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Banner News

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New program eases transfer process

By Megan Olson
Staff Writer

D M A C C launched the University College Transfer Program or UCT program this semester. UCT is a program designed to help students gain experience and advance their academics before transferring to their preferred university.

“It is a growing program that is open to any arts and science students wanting to transfer,” said Megan Baker, the assistant director, student development at DMACC. Her office is located at the Ankeny campus.

“We are very excited about this program, it is very beneficial for our students for when they transfer to another university,” Baker said.

See UCT, page 3

IM MOBILIZED

Are we addicted to our smartphones?

By Rose Sibbel
Contributing Writer

Before Morgan Jones got her smartphone, she had to deal with having limited means of contact with her friends.

“I had battery issues, so when my phone would die, I had no communication to anything and I couldn’t get a hold of anyone if I had to,” 21 year old DMACC student said. “I felt naked without it.”

Andréa Casotti, 18, got her first smartphone last February. While she was still able to text on her old phone, her new phone allowed her to access social media at all times of the day. She estimates she now spends about two hours a day on her phone.

“I use it [social media] a lot more now, just because it’s there,” Casotti said. At times, when she can’t find her phone, she said she “starts freaking out, because [I] don’t know what’s going on.”

Students also find themselves pulling out their phones in class, often times during a lull in the discussion or using it while simultaneously listening to their professor.

“I’ve kind of gotten to the point where I can listen and look at my phone at the same time,” Molly Sayre, 23, said.

“I wouldn’t say it’s a distraction necessarily. I would say it’s more of a wanted distraction,” Hannah Wailes, 18, said. “It’s not like I have to have it on, but if I’m bored in class, I’m going to be on it because I don’t want to pay attention.”

While the DMACC handbook states that cell phones should be turned off or switched to silent mode in class rooms, the school lets each professor make their own policy.

Students check their cell phones in between classes while hanging out in the Courter Center. Pictured, left to right: Brooke Duncan, 18, Josie Wyrick, 18, Hannah Wailes, 18.

See MOBILE, page 4

WHAT YOU SAID...

Who is your celebrity crush?

Bridget Biersner
Alicia Snipes

“Adam Levine”
“Denzel Washington”

This is the last issue of Banner News for the semester. Look for the first issue of the spring semester on news stands Jan. 28
DMACC offers Spring Europe trip

EF College Study Tour is offering a 20-day trip to London, Normandy, Paris, Berlin, Warsaw, Krakow, Prague, and Munich in May 2015. This trip is an extraordinary chance to see so many of the sites and museums of the Second World War and the Holocaust with a very interesting group of travelers.

Any adult DMACC student, other college student, or community member can sign up, and please consider traveling with a friend or family member. DMACC History Professor and WWII Author Dr. Lisa Ossian will lead and coordinate this unique tour. The travelers leave Des Moines on Sun., May 10th and return on Fri., May 29th or Sat., May 30th, (depending on return flight schedules) 2015. Payment arrangements are made with EF College Study Tours and these may be monthly or periodic installments.

This is an all inclusive tour: roundtrip international airfare, hotels, half the meals, tour buses, night ferry excursion, train fares, tour guides, museum entrance fees, and travel insurance.

For more information, contact Lisa Ossian at (515) 964-6568.

Instructor publishes piano CD

DMACC Boone Campus Music Instructor Cindy Lin has had a solo piano CD published and released.

Lin’s “French Chamber Pieces” was recently published and released by Centaur Records, one of the largest classical labels in America. It is now available on major distributors such as amazon.com.

She said the selections recorded on the CD were composed by eight French composers ranging from the Romantic period to the 20th Century.

Dr. Lin is a concert pianist and recording artist. While specializing in French music and American contemporary music, her repertoire covers wide selections of composers ranging from baroque period to contemporary era. She has travelled extensively and frequently performing solo and chamber recitals across the U.S. She has also performed internationally in Taiwan, where she was born.

Dr. Lin holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Maryland, School of Music. She also earned a Master’s degree in Piano Performance from The Boston Conservatory and a Bachelor’s degree in Piano Performance from the University of California, Irvine.

Student Activities Council

meeting scheduled

Be Involved on Campus. The Student Activities Council will meet Thursday, Dec. 4, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. in Room 152. Lunch will be provided.

PBL raffle winner announced

Congratulations to Tressor Melo. He won the $50/50 Phi Beta Lamba raffle. The total collected was $228, making Tressor's winning $114. Phi Beta Lambda thanks everyone for contributing to the raffle and to their organization.

Help stock campus pantry

As the fall semester begins, please consider helping restock the campus food pantry.

Current needs include:
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned fruit/Dried fruit/Apple sauce
- Rice
- Peanut butter
- Jam/jelly
- Dried beans
- Oatmeal/Hot cereal mix/
- Boxed cereal
- Bread/Muffin mix
- Oils (vegetable, olive, etc.)
- Toilet paper
- Please drop off donations to Erin Neumann, Room 124 or Jane Martin’s office (Room 122).

All donations are greatly appreciated.

The food pantry is available to any student who might need assistance. If a student has a more significant need for food resources than a visit to our campus food pantry can assist with, please contact Erin Neumann.

Writing Center open

Writing Center consultants are available to help with any writing assignment, during any part of the writing process. With their experience in different types of writing (technical to creative writing) and a broad range of life experience (journalism, firefighting, novel writing, Hawaiian culture, literature, and veterans affairs), you’re sure to find someone that “gets you.” Stop by any time during our hours. No appointments are necessary for this free service. For more information, contact Krystal Hering, WC coordinator, khering@dmacc.edu or visit http://go.dmacc.edu/boone/ writingcenter/.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society for two-year colleges. PTK will host several informational meetings on the Boone campus. Students are invited to attend to find out more about PTK. For more information, contact Nacy Woods, nwoods@dmacc.edu, 515-433-5061. Or Stacy Amling, slaming@dmacc.edu, 515-433-5089.

Childcare and Transportation help

A program called Iowa New Choices offers assistance with childcare and transportation for qualifying single parents and displaced homemakers (divorced, widowed or spouse disabled.) For information, contact, Erin Neumann, Room 124, eaneumann@dmacc.edu. Or call 515-433-5037.

Netherlands contest

As part of DMACC’s celebration of the Netherlands during the 2014-2015 academic year, there is a contest in which each of three persons will win two tickets to the Netherlands Gourmet Dinner on Thursday, April 23, 2015. Each month a trivia question about the Netherlands will be posted in the Netherlands Year Site. The question will be visible for that month only and answers may be submitted only during that month. Participants will have until midnight on the last day of the month to submit their answer to that month’s question. All answers must be submitted using the same e-mail address.

Answers to the trivia questions must be found only in this location: http://www.eupedia.com/netherlands. Answers that differ from the information in that site will not be considered. Contest participants will submit answers via the process in the Netherlands Year Site.

Free money for school!

Have you done farm work in the last two years? If so, contact Carrie at Proteus Inc. 515-271-5306 ext. 129.
Spotlight: Student Meet Amanda Betz
Editor’s note: This section will feature a student, staff member, or instructor from the Boone DMACC campus. Do you have a suggestion for someone we should feature? Send your ideas to ban-news@dmacc.edu

By Megan Olson
Staff Writer

Amanda Betz is more than just the DMACC Banner Newspaper Editor. Before Betz attended college she graduated from Ballard High School. During her time at Ballard she was involved in band, color guard, and volleyball. Before high school, she lived in Europe. Betz was born in Ams, and then moved to Europe in fifth grade. She lived in Germany for two years. Betz is a sophomore going to DMACC and Iowa State University. She is majoring in Liberal Arts here at DMACC and Accounting and Finance and minoring in German at Iowa State University.

She will graduate from Iowa State University in 2017 receiving her Accounting and Financing degree. After graduating she will be pursuing her masters degree in accounting and business administration.

"It would be a great challenge to be the Banner Newspaper Editor. I’ve acquired a lot of skills: keeping deadlines, management skills, and better people skills," says Betz.

"Working on the newspaper is really rely on your peers and they rely on you to get your work done. Instead of being held accountable to a teacher, you’re accountable to a whole team, which can be intimidating, but it’s a necessary skill to learn and have," says Betz. "It is really a teamwork type of class.

"Students should be involved in the newspaper because not only does it teach you many useful skills, it also is a look at the work place in a way. It is not like other classes where the teacher gives you a structured plan. You have to do this on your own time, the teacher does not really check your schedule, and you are responsible for getting your work done on time. It helps with time management and working in a group."

UCF assists students with networking

UCF from page 1

helpful for students," she said.

This semester about 130 students enrolled in the program district-wide. The majority of these students were at the Ankeny DMACC campus.

Students enrolled in the UCT program are assigned an academic advisor. They are to meet with their advisor once a semester to discuss priorities such as: classes, when they want to graduate, how they are doing in their classes, what they want for their future, etc.

The UCT program offers students the opportunity to take one class tuition free — either transfer planning class or a career exploration class. The student must get a C or better for the class to be free.

This program also requires students to attend three campus events throughout the school year. This encourages students to become involved in the campus. Involvement is a big part of the UCT program. This program involves students in leadership activities, makes business connections, builds personal and academic development, and it also connects students to employers all with the help of their advisor.

For more information about UCT, visit https://go.dmacc.edu/uct Pages/university-college-transfer-program.aspx.
Smartphones can cause dumb distractions

MOBILE, from page 1

at DMACC noted that while their cell phone policies aren't strict, they do notice students on their phones from time to time and may take that into account when figuring grades.

Tammie Foltz, a sociology professor at Boone, says she gives out participation points and less students know that cell phone usage also has an effect on those possible points. Throughout the semester, she mentally keeps track of students she observes spending too much time on their phones during class, which may affect their grades.

"My policy is very subjective, [students] don't really get the full effect of it until the end of the semester," Foltz said.

"There are cell phone policies in the past and I've found it doesn't work. People are just too addict ed. Even though they might not seem like it at the time, "I can't do two things at the same time. We think we can, but our brains are just not capable of that," she said.

"Much like how talking on a cell phone while driving can be a distraction, research has proven that using a device while doing other tasks, such as trying to maintain a conversation with another who is physically present or, in the case of academics, sitting, eating or doing homework, can have mental effects, as well. The brain is working overtime to focus on two completely different tasks, rather than processing the different types of information, causing an imbalance of the attention," she said

Sean Taylor, who teaches psychology and sociology at Boone, won't go so far as to draw a correlation between students' study habits or school work and the amount of time spent on the phone, but he has noticed a change develop during the last few years.

"They know students are more distracted in class, but we've always been distracted in class. I wouldn't say it's less, I just think the phones make it easier to be distracted," he said. "I do feel like students do very little of these days and expect a lot. I don't know if that's tied to technology or tied to a change in our culture or our generation, but things are different now.

Taylor describes the signs and symptoms of addiction as lack of self-control and not being able to go a few hours or a day without checking things up and find out answers a lot easier and faster than when I was younger. That's good, but at the same time, I think we've lost habits of work [eth]. We don't memorize anything anymore, because we don't need to, we can just ask Siri or ask Google."

Toubes, who teaches Introduction to Mass Media, as well as Composition classes at Ankeny, has also noticed a change in students' expectations in the classroom. Toubes is in her 27th year of teaching and has had to adjust her teaching style to the new way of learning. "I was much braver, in terms of getting students just long pieces of journalism to read. They were longer articles and students would really read the articles," she said. "Now I just sense that students don't like to spend a long time reading page after page of text and I blame that on cell phones, as well as Google and searching, and getting quick answers to information."

Toubes assigned a technology paper this semester, in part a reaction to internet boot camps in China, where kids are pulled away from their families, as well as all technology, in hopes to cure them of their addiction. She asked her students to reflect on their own electronic use and many of them admitted to being addicted to technology.

"Many of them confessed to spending too much time online. There were students who told stories of hiding their phones or shutting them off; having all kinds of tricks with themselves just so they wouldn't be on it all the time," she said. "Some of my students who are mothers even place a ban on all electronics for a certain amount of time at night. They use that time to play board games, go outside, eat dinner, and just try and reconnect with the family."

The rising popularity of smart phones and social media has changed daily human interactions. Both students and professors alike commented on how little people speak to each other, both in the classrooms and in the hallways.

"Before we had phones, we'd actually talk to people, like if we were sitting in line or waiting for class to start," Brooke Dun can, 18, said. "With our phones, we don't try and talk to random people and you don't get to know people like you used to."

"You don't make conversation with people, you sit there and play on your phone," Wailes said. "Even walking through the hallways, you'll just text someone or look at your phone just so you don't have to make eye contact with someone."

Taylor, who has been teaching for 17 years, has observed a gradual change in social interactions in the classroom.

"People used to come in and would talk to each other. I would sit at my desk behind them and hear great conversations and I would know what was going on in the world," he said. "Now, you come in and the whole class is on their phones. No one talks to each other, there's no community any more."

Michael Bugeja, professor and director of Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication at ISU, noted that not only have smartphones changed social interactions, but have done so in a negative way. "They convey one message and one message only; sometimes people can be more protective of their place and not the place you are and the person you are with. 70 percent of our waking day is spent staring at screens, according to my recent research. That not only changes the experiences, it changes the species."

"It's more important to me now that I'm in college than it was when I was living at home," Ashley Gromley, 18, said. "Between people back home and my friends here, it's definitely the main part of my social interaction."

Though smartphones make it easier to reconnect and maintain current relationships, they also can make it harder to form new ones offline.

Behavioral scientists Nicholas Epley and Juliana Schroeder conducted an experiment on a subway train in Chicago during a morning commute with two groups of people. One group was asked to engage in a conversation with the stranger sitting next to them and the other group was asked to act as they normally would – that is, sit with their head down, immersed in their phone. The group who had conversations had a more positive experience than the ones who did not. People were also asked how they would feel about talking to a stranger and most said they would feel uncomfortable and intimadated. However, the people who sought out a stranger a said the conversation was pleasant and flowed easily. Other similar studies have yield ed the same results and prove that people need, and even want hu man interaction. Foltz and Taylor, who teach both psychology and sociology, pointed out the mental health benefits that face-to-face interaction brings.

"We need human touch. We have to have it. We're social animals, we're healthier when we have it," Foltz said. "We tend to form relationships that would mutually benefit us at some point. Networking is huge and I don't think the networking programs [online] are really the things we need. We need more dialogue with each other."

"Suicide rates are really high right now and when you can walk into a room full of people [for class] and no one ever talks to you, it doesn't really help that situation," Taylor said, going on to say that even a simple compliment or acknowledgment can go a long ways for someone who is struggling.

Though technology will continue to be a driving force in society, there are some signs that people are recognizing their dependence on it and are taking steps to curb it. Some restaurants on the east coast are beginning to offer discounts or a free appetizer to diners who leave their cell phones with the hostess. In an effort to fully immerse their fans, singers and bands are starting to request that cell phones be turned off during their shows. DMACC students are no different and some are taking conscientious steps to not let their devices control their lives.

"My friends and I went out to lunch one day and we decided to leave our phones in the car and we talked so much more," Casotti said. "You just have better conversations when you don't have your phone with you, because you're not distracted by it."
DMACC finishes 6th at Nationals; Case named to all-tournament team

Freshman Taylor Case of Preston, Minn., had 26 kills, 20 digs and four block assists as the DMACC volleyball team dropped a 3-2 decision to Central (Neb.) Community College (CCC) in the fifth-place match in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II National Championship November 22 at Phoenix, Ariz.

Case’s performance earned her a berth on the all-tournament team announced at the conclusion of the championship match.

CCC, the tournament’s No. 2 seed, won by set scores of 25-27, 25-23, 25-23, 15-25, and 24-22 to finish fifth. DMACC placed sixth, its highest finish since 2009 when the Bears finished fifth. DMACC went into the tournament as the No. 8 seed.

Sophomore Kaitlynn Vought of Dakota City and freshman Shelby Schouten joined Case with four and sophomore Dakota City and freshman Shelby Schouten went into the tournament as the No. 8 seed.

DMACC in block assists with eight, Vought and Grimm led DMACC with 12 kills apiece, Schouten had eight and Case came away with seven.

Soranzo finished with 17 assists and Huttmann had 14. Rasmussen topped the Bears in digs with 14 and Case finished with 13. Meyer had eight block assists and Vought and Grimm contributed three block assists apiece.

Case was the lone DMACC player named to the all-tournament team. In DMACC’s four tournament matches she contributed three block assists apiece.

Women improve to 5-4

Freshman Kiana Peterson of Madrid scored a team-high 22 points to lead the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) women’s basketball team to a 79-76 win over South Australia November 29 at the DMACC gymnasium.

Sophomores Lataisha Harmon of Milwaukee, Wis., and Tiffany Thompson of Tama scored 12-points apiece as the Bears overcame a 44-37 halftime deficit to improve to 5-4 for the season. Freshman London Vais of Adair contributed nine points to the DMACC attack and freshman Ashley Dumler of Dike finished with eight points.

Dumler finished the game with a team-high seven rebounds, helping the Bears to a 41-21 lead on the boards. Sophomore Chelsea Anderson of Gowrie had six rebounds and Vais came away with five. Thompson dished out a team-high seven assists and Anderson paced the Bears in steals with four.

The DMACC women will play the Grand View University junior varsity Dec. 2 in Des Moines.

Men’s basketball team remains undefeated

Sophomore Austin Aarais Austin of Garne, Ill., scored 24 points to lead the DMACC men’s basketball team to a 98-66 win over South Australia November 29 at the DMACC gymnasium.

The win kept the Bears unbeaten for the season at 10-0. DMACC came into the game ranked third in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II poll.

Freshman Paris Collins of San Antonio, Texas, scored 16 points for DMACC and sophomore Jamar Hurdle of Milwaukee, Wis., had 14 points.

DMACC built a 54-28 advantage at halftime after hitting 22 of 34 field goal attempts, including 8-of-9 from three-point range, in the opening half. The Bears were nearly as efficient in the second half, coming away with 21 field goals in 38 attempts.

Hurdle and freshman Johnny Benson, Jr., of Milwaukee, Wis., grabbed nine rebounds apiece to lead DMACC to a 49-17 advantage on the boards. Sophomore Jon Pasqua of Maywood, Ill., had seven rebounds to go with nine points and Collins and freshman Sean O’ Sullivan of Brashane, Australia, had six rebounds apiece.

Austin and Collins had five assists apiece in the game and Collins led the Bears in steals with five.

DMACC will host Southeastern Community College on Dec. 3. Game time is 7 p.m.
‘Food Inc.’ lifts veil from unsavory ag practices

By Gina Buzzell
Guest Columnist

Why didn’t the GMO chicken cross the road? Because when you grow a chicken in 48 days its bones aren’t strong enough to support its weight. Don’t go to the grocery store until after you have seen the startling documentary Food, Inc., by director Robert Kenner, with support from experts Eric Schlosser and Michael Pollan. This film exposes what the food industry in the United States doesn’t want you to know: we’ve all seen the headlines… food recall due to E. coli, diabetes on the rise, and another immigration raid. This film illustrates how these issues, and others, are related and considers the factors that drive them. Kenner’s documentary is not for the faint of stomach, its visual impressions shock even the most faithful of carnivores. Kenner is successful in his documentary because he exposes the fallacies in the production and processing practices of large corporations and how these practices affect our health, safety and economy.

Kenner explains how farm subsidies have paid the American farmer to overproduce corn. The over production of corn leads to many trickle down effects like on world economies, food and animals. It is argued that large industries lobby congress to get these laws so that they can keep the corn cheap. The U.S. farmer is actually selling the corn below the cost of production, which affects the world market. One such economy is Mexico, where it put one and one half million corn farmers out of business. The excess of cheap corn led companies to engineer and modify corn so it is in many items you see on the shelf. Pollan says, “What looks like choices is really only a few companies and only a few choices, so much is clever readjustments of corn.” It’s in everything from cheese and syrup to batteries and charcoal. Pollan goes on to say that “we have skewed the food system toward bad calories because those are the ones that are heavily subsidized.”

Because corn is so cheap we have started feeding it to cows, pigs and even fish. Pollan says that “cows are designed by evolution to eat grass…the only reason we feed them corn is it is cheap and make them fat fast.” Soybeans are another commodity that has been controlled by a large corporation, Monsanto. Because of a Supreme Court ruling Monsanto was allowed to patent a genetically modified soybean seed. For years seed saving has been practiced by farmers to get the best crops, but the patent allows Monsanto to corner the market and prosecute seed saving farmers.

Kenner reveals what feeding America really entails by showing us the conditions under which animals are produced and processed and what the cost is to the consumer. He shows chickens that are crammed in a dark tunnel and rats that live in their own feces with little room to move. Companies are now engineering a chicken so it only takes a mere 48 days to grow. Their bones can’t keep up so they can only take a few steps before they plow down. Companies are giving rise of a new strain of E. coli. Eric Schlosser says that “it’s mentioned that a child born after 2000 has a 1 in 3 chance of getting early onset diabetes.” The take-away from this document- ary is that we can take action by simply purchasing locally grown food. We can support the locally grown food industry by supporting the farmers market, we can simply eat more healthy foods. The cohesion of the entire documentary makes it an epitome of a documentary film. After watching Food, Inc. there is a call-to-action for its viewers. Woody Guthrie’s “This Land Is Your Land” sung by Bruce Springsteen enhances the call to action by saying that this is our land, this is our food, we can make a change. Since we are the ones who shop at food markets, we can choose what they supply depending on what we demand. We can support the locally grown food industry, we can shop at the farmer’s market, we can simply eat healthier foods. Let’s be the change we wish to see in the world by starting at the supermarket.
STEM students should look to manufacturing field

by Bo Shen

DMACC Honors Student

Guest Columnist

Most people have an antiquated view of manufacturing. People think small. People think the working conditions of manufacturing factories are really bad. They think they pose serious health, safety, and environmental issues. People think working in manufacturing will be exhausting.

Based on my experience, manufacturing has changed and improved in every aspect. Working conditions to employee benefits, from business strategy to environmental issues, the manufacturing industry has evolved. Students in STEM (science, technology, engineer and mathematics) should consider manufacturing as place to find their ideal job.

Last summer, I attended Leadership Iowa University, a program of Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation. We visited Pella Corporation. I was totally fascinated and engaged during the whole tour. They have a fascinating manufacturing system. Pella’s business model includes the use of configure-to-order per customer requirement. In the factory, you can’t find any “standard” model for window or door, all the products are personalized.

Pella Corporation has effective lean design and lean supply chain from raw materials to the assembly department to decrease cycle time and inventory, increase productivity and capital equipment utilization, and also reduce any kind of waste.

After the tour, we had a networking opportunity with eight managers from production, IT, finance, sales, and marketing. It was so impressive that their marketing manager has an aerospace engineering degree.

I asked him why he choose stay in Pella Corporation. He said one of company’s goals is to leverage IT to improve operations. Pella began to focus on improving the efficiency and accuracy of the manufacturing process. He said he thinks the way they use their database to develop marketing strategy, supply chain, and production is challenging him all the time. Also he loves the company’s culture and work style.

It’s not only large companies like Pella Corporation, small companies also have an important role in Iowa’s manufacturing industry. Iowa is home to approximately 5,960 manufacturing firms operating from 6,440 locations throughout the state. About 46.8 percent of Iowa’s manufacturing industries are medium-sized firms. Students can find the information for the career you choose, the requirements for the job you want, education, skills, and work style. At the same time, you can find the right educational institution to achieve the same thing. You provide all the information you need to find a job you want in the manufacturing industry. You can locate your own career path depending on your personal, skills, and work style. At the same time, you can find the right educational institution to achieve the requirements for the job you want.

No doubt, Iowa is America’s largest producer of corn, soybeans, pig and eggs, but manufacturing is a major driver of the Iowa economy. In Iowa, we have two main factors that support Iowa’s manufacturing industry. One, we have perfect business climate for a manufacturing company. No corporate income tax on profits from sales made outside of Iowa. Iowa export $13.8 billion worth of manufactured and valued-added goods. No personal property (inventory) tax. No sales or use tax on manufacturing machinery, equipment or computer.

Another reason is education. With 14 accredited engineering schools, Iowa schools produce nearly 1,500 engineering graduates each year. Both the University of Iowa and Iowa State University are recognized leaders for research quality. Also Iowa’s statewide system of 15 community colleges offers comprehensive educational programs in three major areas of instruction: preparatory, career programs, and vocational and technical education.

If you are considering a major or thinking about a future career, don’t overlook manufacturing. Things have change since 1980s. You can find an ideal career path for you in advanced manufacturing. Visit the Elevate Iowa website and see what job suits you.
Listen to the unspoken as well as what is being said. Take extra care over the next two days. Get creative! Then focus on your next step. Check the path ahead. You're on top of the world. Plan an exciting trip, and get your ducks in a row. Confirm reservations.

Saturday classes (Final Exam): December 10

Monday/Wednesday night classes (Final Exam): December 10

Wednesday night classes (Final Exam): December 10

Thursday night class (Final Exam): December 10

Friday, December 11

Your horoscope this week

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 -- Do extra work to ensure you don't go anywhere. Slow down a bit. Confirm reservations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Today is an 8 -- Work out the numbers and sign closed doors.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Today is a 7 -- Plan some fun for today and tomorrow. Don't be wasteful... you don't have the full story yet.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Today is a 7 -- This is a challenging day. Don't make any plans that are too far off. Work on the comfort of your home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 -- There's fun and positive cancer energy. Move quickly to stay in the loop. Listen to the snippet as well as what gets said. Take on new responsibilities today and tomorrow. Avoid arguing over silly stuff. Social events capture your attention now. Share private information.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is an 8 -- You can take the high road over the next two days, but you may not follow it. Use your instincts instead. Remember to consult with your partner. Look before leaping. Expect more than is expected. Plan a bold adventure from the comfort of your home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 -- Work out the numbers and sign paper contracts. Don't buy toys. You theory could get challenged. Think of the big picture and come out of the idea from different angles. Figure out your plan today for action tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 -- You have more help over the next two days. Try to understand other people's feelings. Listen by learning. Enjoy a partnership phase. Put energy into a team effort. Delegate what you can. Talk to get further than action today. Take passion behind closed doors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 9 -- Postpone big projects and decisions until finishing old projects for the next two days. Lay the groundwork and clear space for the future. Work could interfere with plans. It's possible to have it all... juggle the schedule. Help someone else to do the same.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 -- Plan for new fun today and tomorrow. Don't be wasteful... you don't have the full story yet.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 -- Beauty is in the details. Think of how to clean up complexes.