1-23-2008

Banner News

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Recommended Citation

Lumley, Molly; Meier, Shane; Hinrichs, Eden; Smith, Jessi; and Ihle, Christina, "Banner News" (2008). Banner News. 203.
https://openspace.dmacc.edu/banner_news/203
**Banner News**

**Des Moines Area Community College - Boone Campus**

**Wednesday, Jan. 23**

**Vol. 7, No. 8**

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**Imbus entertains with mind games**

Molly Lumley  
Managing Editor

Brian Imbus, hypnotist and mentalist, amused students with mind games and hypnosis on Wednesday, Jan. 9.

He gave brief teasers during the afternoon and during half time in both of the basketball games that evening. He gave a full performance after the game that lasted almost two hours.

Imbus has been studying magic his entire life. He said he became interested in the subject at his high school prom, where he saw hypnotist Jim Wand perform. Wand has also performed for students at DMACC.

Hypnotism is a state of mind where the subject is very susceptible to suggestion. Imbus explained that the subject is in the delta stage of sleep, which is right above REM, the state where dreams occur. Although the subject’s brain waves are in a sleeping stage, the subject is still aware of or her surroundings.

“Hypnosis is speaking to the unconscious mind,” Imbus said. He said although during hypnosis a person is very open to suggestion, the subject would not do anything hypnotized that he or she would not do while they were awake.

Imbus doesn’t claim to be psychic. “We don’t talk to dead people; this is only for entertainment purposes,” said Imbus. Imbus has gotten some flack from religious groups when he performs at high schools. “They say we’re messing with people’s minds, but hypnosis is a natural state of mind,” said Imbus. Imbus explained that everyone goes through two periods of hypnosis daily: when a person goes to sleep and when they wake up.

Imbus started his afternoon show with a few mind tricks. After asking for a volunteer, he shuffled a deck of cards and then handed them to the student. He asked the student to cut the cards a few times and place the top two cards in the student’s back pockets. Even though Imbus said he got this right every 2 out of 6 times, he accurately guessed both cards in the student’s pockets.

Before beginning the hypnosis part of the show, he claimed that he could give the men’s basketball team a few tips to help them be able to focus on their game and play better. The men went on to win their game later that evening against Iowa Central.

Imbus’s visit to DMACC was sponsored by the Student Activity Council. Student Activities Coordinator Steve Krafcisin said that he thought that Imbus was well received. “Hypnotism is becoming an attraction,” Krafcisin said. The event was paired with a free meal of chicken soup and chili as a welcome back event for the students.

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**St. Luke’s Hospital librarian takes position**

Molly Lumley  
Managing Editor

Michelle Tedrow has accepted the Library/Media Specialist opening left vacant by Rebecca Funke. Funke became the Director of Library Resources at the Ankeny campus last October, leaving an empty space in the library staff.

Tedrow said she found the job on an Iowa libraries Website. “My goal was to find a more traditional college library,” she said. Her last job was at St. Luke’s Hospital library in Sioux City; where she worked for nine years.

After getting her BA in Library Science from University of Iowa, Tedrow received her Master’s from Imporia State University in Kansas. She said that she never set foot on the campus, but commuted from Sioux City to an Omaha campus every other weekend. After graduating, she worked in student housing at University of Iowa and Briar Cliff. Her first library job was at Morningside College in Sioux City.

Tedrow’s living situation is a unique one. She lives in a small apartment in Boone while her husband Tom, daughter Kenzie, 18, and son Ryan, 13, live in Sioux City. She also has another son, TJ, who is a junior in college. “This is only a temporary situation,” she explained. “Honestly I didn’t want to move to a new job until fall of 2008, but when I came here to the campus I was so pleasantly surprised that I knew I’d regret it if I turned it down.”

Tedrow has to commute back and forth from Sioux City to Boone every weekend.

“My family has been very supportive of the situation. It was scary, but I’m glad I made the leap of faith and went for it,” Tedrow said. “I’ve been used to kids and dogs so living alone is very foreign.”

For now, Tedrow spends most of her time “learning the ropes.” “I’m just learning what a typical day is,” she said. Tedrow said that the library has been busier with the beginning of the spring semester. “That’s one thing that’s the same no matter where I work. There’s always the beginning of the semester rush, midterm rush, [and] finals rush.”

One of Tedrow’s goals for the semester is expanding the library’s collection of audio books. She wants to add more non fiction and fiction books, such as “Tortilla Curtain,” which is this semester’s One Book, One Campus, One Community book. She explained that audio books are good for people who enjoy reading but never have the time.

Tedrow can be reached at 433-5840 or matedrow1@dmacc.edu or in library in Rm. 135.

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**Iowa New Choices presents Iowa Legal Aid**

DMACC - Iowa New Choices, the Single Parent / Displaced Homemakers Center on the DMACC Boone Campus, is sponsoring a presentation on the services of Iowa Legal Aid on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

Two presentations will be held in the southeast corner of the Courter Student Center, one at 10:30 a.m. followed by a repeat at 11:30 a.m. Laura Jontz, an attorney with Iowa Legal Aid, will present information on earned income tax credit and child tax credit, plus details on filing taxes and how to get an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number or “ITIN.”

In addition, Jontz will discuss information on tenant issues: how to deal with landlords, renter problems, and areas of concern.

Jontz will also provide information on the general services of Iowa Legal Aid, who can be served and what kinds of legal problems can be handled through Iowa Legal Aid.

These presentations are made available for all DMACC students and Boone area residents. There will be time for questions and answers following the presentations.

Contact Maggie Stone, Iowa New Choices Coordinator, Room 124, phone 433-5037, if you have questions about this program.

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**Important Dates at DMACC**

**February 2**  
Deadline to apply for 2008 graduation

**March 7**  
DMACC All Staff In-Service, No Classes, Offices Closed

**March 17-23**  
Spring Break, No Classes, Offices Open

**May 1**  
Last Day of Regular Term Classes
Auditions scheduled for upcoming play

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

Auditions are being held for the Boone campus’s next play, Neil Simon’s “The Odd Couple,” on Wed, Jan 30 at 3 p.m. in the theatre. Anyone interested should contact Kay Mueller at her office, Rm 132, by phone at 433-5094, or via email at kemuelle@dmacc.edu.

“If someone is unable to make it on the 30th, she or he should contact me before then to set up an alternate audition,” Mueller said.

There are 6 female and 2 male roles. The characters are: Olive Madison, a sports minded, divorced slob; Florence Unger, a neat freak who moves in with Olive after her husband dumps her; Sylvie, who has a wise cracking sense of humor; Vera, who is a little light in the head; Mickey, the police woman; and Manolo and Jesus, who are good natured gentlemen. Performance dates are April 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Iowa Hospital Association provides college scholarships

DES MOINES – The Iowa Hospital Association’s scholarship program for college students studying for health care careers is now taking applications.

The program, administered through the Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation, awards scholarships of $3,000 per year for a maximum of two years to students enrolled in an accredited program leading to registration, licensure or a clinical laboratory science degree. In exchange for that financial support, students who accept the funds agree to work one year in an Iowa hospital for each year they receive an award.

Since 2005, when the first scholarships were awarded, 79 students have received IHERF Health Care Careers Scholarships, with a total value of $237,000. Scholarship application packets are available at financial aid departments at all Iowa colleges. A link to application materials is also available on the home page of the IHA Web site, http://www.ihaonline.org (click on “Health Careers”). The application deadline is March 14.

Hospital leaders from all parts of the state will evaluate the scholarship applications, which will be judged on grade-point average, a written personal statement, letters of reference, and extracurricular, community and health-care-related activities.

The Iowa Hospital Association is a voluntary membership organization representing hospital and health system interests to business, government and consumer audiences. All of Iowa’s 117 community hospitals are IHA members.

Spirit squad places 2nd in Iowa competition

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

On Friday, Nov. 30, the DMACC Spirit Squad participated in the Iowa State Drill Team Association competition at Vet’s Auditorium. They took second behind Iowa Central Community College.

Christina Graham, dance advisor, said this was the team’s first year to go to the competition. She said the team’s national performance at the men’s basketball game on Nov. 20 helped to prepare the team.

The Spirit Squad performed a jazz routine for the competition. The other teams at the competition were broken down into three categories: hip-hop, jazz, and pom, which is a dance routine using pom-poms.

The Spirit Squad competed against other Iowa community colleges. Graham said there were not very many other colleges competing.

The nine women on the team have been preparing since September. The team performs for home games and at a spring show in March. They also have a clinic for Kindergarten through 4th grade children to teach them a 40 to 50 second routine.

The team is currently working on a hip-hop routine and Graham hopes they will be finished with it in the spring.

Spirit Squad, back row, Colleen Christophersen, Jenna Cornelius, Alesha Hopkins, Caitlin Mills, middle row, Nicole Bloomquist, Brooke Person, Kinsey Lehrkamp, front row, Alexa Kent, Blyrie Reed.

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**Groundhog Day, a comprehensive guide to celebration**

Shane Meier  
Staff Writer

Groundhog Day, a rather obscure holiday celebrated every Feb. 2, in Punxsutawney, Pa., is not the typical holiday you think of celebrating in February. Most of us are off buying cards and candy in preparation of celebrating Valentine’s Day, but for my brother and I, only Groundhog Day is worthy of being celebrated.

What is Groundhog Day and were it do originate? The custom of a weather predicting holiday is as old as western civilization itself. It started with the early Christian holiday of Candlemas Day where the clergy would bless candles and distributed them to the townsfolk. It was believed that if the weather was clear and fair on Candlemas there would be six more weeks of winter, but if the weather was cloudy and rainy it was believed their would be an early spring. In this belief was paired with a hedgehog that was believed to be able to predict spring based on whether or not it was cloudy. When German settlers first came to Pennsylvania they discovered the Groundhog which was very similar to the hedgehog and decided to use it. On Feb. 2, 1886, the first official Groundhog Day was observed in Punxsutawney. The first one at Gobblers Knob took place a year later.

Groundhog Day, though relatively obscure by holiday standards, has quite a cult following with a record number of 35,000 people gathering in 1997 to see Punxsutawney Phil in all his glory. Phil is the one and only weather predicting groundhog in the world. He has been making his predictions for over 120 years and he is always 100% accurate. In those years he has seen his shadow 96 times, he has not seen his shadow 15 times, and there are 9 times in which there is no record. According to traditional folklore, the reason this groundhog has been alive for so long is that every summer during the groundhog picnic he is given a special drink by the inner circle which magically gives him seven more years of life.

Following this age old tradition, spectators gather at Gobbler’s Knob early in the morning on Feb. 2. Around 7:20 a.m. Phil comes out of his burrow and makes his prediction, which, as folklore tells, he tells to the president of the inner circle in “Groundhogese”. Then it is presented to the crowd by the president of the inner circle. The festivities continue long after the main event is over. The town of Punxsutawney has events and calibrations for three days before and after Groundhog Day for all ages and tastes.

In honor of Groundhog Day’s frivolous and seemingly ridiculous history, my brother and I have created a few fun family traditions of our own. My Groundhog Day usually begins with watching Phil’s Prediction on TV. Then in honor of Phil’s amazing predicting abilities my family and I place a stuffed groundhog on a pedestal in honor to groundhogs everywhere. We usually throw a lunch or a dinner in Phil’s honor depending on whether or not we have school that day. Then, towards the end of the day, my family and I sit down and watch the movie Groundhog Day.

Groundhog Day can be a fun yet overlooked holiday. For those who do not wish to celebrate Valentine’s Day, Groundhog Day can be an entertaining alternative.

*“Bill” the groundhog peaks out of the snow.*  
Photo: Eden Hinrichs

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**Weather Cancellations**

If weather conditions in the early morning hours warrant the decision to cancel classes due to inclement weather, the decision will most generally be made around 6 a.m. As soon as a decision has been made to cancel Boone Campus classes, the radio stations listed below will be contacted.

KWBGAM 1590 Boone  
KLRX FM 96.1 Ames  
Lite 104FM 104.1 Ames  
KCCQ FM 105.1 Ames  
KASI AM 1430 Ames  
KKRL FM 93.7 Carroll  
KCIM AM 1380 Carroll  
KKDL FM 105.5 Perry/Jefferson  
KGLS AM 1310 Perry/Jefferson  
KGRA FM 98.9 Jefferson

Cancellation announcements will also be recorded on the Boone Campus telephone system. The direct number for Boone Campus is 432-7203. Students and/or staff can also call toll free 1-800-362-2127, press 3 for Boone Campus to hear announcements of weather cancellations. Weather cancellations will also be announced on DMACC’s web site www.dmacc.edu.

When weather conditions in the early morning delay the start of classes (for example 10 a.m.), offices will be open for business at the designated time. Classes will begin with the first full class period beginning on or after the designated time.

If the weather condition during the school day warrants an early dismissal, the decision to close will be made and staff and the radio station will be notified as soon as possible. The decision to cancel evening classes will most generally be made by 4:30 p.m.

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**AAC is here for a reason**

Eden Hinrichs  
Staff Writer

At 8:00 a.m., the doors to the Academic Achievement Center, which allows local and international students to get help with the subjects they are struggling with, open to all students. Although they have only tutors for English and math, they can also request a tutor for French, Spanish, accounting, science and computer classes.

Not only does the AAC offer these tutoring courses, they also offer computer services for international students who are having problems comprehending English. The student is able to log on to a computer program that is in their native language that helps them with visual and auditory comprehension.

The AAC is also the location of the general education degree, compass testing, nursing entrance examination and normal college testing. “I appreciate the opportunity to teach composition to aspiring writers,” said English tutor Pegi Bevins. Although she is very bashful about her accomplishments as a writer in her field, she is happy to apply her knowledge to her students. Another tutor, Mary Ann Koch, notices when the tutoring is truly working. “It’s always a good feeling when you help someone. It’s especially rewarding when they come back to us and thank us for it.”

All AAC tutors are available Monday through Friday. They are understanding and always ready to help anyone who needs it. Their mini-trained hours can be reached at 433-5095 or at makoeh@dmacc.edu. The Academic Achievement Center is located in Boone in the seven more years of life.

DMACC is one of the six DMACC campuses in the fall of 2007. That compares to 885 African American students enrolled in credit classes in the fall of 2006. DMACC’s Hispanic population has grown by 50 percent since 2003. The number of African American students has grown by 50 percent in that timeframe, and Asian students have grown by 32 percent.

A total of 1,057 African American students were enrolled in credit classes at the six DMACC campuses in the fall of 2007. That compares to 885 African American students enrolled in credit classes in the fall of 2006. DMACC’s Hispanic population increased to 645 students in the fall of 2007 from 523 students in the previous fall semester and DMACC’s Asian population increased from 545 students in the fall of 2006 to 602 students in the fall of 2007.

“DMACC is committed to serving the needs of diverse populations in Iowa,” said DMACC President Rob Denson. “While we have increasing numbers of minority students coming to DMACC, we want to do even more to recruit these important populations. Iowa will meet its workforce needs only if we encourage everyone to develop their skills.”

DMACC offers credit classes in career education and arts and science programs for transfer to full-service campuses in Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, Newton, Urban and West Des Moines.

DMACC is among the finalists for the Greater Des Moines Partnership’s prestigious 2008 Diversity Award. The announcement was made at the Partnership’s annual meeting on Jan. 10. The award recognizes companies that create a diverse work force and client base, as well as an “environment of inclusion in greater Des Moines.”

In 2007, DMACC was also a finalist for the Diversity Award, which was granted to Nationwide Property and Casualty. In 2006, DMACC was also honored in Iowa Health-Des Moines, Kemin Industries and Wells Fargo are the finalists. This is the ninth year that the Greater Des Moines Partnership has bestowed a Diversity Award.
Make your own awesome smoothie

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

This is comprehensive guide to foreign and domestic wines of more recent vintage. Listed are three different types of wine that seem to have superiority in their categories. Enjoy responsibly.

Bivio Pinot grigio
Vintage: 2006
Cost: $12.85
Origin: Northern Italy
Region: Friuli and Trentino Alto Adige

This is a medium light Pinot Grigio. It hit the nose as this cleverly titled wine breathes. You can smell the berries and spice through the wine. You can smell the 2006 vintage due to climate issues. Though it is not a true spirit of citrus, peach, and citrus that leaves a pleasant aftertaste. An interesting piece of information on this unique wine is that the 2005 vintage was a very superior year, so superior that it had sold off the shelves completely and there was already a waiting list for 2006. Better snatch this one up soon because there will be no 2007 vintage due to climate issues.

J. Lohr White Riesling
Vintage: 2005
Cost: $11.29
Origin: Monterey

This medium dry Riesling has a fun fruit taste that embodies the true spirit of citrus, peach, nectarine, apricot and honey suckle. A strong vanilla body is detected when the aftertaste sets in. Though it is not a sipping wine, it is just as enjoyable and easy to pair with. The 2006 vintage will be much sweeter due to climate changes, but it is still a good Riesling none the less.

Cost of Ingredients:
2 Bananas : $0.44
2 Mangos : $1.76
1 container of orange juice: $2.99
1 container of frozen strawberries: $1.49
Total cost : $6.68

Health benefits: Bananas are high in vitamin C, magnesium, collagen, protein, potassium, B6 and fiber. What does this mean for you? According to http://www.femhealth.com, these nutrients aid with concentration and memory, and can reduce fatigue and lower cholesterol.

Mangos: According to http://www.mad4mangos.com, mangos are a rich source of antioxidants, minerals and vitamins A, B, C, along with calcium, iron and potassium.

Orange juice: It’s famous for vitamin C but did you know that it can also very good for the heart?

Strawberries: Not only is high in Vitamin C and fiber but according to http://www.ars.usda.gov “Strawberries contain a plant pigment, anthocyanin, which has been used for studies in preventing initiation of cancers. Strawberries contain a unique phenolic group, ellagitannins, which are effective in preventing initiation of esophageal cancer”

Cafe changes and work study

Jessi Smith
Executive Editor

The Campus Café has been running for the better part of a decade and providing students and staff alike with snacks and food, and now new treats have been added to the menu.

New hot and cold drinks have brought an added flare to the already versatile menu. A new shiny machine featuring blue-raspberry and strawberry-kwiwi flavors has been added along with a cappuccino and latte machine.

In addition to providing DMACC patrons with a place to grab a hot meal between classes, the café also supplies a work study program for students who need to make extra money. The partially student run café supports around sixteen staff members, most of whom are doing work study in the café. Student Nick Schroder, who is on his second semester of doing work study in the café, is attempting make extra money to help with his future transfer to ISU. “I really enjoy working here,” said Schroder. “I’m here to make money.”

Jenni Kramer, who is also in her second semester of working at the café, enjoys working there because, “It’s a relaxed atmosphere.” She also says that she loves the people that she works with.

The café work study program is beneficial for students with more complex class schedules. “It works really well with my schedule,” said student Jake Balough. “I really needed a job, and this is a fast pace, fun environment.”

The café serves breakfast for students with early classes. Waffles, biscuits and gravy, and omelets are a few of the choices during the earlier hours.

The bottom of the wine glass

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

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- Sports Writers
- Photo Editor
- Feature Writers
- News Editor
- Columnists
- Sports Editor
- Photographers
- Feature Editor

Students can work at the Banner for:

1. Course credit - Newspaper Production (see details below)
2. Workstudy - check with the financial aid dept. to see if you qualify
3. Just for fun - contribute your work for use in the Banner

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

Newspaper Production
CRN: 20526
Course # JOU125

MWF 11:15 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
Credits: 3
Instructor: Jan LaVille
Men, women start off 2008 with wins over NIACC

DMACC - Des Moines Area Community College second year men’s basketball player Grant Burns has been chosen at the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference men’s division II basketball Athlete of the Week.

The seventh nationally ranked DMACC Bears defeated North Iowa Area Community College 69 to 63 in their first game in conference play.

Between points and assists, Burns was directly responsible for over half of DMACC’s points. Burns scored 10 points and dished out 15 assists in the contest.

Burns, a graduate of Prairie City-Monroe High School, is currently tied for the most assists in a game in Region XI history with 18. He already holds the DMACC school record for assists in a season at 271, steals in a season at 99, and assists in a game with 18 against Cloud County.

Burns has signed with St. Cloud State University in Minnesota to continue his collegiate basketball career.

DMACC--Two DMACC coaches recently earned milestone victories in their respective sports.

Head Volleyball Coach Patty Harrison earned her 400th career victory and her 100th win at DMACC in the Bears 3-2 win over Iowa Lakes Community College in the 2007 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II National Tournament held in Arizona.

Salmon recorded a recent milestone himself. With the Bears 74 to 59 win over South Australia, Men’s Head Basketball Coach Salmon now has 200 career wins at DMACC.
The Iowa caucus was huge. We had a record voter turnout and the energy was as exciting as any Iowa vs. Iowa State rivalry game; along with all the pre-caucus hype.

We spent from nine hours per day of political ads to zero on Jan. 4. Although I'm glad that part is over, I miss the excitement of the campaign and the empty feeling after Super Bowl Sunday? I'm kind of feeling like that. Politics haven't been this exciting in our country since the 1960s. We had a nail-biting race among the Democrats here in Iowa, and now the Republicans are having a three-way race after New Hampshire. What should we think about all this? Should we really care? Is there a reason for all the excitement? I believe there is, and I think you're missing out if you aren't part of the frenzy.

We keep hearing the word "change" and statements like, "This is the test of our generation." There is a feeling of urgency in the air regarding the economy, the war, the environment, and the health care crisis. But why should any college age student have much concern regarding these issues? Most of us aren't being directly affected by the issues, except maybe by the high cost of gas. But there are some issues that we might be passionate about, such as same-sex marriage, the availability of good jobs after graduation, and the energy was as exciting as any Iowa vs. Iowa State rivalry game; along with all the pre-caucus hype.

Is it over yet?

Christ Ihle
Contributing Writer

The “Happy Birthday Girl” strikes again

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

I have this silly little tradition I do for anyone who has had a birthday while working with me. I get them a small birthday cake and belt out my own rendition of “Happy Birthday.” I love doing this because it makes people feel special and they get free cake. Not only does it give the birthday boy or girl cake and let fra, don’t like cake! It also allows people not to go home feeling to feel special. I generally check the birthday board at work to see if anyone has a birthday coming up but as of late I haven’t looked. Funny how Christmas can make us blow off the most minor of details but keep the important ones, like working, in mind.

I went to work and began to check people out, as most clerks do, and a regular customer made a point to wish my boss, Doris, a happy birthday. She laughed as she walked away and said, “Thanks, Mike.” Then as Doris began to walk away a second customer said, “Oh, it’s Doris’s Birthday! Happy Birthday Doris!”

Unfortunately, she was across the store at that point and couldn’t hear the second customer wish her a happy birthday. A third customer, after overhearing the second customer, coolly said with a “higher then thou” haughtiness, “You’re just now wishing Doris a Happy Birthday?”

I asked the third customer, “Did you know it was her birthday?”

“Well of course I did! Didn’t you?” replied the third customer. By this time I was already beginning to feel dumb. How could I have not realized it was her birthday? I usually know this kind of thing all planned out in advance. How was I going to pull my usual “birthday stunt” without noticing? I just happened to be a co-worker of mine, Amber, walked in. “Amber! Doris doesn’t know you’re here so do me a favor and run to the bakery and get a cake and a candle.”

Amber quickly ran to the bakery got a chocolate cake and even had the baker write “Happy Birthday” on it. She ran back to me and we lit the cake and co-worker was laughing hysterically. At first I thought it was the cake and then I thought that maybe it was his horrid rendition of “Happy Birthday.” I had to read, so I asked Doris, “Why are you laughing?”

“It’s not my birthday.” Doris managed to say through a fit of laughter. “Mike wishes me a happy birthday everyday because he missed it one year.”

Too many matters worse were coming strolling in and said again to Doris, “Happy Birthday.”

I’m not ashamed to admit the seventeen minutes I got made fun of by my co-workers and tried not to let it out of the department but whether I like it or not I am now known as the “Happy Birthday Girl”.

There are two morals of the story here, always double check your facts because you never know who is going to walk in. The second is always have someone else to blame incase you make a fool of yourself, I know I wish I had.

Is it over yet?

Christ Ihle
Contributing Writer

Does anyone know why we got the day off?

Jessi Smith
Executive Editor

Every Jan., the nation honors the birth of a historical figure who fought for equality and freedom for all Americans regardless of the color of their skin. Some people get the day off from school or work, yet few stop to recognize why this day is so important.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was more than a civil rights leader; he was an icon for freedom and equality. He was thirty-five Dr. King was the youngest man to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. He donated the awarded money from his achievement to help push the march for civil rights onward.

Dr. King was also a father and husband. He and his wife, Coretta, had four children together. Dr. King’s family only added fuel to the fire for his discrimination. He had children to think about, children who he wanted to be able to attend school and live their lives not as “colored” people, but as human beings and fellow Americans.

On April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated while standing on the balcony of his Memphis, Tenn. Motel room. The story does not end there. Few take the time to remember why he was in Memphis. Dr. King was there to help lead a protest march for garbage workers who were being treated unjustly. No cause was too minute for the likes of Dr. King.

To celebrate the birth of this equality icon, DMACC students were given the day off. How I chose to use this time is completely up to them. The Banner News staff spent it hard at work, tucked away in an office, trying to uphold a simple freedom, the freedom of speech.

Despite all the advances our society has made in equality, there is a very long stretch of road left to go. The battle for equal rights and the destruction of racism rages on. As long as there are people who think that they are superior because of the color of their skin or the gender of their birth, there will always be resistance.

The effects of Dr. King’s presence are evident today. Friends can play on the playground without fear of persecution because their skin color is not the same. Children can laugh and play in public and not worry about who is looking. The connections you make with your team, or actually going up next but as of late I haven’t looked. Funny how Christmas can make us blow off the most minor of details but keep the important ones, like working, in mind.

Spring 2008

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The BANNER NEWS is a student newspaper published bi-weekly at: Des Moines Area Community College 1125 Hancock Dr. Boone, Iowa 50036

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words and may be submitted to bannernews@dmacc.edu.
**Horoscopes**

Aries (March 21 – April 19):
After a long stint of rough breaks and disappointment, you’ve finally found a light at the end of the tunnel. Now quit wallowing in self pity and enjoy what you’ve got now.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20):
Your ability to please everyone is on the fritz. Use this opportunity to show the world that you have some individuality left in you. You can’t always play neutral.

Gemini (May 21 – June 21):
You’ve been a model student all year long. Now is the time to take a breather. You don’t have to be a slacker, but your perfectionist way of life is going to blow up on you if you don’t slow down.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22):
You may have had a lot of conflicting issues on your mind as of late. Now find your happy place (alone) and sort them out before you end up talking to yourself in public.

Leo (July 23- August 22):
You’ve been blowing off friends to try to finish an important task and haven’t accomplished anything. It’s time to buckle down, get things done, and get back to having a life.

Virgo (August 23- September 22):
A person is perfectly able to handle more than one issue at a time. Stop making excuses not to deal with things, it’s getting old. But don’t tackle everything at once or you’ll be worse off than before.

Libra (September 23- October 22):
Sort out your ideas. Some are ridiculous, but some might be worth chasing. If one grabs you, run with it, it’s time for action.

Scorpio (October 23- November 22):
Money does not grow on trees. Fiery Scorpios have a habit of forgetting that. Start focusing on a new budgeting strategy so that no bill “slips your mind” again.

Sagittarius (November 23- December 22):
Living for the moment may have gotten you by thus far, but adulthood is calling. It’s time to pay some much needed attention to you future plans and goals.

Capricorn (December 23- January 19):
It’s a widely known fact that you are good at making your opinion known. Now shut up and give your friends a chance to speak.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18):
An exciting proposition has got your head in the clouds. It’s great to express your joy, but don’t rub it in, that’s lame.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20):
There is a lot being expected of you and not enough time to accommodate everyone. Stand your ground, put first things first. The others will deal or die.

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**Things to Put in Your Smoothie**

By Eden Hinrichs

- apple
- orange
- banana
- kiwi
- strawberry
- juice,
- water,
- plum,
- pear,
- celery,
- beans,
- wheat grass,
- blender,
- yogurt,
- cheese,
- mango,
- limes,
- lemon

**BOONE WEATHER**

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**Toonsies** by Eden Hinrichs

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