I also stress to my audience that I have always believed that without God's help I would have never made it. I know God has been so important in my life. He kept me and delivered me. That's why we are here. Even though I don't read the Bible very often, I believe strongly in God.

When you have something bad in your mind in your life that no one can help you with, you say, God, please help me with these things.

When I was forced into slavery I lost my family. I had no one talk with, no one to be my friend. I asked God to save me for a better time, to see my childhood friends again. Whenever I had a problem, I would appeal to God and ask him to help me. He encouraged me, I could feel it in my heart.

I tell my story for my mother, my three sisters, my brother and especially for my father, who always told me I would do something important in life. I tell my story for those who are still slaves and for those who are fighting for their freedom in Sudan.

For more information, please visit:

[www.desmoinesfordarfur.org](http://www.desmoinesfordarfur.org)

## SAC sponsors free event at Seven Oaks Park

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

The SAC is sponsoring a free snow skiing and boarding event for students and faculty on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Students will be able to ski, snow board, and tube for free at Seven Oaks in Boone with purchase of ski or board rental. Although spouses and family members won't be able to come for free, it's still a fun

activity and perennial favorite of students.

Last year's turnout was good (36 people took advantage of the free fun), but more people are always appreciated.

Students who are interested need to sign up in advance by e-mailing Steve Krafcsin at [sjkrafcsin@dmacc.edu](mailto:sjkrafcsin@dmacc.edu).

For more information contact Steve Krafcsin at 433-5078.



Photo: Contributed

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# S.A.C. remembers M.L.King Jr.

**Jessi Hackler**  
Banner Staff Writer

In 1986, fifteen years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., President Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law making the third Monday of January a national holiday, celebrating the birth and life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Student Activities Council conducted a memorial to Dr. King's work by showing a film about him in the Courter Center on January 16, 2007. SAC Advisor, Steve Krafcisin, said the production was a great way to celebrate Dr. King, "It's not a holiday just about him, it's about his ideas and what he helped to accomplish. He's done so much more than just giving the 'I Have a Dream' speech. The movie talked about a lot of other movements he was involved in."

There were very few people watching the production in the Courter Center. Krafcisin believed the film's showing was still a success. "I thought the Courter Center would be



**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speeches plays in the Courter Center.**

*Photo: Eden Hinrichs*

the best central location and a good meeting area. Even if you were playing pool or studying you could still hear his voice. It may not have reached people directly, but they would hear

about it," said Krafcisin. "I had some other ideas about where to show the video. I thought about the auditorium, but it's such a closed area that it would have been harder for people to find out

about."

"The video wasn't advertised very well," admits Krafcisin. "We are going to do a lot more for that next year." The S.A.C. plans to get more publicity for

the event in the future. After seeing how the production fared out this holiday, the S.A.C. has a much better perspective on how to celebrate M.L.K. Day in '08.

Krafcisin noted that he hoped the film would, "Spark an interest in the students." DMACC students could be seen in the Courter Center though out the showing of the production. "Whoever walked through there could hear what was going on," remarked Krafcisin. Though not many students took the time to sit down and watch the production, the message that the S.A.C. was trying to convey, according to Krafcisin, did reach the students of DMACC.

Next year the S.A.C. plans to get an earlier start on the celebration. "Next year I'm going to try to get a lot more done for the holiday," said Krafcisin. The S.A.C. plans to do much more to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in future years.

The theme of this year's holiday is *Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off!!*

## Fun Foto with Captain Jack makes its way to the Courter Center



**George Cyr over looks Captaian Jack's "foto" expertise.**

*Photo: Eden Hinrichs*

**Liz Jay**  
Copy Editor

When coming back for another semester of school students had a chance to get their Fun Foto done for free by Captain Jack.

When getting your photo done your head is put on a picture of some one or something else that is funny like a hot bikini clad woman or a strapping beach boy with bulging biceps and so on.

Jack really enjoys making Fun Fotos, "It's fun," he said, "I get to travel all over the Country." He said that he does about 40 or 50 dates a year.

Before Jack started doing Fun Fotos he was in an Indian reservation. "I was living in a teepee," he said. Jack had been a palm reader for 40 years and did views as a psychic for fairs.

Jack's life had lead him many places even right here to DMACC in Boone Iowa.

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# Meet the Banner News



**Jessi Hackler, 20, Assistant Graphic Design Editor**

Jessi has been at DMACC for one semester with no major declared at the moment. She is currently taking Creative Writing, Newspaper Production, Intro to Mass Media, and Creative writing, and stated the Creative Writing was her favorite.

In her free time, Hackler likes to write, draw, and to be outdoors, specifically hiking. Hackler's favorite TV show is 'That '70s Show' and said her favorite band is '311'.

Something interesting about Jessi is she likes coffee and popcorn together, and "I also like to burn my toast."



**Isaac Rittman, 19, Sports Writer**

Isaac Rittman has been a DMACC student for two full semesters; he currently has two semesters left. In August of 2008 Isaac hopes to transfer to the University of Iowa, to continue his education in the business world. Rittman, in his second semester at DMACC, is taking, International Business, composition 2, Algebra, and Newspaper Production.

During free time Rittman enjoys lifting weights, playing the guitar, and doing anything athletic. Isaac's favorite TV show is 'family guy' and said his favorite bands are Dave Mathews Band, 311, and Jesse and the Rippers.

Rittman mentioned that one activity he wants to do before he gets to old is go to a Manchester United soccer match.



**Joseph Maduol, 21, Photographer/Staff Writer**

Joseph Maduol is a native of Sudan and just became a U.S. citizen on Jan. 19, 2007. This is Maduol's first semester on the Boone Campus and his major is criminal justice.

"I am so happy to be here, with the Banner News," Maduol said. "I want to make sure things keep moving forward in the right direction."

In his free time, Maduol enjoys staying busy with homework and boxing.

One of Maduol's great loves is music.



**Quinttez Gillispie, 20, Sports Writer**

Quinttez Gillispie is a freshman in his first semester at DMACC, majoring in business. He says he hopes to start several businesses back home in Alaska. Gillispie is the youngest child of five and enjoys being the baby. Q says he has already referred people to the news paper production class and enjoys the class.

Q enjoys listening to all kinds of music and likes to dance. Q also likes to play basketball, football, and baseball. Q graduated from the Alaska Military Youth Academy, one of the hardest schools in the U.S. "It was not easy waking up at 5am to do PT (physical training)," Gillispie said. Q misses home and is starting to adapt to Boones windy days.



**Mary Elizabeth Drahos, 25, Opinion & Entertainment Editor**

Mary Elizabeth Drahos is now in her last semester at DMACC majoring in Liberal Arts after attending off and on since spring of 1998. Drahos is currently taking human biology, newspaper production, and drama, and she enjoys drama and newspaper production the most because she is able to be creative.

Drahos would consider herself a movie and music buff, and likes to write, read, and cook.

Her favorite TV show is Lost and right now she is addicted to Scissor Sisters.



**Steve Fisher, 20, Entertainment Editor**

Steve Fisher is currently in his fourth semester at DMACC with only one semester remaining, but still undecided on his major. He is going for his AA degree. Fisher is currently taking Criminal Justice, Ethics of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, World Relations, and Newspaper Production.

Besides lots of studying, Fisher enjoys skateboarding, ice hockey, and golf in his free time. His favorite TV show is 'Married with Children'.

At some point, Fisher wants to visit Ireland.



**Kyle Moore, 21, Banner Staff Writer**

Kyle Moore is 21 year old advertising major. He's been a student at the Urban and Boone campus. He is currently taking Composition 101, American in the movies, Newspaper production, survey of world religions, introduction to sociology, Intro to mass media, and is in his second semester.

In his ever shortening amount of free time Kyle likes to play drums, skateboard, and is involved in his church choir. Kyle's favorite TV show is Sportscenter, and he enjoys a wide variety of music ranging from Styles P to Led Zeppelin. After college Kyle hopes to work for a Music Magazine, and retire to the Netherlands.



**Liz Jay, 19, Copy Editor**

Liz Jay is in her second semester at DMACC and is hoping for two more. Jay is currently taking intro. to anthropology, newspaper production, American literature, and composition II.

Jay stated about being on the Banner staff, "It's what I want to do with my life, and the people are great!"

Jay's favorite TV show is 'Scrubs' and Yellowcard is her favorite band.

Jay became an aunt last May. Jay also stated that she hates being told by strangers that she is too young to get married.

# Staff for spring of 2007



**Tim Larson, 25, Editor-in-Chief**

Tim Larson took over the position of Editor-in-Chief of the Banner News midway through last semester. His major is undeclared but he is transferring to Iowa State in 2008. This is his third semester at DMACC.

In his free time Larson likes to go rock climbing, but he spends the majority of his time reading. He is a real live know it all because he's read it all. Like the majority of this semester's staff he also doesn't watch television.

He said has been playing the new "30 Seconds to Mars" album way too much.



**Eden Hinrichs, 21, Photographer**

This is Eden Hinrich's second semester at DMACC. She is majoring in photography. her classes this semester include Comp II, creative writing, politics and newspaper production.

In her free time she enjoys taking pictures, writing, reading, singing, shooting skeet and watching horror movies. 'Heroe's' is the show she is most interested in. Favorite movie, 'Killer Clowns from Outer Space'. Rammstein is her favorite group to listen to. She enjoys working for the Banner because she likes interacting with people. "Yesterday, today, tomorrow all pieces on the game board."

Julianne Hamil is completing her second year and graduating from DMACC this spring and will then transfer to Iowa State. Hamil is a broadcast/advertising major in journalism, and she is currently taking speech, sociology, mass communication, photography and newspaper production; which is her favorite course. She thinks all students should join the Banner because we all have something to say and this is where you can do that.

In her free time she loves to disc gold, kick around the hack, and hike through the ledges. She enjoys the outdoors and likes the spring most because one of her hobbies is to make things grow. She listens to Jam Bands like Trey, String Chz, Disco Biscuits, Moe, Widespread



**Julianne Hamil, 26, Advertising/Business Manager**

Panic, etc.

Upon graduation from Iowa State, Hamil plans to move to British

Columbia to join the Hemp Revolution to combat global warming and pollution issues.

Jason Munday is now in his second semester at DMACC. He is currently enrolled in finite math, composition II, newspaper production, and principles of microeconomics.

"I don't mind the math because it's something that has always come easy to me. Of course, it has been five years since took a math class, so this is kind of a nice refresher," Munday said.

In the fall of 2008, Munday plans to transfer to ISU to study computer engineering.

Munday enjoys watching DVD sets of TV shows like 'Lost', 'The Office', 'Prison Break', 'Heroes', and '24'. "I like to just binge and watch like half a season in a day."

Music is one of Munday's favorite past-times. "I've played guitar for eight and a half years, and been playing with various bands for seven years



**Jason Munday, 22, Layout and Design Editor**

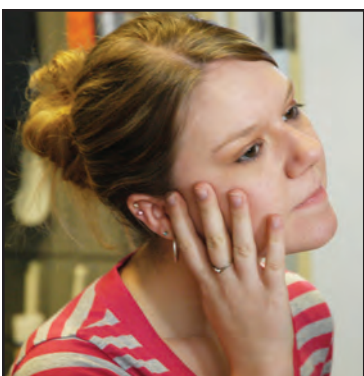
now."

Munday said he enjoys being on staff with the Banner because while it is a lot of work, it's generally fun and definitely good

experience.

"The fact that we get access to our own computer lab whenever we want, is pretty nice too.

## New Year's Resolutions for 2007



Get my synchro (swimming) tone back.

**-Britanie Feldman**  
Liberal Arts and Comm.



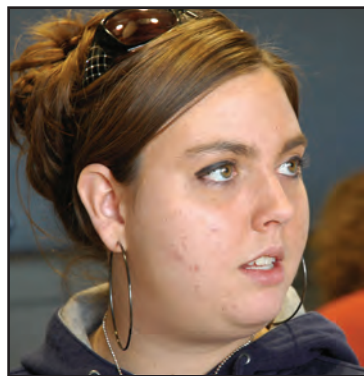
Trying to get through school and get a teaching job somewhere.

**-Dan Hawkins**  
Education Major



Stop chasing girls.

**-Aaron Irving**  
Business Sports Management



Quit drinking.

**-Molly Jay**  
Liberal Arts Major



This year I'm going to attend all of my classes!

**-Alisha Markuson**

# Bears on the Road

**Quinntez Gillespie**  
Banner Sports Writer

DMACC Bears Men's Basketball had their 15-game winning streak snapped by their long-time rival, Kirkwood Eagles.

The Bears were favored to win at Cedar Rapids against the unranked Eagles. The Bears, ranked first in the conference, are 2-1 in the conference season with 16 games remaining.

"We plan on going to the 'ship," said 6'4" shooting guard from Des Moines J' Sean Gaddy.

DMACC stunk up the house with their sad attempts from the field, shooting only 27 percent. Kirkwood was on fire shooting, 50 percent from the field.

DMACC players say that there will be a different outcome if they come to the Bears Den back home.

Jesse Blackwell, last week's player of the week, had trouble getting open or creating his own shots. The Bears usual leading scorer, John E. Holmes, never got going and ended the game with only three points.

Playing on their own home court, the Eagles had one up on the Bears. The Bears just weren't clicking; they had narrowed the lead down to six in the second half, with five minutes left in the game, but it wasn't enough. The Eagles' multiple second half three pointers were

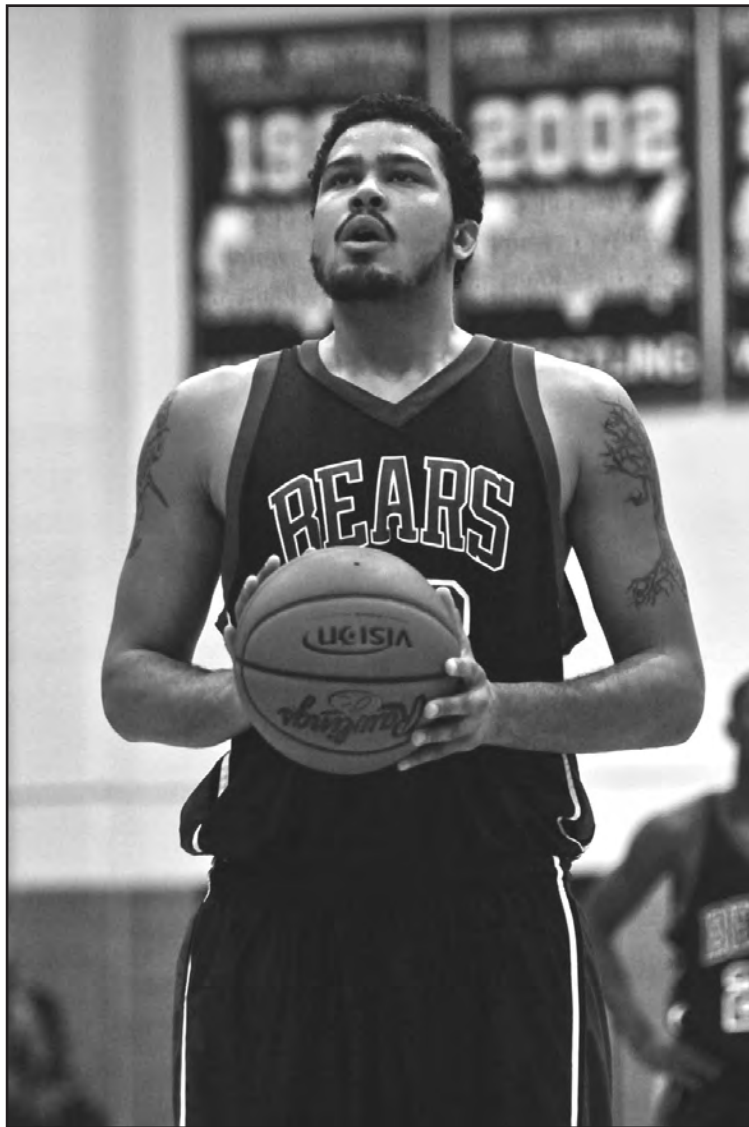


Photo: Eric Ver Helst

**Jesse Blackwell**

like nails in the coffin, sealing Bears defeat.

Rico Gillespie point guard for the Bears, said they are "over

the loss "and "are thinking about the next game".

# Harrison credits team for coach of the year award



Photo: Kyle Moore

**Patty Harrison**

**Liz Jay**  
Copy Editor

Patty Harrison, DMACC's head volleyball coach, was named National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II District "D" Coach of the Year. Harrison said it felt wonderful to receive this award. "I give a lot of credit to the group I had," she said, "It was more symbolic for the girls."

Harrison said at the start of the year they set high goals for the team and for each of the girls. Their goal was to get to the National Championships. Harrison said she felt honored to coach this team. She enjoyed the relationships she has with the girls and the relationships the girls had together. "Leadership,

dedication and heart," she said were the three things that got them that far.

Harrison said the best moment of the year was, "Beating Kirkwood on their court to go to Nationals." She said it was great to see all the hard work pay off.

Harrison said they have a good start for next year with five of their starting team coming back and six more girls signed already. They have three more scholarships left she said. Harrison said she is, "Looking forward to next year."

Harrison wanted to give a special thank you to the community and the college for all of their great support throughout the season.

# Anderson #44 named Athlete of the Week



Photo: Eric Ver Helst

**Jocelyn Anderson**

DMACC--Jocelyn Anderson #44 has been named the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference DII Women's Basketball Athlete of the Week. Jocelyn is a 6'3" sophomore center who is originally from Gowrie, IA.

Jocelyn has led her Lady Bears, who are ranked #9 nationally in the latest Women's Basketball Division II polls, to two wins this past week. They tallied up victories over Iowa Central CC 72-57 and Marshalltown CC 78-65 respectively. With these wins, the Lady Bears move to 14-2 overall and 4-0 in conference play. In these two victories, Jocelyn led the way with averages of 23.5

points per game, 14 rebounds per game, and 3.5 blocks per game while shooting 20-24 from the field.

She currently ranks 3rd in the league in scoring average (16.4), 1st in field goal percentage (70.2%), 3rd in rebounding average (9.6), and 1st in blocks per game (4.8).

After completing her career at DMACC, Jocelyn will continue her education and basketball career here in Iowa at nearby Iowa State University, of which she has already signed with. Congratulations Jocelyn on your basketball accomplishments thus far and continue to lead the Lady Bears throughout the rest of the season.

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# The Diary of Samantha

*Editor's Note: "The Diary of Samantha" is a fictionalized account of a young woman's life. It is contributed to the Banner and is published on condition anonymity. A new installment will run in each issue of the Banner this semester.*

Why is a fresh start never really a fresh start? I moved away from a horrible place and decided to start a new life with my own rules leaving my small family including my mother, brother, sister and niece behind. Whenever I raised questions, about other family members (aside from a grandfather who had died) I was brushed off and told that I was "too young" to ever understand the past. In short, I was told that most of my family was dead. I only knew that my mother disowned my Aunt Mary and Aunt Jane. Though I vaguely remember my Aunt Mary, Aunt Jane was a total mystery.

My life was controlled by other people's mistakes which, somehow, I was guilty of. No matter if I was four or fourteen when the event occurred somehow I was tainted by the involvement. My mother was an alcoholic who, unfortunately, is still addicted to drugs. She always ran to the most abusive men, some of the worst men I would ever know. It's an usual feeling to be punished for making the slightest of noises or coughing at the wrong time. Eventually, she would leave them and the cycle would begin again. She would trade one vice for another. She decided we were going stay with this guy she knew, a drug addict. He was in no way physically abusive to me or my mother but constantly drifted between becoming Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. There was always something happening. Drugs brewing in our basement and all that entailed meant I wasn't ever really allowed to have too many friends. I lived in constant fear that any friends I did have would expose my family and I would be placed in an orphanage somewhere. I grew up between gangs and drug deals; waging war within myself to avoid the siren call of the drugs that were oh so accessible.

Through writing and art I eventually broke the cycle and began to forge my identity, apart from that world. I became the black sheep of my family for attempting to live outside such sordid circumstances.

I had more family in another country but, unfortunately, I could not speak their language. When my mother disowned half of my family, she denied our heritage and refused to teach me or my siblings how to speak our native language.

My father left when I was three years old because of some "unspeakable crime" he had committed and, of course, somehow, I was to blame. For years I had to lie about my family pretend that there is, was and only will ever be my mother, brother, sister and niece. I never fully understood what people were talking about when they talked about how much family they had.

As time went on, I packed my bags and started a new life far away from the dishonorable reputation of my family. I started going to school, made new friends and found true love.

Shortly after 8 am one day, I got a phone call that would, without a doubt, change my life forever. "Hello Samantha! Do you know who this is?"

"Uh, no... should I?" The voice seemed strangely familiar. "It's your Aunt Mary!" I did not want to tell her that I had presumed her dead all these years. "I found your number and I wanted to talk to you. So how are you doing?" After that, the conversation continued with small talk and I came to know a bit about her. Then she had stumbled across a name I hadn't heard in so long that I had almost forgotten it. "... And your Aunt Jane has been fairly well. She had cancer but she's doing pretty good!" Without even thinking I asked questions about Jane.

When I realized what I was asking I turned the conversation back to small talk. I had jotted down a few addresses and phone numbers she gave me, and then the conversation ended.

That day I enjoyed the euphoria of knowledge and went about my day like any other day.

When I came home that evening there was a message on my answering machine. "Hello Samantha this is your Aunt Jane..."



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The Banner is looking for:

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Newspaper Production involves writing for the Banner News, designing and implementing page layout, reporting on campus activities and events.

Newspaper Production  
CRN: 20543  
Course # J0U125

MWF 11:15 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.  
Credits: 3  
Instructor: Jan LaVille

## The power of a stranger

A poem by  
**Eden Hinrichs**

(For Hank)

I never knew how much you cared,  
Or how kind you would ever be to me,

I never how much you would mean to me  
Until you showed you cared

I never thought your words would much an effect on my life  
Or how much I was thank for them

I never thought about the power of a stranger  
Until you where a stranger no more.

## New iPhone enters market



**Steve Fisher**  
*Banner Staff Writer*

Recent technological advances have created a craze, making American consumers giddier than a junior high boy, before a school dance. The most recent and possibly most innovative, is the new Apple iPhone. Freshly released and causing quite a stir in the cell phone industry.

Less than 10 years ago cell phones were so rare only Zach Morris rocked one. Like Zach Morris, the iPhone is ahead of it's time. Apple already owns the mp3 market, so now with the iPhone Apple is ready to attack

the cellular phone market as well. iPhone works as three devices in one: as a cell phone, a wide-screen iPod video with touch screen controls, and it has web connectivity using Cingular's EDGE or Wi-Fi.

iPhone is set to hit stores in June, with available 4GB and 8GB models, costing from \$499-\$599. The iPhone has a brilliant 3.5" display with a higher resolution than any iPod to date.

One of the more exciting and long awaited features is Apple's new approach to voicemail. This new format lets users chose which voicemail they would like hear first, eliminating the voicemails that can be heard at a later time.

Currently there are a few setbacks the iPhone is available only on Cingular (soon to be AT&T). The memory is not expandable, which could be a problem for some customers.

Not all is fine and dandy, Cisco Systems is suing Apple over the iPhone name. iPhone was trademarked on March 20, 1996 by InfoGear. Cisco systems acquired InfoGear in 2000 and have owned the trademark ever since. Apple's repeated requests for rights to the iPhone name have been denied. Negotiations are currently underway but nothing has been finalized.

## DMACC Theatre presents 'Murder Is a Game'



**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
*Opinion Editor*

"Murder is a Game" by Fred Carmichael, is a comedy mystery that will have you laughing and scratching your heads until the very end.

The play centers around married authors (Sloan and Toby Bigelow) who are both experiencing writers' block. Their publisher, hoping to cure them, sets up a weekend of a murder mystery.

Several hired actors are hired to plot out a simple fake murder to invigorate the Bigelow's minds.

What they don't know is when the fake murder is solved, a real murder occurs.

They don't know exactly who did it but they know it is 'someone in this room.'

The play cast includes: Kristie Miller as Sloan, Eric Brown as Toby, Patty Rockwell as the plotting publisher Lois Dunston, Rebecca Russell as naive June Ripley, Jonathan Lautzenhiser as the ever-so-smart Stephen Leech, Mary Elizabeth Drahos as humorless Cora Leech, Aaron Van Pelt as tough-talking Nick Ranelli, and Dawn Prewitt as the flashy BB Mink.

The cast is headed by director Kay Mueller, an instructor here on campus.

Rehearsals will take place over the next six weeks. The production will be March 2nd and March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at the DMACC theatre.

# The Prestige



Photo: IMDB.com

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

Warning: If you plan on watching a movie while texting people on your cell phone or getting kissy-faced with your sweetie, do not choose this movie.

This is definitely a 'blink and you miss it' kind of movie. Not a bad quality in a film, just one you have to keep your mind on.

The movie revolves around two magicians, Robert Angier (played by Hugh Jackman from "X-Men") and Alfred Bordon (played by Christian Bale from *Batman Begins*), whose rivalry begins when Bordon accidentally kills Angier's wife. Throughout the years, they keep getting back at each other losing fans, gigs, and appendages (yes, you heard that right).

Then Bordon performs a trick that Angier can't figure out. After that, Angier becomes so obsessed that he does everything he can think of to figure it out.

In the end, he ends up pulling off a trick so mysteriously, that even movie-going audiences will be at the edge of their seat.

Even though the parts with the tricks were keeping the audience involved, there were

many scenes that just dragged on and on. It seemed to be a balance of me getting into the movie, then me checking my watch.

Scarlett Johansson (*Lost in Translation*) and Michael Caine (*Miss Congeniality*) both make their presence known as well as a few surprise cameos including Piper Perabo (*Coyote Ugly*), Andy Serkis (*Lord of the Rings*), and the Goblin King himself, David Bowie (*Labyrinth*).

There were a few things about the casting I was disappointed in. First off, Piper Perabo should've had the bigger part and Scarlett Johansson should've had the cameo. Perabo seemed much more natural and watchable in her role. Johansson is normally a great actress, but in this role she seemed wooden.

Serkis and Bowie were trying to play some serious characters, but the images of Gollum and the Goblin King being partners in crime was distracting.

This is a film that should be seen, but be prepared to be bored from time to time.

**Rated: PG-13**  
**Running Time:**  
**128 Minutes**  
**My Star Rating:**  
**3 out of 5 stars**

## STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

How is it possible that some people can be put into high-end positions that they are not equipped to hold?

It seems to me that it breaks down to good old nepotism. If you don't have the right connections, or if you aren't a friend of a friend of the boss, then you are screwed.

Right now I am working under a person who is much younger than I am, much less experienced, and even TRAINED by me. However, they became a shift manager because they were friends with the old store manager.

Enter new store manager.

The shift leader is now being watched more closely, but can't be demoted from their position. Apparently you can't demote someone for stupidity.

What exactly does it take nowadays to find qualified people for positions that actually require leadership skills? I'm not even talking just about my job. Think about where you are working; is there a person or two who does not seem right for the job?

Exactly my point.

Business owners are relying on information that is given to them by these 'trained' employees. There could be a huge crisis that resembles a restaurant-themed apocalypse, but as long as the shift manager says everything is running smoothly, then it is. They read the paperwork that is submitted, read a few of their notes, and are done with it. As long as sale quotas are met they really don't care.

Sales going down? Raise the prices and cut the hours. Yeah, that'll work.

They don't understand that we, the little people who toil, sweat and bleed, are the ones directly involved with the customer. We know what will work and won't.

Sales going down? Why not create a great deal where customers cannot help but be drawn in. Customers will come back to the place where they can get more for their money.

But don't listen to me. I am just an underling. Listen to the person checking their e-mail in the back office. Because they TOTALLY know what is going on.

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it takes  
more than  
a haircut  
to get a  
good  
job.**



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