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## Banner News

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**Authors**

Bob Eschliman, Andrea Fester, Erin Kiley, Patrice Harson, Lisa Kahookele, Melinda Gorman, Lorraine Powell, Cory Williams, Joe Siple, Kevin Nelson, and Moses Lueth

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# BEAR FACTS



April 15, 1998 "Voice of the Boone Campus" Des Moines Area Community College Volume XXVI, Issue 13

*Over \$20,000 in activity funds distributed this year*

## Lack of student interaction dampens spirits of government leaders

By Bob Eschliman  
 Bear Facts Staff

This fall, the Student Action Board (SAB) set out on several initiatives to make changes at the Boone Campus, which would promote a more positive environment for the student body. Some of those activities and services planned by the SAB include the following:

- SAB Display Case
- ATM for the Courter Center
- On-campus Daycare
- Cable TV in the Courter Center

This is quite an impressive list of objectives. To date, however, none have taken place.

### What is SAB?

The SAB is the student representative and governing body for the Boone Campus. They are elected by the student body every fall, and serve for one year. The SAB appropriates the funds generated by student activity fees, under the discretion of Boone Campus Executive Dean Kris Phillips.

According to the DMACC Student Action Board Guidelines and Procedures, "As the primary student representative body, the Student Action Board promotes college spirit, provides a focal point for discussion between students and college staff, and gives students a representative voice in college affairs. This government body is responsible for making recommendations regarding the assessment and disbursement of student activity fees. With these funds, the Board plans activities and provides services to enhance the social, personal, and professional life of DMACC students."

This year's members of the SAB are Jaclyn Kelley, Kara Jensen, "Spike" Craven, Brian Calkins, and Emily Schutt.

### Who supervises the SAB?

Terry Jamieson is the SAB adviser, as well as DMACC Athletic Director and head coach of the men's basketball team. When asked about the possibility of a conflict of interest his varied positions might create, Jamieson said, "I take a lot of caution in the way I operate so that there won't be any conflict.



The DMACC Boone Campus Student Action Board was in session Monday. From left to right are Emily Schutt, Jaclyn Kelley, SAB Adviser Terry Jamieson, SAB President Kara Kennedy and Brian Calkins.

photo by Bob Eschliman

"I could very easily go into those meetings twice a month and beg for more money, but I won't do that. I feel all of the organizations deserve their fair share of the money."

Jamieson pointed out that that he sent questionnaires to all of the faculty to determine where funding was needed. Each faculty member was asked to name the organization they were lobbying for, as well as an estimated number of students that would be impacted by the funds, and what the funds were going to be specifically used for.

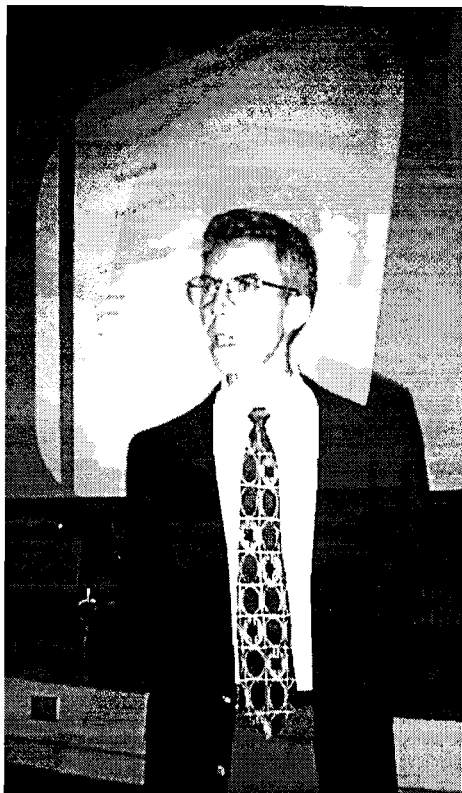
When Jamieson was asked what kinds of difficulties the SAB has run into this year, he said that President Kara Kennedy has been instrumental in the Board operating smoothly this year. As President of the SAB, Kennedy is responsible for organizing and conducting all SAB business meetings. She also assists Jamieson with the organization and preparation for SAB-

Continued on page 4



The Boone Campus play, *Bone-Chiller* opens Friday at 8 p.m. in the campus theater. The second performance will be Saturday at 8 p.m. Boone Campus students are admitted free.

photo by Dan Ivis



Lee Lourdeaux



Members of the DMACC Boone Campus Education Psych Class made a deal with their instructor and Italy Luncheon chef Jane Martino, "If we get a take-home test, we'll help serve!" Student volunteers are Carrie Miller, Angie Heim, Deb O'Brien, Hilaree Robson, Jen Martino (daughter) hostess and chef Jane Martino, Hoan Trinh, Yuko Brown, Laura Martino (daughter) and the chef's mother, Madonna (I taught her everything she knows) Harris. (Other student volunteer, Andrew Albaugh, not pictured.)

## Italians celebrated on campus during Italy Week, April 6-10

By Andrea Fester  
Bear Facts Staff

With DMACC celebrating Italy and its people, students from Dr. Jim Bittner's Humanities class America in the Movies listened to two guest speakers last week. On Tuesday, April 7, Susie Christensen, a DMACC student wishing to share her strong Italian heritage, gave her perspective on Italian culture. Informally, students were invited to partake of candy and bread and mingle about displays that included pictorial kiosks created for the campus library. Students learned about the varying regions of the country punctuated with Italian words and phrases.

Enthusiastically, Christensen reminded students of the importance Italians have portrayed in our own country's history, and how they continue today to strive for perfection in all aspects of their lives, and their willingness to share

what they have learned with others. Students were invited to continue to share more information via displays Christensen has created for the DMACC Boone Campus Library.

### Noted author gives his views

On Thursday, April 9, journalist Lee Lourdeaux spoke to students regarding the impact of Italian culture and Catholicism in American film. Lourdeaux specifically noted the films of Frank Capra and Martin Scorsese and showed film clips to illustrate how important the director's Italian values impacted the films.

Several key points Lourdeaux noted included the immense tradition of visual arts that are inbred into the Italian society, and how such things as food and art must have aesthetic appeal. Students learned that through Catholicism, Italians

are known to be self-sacrificing in a manner of doing for others and regard their life structure with the feeling that everything is sacramental. Students were interested to see clips from a Scorsese movie, "Mean Streets," that they had recently viewed themselves, utilized to display the strong impact of Catholicism on the films by Scorsese.

### Authentic Italian luncheon enjoyed

For a three dollar fee, faculty, staff and students were welcomed to a public luncheon on Friday, April 10 on the DMACC Boone campus. Dr. Jane Mar-

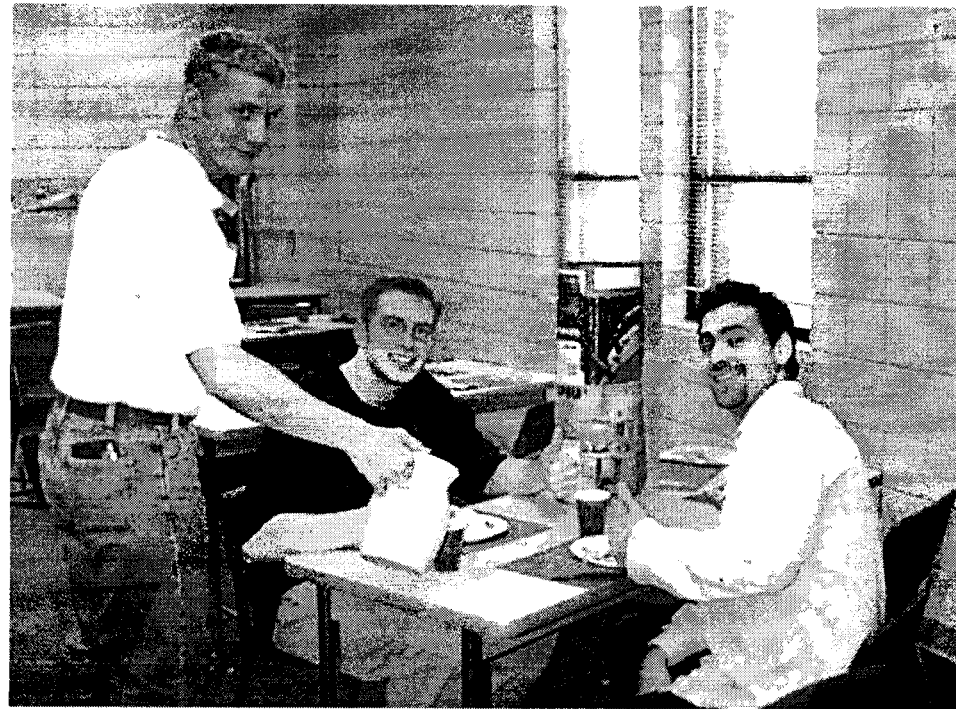
tino of the psychology department, along with her mother and two daughters, prepared and served a menu consisting of authentic Italian cuisine.

The meal was celebrated with an Italian atmosphere centered around the colors of the Italian flag and native music as well. About sixty people gathered to enjoy spinach lasagna, ravioli with portabello mushrooms and ricotta cheese, pasta and tossed salad, with mini cheesecakes and cream puffs for dessert.

page 2 photos by Patrice Harson



Lunch break was pure pleasure for DMACC Boone Campus employees (clockwise) Carol Petersen (back to camera) Sharon Blaskey, Lisa Kahookele, Cristy Boyd and Mary Jane Green. Petersen commented that students who didn't attend this meal, really missed something!



### Thumbs Up!

Student volunteer Robert Heim pours for two Italy Luncheon guests, Brandon Rockow and Daniel V. Florenzano who signal their satisfaction. The consensus was the same at every table, "Worth more than \$3!" "Great!" "Four stars!" "Better than an Italian Restaurant!"

## DMACC

### A real choice for real people

By Erin Kiley  
Bear Facts Staff

Anne is a renowned large-animal veterinarian whose work has been published in veterinary journals, and although she is an ISU graduate, none of that would have been possible without Boone DMACC.

Anne and her sister Dara were both set to enter college at the same time, but their parents were farmers with a limited budget. Anne's extra years of course work required for her veterinary degree would not come cheaply, and Dara was not yet sure of her intended major.

DMACC was their only solution. It would allow the girls to find housing in their home town. In small towns, housing is usually much cheaper than living on or off campus in most college towns. DMACC also provided affordable, transferable credits for Anne and gave Dara a chance to explore different areas of study before choosing a major.

Affordable education while deciding on a college major has become increasingly important at a time when the average graduating college senior has had five different majors. These changes in major often result in changed class requirements and may call for an extra year of college--an occurrence that is happening more and more often. This extra year can add up at a price between \$6,000 and \$24,000, depending on the institution.

DMACC (and other community colleges) have a lot more to offer than just being affordable. For Malena, DMACC made attending college possible for other reasons. Malena began high school as any 14-year-old, but by the time she graduated, she had a husband and a baby.

Malena hadn't intended for her life to go in this direction, and although she knew that lots of sacrifices would have to be made, she didn't want to give up her college education. This was complicated, however, because she could only attend college classes while her husband was off work to watch the baby. DMACC made that possible.

These are stories of real people who made some tough choices and decided that DMACC worked for them. DMACC is convenient and affordable. The school's credits are widely transferable, and cross enrollment exists with several colleges and universities. As a post-secondary option student, it will make for a smoother transition between high school and a four-year college for me.

Community colleges have made a positive difference in many lives where nothing else was possible, and maybe right now, it is making the difference for you.

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Thank you to all Boone Campus faculty, staff, and especially students who so generously donated time, space and materials to make Italy Year an enjoyable learning experience for all. A special thanks goes to Jane Martino, her daughters and mother, who provided the wonderful Friday luncheon. The Boone Campus "famiglia" has been culturally enriched.

Jan LaVillie, Italy Year coordinator, Boone Campus

- Last day of class May 1
- Finals Week May 4-7
- Honors Banquet May 7
- Graduation May 8



## Letter to the editor: Response to last issue's Point/Counterpoint.

Mr. Jamieson brings up a point that most likely is shared by many Christians of the like. American values were initiated by the actions the Pilgrims took and were canonized by the Constitution of this country. The Pilgrims left England for many reasons, such as the freedom to worship whatever one chooses to. Religious freedom enables a society to make more associations and grow larger and richer because there are fewer barriers to exclude those who hold different beliefs.

Many problems exist in our society. Moral values are intended to be taught at home. That is a freedom which America allows for. Each parent can pass on his or her knowledge and life time of experience without having to answer to any religious dogma. One of America's greatest strengths is that we have a majority population that is freethinking. This allows for ingenuity both moral and technological. Without this fermentation of initiative, America would have never become so powerful and prosperous. Moral values can't effectively be taught on a mass scale, because the only way for someone to become morally centered is through experience. Even if a family is religiously devout and goes to church every Sunday, the children won't learn the intended values unless they live every day according to that moral code, by example of those who are responsible for raising them.

The 11-year-old boy who took part in the murder of five people at an Arkansas middle school had attended church regularly prior to becoming a murderer. If a family wants to send their kids to a private school (Christian or other) they can receive aid through subsidies that have recently been created by a Congressional initiative signed into law by the president.

The moral fabric one builds in a life is that person's responsibility. There are close to 200 million people in America. That means 200 million lives, choices and 200 million moral personalities. Placing blame of moral decay on a generation because someone may think that this generation lacks responsibility can only teach members of that generation to place blame on others. Placing blame is useless, doesn't address the issue and is, frankly, not very Christian.

Our forefathers wrote an excellent Constitution, yet to say that a slave owner like Thomas Jefferson was influenced and motivated by Christian values is hypocrisy.

**Antonio Ybarra-Rojas**  
DMACC Boone Campus Student

## Page Notes

By Erin Kiley  
Bear Facts Staff

The legislative year is drawing to a close, leaving me with the alarming thought of returning to the psychological experiment that our government calls high school. Perhaps I am exaggerating a bit, but this has been such a positive experience that I'm reluctant for it to end.

You may say, "So, Erin, what's up at the capitol?" Now, I can give you the dirt. I can tell you that about fifty representatives and their clerks got food poisoning from a sample day (it was the barbecue sandwiches, one of the few dishes that I didn't try--thank goodness). I can tell you about the lobbyist treats, and what groups visited (such as the Tulip Court who brought us Dutch letters to promote the Tulip Fest in Pella.)

I can even tell you about the controversial removal of the president's portrait for the photograph taken of the Senate Pages (Note--I am a HOUSE page, not a SENATE page!) Oh, and with the inside scoop, here it is; when the Senate pages had their group photo taken, somehow or another, President Clinton's photograph was removed from the wall. There are two stories, one being the glare on the photo created a glare, the other being that the picture was removed as a moral statement. It doesn't matter which is true--either explanation is ridiculous. The only thing more ridiculous is the amount of national attention that the occurrence garnered.

What I can't tell you with great certainty is what is actually going on politically. I tried to pay attention, I swear! It just gets complicated. Between excessive amendments, arguments between representatives who, at times, don't seem to know what is going on, either, and bouncing bills back and forth between the House and the Senate (while barely being able to recognize the bill on its return) keeping track of the action is harder than it sounds. Then, whenever I'm about to get it, they send me on a Diet Coke run.

### Attention DMACC Students

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# SAB

from page 1

sponsored events.

Jamieson added that for the most part, he lets the SAB operate on its own, unless he is needed to answer questions. He said, "Most of my involvement with the SAB is to facilitate the organization of student activities."

He said that activities, such as John J. Hopkins, the comedian who recently performed for DMACC students, cost approximately \$1300 but only 41 students attended.

### Is there a strong interest in the SAB?

Jamieson pointed towards the lack of student interest in on-campus issues as a leading cause for the demise of the initiatives proposed this fall. He said, "This campus is a commuter campus, and it's hard to come up with activities that will interest (non-traditional students). I have had to rethink my entire approach to intramurals, simply because of the lack of interest."

This lack of interest appears to start with the lack of participation by the student body in its own government. Just over 10% of the student body voted in the last election. Nineteen votes were the most any of the elected representatives received.

Kennedy said it was very difficult to get the students involved in SAB-sponsored activities this year, making it very difficult to plan activities. She said, "We have an awful lot of non-traditional students here. The majority of your traditional students are a bit preoccupied with their social lives, while the non-traditionals tend to be preoccupied with their families."

Kennedy feels that with on-campus student housing, student interest would grow in such activities.

This lack of interest in the SAB appeared to Kennedy to have rubbed off a little on the SAB itself. She said, "The lack of interest in what we were doing really deflated morale."

In the past, the SAB has represented the student body well not only with the DMACC administration, but also with the Iowa Legislature. They "went to bat" to get more variety for the Campus Cafe, and even lobbied the State Legislature on

the behalf of DMACC students on issues regarding the community colleges in Iowa.

That was all in the past, however. This past January, a delegation of DMACC students from Boone went to Des Moines to once again lobby on behalf of DMACC regarding community college issues in Iowa. That delegation of concerned students was comprised of one social science major, three members of the *Bear Facts* staff, and only one member of the SAB (note: Kennedy was planning to attend, but was sick).

The planned SAB display case was to be used to keep the student body well informed of SAB meetings, in accordance with the public meeting laws in Iowa.

According to Chapter 21, Section 4 of the Iowa Code, a governmental body must give notice of the time, date, and place of meetings, and its tentative agenda, by not only advising the local media, but also by posting a notice on a bulletin board or other prominent place which is easily accessible to the public and clearly designated for that purpose.

When asked about this, Jamieson said that he had suggested the bulletin board to the SAB, but the group never acted upon the idea this year. He did add that it would be discussed when the SAB votes on the 1998-99 budget. He is hoping that they will approve a new sign for the Courter Center that would "really stand out."

When asked to evaluate the performance of the SAB this year, Kennedy said, "We could've done a little better job, but the lack of student involvement really made things difficult. We were also all new to this, and weren't sure of our boundaries."

When looking at the candidate profiles of each SAB member in the October 29 issue of *Bear Facts* these students were very serious about wanting to make significant changes. However, that vision has since given way to the lack of interest that now permeates the student body.

But they are still trying to at least do their job. This past Monday, the SAB met to discuss the budget proposals from the faculty for the 1998-99 fiscal year budget.

They were very diligent in taking the time to thoroughly discuss each budget item prior to making their recommendations and voting on appropriations. A few of the proposals seemed unnecessarily excessive to the members, and they made revisions to those proposals.

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The following is an estimated breakdown of the student government board approved budget for the 1997-98 fiscal year:

<i>Athletics</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>\$9000</i>
<i>Student Action Board</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>\$5200</i>
<i>Clubs &amp; Organizations</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>\$3500</i>
<i>Student Recreation</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>\$2800</i>
<i>Drama &amp; Journalism</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>\$1300</i>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$21,800</b>

Drama Adviser Kay Mueller said that in addition to SAB funds, they receive money through their ticket receipts and departmental funds, and that they receive a few prop and costume donations from time to time.

When asked if she had ever lobbied for additional funds from the SAB, she said, "I have found the whole process of requesting money to be a big mystery to me. In the past, the money was just given to us, but now we have to fill out a request form that asks us what we spend our money on. It would be nice if they would ask us how much we think we might need for the next year."

"We currently have a reserve in our account from over thirteen years of ticket

receipts, but I'd like to have that money available just in case. It seems like (the SAB) thinks we don't need anymore money if we already have a reserve."

Mueller said that she had hoped to do a production next year that required a castle as part of the set. The Drama Department's reserve funds could go towards the purchase of the necessary set items for that play.

Below is a breakdown of how each of the student clubs and organizations were funded during this fiscal year:

<i>Nursing Students United</i>	<i>2.50%</i>
<i>Phi Beta Lambda</i>	<i>2.50%</i>
<i>Recreation Club</i>	<i>2.25%</i>
<i>Rotaract</i>	<i>1.75%</i>
<i>Phi Theta Kappa</i>	<i>1.75%</i>
<i>Rezoomers</i>	<i>3.00%</i>
<i>International Club</i>	<i>2.25%</i>

When asked what their funding was used for, Maggie Stone, Rezoomers Adviser, stated, "Last year we used those funds to create scholarships. We cleared it through Dean Phillips." When asked what the SAB funds were used for this year, she said, "We had a 'Rezoomers Family Day' at the ballpark, a tour of the

building, and free pizzas."

Stone suggested that the Rezoomers may sponsor a guest speaker next year with the SAB funds. She did not rule out creating more scholarships with SAB funds in the future, but said the issue would be thoroughly investigated before being acted upon.

Jamieson strongly opposes such use of student activity funds, and has said that he would strenuously recommend that the SAB think about using student activity funds to fund scholarships prior to awarding funds. He said, "If I was a student, and someone told me that I was paying for some other guy to go to school, I'd say give me back my money, so I can use it to pay for my own education."

The Boone Campus is the only DMACC campus with athletics. The Athletic Department has in the past operated only on the funds supplied by SAB and whatever funds could be raised through numerous fundraising activities. This year, the Athletic Department brought in \$9,000 from fundraising.

Jamieson, speaking in his roll as

Athletic Director, stated that in the coming year, the Central Administration will now help fund the Athletic Program.

He said, "Central Administration has been very generous with the upcoming budget. They have really helped to make sure I can now have the resources to enable DMACC to compete." He said that the increased funding would help to enhance the scholarships available and to expand the women's athletics program here, as well as to help with expanding the current facilities.

Jamieson also added that with the increasing number of student-athletes coming to DMACC, SAB funds would also increase, impacting the funds available for all of the other programs.

**The bottom line: who's to blame?**

In the end, if the student body isn't happy with what they are getting in the way of representation or amount of activities provided by their SAB, the students only have themselves to blame. Everyone voted for the current situation, either through their conscious votes, or through their own choice of not voting.

# ← Talk Back →

## What is your view on the SAB?

Reporting & photos by Moses Lueth



**Tiffany Condon**

"I think it is good that we have SAB, but they must inform the student body of what is going on."



**Rebecca Kirkpatrick**

"I have heard of them, but I really don't understand what they do."



**Rob Short**

"I have no idea what it is."



**Chris Buckner**

"It is important to have a student government, because the members are students and understand the needs of the students."

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photo by Patrice Harson

The Iowa State Education Association arranged for two Boone Campus students, Charles Whiteing and Patrice Harson, to attend Vice President Al Gore's address on education April 1; however, the event was upstaged by the simultaneous press release concerning the Paula Jones' lawsuit.

## Campus Cafe closing for semester Friday

*Interested Boone Campus Clubs invited to provide lunch services*

By Patrice Harson  
Bear Facts Staff

If DMACC Boone Campus cafe patrons want someone to complain to regarding the April 17 closing of the snack bar, see the Executive Dean

The ladies who kept hungry students, faculty and staff satisfied, not just this past semester, but also during the past eight years, had no voice in the decision.

"We're paid an hourly wage by DMACC," said cafe employee Jody Newbold, "and DMACC pays for all of the supplies."

The Boone Campus Cafe is a DMACC-funded enterprise, and when the food supplies run low, as they do every April, it's adios until fall for cafe workers Newbold, Joy Bartley and Rosemary Stuckey.

Any DMACC service club that wants to provide campus faculty, students and staff with occasional lunch services after

Friday need to contact the dean's office for details.

"I'm going to let the clubs have all the profit," said Executive Dean Kriss Philips, "but the clubs are responsible for ordering all of the consumable supplies and for clean-up. (The cafe) should be clean enough for the next club's use."

Although Philips said that the profits received from providing lunch services during this down-time are not large, the variety of foods the clubs provide during this period are appreciated.

"Final figures aren't in yet, but normally it's a struggle to just break even on the cafe," said Philips.

The traffic the DMACC service organizations receive after April 17 and through finals week will, according to Philips, "help in decision making next year."

## International Dinner held on Boone Campus

By Lorraine Powell  
Bear Facts Staff

The Rotary International Dinner was held in the DMACC Boone Campus Courter Center on April 8. All Boone Campus international students were invited to attend.

The speaker for the evening was DMACC Professor Lee McNair who spoke about the phenomena known as "the face on Mars" and the question of whether life ever existed there. McNair

showed the latest NASA pictures, which portrayed no "face," but he remarked that the geometrical angles and positions of the mapped objects in the Cydonia region on Mars offer the possibility of once being an ancient civilization.

The dinner was concluded with a dance by an international student from India, Simrandeep Randhawa, performing the "bhanga" in traditional costume.

*What do you want to be when you grow up?*

## Discover your future with Choices program in the AAC

By Lisa Kahookele  
AAC Staff Member

We are told many times as a child that we can be anything we want to be. But making that kind of decision is overwhelming if we aren't sure what kinds of occupations are out there, how much they pay, what kind of training is needed, or how to get special training.

*Choices*, a software program in the Academic Achievement Center, can answer all those questions and more.

*Choices* uses an interest inventory to help the user sift through the characteristics he or she is looking for in a job. The results of the inventory help pinpoint potential occupations or job industries. The user can discover salary ranges, future

outlook of the career, characteristic profiles as well as compare occupations.

Some of the occupations require education and training. *Choices* has that information, too. *Choices* has information on various schools, colleges, universities, as well as public and private financial aid resources.

Anyone may use the *Choices* program. There is no charge to use *Choices*, and the staff members of the AAC are able to assist those who may be interested in trying the program. The Academic Achievement Center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.



DMACC Boone Campus student Ethelgive Eitel (center left) hands a \$100 check to Phi Beta Lambda State President Liesel Barrett in contribution to the club's food drive. PBL thanks all Boone Campus students who donated.

## Corbett wins award at UNI Writing Contest

By Melinda Gorman  
Bear Facts Staff

DMACC student, Sherry Corbett, from Ogden, won a \$100 award for the essay she entered in the Critical Writing Contest at the University of Northern Iowa's Celebrating Critical Writing Conference.

Several colleges at UNI offered awards. Corbett's award was from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. Corbett was originally offered a one-semester scholarship to UNI, but she turned it down saying, "It just wasn't feasible (to go to UNI) at this time."

Corbett said, "I entered my essay untitled. They called it 'My Chosen Profession' from the first words in the essay. It's about motherhood to be more accurate. The award was a vote of confidence and pleasing to me that they appreciated the work. It was well



**Sherry Corbett**

worth going."

Other DMACC Boone Campus students who went to the April 3 conference were Dorothy Brogden, Mary Catlett, Melinda Gorman, Courtney Hall, Patrice Harson, Lorraine Powell, and Brandon King. English instructors Judy Hauser and Pat McNair accompanied the group.



## Riding against the wind

By Cory Williams  
Bear Facts Staff

We all know that spring is finally here. It showed up a week and a half ago with some tornadoes and thunderstorms. Well, it's time to stretch out the cobwebs in your body and loosen up for another cool and exciting three months of fun.

Five things that I enjoy doing in the spring and summer are fishing, swimming, running, golfing and, most preferred, biking. In this issue, I am going to talk about biking in Iowa and RAGBRAI.

When I go on long cycling trips, there are some steps that I take before I leave:

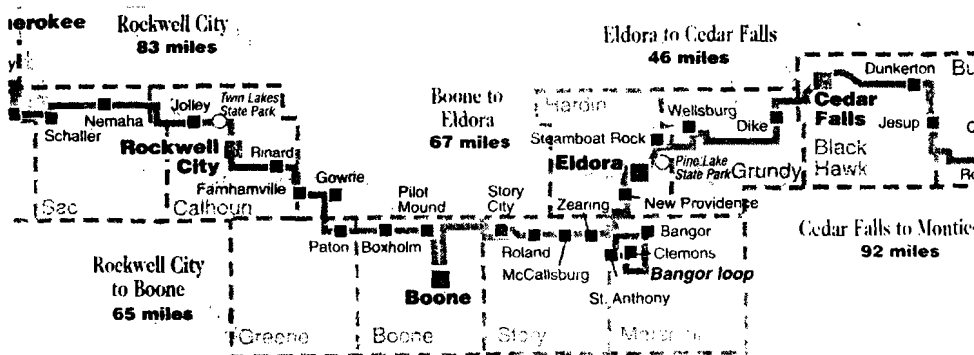
- Check the tire pressure
- Make sure the chain is lubed and clean, so it can shift gears smoothly.
- Check the front and rear hubs and tighten them if they are loose.
- Adjust the bike seat for comfort.
- Check the handle bar, fork and shock absorbers for looseness.

road. He fell into a small ravine that had some broken glass in it. The truck didn't stop to see if he was all right. Luckily, he had a first aide kit with him. That's one of the reasons why I wear a helmet.

When I go biking, I ride a hard 5 to 10 miles without stopping. Then, I slowly build myself down so that my heart is back to normal, take a few swigs of water and start going hard again. To me, it's like running a ladder in track, start off hard and then take it easy and the cycle repeats itself.

When I go biking, it's hard to choose the right bicycle. Should I take the mountain bike or the speed bike? I prefer the GT. Mountain Bike over the Lotus Speed Bike because the speed bike is hard riding in the mud with thin tires.

It's too bad that Boone doesn't have any trails for mountain bikes like they do for horses. That's the whole point of



When you are done checking everything, make sure you have two water bottles full of water or Gatorade. Never take off without water or some type of fluid. Also, take some Mace or Pepper Spray, just in case a dog comes after you. Another thing you might want to take is a cell phone for emergencies.

Before taking off, there is one more thing to do. Check the direction of the wind. (I usually take my sock off, let the wind catch it, then watch to see where it heads.) Just kidding, I usually take some grass and throw it up in the air to see which way the wind is blowing.

I highly recommend wearing a biking helmet--there are people out there who like running cyclists off the road. For example, my best friend was riding his bike to Ames and a truck pushed him off the

riding trails--to enjoy nature and to relax.

If you are a diehard biker who loves to ride long distances with a companion (or a lonely biker looking for one) then the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bike Ride is for you. This year's ride will be the 26th time RAGBRAI has crossed the state, and it's coming through Boone on July 21. Around 10,000 cyclists will be participating in this event.

The cyclists are coming into town on Division Street and traveling south to 10th Street. They will travel to many sites in Boone, and I hope the citizens will treat them with Midwestern hospitality.

For further information, contact George Silberhorn on Boone Campus, or call up <http://www.ragbrai.org> on the Internet.

See ya on the road.

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## Bears play at home Friday

By Joe Siple  
Bear Facts Staff

"We don't have to change anything drastically, just put forth a good team effort and we'll do better." --Coach Smith

The DMACC Bears baseball team has posted a 12-10 record in their first twenty-two games of play.

Last Friday, the Bears dropped two games to conference rival Iowa Western. "We've had our chances to have a better record," said Coach John Smith. "We don't have to change anything drastically, just put forth a good team effort and we'll do better."

Smith said he is hoping for better pitching with runners on base as well as more clutch hitting. He is also hoping that, with 22 games under his team's belt, they will have worked out most of the rustiness associated with first getting outside.

The Bears will continue play this Friday against Grand View which will open a three-day home-stand including games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

## Bear Facts

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### 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 shipped under the door, e-mailed to [jrlaville@dmacc.cc.ia.us](mailto:jrlaville@dmacc.cc.ia.us) or mailed in care of the college. The *Bear Facts* reserves the right to edit as necessary for libelous content, profanity, copyfitting, grammatical or spelling errors and clarity.

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# Point/Counterpoint



This is fifth in a series of articles related to pressing moral issues faced by our society. It is the *Bear Facts'* intention that this column stimulate informed discussions among readers and ignite on campus a legitimate concern for the decisions made in our country. Exercises in freedom of speech through thoughtful and responsibly written letters to the editor are welcome. pmh2101@dmacc.cc.ia.us

*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

~The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

By Kevin Nelson  
Bear Facts Guest Writer

Is today's media as accurate as it should be? Probably not. Has the media ever been as accurate as it should be? I doubt it. I'm guessing that as long as there have been journalists, it's never taken too long to figure out that making up news and selling sensationalism makes money, and advances the views and agendas of those in control of the entities of information.

Standards have undoubtedly been compromised. However, the sheer size and revolutionary development of the information age makes it impossible for us to go back in time. We have to deal with the fact that it's human nature to expand the possibilities (be it for better or worse) and stop wishing for the good old days of Mom and Pop publishing enterprises that probably never existed to the extent of our nostalgic imaginations.

The bottom line is that we're better off with reporters than we would be without them. A lot of things that we have a right to know wouldn't get to us without the media, and I guess if that means shaking all of the crap through the screen door of our common sense to see if anything of value makes it through for our thoughtful consumption, then so be it. My only problem here, I'm afraid, is that ever since the election of Ronald Reagan, I've felt hard pressed to defend the collective judgment and intelligence of the American public.

Oh well, one can always dream.

## DAILY GRIND

By Moses Lueth  
Bear Facts Staff

Originally, the idea of VEISHA was to celebrate the five schools of Iowa State: Veterinary Medicine, Engineering, Industrial Science, Home Economics and Agriculture. This was established in 1922 when the five colleges combined to present the colleges to the public. Some of the VEISHA attractions are supposed to be "Stars Over VEISHA," open houses, canoe races, the carnival and the parade. But, what VEISHA has become is a drunk fest.

Because the unfortunate and senseless death of Uri Sellers was alcohol related, I understand the actions of ISU President Jischke to ban alcohol on campus and in the fraternities. Also during the past students felt they needed to riot, burn couches and act rowdy.

Now that they removed all debauchery from VEISHA, students are complaining about the harsh tactics. I myself believe that the ban will just limit partying on campus, but off campus there will be those who will test their luck. The word VEISHA has become synonymous with drinking in the eyes of some. Had there not been a death, this sanction would not have come about.

When one exceeds the limit when drinking, the point of judgment becomes impaired. Drinking at the college level is very rarely the drinking of the social type, meaning drinking for the point of relaxation. Instead, the intent of the majority of college level drinkers is to become wasted, plastered, hammered, spun, and twisted. This is binge drinking and has resulted in deaths nation wide at such campuses as LSU and Iowa and very near-death drinking at ISU.

There is no excuse to drink oneself into the ground, there are too many risks. Public intox, alcohol poisoning, and the most dangerous of them all, drunk driving. Too many people do not understand the idea of moderation, especially when it comes to VEISHA. That is why the ban is in effect. Hopefully, this year the students will realize that sometimes to preserve something, you must sacrifice other things. The sacrifice the students must make is for their own safety and the continuation of the VEISHA tradition. Think before you drink.

By Patrice Harson  
Bear Facts Staff

The phrase "freedom of the press" does not mean that the newspaper medium is free from the responsibility of reporting the news accurately, fairly and sensitively. The free press provision of the first amendment includes restrictions protecting the public from deception, slander and biased reporting.

The Society of Professional Journalists believes that "public enlightenment is the forerunner of justice and the foundation of democracy." In seeking the truth, the Society adopted a Code of Ethics to guide journalists. These principles are divided into four basic categories: Seek the Truth and Report it; Minimize Harm; Act Independently; and Be Accountable.

In seeking the truth, it is the journalist's responsibility to be certain that his or her sources are reliable and to identify those sources whenever possible. A good journalist also gives "all sides the opportunity to respond when reporting on allegations of wrongdoing." Most importantly, the responsible journalist avoids sensationalism and must strive to report only factual information.

Sadly enough, many members of the public rightfully believe that journalism has made an explosive return to the tactics made famous by Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst in the late 1800's. Pulitzer and Hearst panicked under the economic pressures induced by competition and "trumped up" the news in hopes of winning over more readers. This "yellow tradition," unfortunately, is alive and well today as the public's desire for fast news, mixed with the technological advances designed for fast delivery, have made triple-checking sources and journalistic reliability and integrity a vanishing art.

What is the solution to this ethical problem? A refusal by editors to publish rumors would be a good place to start. All journalists should be banned from using the words "alleged" and "supposed" and any variations thereof. These terms currently shield journalists from lawsuits that could be filed by the same public that demands their news now.

Many news-hungry readers, viewers and listeners no longer want to wait until 7 a.m., 6 p.m., 10 p.m.--or even the top of the hour--to see what's up. Yet these same people are quick to complain if this miraculously produced information is not accurate and concise at the flip of their switch or the turn of a page.

Who at the helm will have the integrity to disallow journalists to print or speak anything involving scandal that isn't triple-checked for accuracy? If all media refused to publish news that wasn't responsibly gathered, then, perhaps, the second yellow period in our nation's history would cease.

## TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

Your life speaks louder than your words

By Lorraine Powell  
Bear Facts Staff

I am sure we have all heard the expression "Do as I say and not as I do." What most of us don't realize is how difficult it is for children to model their lives after parents and significant others who live according to this maxim.

For example, we say to our children: "Don't do illegal drugs," and yet we as parents abuse alcohol or use legal drugs abusively. We say to our children: "Don't watch violence on the television," and then, after they go to bed, we watch these same shows. If we are telling our children something is wrong for them, then why isn't it wrong for us? Our children realize very easily that our actions speak so much louder than do our words.

Parenting, I believe, is the most important job that exists on this earth. It affects the lives of our children and the future generations of their children. We can choose to continue what our parents before us have done as their descendants or we can choose to change what we believe would strengthen our heritage and be the ancestors to new patterns of behavior.

Our children are facing the truth of such issues today as drugs and sex that was not known or at least was not made available to the public ten or twenty years ago. Consequences of free sex can produce sexually transmitted diseases that we all are familiar with today. Consequences of drugs such as cigarettes and alcohol are placed right on the products themselves today.

We all have choices to make, as parents and as children. How much of what we do as parents are we willing to have assessed by objective outsiders as we assess the lives of our own children?

Yes, it's a soul searching and sometimes heart rending assessment to make, but it helps to align our lives with the truth that we are directing towards our children.