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Banner News

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DMACC Bear Cub, Kyrie Miskell

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

DMACC’s mascot is no longer a bear; it is a cub.

Meet Kyrie Miskell, five month old daughter of Stephen Miskell and Hope Burket. Ever since her birth on Sept. 25 2007, Kyrie has kept pretty busy. She commutes with her parents everyday from Ames to Boone, goes to class with her mother, and spends time in the Courter Center everyday being admired by those who walk by.

Her parents bring her to school with them because they can not afford a babysitter. Along with their class loads, both of them work at the Italian restaurant, Lucullians, in Ames, along with Miskell’s job at Pizza Hut and tutoring on the side. Miskell also volunteers with his father’s, Kevin Miskell’s, congressional campaign against Tom Latham. Also, Burket’s family lives in Davenport, and all of Miskell’s relatives either work during the day or are in high school. “They can’t bring her to school with them,” said Miskell. “Nobody has time to watch her.”

Despite Kyrie’s reputation for being quiet, some teachers on campus won’t allow the couple to bring her into the classroom. “I had no problems last semester, but nobody will let her into class,” Miskell said. “I guess the teachers think she’ll be a distraction.”

The only exception is Burket’s Developmental Psychology class with Jane Martino. Because Miskell and Burket often sit in the Courter Center in the afternoons, many people walk by just to coo at Kyrie. She’s always being passed around to anybody who sits with her parents, but Burket said she doesn’t mind her baby being passed around. “I know some moms who are ‘don’t touch her, don’t pick her up,’ but I want her to be social, not shy.”

“Expect when Jane walks up and takes her,” Miskell joked.

When Kyrie was born, the couple only had to miss a few days of class. “I had her on a Tuesday and we’re back on Friday,” Burket said. “We were back here the day after she got out of the hospital.” Miskell added, Burket, who is Korean-American, said nobody has criticized Kyrie for being bi-racial. “Nobody has said anything to our faces,” she said. “They’ll look at her in the hallway and say she looks like me, but they say that she looks like her dad too.”

Miskell and Burket met in 2002 at a freshman track meet. “I dated three of her friends before her,” Miskell said. “It was a mess.” Miskell went to the track one evening to meet with one of Burket’s friends, but she never showed up. Miskell spent the rest of that evening talking to Burket instead.

“It took about a month of talking and finally she ended up going out with me,” Miskell said.

The couple is engaged to be married in May of this year in Story City after Miskell finishes his A.S. degree in Business Management at DMACC.

College fair informs students about education opportunities

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

On Feb. 22, a variety of different colleges visited the Boone campus as a part of Phi Theta Kappa’s spring convention. The convention was held at the Boone campus.

The Courter Center was packed with students as they discussed their education options with the representatives of several different colleges. Along with many colleges from Iowa, there were a handful of colleges from out of state, including Nebraska, Missouri, and Minnesota.

Many of the colleges were offering online courses. Some schools, such as Ashford University, Peru State College, Bellevue University and Buena Vista University offer online degree programs online. According to Peru State representative Wende Bergmeier, Peru has students talking courses in Afghanistan and the Philippines.

“Our online program has grown by leaps and bounds,” Bergmeier said.

Other schools offer unique features such as Cornell College’s one course at a time program. The school year is broken up into nine blocks, in which students take only one class during each of those blocks. According to a Cornell representative, this system works better for students who are taking an internship.

Students looking to study abroad can check into Central College. “It’s an easy opportunity for students to study overseas,” said a Central representative. Over half of the students at Central participate in the study abroad program for at least a semester, sometime more.

Overall, students from the Boone campus and those who were visiting for the PTK convention enjoyed visiting with the various colleges’ representatives. “I just thought it was really nice for all of these college’s to be here and talk to students,” Liberal Arts student Wendy Sundberg said.

“It was a great opportunity to have students explore other colleges,” said Academic Adviser Shelby Hildreth. “I think it was a lot smaller this year. We’ve had it before where it was overwhelming for the Courter Center.”
Snakes and lizards and turtles, oh my!

Shane Meier  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Boone campus was treated to a return of the Snakes Alive showcase presented by Tom Kessenich.

The showcase began well before 11 a.m. with Kessenich setting up his display and getting his “critters” out.

As Kessenich set up his exhibit, a crowd was already gathering. The reaction from the crowd was varied ranging from those who wish they were somewhere else to one guy who insisted on carrying Billy the Boa Constrictor on his shoulders.

Kessenich has been exhibiting his animals for six years and brought eight of his scary friends with him to the show.

“I really like animals and I wanted to allow people to experience reptiles,” said Kessenich.

Kessenich has never had any problems with students or organizations complaining about the reptiles or his treatment of them.

Kessenich wants the students to learn from the display of reptiles. “They’re not scary,” said Kessenich.

The reptile showcase showed off only a small variety of the 8,225 species of reptiles alive today. Kessenich brought an American Alligator named Lil.

American Alligators inhabit the American southeast.

Kessenich also brought a Tegu Lizard which is from South America, and another lizard called Mortimer which was a Savannah Monitor from Africa.

Several species of snakes were also shown. Simba the black rat snake, Cornball the Corn Snake, and Viper, an albino Corn Snake, were a few of the snakes present.

The largest creature available for show was Billy the Boa Constrictor.

A Red Footed Turtle from South American that was found by a camper in Wisconsin was also brought along.

Boone campus draws 35 units of blood in drive

Fiona Flatt  
Staff writer

The Red Cross blood drive on Feb. 21 was a mass effort on the part of the Boone campus. Out of the 43 people who offered to donate, only 35 were actually able to do so. While this was short of their goal of 45 donations, the event was still a great success.

The theme for this years blood drive was ‘Power of One’ because one person’s donation of a pint of blood has the power to help three different people. This means that with the 35 units of blood donated, 105 people can have their lives changed.

Nancy Woods, the college coordinator for the blood drive with the Red Cross and says she is really looking forward to working with them again next spring.

Students who had never donated blood before say their experience was a little scary at first, but not bad. “Students should remember to eat a good breakfast and drink lost of water before they donate” warns Woods.

For anyone who missed the last blood drive and would still like to donate, the SAC is sponsoring a blood drive with the Blood Center of Iowa on March 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Anyone over the age of 16 that weights more than 110 pounds can donate blood.

If someone has been regularly donating plasma, it is not recommended that they donate. People of a certain height and weight can ‘double dip.’ This means that they can donate twice as much as normal.

“Red Cross is really great to work with, and if there are any other clubs or organizations that wanted to do something like this, I think it would be a great idea,” said Woods.

Winter car maintenance tips from Bud’s Service Center, Elmquist/Decker’s

Winter is hitting full force and students need to take special care of their cars during this cold weather season.

Since DMACC students do not live in the sun-belt, Iowa’s cold winter weather affects cars so much that special precautions need be taken to ensure vehicles do not end up in a ditch somewhere on the way to school.

For students who do not already know what to do, the mechanics at Bud’s Service Center and Elmquist/Decker’s offered a few tips that should prove helpful.

- Keeping the gas tank at least half-full prevents moisture from freezing in the fuel line.
- Windshield washer fluid- Make sure the reservoir is only filled with washer fluid to prevent freezing but make sure it has de-icer in it.
- Wipers- Windshield wipers are like your car’s glasses when it is snowing. They need to be in tip-top shape to handle the beat-down of winter. You might want to look into replacing them if they are getting old. Using a razor blade to carefully scrape off any particles that might get stuck on the windshield is also recommended for whatever the wipers miss.
- Antifreeze- This can help protect your car during winter. Make sure the level is not only full, but also that the mixture of water and antifreeze is close to 50-50 but no more than 70 percent.
- Tires- Your tires are probably one of the most important things to maintain during winter.

According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Board, tire treads need to have at least 2/32” of depth to be safe. An easy way to check this is called “the penny test.” Place a penny, with Lincoln’s head facing down, into your tires treads. If Abe’s head is fully visible your tire is not ready for winter and legally must be replaced.

Frozen lock- For a worst case scenario, the heavy alcohol content in waterless hand sanitizers can help break down that ice in the lock. All you have to do is squirt some into the lock.

DMACC second-year nursing students went to the Iowa Nursing Association & Iowa Nursing Federation Legislative and Policy Days in Des Moines on Thursday, Feb. 21. There, they listened to speeches from Gov. Chet Culver, as well as the director of public health and the director of the board of nursing. They discussed policy making in the morning and then went to the Capitol to contact representatives or senators from their area.
Women to open regional play against Ellsworth Tuesday on the Boone Campus

Brent Jackman makes a break in DMACC’s win against Iowa Lakes Community College during Regional play.

Grant Burns manuvers around a North Iowa Area Community College player during DMACC’s win in Regional play over the weekend.

Men end season with loss to Ellsworth during Regional
SAC to disburse additional $20,000 this fall

Fiona Flatt
Staff Writer

The Student Activity Council met on Feb. 13, where they discussed changes for the next year’s budget. Each semester the SAC decides how over $20,000 will be distributed among DMACC clubs and organizations. For the 2007-08 fall and spring semesters, the budget totaled over $44,000.

In past years 44 percent of that money has been going to athletics, but after this year that will no longer be the case. The SAC budget will not longer be going toward the athletic department, which will free up almost $20,000 to be distributed to other clubs and organizations.

Each club and organization will be notified on April 10, 2008, that they will need to have a member present on April 24, to discuss how the extra funds will be distributed.

Another topic that was discussed in the meeting was the lack of parliamentary procedure. Ideally each club and organization would send a representative to each meeting; however, this is not the case. Not all of the SAC members attend regularly either. At this particular meeting Student Body President Aaron Dooley and Secretary Vickie Spears were both absent.

For the SAC to get things done on campus, it needs club representatives to be present when it votes on decisions.

Events that the SAC has coordinated for March include free sundries on March 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and a blood drive on March 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Also suggested by a SAC member was another attempt at a formal dance, if the budget allows.

Many DMACC students may not completely realize what it is that the SAC does. According to an SAC handout provided by advisor, Steve Krafcsisin, “The Student Activities Council on the Boone campus is the primary student representative body responsible for promoting college spirit, providing a focal point for discussions between students and college staff, and giving students a representative voice in college affairs.”

“The government body is responsible for the assessment and disbursement of student activity fees. With these funds, the council plans activates to enhance the social, personal and professional life of the DMACC students.”

“In addition the council funds a variety of services and organizations including campus clubs and peer tutoring.”

Campus taking measures to protect students

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

There is no school on March 7. For those who plan on spending the day relaxing or having fun, it should be a comfort to know that the staff and instructors are having an in-service day at the Ankeny campus to discuss safety and security measures in case of a crisis at the school.

“The whole meeting is centered on safety and security policies and measures,” said Assistant Provost Brian Green.

“We’ve had a lot of questions about what we’re doing [about security],” I want to let people know that there are plans in discussion. "We’re all in agreement about what procedures to take in case of a shooting or something like that.”

In light of recent safety measures taken by other colleges, such as the Virginia Tech shooting last April, DMACC officials have been taking measures to ensure campus safety, such as hiring a Safety and Emergency Planning Consultant Ned Miller. Miller assists Judicial Officer Kari Hensen and Physical Plant Director Rod Clark with safety and planning procedures.

Green wants to assure students that there is a plan in place in case of a crisis situation. He said the first step for instructors is to make sure that students stay in their classrooms and not go into the hallways. The police and FBI would be notified immediately.

“They would try and reduce the amount of room that the shooter could use,” said Green.

There are plans being made to quickly notify students in case of an emergency. There are talks of a text messaging system that would send all students with cell phones a text message to let them know if there was a crisis going on. Green said the Carroll campus has a system set in place that utilizes this feature, but it hasn’t been adopted at the other campuses yet.

“It will probably be a year or two down the road,” Green said. “But it’s probably something that will happen.”

Green said that due to the small size of the campus, there haven’t been many issues involving security. “You hear all about these [incidences] on other campuses. We want to make sure we’re being proactive. We have to be ready to react and respond. It always seems like it happens to everyone else until it falls onto your campus.

On March 5, the new speakers phone system will be tested in the small size of the campus, there haven’t been many issues involving security. “You hear all about these [incidences] on other campuses. We want to make sure we’re being proactive. We have to be ready to react and respond. It always seems like it happens to everyone else until it falls onto your campus.

On March 5, the new speakers phone system will be tested in the

Eden’s easy sweet banana bread recipe

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

Stack inside and want to do something fun that won’t take up an entire day? Then our banana bread recipe is for you. It is the perfect recipe to use for either a bread recipe is for you. It is the perfect recipe to use for either a gift, company or just a nice treat.

What you will need:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/4 tsp salt
1 1/2 tsp brown sugar
2 eggs, beaten
9x5 inch loaf pan

How to:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease a separate bowl, mix together flour, baking soda and salt. In prepared loaf pan.

2. In a large bowl, combine flour mixture and pour batter into prepared loaf pan.

3. Bake in preheated oven for 60 to 65 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into center of the loaf comes out clean. Let bread cool in pan for 10 minutes.

4. When the Bread is done you can gently flour the greased pan to allow the bread to come out easier when it is done or you can use Pam flour spray to save mess and time.

5. In a large bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt. In separate bowl, mix together melted butter and brown sugar. Then stir the eggs and mashed bananas gently into the butter and sugar mixture until well mixed. Stir banana mixture into flour mixture and pour batter into prepared loaf pan

6. Bake in preheated oven for 60 to 65 minutes, until a toothpick

7. For those who plan on spending the day relaxing or having fun, it should be a comfort to know that the staff and instructors are having an in-service day at the Ankeny campus to discuss safety and security measures in case of a crisis at the school.

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Diversity requirement to be added to curriculum

Jessi Smith
Executive Editor

Course requirements will have an added diversity concept next fall for students who are getting their AA or AS degrees. The diversity requirement will not add more classes that students are required to take in addition to regular degree requirements.

“We are offering a broad range of courses that can be used to satisfy this requirement, but many of them will also satisfy other general education requirements,” said diversity committee member Maura Nelson. This means that students won’t have to go out of their way to add on another class to their already overloaded schedules.

“We really just want DMACC students to consider the importance of diversity awareness and acceptance, since out world, even here in central Iowa, represents many different cultural, ethnic, and racial groups, as well as people who differ in their political and religious views,” said Nelson. Due to a rapidly growing student population at the Boone campus, some feel that it is necessary to address the issues of diversity in our schools. Student Cory Behrendt was not as jovial about the subject. “It’s alright, I guess,” said Behrendt. “I don’t think it really matters. People are going to be the way they are going to be no matter what.” “I feel that multiculturalism is a key aspect in understanding our society in this day and age, however, there is the basic philosophy of ‘you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink.’ That being said, the good intentions behind this recent overhaul in our curriculum presumes that our students want to learn [about diversity], but doesn’t ask if they will care,” said student Eden Hinrichs.

“Many of us don’t think about the different perspectives of our non-traditional or older students, students with physical limitations, our returning military veterans, or students who represent different economic classes,” said Nelson. “DMACC wants all students to become sensitive to these differences, and the best way if for them to consider these issues as part of their academic coursework.”

The diversity committee decides which classes will fulfill the diversity requirement.

DMACC Chef Anderson named ACF Regional Educator of the Year

DMACC - Des Moines Area Community College Executive is proud to announce that Robert Anderson, program chair of the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Careers program, received the American Culinary Federation, Inc. 2008 Central Region Educator of the Year Award.

The award was given at the 2008 ACF Central Region Conference held at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo., from Feb. 8-10.

The award pays tribute to an active culinary educator whose knowledge, skills and expertise have given culinary students leadership and guidance for the future.

As this year’s Central Region recipient, Anderson will compete for the national title against winners of three other regions at the 2008 ACF National Convention in Las Vegas from July 14-17.

In addition, the Iowa Chapter of ACF received the Chapter Achievement Award and the 2008 Central Region Chapter of the Year Award.

Anderson has received both his Certified Executive Chef and Certified Culinary Educator distinctions. Anderson was selected as DMACC’s Distinguished Teacher of the Year in 2000, was inducted into the Honorable Order of the Golden Toque in 2004, and is a two-time recipient of the ACF Greater Des Moines Culinary Association Chef of the Year Award.

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BOOK/MOVIE REVIEW

‘The Other Boleyn Girl’ goes to film, but was it worth it?

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

Philippa Gregory sheds a new fictional perspective on one of the most fascinating women in history.

This woman, Anne Boleyn, changed the entire course of history in the short span of 1,600 days. The tragic character of Anne Boleyn is the cause of poetry and fiction alike. She is possibly one of the most misunderstood women who has ever walked the streets of London, but she was not the first choice of King Henry VIII.

The first was the nearly unknown (at least until recently) sister Mary Boleyn, who is otherwise known as “The Other Boleyn Girl” and star of the best selling novel.

Mary was torn out of a happy marriage and “shoved under the horny king’s nose” whose current wife and queen, Catherine of Aragon, has given birth to a daughter. The king and Boleyn has begun the changes of life, in other words: no conceiving of a heir.

For you non-fiction buffs here, this is big trouble. A kingdom without a male heir to the throne even walking into the theater leaves an air of uncertainty and overtones of chaos and a slight chance of civil war. I tell you this to wet your tastes for the rest of the review in the hopes that you might share my dismay.

Gregory’s “The Other Boleyn Girl” written in first person from Mary’s point of view, starts out when Anne, Mary and George are all children and King Henry, who is close to the family even refers to the trio of children as “the three Boleyns,” sharing a warm and fuzzy picture of the king.

Mary is taken into court as one of Queen Catherine’s ladies in waiting, winning her favor and having bonding time with the queen. They become friends and even in the queen’s darkest hour, Mary is chosen above all to keep her company.

After Mary gets married to Sir Henry Carey and her family chooses her to capture the king’s heart, which she does with great success, becomes pregnant by the king and gives birth to first a girl, then a boy. However, this does nothing to raise her above the title of mistress.

While Mary is giving birth to her son, her “loving” sister takes the reins of her own destiny and gives the king something he has never had before, a challenge.

The rest remains as clearly history, a history Gregory captures in a best selling novel. It clearly didn’t make history as a box office hit.

Despite the whirlwind success of this novel, it took only a short time for Hollywood to behold this would be classic. Before even walking into the theater I begun to wonder, why cast Eric Bana? He doesn’t look anything like the King Henry VIII! He didn’t even make the effort by attempting to dye his hair the proper color and barely carried the English accent.

However his performance as a sexually tormented male was convincing, as was his cruelty and heartlessness. Natalie Portman played a fairly good Anne Boleyn but was way too stiff and bone thin for me to take her seriously as the ambitious future queen.

The biggest disappointment was that there had been far more screen time for Portman then there was for the main character Scarlett Johansson. The book was written from her point of view!

The movie moves way too fast with out even showing the depth of the characters involved. Anne, in the novel, didn’t forget her hatred for her sister as easily as the movie portrayed. The king gave Mary far more than the movies shows, and Mary was not exactly the first mistress the king had taken.

Originally, Queen Catherine never humiliated Mary; she just simply accepted her husband’s minor excursions with his mistresses because at the end of it all Henry always came back to her until Anne bumped her off her throne.

I didn’t expect for the movie to follow the book to a “T” but I didn’t expect Mary to be causally left out of the story line. It was Mary’s story not only Anne’s and Anne was not the golden child or favorite as the movie leads the viewer to think. Anne spent far more time in the French court than they show in the movie, as well as being far crueler then the movie depicts. I respect Gregory’s work because of the extensive research in this novel to make sure everything, right down to the hoods of the dresses, were perfectly accurate, how do I know this? I checked. This is much unlike our unwritten Hollywood “destroyers”.

If you are a fan of the novel, beware of this movie. You will be in for an extreme disappointment. The director fails to show the depth of the characters, fails to convey the gravity of England separating from the church and finally the power of the implications of being accused of witchcraft, especially after separating from the church. One scene in the movie absolutely horrified me and it wasn’t in the novel! I won’t tell you what was in this scene, but what I will tell you is that if it happened in real life, fine, but don’t add it in for shock value because it’s a lame attempt at casting and a meek demonstration of horror. If you are not a fan, it is an O.K. watch, but it is not Oscar material.

I grew up loving history, especially the Tudor dynasty, but the inaccuracies of this film made me think “When will Hollywood make a decent adaptation?” When I think back at Anne Rice’s “Queen of the Damned” and “Interview with a Vampire” Anthony Burgess’s “Clockwork Orange”, or Steven King’s “The Shining,” I think that I may just start a movement to keep Hollywood out of the bookstores because they have done enough damage to literature.

The tragic character of Anne Boleyn, changed the entire course of history in the short span of 1,600 days. The tragic character of Anne Boleyn is the cause of poetry and fiction alike. She is possibly one of the most misunderstood women who has ever walked the streets of London, but she was not the first choice of King Henry VIII.

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Correction

Paxton Williams’s name was accidently reversed by the reporter in the Feb. 20, 2008 issue. Consequently, Williams’s name was also reversed in the headline and the photo caption.
JUMPING HURDLES

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

Every year I tell myself that under no circumstances am I ever doing this again. What I mean by “this” is that hopefully I will “wake up” and take on a smaller course load and maybe I will stop putting near insane pressures on myself. Yet, as each semester passes, I seem to take on more than what I need in the hopes of getting ahead. I think that maybe all students have this problem and that maybe I should suck it up and keep forging ahead.

I recently went to Iowa State on a campus tour for transferring students. I made all the appointments with all the advisors I would need to talk to about my double major in journalism and literature.

With bright and hopeful eyes I set out to find what courses I need to become a glorious professor. Alas, my dreams quickly lost their shine as I was informed that the what the schools are too full and too competitive. I can handle, but to somehow feel doubt in my self worth is something entirely different, something that I hoped would pass.

I went to a group sit down with an advisor and others who were interested in going into the same field I had been working in for a little under two years. As I looked at the other students sitting with me, I became overwhelmed with the sensation that those people weren’t passionate about writing or advertising. They were just there to be there.

These people had no intentions of embracing the joy of writing to people. It seemed to be only a “title persona” that they thought would be glamorous life. As the advisor began to tell me what the curriculum would entail, I was hit by an entire flood of thoughts asking why this course or that course is important.

I have learned more with my adviser than what these classes claim they would teach me. I was hit with another problem. Was this what I want to double major in? Do I really want to sit in a classroom where they teach me a bunch of stuff that I already know and spend a good couple thousand dollars in the process?

Toward the end of my time at Iowa State I was plagued with self doubt and numerous annoyances. I climbed into my car, weary and mentally exhausted, with an unfamiliar feeling of uncertainty about my future. I kept thinking of myself that I just want things will come my way. Then I remembered a disturbing thought. I keep approaching the university as if it is going to be a door to doing something I love for the rest of my life and make awesome cash.

I thought that if I take this route I will never have to worry about money and the upsetting truth set in, it is never that easy.

So I need to get over my ego and my mass number of assumptions about life. It’s been trying, a total headache, if you will. Do I do what I love while living as an obscure writer freelancing my way to the top? Or do I take the safe route and become something that is a shoe in for me to get hired after I graduate? Well one thing is for certain, playing it safe never got me anywhere. In closing, whether I like it or not, this is the price of success.

DARTH CULVER

Molly Lumley
Managing Editor

I don’t believe Governor Culver knows how to properly balance a checkbook. The budget of Iowa has grown from 5.3 billion dollars to 6.4 billion dollars in the last two years, an increase of 1.1 million. There has only been $830 million in revenue increase of 1.1 million. There has been a 5.3 billion dollars to 6.4 billion dollars if they choose to stay in Iowa.

First of all, Culver wants to cut funding to the community colleges. The budget for community colleges was expected to rise by 2 percent over last year, but it is 11.4 million short of what the schools were expecting. This means tuition is going to be increased again. Since Iowa has some of the most expensive community colleges, this means Iowa will be reaching new levels of expensive education.

In addition to cutting community college funding, Culver doesn’t want to increase the amount of funding given to the Iowa Tuition Grant for the 2008-2009 school year. The ITG provides qualifying students with a one time grant up to 4000 dollars in their first year in a four year institution. $4000 may not seem like much when compared the total tuition, but not having to take out an extra $4000 in loans will help pay student loans off faster.

The ITG is an incentive to keep college students in Iowa, but cutting them may make students look to other states for a secondary education.

Perhaps Culver doesn’t realize the value of community colleges. Maybe he doesn’t realize that community colleges offer a secondary education to those who may not have enough money to afford a large university or private school. It is possible that he’s not thinking about the unfortunate people whose spouses suddenly become unable to work for some reason and they have to go back to school in order to get a job to support their family. Maybe he’s not thinking about the teenagers who have spent years in and out of foster homes who look to community colleges in the hopes they can better themselves with a decently priced education.

At a press conference at one of the DMACC campus’ early this month, Culver said “Our community colleges are more, not less, important to the vitality of our state than they were when Governor Hughes led Iowans to make their initial investment into today’s community college system. Iowa’s young people deserve every opportunity for a successful future, and our community colleges are helping us do just that.” But it doesn’t sound like he cares much about the future of Iowa students if he wants to take money out of their hands.

If that’s not enough, last Jan. Culver proposed cuts to public library funding. If our governor wants to ensure that Iowa is financially secure in the future, he needs to be looking for incentives to keep college students in the state and maybe look for ways to attract out state students to out institutions.

College students will become tax paying citizens with full time jobs, and if Culver is taking measures to cut educational funding, then over the years, the hole he’s made in the budget will only become bigger. College students are the future of this state, and the sooner Culver realizes our value, the closer he will be to closing the budget gap.

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Toonsies by Eden Hinrichs

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Leatherback Sea Turtle
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Mourning Gecko
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Prairie Lizard
Puff Adder
Rainbow Boa
Rattlesnake
Red Eared Slider
Texas Coral Snake
Three Toed Box Turtle

Snakes Alive!
Molly Lumley

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African Softshell Turtle
American Crocodile
Eastern Box Turtle
Eyelash Viper
Flat Tailed Horned Lizard
Florida Alligator
Flying Gecko
Gila Monster
Gopher Tortoise
Iguana
Indian Monitor
King Cobra
Northern Tree Snake
Orange Throated Whiptail
Pacific Boa
Painted Turtle
Peachthroat Monitor
Pit Viper
Prairie Lizard
Puff Adder
Rainbow Boa
Rattlesnake
Red Eared Slider
Texas Coral Snake
Three Toed Box Turtle

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