10-27-1999

Banner News

Zach Evans
Mandy Olson
Amy Rusnak
Elainea Davis
Amie Hull

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: http://openspace.dmacc.edu/banner_news

Recommended Citation
Evans, Zach; Olson, Mandy; Rusnak, Amy; Davis, Elainea; Hull, Amie; Johnson, Brenda; Harsen, Patrice; Houghton, Catherine; Keller, Joshua; Cue, Jay; Cue, Scott; and Havens, Merrick, "Banner News" (1999). Banner News. 107.
http://openspace.dmacc.edu/banner_news/107
Authors
Zach Evans, Mandy Olson, Amy Rusnak, Elainea Davis, Amie Hull, Brenda Johnson, Patrice Harson, Catherine Houghton, Joshua Keller, Jay Cue, Scott Cue, and Merrick Havens

This book is available at Open SPACE @ DMACC: http://openspace.dmacc.edu/banner_news/107
Student government offers activities through rest of year

By Mandy Olson
Bear Facts Staff

The Boone Campus Student Activities Council has set its sights high as it plans activities for the rest of 1999 and the spring of 2000. Behind the leadership of advisor Terry Jamieson and SAC president Jaret Morlan, the SAC has planned over 10 activities for this school year.

The SAC has also been busy getting permanent acquisitions for the student body. Money for the purchase of a big screen television has been approved. The SAC is also looking into purchasing a ping-pong table for the Courter Center.

SAC president Jaret Morlan’s enthusiasm was contagious; “I can’t wait for some of these activities,” Morlan said. “We really have some excellent activities.”

On Nov. 3 will be a Pet Exhibit Day of Exotic Pets; Nov. 17 will be Boone v. Ankeny in intramural basketball; Dec. 4 brings another dance to campus; Jan 25 will be the “Blizzard of Bucks Game Show for a few of the upcoming events.

The first endeavor of the year has already taken place. Local comedian the Roundguy brought his comedy act to the DMACC auditorium on Oct. 20. The Roundguy had the students rolling in the aisles, but several students thought that he crossed the line.

DMACC student Bryan Young said, “He was hilarious, but some of his jokes were just gross.” Overall, though, most of the students and faculty had praise for this comedian. The SAC is contemplating bringing him back sometime next year.

Think spring—think registration

By Zach Evans
Bear Facts Staff

The Roundguy entertained students in the Boone Campus Theatre last week after performing, he shared a pizza with several admirers in the Courter Center.

By Zach Evans
Bear Facts Staff

DMACC Boone Campus’ Phi Tau chapter of Phi Theta Kappa has new leadership, new members, and a new vision. Faculty member Jan LaVille will be taking over for Lee McNair for advising PTK, and president Michelle Johnson has shown a lot of enthusiasm planning projects for the group.

PTK is an honor society for two-year colleges and offers substantial financial rewards for students who want to transfer to a four-year school. Over 30 million dollars of scholarship money was awarded last year. Iowa State usually grants a $1500 scholarship to transfer students.

To gain admittance into PTK, DMACC students must have a 3.5 cumulative GPA. This year’s initiation will take place November 21, in the Courter Center. During initiation, PTK members light a candle and say a pledge to honor the statutes of Phi Theta Kappa. After the ceremony, refreshments are provided for inductees and their friends and family.

PTK held their statewide conference the first weekend in October on the Marshalltown Community College Campus. LaVille and PTK member Michael Chow attended the event.

Chow said, “I had a great time. I can’t wait to get started.”
PBL keeping busy on campus Attend conference in Des Moines

By Amy Rusnak
Contributing Writer

The PBL State Fall Leadership Conference was held October 8 and 9 in Des Moines at the Urban Campus. Seven Boone DMACC PBL members attended: Audra Price, Amy Rusnak, April Richards, Lynn Dutcher, Marie Dostal, Nikki Scott, and Nancy Thomas. Linda Plueger, PBL advisor, accompanied the students.

A general session helped students get to know other PBL members. Then members attended workshops. At the end of the night, the members attended a casino party and got to bid in an auction on different items with the paper money they had won.

On Saturday, the toured the Principal Financial Group. The luncheon speaker, Bill Withers from Wartburg College, talked about how people are more important in an organization rather than profit.

The PBL State Fall Leadership drew a total of 61 members attending from different colleges in Iowa.

PBL selling holiday wreaths

By Elaine Davis
Contributing Writer

PBL is selling holiday wreaths starting Friday, October 22, and continuing through Wednesday, November 3. If you would like to order these wreaths, you can contact any PBL member or Linda Plueger, PBL Advisor, Room 201.

The wreaths are made out of fresh balsam and decorated with pine cones, berries, and a bow. They are $15 each. They will be delivered by the PBL members on Monday, November 22, or the next day. This isn't only for DMACC personnel, but the public will also have a chance to buy the wreaths.

Enjoy the holidays with a beautiful 24" fresh wreath. The wreaths will be sold for two weeks only. The money raised will go toward PBL students competing in the Spring Leadership Conference here on the Boone Campus and the National Leadership Conference next summer in Long Beach, CA.

Upcoming PBL activities at Boone

By Amie Hull
Contributing Writer

The PBL Service Committee has planned various events. On Wednesday, Oct. 27, the PBL members will visit the Eastern Star Masonic Home for a Halloween party. The members will visit the residents during their lunch hour and provide them with some Halloween treats.

Some of the PBL members will even be dressed in costumes.

In November, PBL plans to collect perishable food for the Food Pantry for families in Boone for Thanksgiving dinners.

PBL will collect toys for the Toys program in December. The PBL Chapter itself may even be taking a couple of the mittens from the Wal-Mart tree and providing a few children with a merrier Christmas.

Boone Campus students and staff mark your calendars, and plan to donate food for Thanksgiving dinners and toys for Christmas. PBL members will be posting signs when your donations will be collected.
Off the wall

By Patrice Harson
Bear Facts Staff

Public Health Nursing of
Boone County Hospital
and
DMACC Boone Campus
Nursing Students United
are offering
Flu shots
to faculty, staff and students on
Wednesday, November 3
Noon to 2 p.m. in Room 127
$10 Fee
Sign-up sheet located outside
Boone Campus Nursing Department
***

Interested in taking a class at
Iowa State at No Cost?
The Iowa State/DMACC Cross
Enrollment Program
May be just what you’re
looking for
✓ Have you completed 12 or more
credits at DMACC?
✓ Are you currently enrolled full
time (12 credit or more) at
DMACC?
✓ Are you in good academic
standing?
You should apply! Space is limited.
Contact your DMACC advisor for more
information and the application
form.
***

24-hour crisis line
1-800-203-3488
ACCESS now has an outreach site
available in Boone County to provide
services to those whose lives are affected
by domestic violence and sexual assault:
Date: Every Monday
Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Lutheran Social Service
105 S. Marshall
Boone
(in the brick building across
from the hospital)
Telephone: 515-433-7836
Anyone wishing to meet with an advocate
may walk in or make an appointment by
calling the 24-hour crisis line. An individual
wishing to meet with an advocate on a
different day or time should also
call the crisis line.

---

Spring scholarship deadlines approaching fast

By Patrice Harson
Bear Facts Staff

As quick as mid-term papers and ex-
ams found their way into instructors’
brief cases, so comes the Spring Semes-
ter and another opportunity for Boone
Campus students to learn, learn, learn.
Spring credit schedules are out, and
although DMACC students have until
January 8 to fill out their schedule grids,
some significant scholarship deadlines
will come and go while the harvest moon
wanes.

While thumbing through course cata-
logs, the cost per credit is often as heavy
a consideration as the course title and, if
awarded, four types of scholarships now
in the offering for the Spring Semester
could help lighten the load for some.
Deadline: October 29, 1999
DMACC Alumni Association
The Alumni Association scholarship,
not to exceed $750, applies directly to-
ward tuition, fees, required books and/or
approved tools for the Spring Semester.
Over $18,000 is available, and only full-
time students with 12 credits completed
prior to applying qualify. Applicants
must have some type of involvement in
community or college organizations as
well as carry a minimum 3.25 GPA
(verified by the Student Records Office).
Deadline: November 1, 1999
DMACC Boone Campus Foundation
This semester, 120 Boone Campus
Foundation scholarships totaling
$27,989.80 were awarded to 116 Boone
Campus students. To be eligible for the
next round of Boone Campus Foundation
scholarships, students must be enrolled
for a minimum of 6 credits hours, have a
minimum GPA of 2.0 and must show
verifiable financial need. Meeting
minimum requirements does not guaran-
tee selection for this award.
Deadline: November 1, 1999
Corporate Scholarship
The Corporate Scholarship is open to
all current and prospective DMACC stu-
dents and will be applied directly toward
tuition, fees and books. To be eligible,
an applicant must be enrolled for a
minimum of 6 credits, have a minimum
3.0 GPA and show verifiable financial
need. Again, meeting minimum eligibil-
ity requirements does not guarantee se-
lection. Interested applicants with ques-
tions regarding this scholarship opportu-
nity may call the Ankeny scholarship of-
Ice, 515-964-6278.
Deadline: November 15, 1999
Altrusa Memorial Vocational Scholar-
ship
The Altrusa Club of Ames is offering
a $500 vocational scholarship in memory
of pioneer members of Altrusa in Ames.
The club, a nonpartisan, nonsectarian,
nonprofit association of professional
women representing a variety of fields, is
a significant volunteer force aimed at
improving the quality of life in the com-
munity. The scholarship is intended for
adult women students 25 years of age or
older seeking vocational training through
a community college or professional
school. Applications for this scholarship
must be sent to Carmen Kenyon, 1115
Johnson Street, Ames, Iowa.
Applications for these scholarships
are located in the file cabinet in the hall-
way leading to the L.W. Courter Center.

Mixed opinions about tobacco

Catherine Houghton
Bear Facts Staff

Tobacco products have been
consumed by people for thousands of
years. Even a few decades ago people
smoked chewed or even snorted tobacco
without thinking twice about it. Since
finding out about the dangerous effects
of tobacco, the government and health
officials have been on an expedition to
stop the consumption of tobacco.

The big fight in the tobacco industry
in our country today, is to stop children
from smoking. Many anti-smoking
programs have been introduced to
elementary and high schools to prevent
use. The thing is that kids are
still using it no matter what they are
taught. Even though children are taught
about tobacco, the government and health
officials have been on an expedition to
stop the consumption of tobacco.

According to the 1997 statistics found
from The Center for Disease Control and
Prevention, 18% of students in grades 9-
12 in Iowa are frequent smokers and
nearly double that figure, is the number of
kids that have smoked a cigarette in
their lifetime. Coincidentally 23.1% of
all adults in Iowa smoke tobacco. So
maybe this means that most people start
smoking when they are young.

The government has claimed that they
have known for years that people had
been starting smoking at these ages. They
have tried to start using stricter
punishments for stores that sell to
minors, raising prices, not advertising on
TV, and many non-smoking public
service announcements to deter these
vulnerable children from consuming
tobacco. In some areas, children’s
tobacco use has fallen and in other places
it has risen. It has not stopped this
problem.

Our government seems to care a lot
about not only the children, but adults
too. They do not want to see people
using tobacco in their daily lives. So,
now they want to stop the abuse of
tobacco. Some of our government
officials have been upset about the
money they have had to pay for all the
medical bills that people have acquired
during years of consuming tobacco.
So now they are suing the tobacco industry
for billions of dollars to pay for these
medical bills. One of the most recent
players in this lawsuit is Philip Morris,
the nation’s largest cigarette maker. They
have to pay billions of dollars as part of
this lawsuit, and also have to reveal the
scientific opinions about the health risks
linked with tobacco. Philip Morris has
also changed their website perhaps due
to the ruling against them, downplaying
continued on page 4
Mixed opinions about tobacco
Continued from pg. 3

their role as a tobacco producer. The new web-site shows their other two major brands, Kraft Foods and Miller Brewing Company, instead of their distinctive Marlboro logo.

In 1997, Representative Nita Lowey (NY) proposed an amendment; it was to end crop insurance and non-insured crop disaster assistance for tobacco farmers. The bill failed 216-207. In July 1998, our own Senator Tom Harkin proposed an amendment to the 1999 Agriculture Department spending bill, which would add $100 million dollars for anti-teen smoking. The bill failed 50-49. So it seems from this lawsuit and the proposed amendments, a little less than 50% of the government is on the tobacco side. According to one statistic obtained from The Center for Responsible Politics, in 1995-1996 the total soft money contributions taken from the tobacco companies were almost 7 million dollars. The Republican Party took $5,768,591 of these contributions while the Democratic Party took $1,064,680. Even Iowa Senator, Tom Harkin took in $2,000 in hard dollar contributions from tobacco companies in 1991-1996. Nita Lowey took $500 dollars from tobacco companies.

So it seems that the government supports the tobacco industry, but is not willing to pay any money out to the counter effects of using tobacco. They want to stop the use and abuse of this substance that people choose to consume. People can buy tobacco products almost anywhere in Iowa, and can also consume them in most outside public areas.

Some changes we might see in the future because of this ruling against Phillip Morris and other similar future

Phillip Morris and other similar future settlements are, increased taxes, raising prices to $5 a pack, and possibly getting rid of all smoking areas in restaurants. Some believe many states, including Iowa, will follow California’s strict laws restricting tobacco consumption in public places. Some believe that it may go as far as the government saying that smoking in your own car, on public property, such as on the highways, will be illegal as well.

Information for this article was gathered and used, with permission from:

Features

Wicca—more than

By Joshua Keller
Managing Editor

Satanists, warlock, heretic, all of these terms have been associated with the ancient religion of Wicca, that is, witchcraft. However, to the followers of this religion, these words send out the wrong message to those who would criticize it. Even the Webster Third New International Dictionary is off the mark, it states that witchcraft is “an act or instance of employing sorcery with malevolent intent.”

Black and White

Only a small number of witches dabble in the art of black magic. The majority practice only white magic, which is magic that does not harm. In fact, the main rule in Wicca, stated in the Wiccan Rede is, “An ye harm none, do what ye will.” This gives witches the right to practice any magic that they like as long as no harm, physical, emotional, or otherwise.

The other main rule in Wicca is “the Rule of Three.” This rule states that whatever magic is sent out, it will return three fold. So, if a witch were to cast a black spell it would come back on them with three times the consequence, whereas a witch casting a white spell can expect three times the blessing.

Worship

Many people believe that in order to be a witch one must worship Satan. However, Wicca has been around since nearly the beginning of mankind in some form or another. It has no place in it for the Christian god or devil. It seems a bit hard to say that witches worship something that they have never believed in. What witches do worship are a god and a goddess. They see these beings not as rulers of the universe but as actually being the universe. The god represents all that is man, including war, fire, and protection. The goddess represents all that is woman; this includes birth, fertility, healing and the earth in general. It is a harmonious blending of these beings and their energy that creates and sustains life.

The basic Wicca beliefs are as follows: Worships the divine in the things of nature,

Prefers the temple of the forest to a building of stone,
Seeks communication with the Gods through his or her own action,
Is accepting and tolerant of the Gods of others, which exist as rightfully as our own,
And is drawn to face the challenges of today with the wisdom of the ancients.

As a general rule many, if not most, witches are vegetarians and have a heightened awareness of nature, but it always depends on the individual.

Although these are basic beliefs, several others exist. Witches are left to themselves to decide what exactly they believe.

The Witch

Traditionally, witches were viewed as evil women that met together in the woods to cause all kinds of trouble. Very seldom was a man accused of witchcraft, but when one was he was called a warlock. Today, the term “witch” is used regardless of gender. Warlock, a Scottish Gaelic term, is a negative term meaning liar, thief and oath-breaker.

Witches today also have the choice of whether they remain an individual witch or if the join a coven. A coven is a group of witches that have similar beliefs and focus on raising each other’s spiritual level. A coven is much like a denomination of the other religions as it separates the different ideas and beliefs.

There are two main categories to the Wicca, traditional and eclectic. Traditionalists have a set way of life. They are classified into organized sects, each with their own belief system. Often, traditionalists have teacher and student relationships. Eclectics are more loosely organized religion. Eclectics are usually individuals that are open to various beliefs from many different pagan and non-pagan religions. They choose whether they take on a teachers andlor students. This group searches for the beliefs that they “feel” fit them.

Wicca in the Law

David March, an inmate at the Marquette Branch Prison in Michigan, converted to Wicca while serving his term. Shortly after he filed a suit against the prison claiming that his constitutional rights had been violated. He claimed that because he was not allowed to burn incense on the eight holidays that he worshipped on, even under the supervision of a guard, that he was being discriminated against. In the Continued on page 5
spells and curses

Tools and Magic
Witches all use the same basic tools. These tools are cared for like priceless objects for they hold and direct the very power of the witch. Most witches make their own tools and advise against accepting anyone else’s tool just in case it may be cursed or hold the wrong type of power of the witch. Most witches make objects for they hold and direct the very magic. The basic tools include:

The Wand—a wand is the most basic, and also the most powerful tool. It channels the witch’s energy into the appropriate place. Wands are made out of wood cut from specific trees to determine their magic ability.

The Athame—this is the witch’s ceremonial knife. The basic uses are mixing potions and inscribing the circle.

The Chalice—the chalice is the vessel of the Goddess, it symbolizes the Holy Grail. It holds the ceremonial drink and is also used for mixing potions.

The Cauldron—the cauldron symbolizes the Goddess’s womb. It signifies resurrection and inspiration. It is used for brewing herbs and potions.

The Bell—bells are used to banish any evil spirits or negative energy that may be around.

The Broom—The broom signifies the unity of man and woman, the phallic stick connected to the feminine brush. It is used for ceremonial cleansing, sweeping out the bad energy.

The Circle—the circle is the most misunderstood tool in witchcraft. The basic circle is either a pentagram or a pentacle, a five-pointed star encompassed by a circle, with the point always facing up or north.

The points represent different things to the various groups. Some groups believe the points represent the elements needed to live: earth, air, wind, water and spirit, each with an appropriate direction.

Before the Catholic Church decided that the symbol was an evil thing, the circle was the basic symbol of truth and security. Some Christian groups used to believe that the points symbolized the five wounds of Christ.

In rituals the circle is used to protect the witch from any harm while they are in it and casting spells. The circle is often confused with the symbol of Satanism, which is the same sign turned upside down. Just like an upside-down cross is a sign of evil to Christians, so to is an upside down pentacle for Wiccans.

Elements—Elements are the basic necessities of life. More powerful than the deities of nature, elements can not always be controlled. Many witches avoid the use and worship of them altogether.

Runes—Runes are stones that are inscribed with sacred symbols. Each rune has it’s own meaning. Runes are used in divination, or foretelling the future, along with tarot cards.

Witches Viewed
Wicca is the eighth largest religion in the US today, according to the religious tolerance web-site. However, an exact number of witches can not be determined because many of them are too afraid of how the public will react.

Because of the Christian influence, witches have for centuries been damned. And this led to the “burning times” that lasted from the 16 to the 18-century CE. These times included the Spanish Inquisition and the Salem witch-hunts. As people become more tolerant of other beliefs more witches and neo-pagans are emerging.

Margot Adler, a Wiccan lobbyist, summed up the feelings of witches by saying, “We are not evil. We don’t harm or seduce people. We are not dangerous. We are ordinary people like you. We have families, jobs, hopes, and dreams. We are not a cult. This religion is not a joke. We are not what you think we are from looking at television. We are real. We laugh, we cry. We are serious. We have a sense of humor. You don’t have to be afraid of us. We don’t want to convert you. And please don’t try to convert us.

Celebrate! 2000

A New Checking Account just for YOU!

Stop by our South Marshall location at 1207 S. Marshall or our downtown location at 724 Story Street and open your account today.

Just give us the same right we give you—to live in peace. We are much more similar to you than you think.”

It seems that witchcraft is more than it appears to be. When we look at it a little closer it is more than spells and curses.
CHRISTIANITY

My way or the highway?

By Jay Cue
Bear Facts Staff

Don’t hate me because I’m Catholic. I was born and baptized Catholic, and it’s all I’ve ever known. When I want to be close to God, the Catholic ways are what seems to open up my heart and strengthen my spiritual relationship. It’s the way I wish to worship.

Jesse Ventura, Governor of Minnesota, got into some trouble, again, a few weeks ago for a comment that some found offensive. The man had the nerve to say, “organized religion was for the weak minded.” How dare he! Every bit of information I have absorbed since the day I was born has taught me that this statement is false.

Every adult lecture, every sermon I sat through, every television program and even in the public school system, everyone was something. Whether it was Catholic, Protestant, atheist, agnostic or otherwise, everyone had a category, and it was their duty as a member to strengthen their particular category according to how their fellow members saw fit. It’s obvious that this is how things should be, everyone says so.

In my opinion, everyone should be Catholic. It’s the only way to get to heaven. Some Protestants have told me they were taught to hate Catholics. They informed me that they were not to associate with them, befriend them, and especially marry them. Unfortunately, they are the byproduct of organized brainwashing—just like me.

All too often, there are droves of religious clones marching the streets banting about how they have the answers billions of people throughout the ages have yet failed to conclude. Groups claim to be the most divine, calling other mislead, astray, lost and without truth.

As far as I’m concerned, preaching to one another seems to be a waste of time because all the preachers get in return is an earful from the other side. Soon the preaching turns to arguing, which turns to disputing, which turns to violence and finally war. It’s a phenomenon that has happened hundreds of times throughout the ages and has made an impact even today. Millions of people kill or are killed to prove they are the ones who know God best. They defend their beliefs of “love thy neighbor” by slaying the neighbors who don’t agree.

Fortunately, religious war only involves a small percentage of the world’s population. Sadly, there are those who fight the same war on a verbal, emotional and spiritual basis everyday. What’s even sadder is that the wars are being fought amongst Christians themselves. Catholics are too good for Protestants, Protestants are rebelling against Catholics, Lutherans aren’t Protestant enough, and Baptists are too Protestant. Then there are those unheard-of groups who call themselves Christians, but refuse to use a specific name like the others.

The Christian religion has fueled a big debate on which form is the most divine, when in reality, most members are conformist robots who have yet to read the Bible with their own soul. Instead, they have their interpretations programmed into them from birth so that they may remain a strong member of their growing organization. Some organizations set themselves above all others who, ironically, are striving for the same goal, eternity with God. In a society of get rich quick, lose the pounds fast and to 60 in less than five seconds, people want to be spoon-fed results. People today don’t seem to want to find their spiritual place in this world.

They want it given to them, typed out on an 8 1/2” by 11” sheet of paper, double-spaced, size 12 font. They want to see themselves as Christians, not find themselves as Christians. And when others tell them they are different, the world becomes full of spiritual chaos, Christians converting Christians. It sounds kind of ridiculous when said out loud.

So where does this put the future of Christianity? It all depends on the strength of the next generation. It depends on the tolerance and acceptance preached to children by their parents, and it most importantly depends on the First Amendment. It’s ironic, the same amendment that grants people the freedom to worship as they choose, also grants those same people the freedom to tell everyone else how much better they are.

From my experience as a young adult, I am seeing positives in the way people think. The MTV generation is now seeing ads, movies and television shows preaching tolerance. Young adults are beginning to receive messages soaked in “be yourself” and “dare to be different” challenges.

Today when students walk down the halls of their schools, rather than seeing a fellow student and immediately wondering how they size up in God’s eyes, they tend to accept the person for what their heart tells them. Today, young people tend to view each other not as Presbyterians, Methodists and Catholics, but as fellow Christians, fellow members of God’s people. In a world of random violence and hate crimes, it’s tolerance and acceptance like this that could eventually save the human race.

Because once we stop trying to teach people the proper way to love, we can accept the different types of love shared among people. That is when great things begin to happen.

Was Jesse Ventura right in his comment? Not totally. There is nothing wrong with being a member of a church. There is nothing wrong with worshipping the way you see fit, and there is nothing wrong with doing what brings you closer to God. I challenge you; however, don’t deny others the same opportunity. Don’t persecute those who are different just like you. Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, we’re all Christians, aren’t we?

The Front Row

The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland

Dir. Gary Halvorson; Kevin Clash, Mandy Patinkin, Vanessa L. Williams, Sonia Manzano, Rocose Orman, Dave Goelz, Joey Mazzarino, Steve Whitmire, Frank Oz.

Sesame Street strikes again with their second full-length feature film, proceeded only by Follow That Bird in 1983. This time, Elmo becomes greedy in the sense that he loves his blanket so much, that only he is allowed to touch it. Through a serious of over excessive happenings, Elmo ends up in Grouchland.

Grouchland is Sesame street’s interpretation of Oz, and Elmo, though he’s no Judy Garland, is Dorothy. After landing in Grouchland he gets an idea of the surroundings through a musical number complete with the Grouchland Mayor.

Though there is no representation of the lollipop guild, they do have a Wicked Witch of the West known in Grouchland as Huxley. Huxley is an over the top villain, played by the consistently incredible Mandy Patinkin, who wants everything to himself. He flies in a machine which sucks things into it, stealing everything, including Elmo’s blanket. The rest of the film is his journey to Huxley’s castle to get it back.

Not much to say about this film other than mediocre. Unlike most puppet movies (I don’t care what you say, Sesame Street is still the Muppets) the characters, mostly Elmo, ask for help from the audience then is replied to by cheesy sound box responses. The truth is Elmo is aimed at the youngest of young audiences; therefore, this movie is played at that level. But the movie does have enough humor in it to keep the adults happy. The performance of Mandy Patinkin is, sadly enough, wasted on such an audience that won’t appreciate it.
Volleyball successful on home court

DMACC wins over Ellsworth

By Scott Cue
Bear Facts Staff

If two words could be used to describe the DMACC volleyball team against Ellsworth, it would be, “on fire,” according to Coach Lori Dejongh-Sligh. On October 20 the Bears destroyed Ellsworth 12-15, 4-15 13-15. They had their highest hitting percent of the season at 95%.

Coach Sligh was very proud of the team and said, “Everyone stepped up against Ellsworth, it would be, “on fire” and played well that night. We really improved so much since the beginning of the season, it was great to get another win, especially in front of a home crowd.”

Emily Brooks and Stephanie Henderson lead the team in hitting. Brooks was 18/19 with 9 kills and Henderson was 26/27 with 13 kills. They also had a great night blocking as they put up 20 of the 37 blocks.

Wendy Johnson also had a great night setting the ball as she had 24 assists, which aided in the great hitting night said Sligh.

A week prior, the Bears played very well after two weeks off but had no victories to show for it. They faced Wartburg and NIACC in the same night.

Wartburg defeated the Bears 15-17, 12-15. They also lost to NIACC 6-15, 10-15.

Coach Sligh commented, “We played very well, but we need to learn how to finish off the game and win.”

Serving was the highlight of the night for the women. As a team they served 93%. Individually Victoria Rowley served an astonishing 100% and Leslie Howerton 95% on the night.

Johnson contributed 32 assists while Henderson and Brooks combined for 15 kills and only 3 errors.

DMACC’s women’s last home game is on October 30 at 2 p.m. against Iowa Lakes.

Move back the fences in baseball

Room to run

By Merrick Havens
Contributing Writer

How could one describe America’s favorite past time? Of course, I’m talking about baseball. With its glorious history, fans can remember all of the legends of the diamond, Joe DiMaggio, Roger Maris, Jackie Robinson, Ted Williams, Mickey Mantle, and, of course, “The Babe,” just to name a few.

Baseball has been thriving for over a hundred years now and has become a symbol of our country. It has seen its way through many military wars such as WWI, WWII and Vietnam. As a matter of fact, some of our players were forced to hang up their baseball uniforms in exchange for camouflage. One may recall the famous powerful lyrics of Paul Simon’s “Mrs. Robinson” which read “Where have you gone Joe Dimaggio? Our nation turns its lonely eyes to you, wooo-hoooo-o0oo0oo.”

Baseball even helped to break the racial barrier. One of the greatest players ever to play the game, Jackie Robinson, was the first African American to play in the Majors. He is looked upon as a hero not only in the African American community, but also by a whole nation. Baseball has always been an American legacy. When Lou Gehrig began his touching speech, “Today, I consider myself, the luckiest man, on the face of the earth,” after being diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, you could feel the sadness as if he occupied a tiny space in each of our hearts. Why on earth would we want to erase the wonderful memories of these great men?

If something is not done to change the game, our heroes from the past will be soon forgotten. The homerun rate in the game today is way too high and something needs to be changed!

I’m a big fan of baseball, and I, like other fans, was very excited about the great homerun race of 1998 between Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire. For the season, Mark McGwire ended up edging Sammy Sosa by blasting out 4 more to give him a total of 70 dingers. Both Sosa and McGwire obliterated the old record, but was this a fluke or that.

With the addition of the expansion teams, the Florida Marlins and Colorado Rockies in 1996, and the Arizona Diamondbacks and Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 1998, plus a lot of the other numerous cities putting up new stadiums, like Pittsburgh, the outfield fences are not as far as they once were.

This is not only occurring in the new stadiums either. In fact, when Yankee Stadium was first constructed back in 1923, it was the first ballpark in America to be called a stadium. When Babe Ruth stepped out of the Stadium’s deepest fences in 1937.

The center field fence was moved from the centerfield wall, once 490 feet away, is now 408. If Babe Ruth and Roger Maris could jack 60 and 61 homeruns out in one season with those dimensions, imagine how many they could have hit with the fences closer.

I propose that every Major League stadium should be required to have an area of no less than 230,000 square feet. The parks could be arranged however the owners and the designers see fit, as long as the fair territory covers an area of at least 230,000 square feet. This distance would be an average of 420 feet down both lines and 460 feet to dead center, just to give you an idea. There would still be the opportunity for originality in every ballpark’s design, the number of homeruns would most likely decrease and most importantly, it would give the outfielders room to run.

The Yankees aren’t the only ones that are going with shorter outfield fences. A lot of the newer ballparks are hitting-friendly because the outfield fences are closer, for instance: Balti
Talk Back

“What is the scariest movie you have ever seen?”

By-Scott Cue
Bear Facts Staff

Nancy Thomas
Student

“Texas Chainsaw Massacre. Because the plot was good, and you didn’t know what was going to happen next.”

Kandy Weigel
Academic Achievement Center

“Scream, because there are people with guts hanging out.”

Brian Jacobsmas
Student

“Halloween, because I was watching it at night, and the guy did all of his killing at night.”

Allan Sitzer
Student

“The Exorcist, because I don’t believe in the devil; he is bad.”

Room to run

From Page 7

more, Cleveland, and Texas. The Houston Astros have moved their fences in as well. One may suspect that if the fences are moved back there won’t be as much excitement. However, with the fences being shortened, we will never get to see the excitement of an outfielder chasing a ball down 460 feet from home plate like in the 1954 World Series when Willie Mays made an unbelievable, full speed, back facing home plate, over-the-shoulder catch of the ball smashed off of Vic Wertz’s bat. This play has gone down in history as one of the greatest plays ever. These days when a shot like that leaves the bat, all the outfielders can do is turn around and watch how far it goes. On top of that, when the batter hits it, rather than legging out a double, triple, (which are next to extinct in today’s game) or possibly even an inside the park home run, he stands and admires it followed by a slow trot around the bases. How exciting is that?

Even players with not much slugging power have been able to rack up on the homeruns. In 1999, the Reds beat the Rockies 24-12. In the game, Jeffrey Hammonds, of the Cincinnati Reds hit 3 home runs, and he’s not even a power hitter. In the 1999 season Jay Bell, of the Arizona Dia-

mondbacks hit over 40 homeruns and in 13 previous seasons, he never hit more than 21.

One could argue that it just wouldn’t be convenient to move the fences back. Every year the cities with Major League franchises are pushing to get a new stadium. The problem could be avoided simply by making the fences longer in the original plans before construction gets underway. And, as for all of the other cities, moving the fences back would be a minute expense.

One way to cut down on the home-run total would be to raise the pitching mound again. This was done once in 1984, and hitters had their lowest average in years. The American League leading batting average was 301 and nobody in the majors had over 40 homeruns. In comparison, this year the leading batting average was 375, and two players had over sixty homeruns.

With the same dimensions, the outfielders room to run.

opportunity for originality in every ballpark’s design, the number of homeruns would most likely decrease and most importantly, it would give the outfielders room to run.

The Grove Cafe
124 Main St.,
Downtown Ames

“So much home you don’t always get what you want!”

Try our famous secret recipe pancakes.
M-F 5 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat. 5 a.m.-11 a.m.

Set your goals high.
We’ll help you there.

Sometimes reaching your goals seems like an impossible task. In the Air Force you’ll get the tools you need to reach any goal you set. We’ll help get you there by:

• providing education opportunities with tuition assistance
• establishing leadership skills for a promising future
• preparing you for a career in life

You can earn up to $9,000 enlistment bonus, if you qualify. So, if you’re between the ages of 17-27 – call 1-800-423-USAF

AIM HIGH
AIR FORCE

for an information packet, or visit the Air Base at www.airforce.com