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Banner News

Patrice Harson
Charles Whiteing
Kendra Nelson
Woo-Im Jang
Jon Yanders

*See next page for additional authors*

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Authors
Patrice Harson, Charles Whiteing, Kendra Nelson, Woo-Im Jang, Jon Yanders, Sharon Hughes, Erin Thomas, Lorraine Powell, and Moses Lueth

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Evaluations

Who grades the teachers?

By Patrice Harson
Bear Facts Staff

So, how does your DMACC instructor measure up? When answering this question, Kris Philips, Executive Dean of DMACC’s Boone Campus requests that you please consider that teachers, like students, have good and bad days now and then. Also take into consideration an instructor’s individual personality and style may fluctuate from classroom to classroom.

“Every year, we get a number of former graduates who make a special effort to inform me about how pleased they were with instructors in a number of areas at Boone Campus.” -Kris Philips.

Dean Philips states that during the 15 years that he’s been here, nearly every teacher has received concerns or complaints. However, he has by far received more positive comments. “Every year,” says Dean Philips, “we get a number of former graduates who make a special effort to inform me about how pleased they were with instructors in a number of areas at Boone Campus.”

Dean Philips went on to explain that student satisfaction is important to the faculty and staff and that each teacher has course competencies to follow. DMACC policy does not require that student evaluations of teachers be offered to every class. However, all of DMACC’s contracted instructors are required to offer student assessments each spring.

Student evaluations of full-time instructors are done in the largest class in the instructor’s field of teaching. Student evaluations of part-time teachers can be requested at any time and a few do this every semester.

The students’ assessments then go back to the Dean’s office and are tabulated. There is a space provided on each evaluation for students to submit written comments. These written comments are reviewed and Dean Philips states that “anything that needs to be pursued further” is his responsibility.

And which DMACC official grades the Boone campus instructors? Why, Dean Philips, of course. These formal evaluations of full-time instructors are conducted annually.

Paula Goldsworth, Executive Dean
Continued p. 2

Show me the money!

By Charles Whiting
Bear Facts Staff

Do you really understand where your financial aid or school loan money comes from? After you fill out your Financial Aid Application where does it go? Who decides how much money you get? How do they decide how much? There are millions of questions that could be asked. Okay, a million and one, where do you go to get all of your questions answered? Well, you could start at your schools financial aid office. But, to answer these questions in detail, go to the top.

Did you know that in this complex process the first step is that the colleges, as well as students, have to apply for financial aid money? This was explained by Earl Dowling, Director of Financial Aid at Iowa State University. The schools first send in their yearly projected financial aid information to the Federal Government. Then, after all the information has been researched, the money is congressionally allotted to all the schools that applied.

Independent students

Then, as a student, you fill out your Free Financial Aid Application and send the information to the Federal Financial Aid Processing Center in Mt. Vernon, Ill. There your application is researched for the following information. If you are a dependent student, the processing center looks at students income and assets, age, marital status, and family size. Lastly, they look at the school’s total cost.

Dependent students

If any of the following requirements apply to you, you are considered an independent student: if you were born before January 1, 1974, if you are a veteran of the United States Armed Forces; if you are a graduate or professional student (e.g. working on your Masters or Doctorate degrees); if you are married; if you are an orphan or ward of the court, or were a ward of the courts until age eighteen; if you have legal dependents other than a spouse.

If you are an independent student, your income and assets, age, marital status, family size, and the school’s costs are the only items needed. Parents’ or guardians’ information is not needed.

Finally, after all the information is collected, the Federal Financial Aid Processing Center puts it into a national methodology, arithmetic formula that determines how much aid you are eligible to receive. Confused yet? Well, hang on, there’s more.

Now, your approved money is sent to the school you will be attending. The school is then required by law to withdraw the money that is owed to them (i.e. tuition, books, etc.). Any money left over will then be credited to the student’s account.

Direct lending

This Financial Aid System is called “Direct Lending.” Under former systems financial aid money would be sent to your bank where you, the student, would be responsible for paying your school costs. Then it was time for you to pay on your loan, your loan note would be sent from “bank A,” to “bank B,” to “bank C,” confusing students, and resulting in many defaulted loans.

According to Dowling, the Direct Lending system removes the defaulting of loans because “the student is in control of the money.”

Nationally, 48% of students received student aid last year and 10% of these students defaulted on their loans. But, before the direct lending program 20% of students receiving aid were defaulting on loans. According to Lora Kelly-Ben, Director of Financial Aid at DMACC, in 1994 the national average of students that defaulted loans was 10%, but the DMACC average was higher at 15.5%.

DMACC’s Federal Aid programs consist of Pell Grants, Perkins Loans, Direct Loans, and the Work Study Programs which, if qualified, allows the student to be paid hourly wages for study. Kelly-Ben also said that “student loans are considered financial aid.” DMACC’s Iowa Aid Programs are the Work Study Program, the Iowa Vocational Technology Grant (only offered to students attending vocational tech, schools) and the Iowa Grant.

Although financial aid and student loans tend to be confusing, they should not be taken lightly because they are a very crucial part of a student’s life. If these moneys are not taken seriously students could find themselves in a “world of hurt” after college.

A defaulted loan means that no more financial aid for school can be obtained, loans for cars or houses will be difficult to get, and your credit rating will never be the same.
Smith to organize fling

By Charles Whiting

By Woo-Im Jang

Bear Facts Staff

Blood donation

Students, faculty and staff donated 42 pints of blood on Monday, March 10. Forty-four people came to give blood with four new donators.

According to Mary Jane Green, office Technology Department, "I have donated several years after teaching in DMACC, so I just sign my name automatically for blood donation."

This is just 4.5 % of the student population. One student who didn't donate blood said, "I think I'm too skinny." However, he is over 110 pounds and his weight is sufficient. Students may need more information for future blood donation.

By Kendra Nelson

Contributing Writer

What’s DMACC’s reputation outside of campus? Some high school students at Woodward Granger like the idea of getting an education at DMACC. "DMACC gives a good general education for the money," stated Kim Cullen, senior, who plans to attend the Boone Campus next year. Smaller classes and less expense were the main reasons that students would attend DMACC.

However, some students through DMACC want a place to "end up at," not a place to strive to go to. They did not think a degree from DMACC would be as impressive as one from a larger school. Many of the opinions followed common stereotypes.

No one could explain why DMACC was looked at as "blue-collar" or why a degree from there would not be as impressive. However, one thing that everyone did agree on was that you’re responsible for your own education, no matter where you go.

High schoolers "sound off" on DMACC

TAVCO hand out free snacks

TAVCO to hand out free snacks and t-shirts, and a trophy. Competitions will be Monday, Wednesday and Thursday of the week-long celebration of spring for all the students. Admission free with a DMACC library card.

"Student Jam" will start at 8p.m and will be open to the public for a small admission fee. Any DMACC student will be admitted free with a DMACC library card.

The flyir for the Boone Campus Cafe is still to go to. They did not

"DMACC.

DMACC BOONE CAMPUS

Group Leaders

Bill Alley .......... Leisure Studies-EXT. 5069
James W. Bittner ... Communications-EXT. 5090
Connie J. Booth ... Nursing-EXT. 5070
Terry L. Jamieson ... Athletic Director-EXT. 5030
John M. Doran ... Math/Science/Computer Science-EXT. 5060
Lee McNair .. ... Social Science-EXT. 5066
Jinny A. Silberhorn ... Academic Achievement Center-EXT. 5098
Pat A. Thieben ... Office Technology-EXT. 5080
Ann L. Watts ...... Media Center-EXT. 5040

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Bear Facts Pane 3

you'll see that it was your classmates that function. best choice for are sent. Sent there SO they don't disturb
First let's look at the pro's to BD of their day to just sit and chat about the
Separating behavioral problems is an issue packed full of pro's and con's. If teachers could spare a little time out
require. oicasional outburst of aggression, but
When kids have difficulty staying on the child's low confidence and kids wouldn't feel that they have to have so
may not be trained to handle these that show you how to properly manage
Kids make friends with the peers that shows you ways to verbally de-escalate
disorder) can be violent and teachers more frequent. There are training courses
Children diagnosed with ADHD often have a low self esteem. How damaging is
Kids don't get the attention that they Yes, these kids may have an

What message do these classrooms send to the child?
Children diagnosed with ADHD often have a low self esteem. How damaging is segregation to a child? A major influence on children are their peers. In BD classrooms they don't see how “normal kids” function. It is my conclusion that BD classrooms are a cop-out on the teachers part. There are ways to remedy the problems that ADHD children can cause. Granted, these kids might require a little more time than their peers, but it doesn't have to be during class time. Kids with ADHD do want to learn and often have an above average to average intelligence. If teachers could spare a little time out of their day to just sit and chat about the events that transpired, they could boost the child's low confidence and kids wouldn't feel that they have to have so much attention during class time.

Yes, these kids may have an occasional outburst of aggression, but when they are thrown into a group of kids that are the same, the outbursts will be more frequent. There are training courses that show you how to properly manage children who suffer from this disorder.

The MANDT system, for example, shows you ways to verbally de-escalate the child as well as the proper way to restrain the child in order to keep him safe from himself and his peers. Rather than just throw these kids into the lion cage, the teachers should be required to learn these techniques.

By Jon Yanders, Bear Facts Staff

April 1, 1997

March, 1997
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The Bear Facts is a student publication published bi-weekly at Des Moines Area Community College, 1125 Hancock Drive, Boone, IA 50031 (515) 433-5091. The Bear Facts is distributed free to all DMACC students, staff and alumni, or a subscription can be purchased at the annual rate of $10 to the general public. Editorial and advertising offices of The Bear Facts are located in Room 210, 2nd floor of the academic building.

Editorial Policy
The Bear Facts welcomes all letters in an attempt to provide a forum for the many diverse views of the campus. The views expressed in the Bear Facts are not necessarily the views or endorsements of Des Moines Area Community College or the Bear Facts editorial board.

Letter Policy
Letters should be no longer than 200 words, signed and brought to the Bear Facts Room 210 and slipped under the door, e-mailed to jayville@dmacc.cc.iowa or mailed in care of the college. The Bear Facts reserves the right to edit as necessary for libelous content, profanity, content which is grammatical or spelling errors and clarity.

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Cont ed. p. 8
Boone Campus to produce children's play

By Sharon Hughes
Bear Facts Staff

The DMACC Boone campus is producing the children's show "Clowns' Play," an interactive play. The clowns will help seat the audience, set-up the stage, and make announcements that an acting troupe will soon be arriving to put on a play. Only the acting troupe doesn't show up, so the clowns improvise the story of Jack and the Bean Stalk.

In addition to hoping to tour local elementary schools, director Kay Mueller and cast of clowns will be producing two shows here for the Boone campus on Sat., April 19, at 10 a.m. and Sun., April 20, at 2 p.m. Admission will be 50 cents per person.

Clown's list of players
BOFFO, The Con Artist BROOKE MCNIGHT
MUSTARD, Narrator, Farmer Brown, Hen JUSTIN JOHNSON
TRINKET, Accomplice, Harp ERIN VANDYKE
RUFINA, Giant's Wife KATHLEEN BRICE
MUSCULO, Giant TIM ROSE
DOXY, Besie the Cow ANGIE DODDEMA
MOXY, Jack's Mother CECILY BAUMANN
SCRAPPY, Jack MATT PHILIPS

Directed by Kay Mueller

Two Boone Campus women elected to state PBL offices

Two Boone Campus students, Amy Richards and Cindy Miller were elected to state PBL offices last weekend during the 51st Annual Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference held March 7-8 on the Boone Campus. Richards will take over as State Vice President and Miller will become the new State Secretary.

Des Moines Area Community College, Boone and Urban Campuses, were two of nine colleges from throughout Iowa that sent delegates to the annual conference. Members participated in competitive events for the chance to represent the state at the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif., in July.

First place winners from the Boone Campus included the following students: Karen Meredith, Business Communications; Shelley Johnson, Desktop Publishing; Staci Tolan, Ms. Future Business Executive; Chris Swanson, Salesmanship; and Danielle Madden, Machine Transcription.

Second place winners were Johnson, Applied Business Knowledge; Jennie Lippert, Desktop Publishing; and Richards, Telecommunications.

The Boone chapter won first place for Event Sponsorship and second place in the Lloyd V. Douglas Chapter of the Year award competition and in their Chapter Activity Report.

Membership in Iowa Phi Beta Lambda is approximately 300 students state wide. Local adviser of the Boone Campus chapter is Pat Thielen, business instructor.

Relieving the symptoms

Colds and Flu

By Woo-In Jang
Bear Facts Staff

You can be aware of the symptoms of a cold easily: a runny nose, cough, and fever are all clear signs that your body is fighting off a cold virus.

To soothe a sore throat, suck on hard candy or gargle with warm salt water (one-half teaspoon of salt in eight ounces of water). These remedies are better than most cough drops, which may cause an upset stomach when used too often. To loosen phlegm, drink 8 to 10 glasses of water or other nonalcoholic liquids a day. Warm drinks may be more soothing than cold.

Try chicken soup. Researchers have finally confirmed what mothers have long observed-chicken stock really does alleviate cold symptoms. In addition, breathing in the hot steam rising off the soup soothes raw nasal passages and the throat, and also loosens mucus.

Increase your intake of supplements that provide vitamin C. Although the effectiveness and safety of megadoses of vitamin C are still debated, some doctors recommend dosages of 500 to 2,000 milligrams a day. However, check with your doctor before taking vitamins in large quantities. Alternatively, drink extra orange juice, which is high in vitamin C.

Last suggestion for you. Blow your nose gently, both nostrils simultaneously. Blowing hard or compressing one nostril stresses the eustachian tubes, the passages between the ears and throat, increasing the risk of an ear infection.

When you feel the symptoms of a cold, why don't you follow above several suggestions for your relieving symptoms.

Creative writing contest winners announced

By Erin Thomas
Contributing Writer & Lorraine Powell
Bear Facts Staff

The winners in the annual DMACC Creative Writing Contest, which included entries from all five campuses, have been selected.


Two winners from Boone Campus

Honorable mentions went to Stacy Anderson, Cynthia Giovilli, Amanda Harley, Scott Kovach (Boone Campus), Glenda Mathes, Michelle Phillips and Lorraine Powell (Boone Campus).

The contest, announced early last fall, included over 200 submitted entries from 48 participants.

The entries were judged by a committee of English faculty representing several DMACC campuses. This year's judges were James Bittner of Boone, Rosemary Olds of Urban, and Rick Christman and James Stick of Ankeny. The contest coordinator was Rick Chapman.

An awards luncheon on Wednesday, March 19 on the Ankeny campus will honor all winners.
By Jon Yanders
Bear Facts Staff

ATTENTION!
Barenaked Ladies

ATTENTION!

They're witty, they're whimsical, they're naked? That's right folks, we're talking about the Barenaked Ladies. Quite possibly the most under-rated band they're so good why haven't I heard of them before?" Well in response to that question I have two, count 'em two prepared responses. First of all they are from Canada and they don't get a lot of radio time in the states. And that directly leads to the second response and that is, contrario to popular belief, there are good bands and good songs that don't get played on 107. IDiT! 5. I know, it's hard to believe.

The band's newest release, "Rock Spectacle," is a compilation of various live shows they have put on. Let me take this opportunity to say they put on a wonderful live performance. I had the chance to see them just last semester. They played a show in Minneapolis and these guys are entertainers. Which is probably why I feel "Rock Spectacle" is such a great album.

Have I sold you yet? Well, if I have, I'm going to draw you up a blueprint for your plan of attack. First, get the CD titled "Gordon." Listen to it a few times to let it grow on you, and believe me it will. Then you have some choices: a)You can go see a show; b)You can buy their second album "Maybe You Should Drive;" or, c) Buy their third CD "Born On A Pirate Ship." But if it's "Rock Spectacle" that you want, I strongly suggest that you see a live show first. It will make you appreciate it all the more.

By the time you have done all of the above steps, you will be a loyal BNL (Barenaked Ladies) fan. Go buy a CD and see what you think. Enjoy.

1999 Annual Academy Awards contest

It's time for the 69th Annual Academy Awards and Bear Facts is sponsoring a contest for the students at DMAACC. The prize for this years winner is two free tickets to the Boone Theater, located at 818 Story street.

To enter just pick the correct winner in each category listed below. Put your name, address, phone number, and E-MAIL address on the bottom of the entry form. Clip the form out of the paper and place it in the entry box in the library or in the envelope on the Bear Facts door (room 210). Entries must be received by March 21 at 4 P.M.

This year for added fun we are using the "Worst Picture" award from the 17th annual Razzies as the tie breaker. These awards are given out the day before the Oscars and highlight the worst that Hollywood had to offer this past season. Good luck and enjoy the show.

Best Picture
- The English Patient
- Fargo
- Jerry Maguire
- Secrets & Lies
- Shine

Actor
- Tom Cruise (Jerry Maguire)
- Ralph Fiennes (The English Patient)
- Woody Harrelson (The People Vs Larry Flint)
- Geoffrey Rush (Shine)
- Billy Bob Thornton (Sling Blade)

Actress
- Brenda Blethyn (Secrets & Lies)
- Diane Keaton (Marvin's Room)
- Francis McDormand (Fargo)
- Kristin Scott Thomas (The English Patient)
- Emily Watson (Breaking the Waves)

Supporting Actress
- Joan Allen (The Crucible)
- Lauren Bacall (The Mirror Has Two Faces)
- Juliette Binoche (The English Patient)
- Barbara Hershey (The Portrait of a Lady)
- Marianne Jean-Baptiste (Secrets & Lies)

Director
- Joel Coen (Fargo)
- Milos Forman (The People vs. Larry Flint)
- Scott Hicks (Shine)
- Mike Leigh (Secrets & Lies)
- Anthony Minghella (The English Patient)

The Golden RAZZIE tie breaker

Worst Picture
- Barb Wire
- Ed
- The Island of Dr. Moreau
- Striptease
- The Stupids

Supporting Actor
- Cuba Gooding, Jr. (Jerry Maguire)
- William H. Macy (Fargo)
- Armin Mueller-Stahl (Shine)
- Edward Norton (Primal Fear)
- James Woods (Ghost of Mississippi)

Entry Form

Name
Address
Phone #
E-MAIL
Person to person

Bob Person
Moses Lueth
Bear Facts Staff

When there is a flood or fire and everything has been destroyed, there are certain items no amount of insurance money will replace. Bob Person, photography teacher at DMACC, believes that pictures are one of these items. “I agree with Kodak—pictures are not expensive, they are priceless,” said Person.

Bob Person’s love for photography began at the age of ten. Person’s dad was on a trip to Germany, and he was along for the trip. On that trip, he saw a box camera and was instantly yearning for one. He pleaded and pleaded with his dad and finally, on the last day of the trip, his dad bought him the camera. That is when his love of photography began and, to this day, it has continued.

Person went to school at the University of Iowa and majored in photojournalism. He hung around the art department to help formulate ideas for his work. He also watched television, studied films, and listened to the radio for artistic influence.

While at Iowa, Person was news photographer for the Daily Iowan, the campus paper. From there he went to the Iowa Press Citizen, where he also was news photographer.

In 1970, Person came to Boone and became head photographer for the Boone News Republican. Being the head photographer, Person was often first at the scene of grim accidents where he had to take photos, and he was reluctant of taking pictures of children who had been hurt. Person says “Tough skin,” is what he developed from the that environment.

Person’s fascination with photography lies in the process. "Photographers make photos, snapshotter take pictures,” said Person.

What has been your favorite DMACC class?

Tony Lual
Computer science with Linda Plueger. Computer is very interesting and creates lots of ideas.

Sharon Milani
General Psychology with Jane Martino -- she is the most charismatic instructor I've ever had. She sets you up for success.

Shane Moe
General biology with Harold Johnson -- the way he taught it and laid out the most important things to know.

Jamleck Mburu
Finite mathematics with John Doran -- I have a background in math. The teacher is good in explaining and is encouraging about exams. He is available to students.

"The music starts out, 'Aahah' and 'Aaaaahh!,' As the music gets louder it drives me insane!"

"AAARRRRAAGH!"

"Why do people of the older generation try so hard to understand our music?"

"I don't understand the music my kids listen to! There is no value in the music out there."

"Jazz makes me feel calm. If the lyrics make sense, it touches me in a certain way. Pop lyrics can help you understand what those kids are going through!"

"There's a lot of good and bad music out there today."

"One more thing about music. I don't like to listen to it when I'm driving, because it's hard not to dance!"

"I don't listen to music any more. I'm a very quiet person, and I would rather listen to myself."
Baseball team to play preseason in Oklahoma

By Moses Lueth
Bear Facts Staff

The defense and pitching will be the strengths of the team, according to Smith. "Our pitching is the backbone of the team," adds Ryan Ziesmer, a freshman from Green Bay, Wis. Ziesmer, a pitcher, says that pitching will be important against Indian Hills the Bears' chief competition.

The Bears first game will be against Grandview College. Over spring break, the team will be in Miami, Okla. for a tournament. The team will play 12 games there. "It is going to be pretty boring. We are going to play cards and hackey-sack basketball," said Casey Garman. The Bears have 56 games scheduled for the season.

Softball players travel to Florida over Spring Break

By Jon Yanders
Bear Facts Staff

As the 1997 DMACC women's softball season gets underway the players are busy getting ready. The ten-woman squad has been practicing amid the inclement weather, and as the new season rolls over they will be taking the field.

Their season kicks off with a trip to Gulf Coast Florida for a tournament from March 24-27. Then they return to start conference play on March 31 against Grandview.

This is Kim Carlson's first year as head coach of the softball team. Carlson got to know most of the players on the team from coaching basketball earlier this year. Carlson said, "Most of the players on the team were on the basketball team, so I've already had a chance to get to know them.

Carlson is happy about the way things are going so far, "We only have ten players; that's not many, but at least we have one extra."

Once the season starts, they will be playing three to four games a week before the regional tournament, which begins on May 10.

Basketball ends

By Moses Lueth
and Charles Whiteing
Bear Facts Staff

Men's basketball ended the season with a record of 10-19. This year was the first year they made it to regionals in eleven years, playing Kirkwood in the first round. Kirkwood went on to win the regionals. Terry Jamieson, men's basketball coach, said, "Next year all the freshmen are returning. The rest of the state is going to have hell to pay."

Women's basketball ended the season with a record of 2-22. "The basketball program itself is really on the uprise. In the next few years, the program will really develop into something great. The atmosphere of the team was much improved from the previous years because of the team's unity and togetherness from this season's hard work," said Carrie Pervier, women's basketball player.

Students:
Pick up NCAA Division I seeding sheets in the front office & return them by Thursday noon. Win t-shirts & gift certificates.
Charlynn’s Spring Break Forecast

Capricorn (December 23 - January 19)
You will meet an enticing stranger on your way to your spring break destination. This person just may be heading in the same direction you are, but you will never know unless you break the ice. Act fast because your time is limited.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)
Although it may not look like it outside, spring has sprung for you, Aquarius. New opportunities are developing for you, and you have many chances to do great things. Be aware of those who will try to stand in your way to success.

Pieces (February 19 - March 20)
If your spring break plans keep you close to home, it is for the best. It just isn’t an optimal time for you to travel. If you have plans though, just keep an eye out for danger. If tragedy should strike, it is best not to be unaware.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)
Unruly festivities seem to be making their way into your life this spring. Good parties will be all around you, so make the most of them while you can. Soon you will have to settle down and concentrate on more serious matters.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
Rest and relaxation is just what you need after some hard work. Take time during break to actually take a break—for yourself. Plenty of energy-saving activities will benefit you and will help keep your sanity!

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)
Mind what you do over break, because the consequences of your actions will affect those around you. If you aren’t careful, you could wind up hurting a loved one. Just think of others before you make any decision, big or small.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)
Before you take off on that trip, make sure you balance your checkbook. You haven’t been very careful with your cash lately, and this will present a problem if you don’t nip it in the bud. Spend wisely.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)
It is time that you felt the warmth of the sun. If your travels are taking you south this spring, then you are in luck! The sun is just what you need to lift your spirits and shift your life into high gear. If you aren’t going south, then lots of bright light will do.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)
Flirt. Flirt. Flirt. That’s what you can do to have a good time this break. Don’t take anything too seriously, because that will take away from your fun. Enjoy absolutely everything you can to make the most out of your time off.

Libra (September 23 - October 23)
Motivation is a large factor in your life at this time. Your influence on others will be a positive one, and your attitude will affect those around you. The longer you stay positive, the longer things will go well for you.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 22)
Your intuition will be your guide, so listen carefully! Try not to be the risk taker of the group, because it will leave you feeling (and looking) foolish. There is nothing wrong with being the level-headed one.

Sagittarius (November 23 - December 22)
Prepare for the adventure of a lifetime! Your travels will take you to places of thrill and wild activity. Just let yourself go and be the first to climb mountains, skydive, parasail, etc… Remember, you will be creating stories now to pass on to future generations.

Break from p. 3

Flirt. Flirt. Flirt. That’s what you can do to have a good time this break. Don’t make the most of them while you can. Soon you will have to settle down and concentrate on more serious matters.

Melinda’s Musings

The whistle blows, toot toot. Time out.
Wouldn’t it be nice to call a time out in every day life? Spring break is coming up. The school age children will be in school. Go for it.

In our fast-paced society of instant pudding, instant potatoes, microwave meals, and the internet, don’t you just want to shout, “Stop this merry-go-round! I want to get off!” I’m sure I’m going to meet myself going in the same door I’m going out. If I do I’ll probably be too busy to stop to say hello to myself.

Wouldn’t it be nice to take a tall drink and a good book into a hot bubble bath and soak for two hours. Or perhaps pick a day and hang around in pajamas watching videos. How about a day at your favorite fishin’ hole? Or taking a book and lying in bed reading all day? Here’s one, take a long walk in the park. Get reacquainted with friends. Go out for lunch.

And why not? Many of us have been busting our tushes all year studying, doing homework and more homework. And how many students have you heard say, “Every instructor seems to believe their class is the only class”?

Time outs won’t just happen. They have to be planned and made to happen. So make it happen; it’s well deserved. When it’s time to return, perhaps many of us will be refreshed and ready to tackle finals.

Need a job to fit your class schedule?

The Gates Rubber Company

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- Build world-class hydraulic assemblies in team-managed environment
- Earn $6.50 per hour with increases over time

Apply 2121 Industrial Park Road 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. M - F
Pre-hire physical and drug screening required

Last day to drop classes -- April 1, 1997
No fooling!