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Banner News

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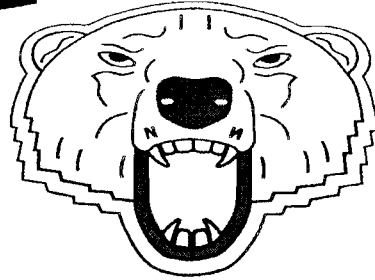
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BEAR FACTS



December 10, 1997 "Voice of the Boone Campus" Des Moines Area Community College Volume XXVI, Issue 7

ISU '48 alumnus still learning at DMACC

By Moses Lueth
Bear Facts Staff

With all his credentials and experiences, Russ Helms still continues to educate himself.

Helms is taking Western Civilization and Spanish I on the Boone Campus. "Part of the reason I go to school is to catch up on the questions that never got answered earlier in life," said Helms.

"I enjoy the class Western Civilization because it lets us know where we are on the tree, and I would like to travel to Mexico, so Spanish class will help me learn how to speak the language."

Helms, student and retired civil engineer, has held many distinct titles: president of Iowa Engineering Society, Iowa Department of Transportation highway engineer, Director of Public Works for Oklahoma City and was named one of the top ten men in the field of Public Works Management by Kiwanis International in 1967.

Helms also served on the solid waste commission in Stillwater, OK that helped



Russ Helms

Continued on page 2



Chadd Clarey Mike Laesch Joe Siple

DMACC players sign early

One to Minnesota, Two to ISU

By R. J. Brogden
Bear Facts Staff

Three DMACC baseball players have signed letters of intent to play at Division I schools.

Chadd Clarey, Joe Siple, and Mike Laesch are transferring next year. Clarey will be attending the University of Minnesota. Siple and Laesch signed for Iowa State University.

Clarey said he was drafted by the Chicago White Sox last summer but decided to stick with DMACC.

"I stayed because I thought another year of college baseball would do me good," said Clarey. "I really do want to sign this year if the money is right, so Minnesota may be out of the question."

Clarey chose Minnesota because it is closer to his home town. He said that they play their first 21 games in the Metrodome and usually rank in the top 25

nationally and first or second in the Big Ten. Minnesota also offered him a scholarship.

He is undecided on what he will study while at Minnesota, but Clarey liked the environment and said that the coaches treated him very well. He also said a big difference between playing there and playing here is that the two best players at DMACC would only be average at Minnesota.

Siple & Laesch go with ISU

Siple chose Iowa State because he liked the facilities and the coaching. He also liked the conference and has always wanted to play Division I baseball.

According to Siple the difference between the DMACC and Iowa State baseball programs is that he will have to work harder.

"I know that when I leave there (Iowa State) I will be a more refined player," said Siple.

He said that there is already a tough second baseman there, and he will have to work hard.

"I know I'm not going to just walk in and get playing time right away. I'm going to have to work for it," said Siple about his future team.

Siple said he is excited about getting to Iowa State and playing ball.

Laesch also chose Iowa State because it was a Division I school in a good conference and because they offered him a scholarship.

He is still undecided on what he will be studying, but says it's going to be fun playing for a bigger college.

"Playing the bigger teams like Oklahoma State is going to be fun," said Laesch, "but there is a lot more competition because of the more experienced players."

Head Coach John Smith said there are thirteen sophomores on the team this year and only three have signed so far. He is hoping for more, but the early signing period is over.

"This is good for our program and it's good for the kids," said Smith. "That's what our program is for, the kids."

Talkback

What was the biggest news event this year?



Lanna Paul

"The recent massacre of Junior High kids in Kentucky. It is freaky that a fourteen-year-old can shoot his classmates"



Travis Cochran

"Mother Teresa passed away, she did a lot for the unfortunate and I feel that it was sad that it was an after thought in the news, especially "



Hilaree Robson

"The first ever septuplets. The odds are so rare, and it is a miracle that all seven babies made it and the mother has not had any complications."



Dusty Feuerback

"Many people didn't hear about it, but I feel the biggest news event was the earthquake that nearly caused Canada to fall into the ocean."

Des Moines Area Community College Final Exam Schedule for Day Classes - Fall 1997

All instructors in all programs are requested to follow this schedule. Any deviations should be approved through the appropriate department/campus dean. Instructors should consult department/campus deans if their classes do not appear to be recognized on this schedule

Tuesday, December 16, 1997 (Tuesday/Thursday classes)

Class Time	Exam Time
8:05 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
11:15 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.	10:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
2:25 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.	1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 17, 1997 (M/W/F or more classes)

Class Time	Exam Time
8:00 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.	8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
10:10 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	10:30 a.m. - 12:45 a.m.
12:20 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
2:30 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.	3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, December 18, 1997 (Tuesday/Thursday classes)

Class Time	Exam Time
6:30 a.m. - 7:55 a.m.	6:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
9:40 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
12:50 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	11:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Friday, December 19, 1997 (M/W/F or more classes)

Class Time	Exam Time
6:55 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
9:05 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
11:15 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	12:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
1:25 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.	2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
3:35 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Evening/Saturday Final Exam Schedule - Fall 1997

Evening classes will have their finals at the day and time of the final regular class meeting.

Last Monday night classes (Final Exam)	December 15
Last Tuesday night classes (Final Exam)	December 9
Last Wednesday night classes (Final Exam)	December 17
Last Thursday night classes (Final Exam)	December 18
Last M/W night classes (Final Exam)	December 17
Last Tuesday/Thursday night (Final Exam)	December 16
Last Saturday class (Final Exam)	December 13

Helms continued from page 2

the legislature develop waste disposal laws and has commanded four different construction battalion forces in Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Des Moines, and Waterloo. Helms was a reserve in the Navy for 26 years and was involved in World War II for forty months helping demobilize naval forces in Guam.

Helms graduated from ISU in 1948 where he studied acro- and civil engineering.

Out of the many experiences of his life, Helms says that the general experiences of World War II are the most lasting recollections of his life due to the nature of war and its effect on anyone involved in any aspect it.

Helms believes the change has been profound since his youth, especially on

the farm where manual labor has been replaced by high-priced machinery.

Helms said, "Today's youth don't appreciate just how much their future lives can be benefited by being alert to what is going on in our society and what has worked or has not worked in prior societies. Without studying other people's experiences, we can scarcely hope to choose wise directions in our own lives," said Helms.

Helms is living in Madrid with his son on a family farmstead that has been there since 1902 and is renovating the farm into working condition.

See you in January
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January 28, 1998

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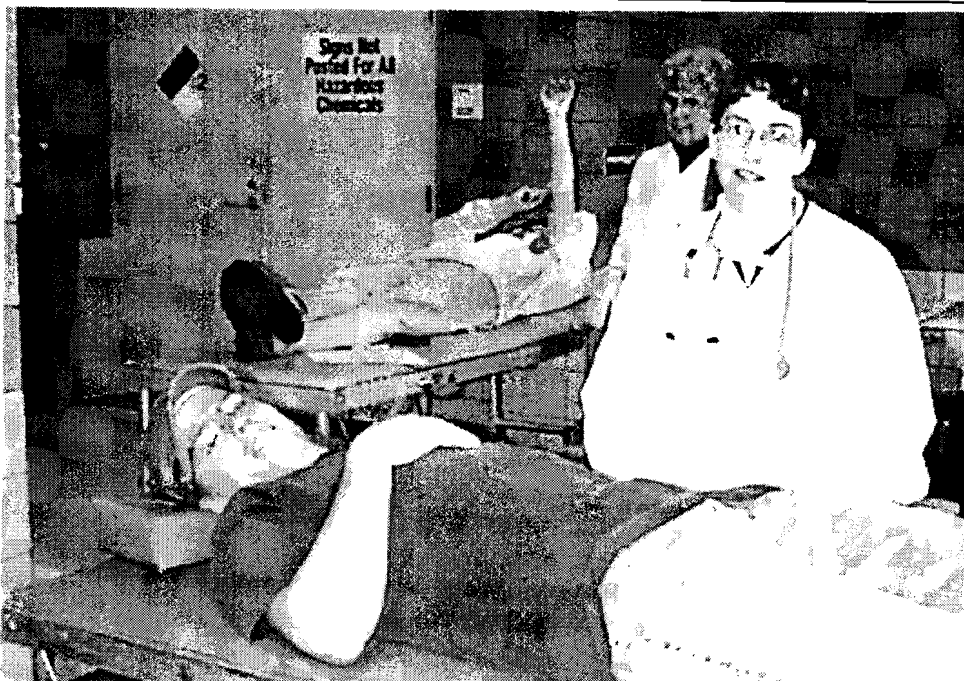


Photo by Patrice Harson

Freshman DMACC student R. J. Brogden donates blood to the Blood Center of Iowa.

Blood drive a success

By Boone Campus Nursing Students
Michelle Reiff & Joanne Johnson

Monday, December 1, 1997 was the blood drive sponsored by the Blood Center of Central Iowa and Nursing Students United of DMACC Boone Campus.

Staff of the Blood Center interviewed 51 persons and 46 pints of blood were drawn. Last year there were 39 pints of blood drawn. This year there were 11 walk-ins and there were 17 first-time donors. Way to go!!

A special thank you goes to Rachel Thomas who volunteered to be the chairperson for this blood drive. She spent many hours organizing the schedule for the volunteers and donated a great deal of time the day of the blood drive. A big thank you goes to the following persons who contributed their time and efforts to make this blood drive a success: Ruby

Everett, Kara Jensen, Patty Olsen, Angie Parle, Pam Smedley, Janet Whiting, Kym Crowdy, Michelle Reiff, Joanne Johnson, Laura Elsberry, Kathy Gilliland, Kim Miller, Rich Neville, Jayme Kester, Laurie Zinkle, Margo Starr, Cris Stumbo, Barb Hansen, Cyndie Lee, Lynette Hardy, Mindy Clark, Davina Will, Amy Herrick, Ann Zimmer, Shelley Winter, Deana Stevens, Keith Shearer, Marcy Hansen, the nurses and staff of the Blood Center, Patty Burns and Barb Gano. We apologize to anyone whose name did not get on our list but who helped.

We want to tell everyone that there is a blood drive at DMACC, Boone Campus, the spring of 1998. The goal for then will be 50 pints of blood. We hope you all will come forth to donate and help reach the goal.

Remember, for every pint, three to four people's lives are benefited.

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Barb Henning -- owner

Registration for spring going well

By Lorraine Powell
Bear Facts Staff

George Silberhorn, DMACC academic counselor, reports that about 500 students have already registered for the spring semester which begins January 12, 1998. He encourages all students to register before the Christmas break.

There will be two weeks to register in January beginning on January 5. Registration fees are due by January 7.

Grades for the fall semester will be mailed out during the holidays.

Silberhorn reports that it is never too

late to apply for financial aid. However, "the later we get to the end of the semester, the more difficult it becomes to get the financial aid in a timely fashion."

He encourages all students to make an appointment with their counselor or faculty adviser to plan their schedule of classes for next semester.

The DMACC library will be closed from December 22 through January 4.

Students should be aware that there will be no school on Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King's Day.

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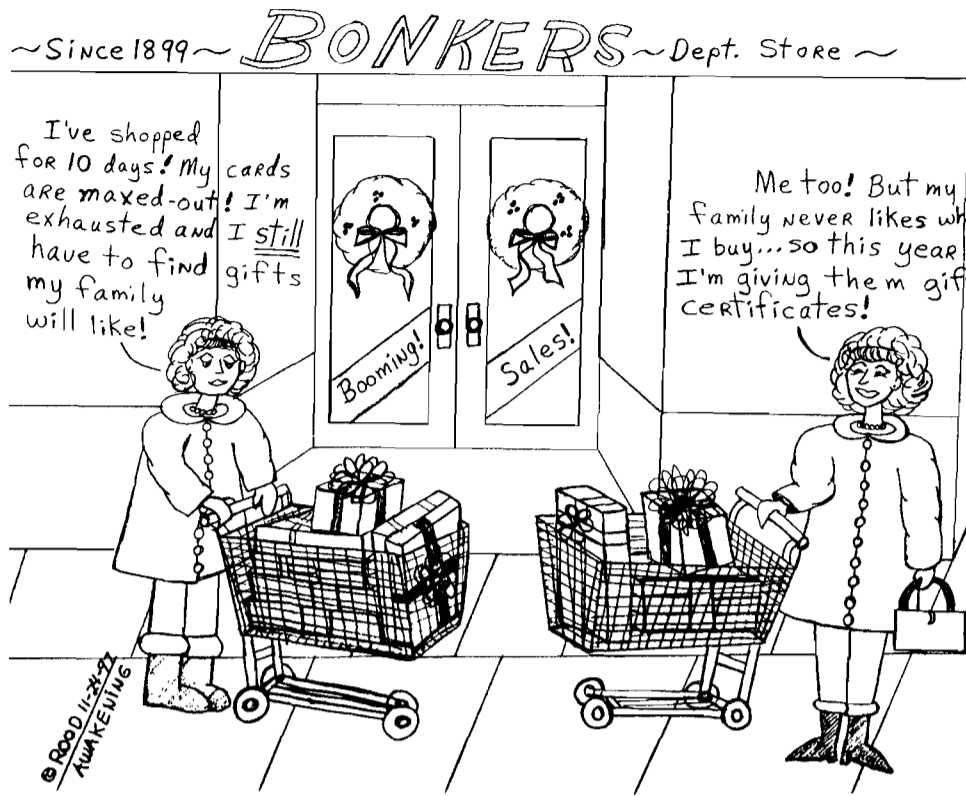
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Correction

John Doran is the group leader for the science and math department on the Boone Campus. The campus has three science labs on campus, including one for biology. This information was written incorrectly in the article "Science Lab in Works" in the last *Bear Facts*.



The DMACC Boone Campus International Club enjoyed a holiday meal Saturday evening at the home of their advisor, Jeanne Roth. Pictured from left to right are: (front row) Ka-Kei Leong of Macau, Mai Trinh of Vietnam, Hoan Trinh of Vietnam, Sie-Min Lua of Malaysia and Mahmoud Daaboul of Lebanon. (second row) Fanny Kiswoto of Indonesia, Yuko Brown, Motunrayo Fasehun of Nigeria, Fang-Fang of Indonesia, Malon Wahmon of Liberia and Ruth Gbilah of Liberia.

Caring at the kettle

By Patrice Harson
Bear Facts Staff

The year-long effects resulting from the Yuletide generosity of The Salvation Army Corps Community Center, 503 Benton St., Boone, is, perhaps, the best well-kept Christmas secret in Boone and Story counties.

Holiday shoppers hear the familiar holiday ring and see the kettles upon entering Wal-Mart, Hy-Vee and Fareway in Boone. This organization's good will is also demonstrated in grand force in Ames with volunteers located at Fareway, Hy-Vee, Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, Sam's Club and Cub Foods.

But after the multitude of crumpled Christmas wrappings are discarded and the family Christmas trees are removed from the cozy corners of our warm and comfortable lives, how many give the Salvation Army much thought? Many do.

From those where natural tragedy or unexpected financial crises hit close to home, year after year, bell ringers hear grateful comments at their kettles, referring to the warm cups of coffee and sweet rolls once served while soldiers sat in cold and lonely war trenches. At times, victims of previous unexpected tragedy voice appreciation for the relief they received during the flood of 1993 or for the referrals made after losing their homes to fire.

"Oh, I can give right now."

Joe Korpi, Program Director and Volunteer Coordinator for The Salvation Army in Boone, said that the mindset of many holiday shoppers when they walk into stores is to buy that and get this. Then, upon exiting the store, their mindset sometimes changes to "I'm going to give that and give this." In good cheer, many shoppers see the kettle and think, "Oh, I can give right now."

It's just this type of caring at the kettle that will provide the greatest portion of the Boone Corps Salvation Army's \$107,000 Christmas income goal this year.

However, more bell ringers are needed this season, especially for weekday afternoons and evenings, and anyone wishing to volunteer is urged to call Korpi at 515-432-5770

Another Salvation Army Christmas program that contributed to this income goal included the annual "Coats for Kids" program held last month where many dropped off coats, now too small for their children, to the Boone Bank and Trust Company. These coats were, in turn given out to those who came to apply for Christmas assistance.

The Salvation Army also assists those falling on hard times this holiday season through the distribution of food baskets which, in reality, are bags of donated food items.

Angel Tree

For parents meeting certain income guidelines, the organization also compile Christmas lists for children that include the age, size and gender of each child. These children are then assigned a number.

Along with the previously mentioned information and a list of needs, that number is placed on an angel ornament then hung on an "Angel Tree" located at Mercantile Bank in Boone. People can just pick an angel from the tree and, as their budget will allow, buy the needed item(s).

Participants then attach the angel tag and return the gift to the location of the tree. Those interested in helping out a child in need can either utilize the Angel Tree or contact Korpi to adopt a family for the holidays

A "Senior Angel Tree," listing some of the needs of local senior citizens homebound and in nursing homes, is located at Wal-Mart in Boone. Korpi said there are many senior citizen angels left on the tree and encourages those who care to donate to this cause.

Record numbers turned out at The Salvation Army's annual soup supper held at the Community Building at the Boone County Fairgrounds Sunday. Decorated Christmas trees, both artificial and real, were silently auctioned at this annual kick-off for the Tree of Light Festival.

Last year, approximately \$11,000 was raised at this auction. Since all the money raised goes directly to The Salvation Army, Korpi said, "Some people will buy their own tree and they will blow everyone else out of the water just to get their own tree back!"

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Kay Mueller and Hans Boehm

This year's festival was larger than those held previously, and The Salvation Army hopes to raise even more money. To accommodate the almost thirty Christmas trees, the festival had to be moved from the Historical and Cultural Center in Boone to the larger Community Building.

"Last year we had 60 dolls, toys and teddy bears that people dressed or crafted and then donated to us to sell or auction," continued Korpi. "This year we have well over 100. One group alone, the Open Bible Church in Boone, planned to donate 50 dolls, toys and teddy bears."

The festival began Saturday, and participants purchased a variety of baked goods and the "Mother Hubbard's Cupboard" sold Sloppy Joe sandwiches along with other food items and drinks. On Sunday, desserts were sold.

"Welfare reform is dumping people out of the system, explained Korpi, "so where do they go?"

"The money raised by The Salvation Army during Christmas time does go toward the Christmas programs," Korpi said, "but it also is used to provide the finances for our local year-round programming."

"Welfare reform is dumping people out of the system, explained Korpi, "so where do they go? They have to go somewhere for help. so they come to us. We're not federally funded for that type of activity, nor are we United Way-funded, so, all the different moneys that we raise are necessary to continue our own social service and all the other kinds of work that we do."

During 1997, The Boone Corps sponsored a Summer Day Camp Program which Korpi termed very successful for its first year out. Trained counselors taught children about nature and the Bible. The children enjoyed some productive recreation time--a time that was, according to Korpi, "structured so that kids who would have normally gotten into trouble, didn't."

The Salvation Army also offers year-round rental assistance, energy assistance and has a food pantry with donated items coming from the Iowa Food Bank. Families who qualify can pick up food baskets from the food pantry once every three months.

"We don't want to reinvent the wheel--maybe give it a better hubcap."

"It's our goal to help people who are in an emergency," said Korpi. "It's not our goal to help someone live without having to work." The Salvation Army is an emergency assistance organization for people who are down and out...genuinely need help...and we're happy to help them."

"There are some areas where we will work in conjunction with the Department of Human Services," continued Korpi. "Our organization makes many referrals to the DHS and Redrock Community Action." Korpi quoted Lieutenant Dennis Tooley, commanding officer of The Salvation Army Corps Community Center of Boone, in saying, "We don't want to reinvent the wheel--maybe give it a better hubcap."



Lee McNair

Holiday plans

By Brent West
Bear Facts Staff

The winter break is fast approaching at DMACC. Many students and faculty are looking forward to the break. Some international students and students who live out of state may not be able to travel home over the winter break.

Sie-Min Lua, a sophomore from Malaysia majoring in pre-engineering, said, "I am not going to travel home over the winter break because a round-trip airplane ticket would cost \$1200, and my parents are going to come visit me this spring."

Lua said, "I follow the Buddhist religion, so I do not believe in Christmas, however, at Christmas time in Malaysia, we celebrate every religion. Over the winter break I plan to travel to Minnesota for a ski trip."

Ka-Kei Leong, a sophomore from Macau (an island near Vietnam) and a food sciences major, said the cost of the airplane ticket will also keep her away from home. Leong said, "I plan to travel across the United States, travel to wherever the road takes me over winter break."

Fanny Kiswoto, a freshman from Indonesia majoring in operative management, said, "Over the winter break I plan to stay here in Iowa, relax and watch television."

Youngky Hermanto, a freshman from Indonesia and a management information

systems major said, "I plan to stay home in Ames and enjoy not being in classes."

Jamlech Mburra, from Kenya, Africa and a sophomore majoring in business, said, "In my country we really celebrate the Christmas holiday because there is no Thanksgiving holiday. We get together with family, eat a big feast and exchange gifts. I plan to stay in the United States over winter break and travel to Minnesota to go skiing and attend a young generation party called My So Called Life. On New Year's, I plan to travel to San Francisco.

On the other hand, Omar Alahbabi, a freshman from the United Arab Emirates and a political science major, said, "I am going to travel home and celebrate an Islamic Christmas with my family. We do not exchange presents, however, we eat a big feast and party with our family. Then, the guys get together and party some more."

Chris Braun, a sophomore DMACC Basketball player and a sports medicine major from Van Beren, Arkansas, said, "I plan to go home to spend Christmas with my family. Over the winter break, I also plan to play some basketball and go to the clubs."

Even though some students are not traveling home for the holidays, they seem to be able to find plenty of things to do to occupy their time.

Christmas: sacred...or shopping?

By Jason D. Van Arkel
Bear Facts Staff

Guess what? Only 14 more shopping days until Christmas. Better hurry... wouldn't want to be stuck in the mall on Christmas Eve, would you?

Y'know, it seems like that's all I ever hear any more...how many shopping days are left, what gifts are most popular (see Tickle Me Elmo)...just sell, sell, sell. It's been documented many times how sick we all are of the commercialism of the season, but all the talk about how bad it is never seems to change anything. We're so caught up in buying and preparing, we barely have time to enjoy Christmas--or remember its real meaning.

So, let's change the mind-set entirely. Imagine this, if you will: a pregnant woman, about to give birth, forced to travel to a town where every room in every inn is full. In desperation, she and her husband find a "stable"--in fact nothing more than a cold, damp, smelly cave. The woman is forced to give birth in that cave, and has no place to lay her newborn other than a straw-filled feeding trough.

This was one of the poorest, most humble beginnings a child ever had. Yet this very scenario is what churches all over the world will celebrate on Christmas Day, because that child was to become--and indeed, became--the greatest gift this world has ever received. It all started on that poor, desperate night in Bethlehem.

"Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace...sleep in heavenly peace."

The story gives a real meaning to those lyrics...and gives a real meaning to the Christmas season.

Merry Christmas, and God bless.

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Holiday Horoscope

By Jason Rearick
Bear Facts Staff

Aries (March 21-April 19)

It's cold outside. So wear something warm. Actually I'm just kidding, it's going to be nice and warm with a temperature of 102 degrees with the palm trees blowing in the wind.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Don't be offended if you don't receive a gift from Santa Clause this Christmas because it doesn't mean anything, it is just a misunderstanding. He just lost your address. So that boogie board you asked for actually got delivered ten doors down to a couple of Eskimos.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Don't worry if you get coal in your stocking. I remember the wise words of Charles Dickens in his holiday classic, *The Christmas Carol*. "Coal on your stocking is better than your stocking on your colon."

Cancer (June 22- July 22)

For Christmas you will receive a set of spatulas which are of no use to you and you will receive a set of underwear that you have been needing for the past five years. I wondered where that smell was coming from.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

You will turn mystically into the nut-cracker. Start dancing all around the school. Then people will think that you are nuts, but you reply, "No. I just crack them."

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Don't pig out at your family reunion. Your little cousins will make fun of your pot-belly.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Don't forget to go Christmas shopping. Fruitcake and socks are not presents, they are insults.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Don't forget to grab yourself a person of the opposite sex and a mistletoe. Because that is the only present you will be getting this Christmas. I'm sorry.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Don't get so drunk on New Years Eve that you go streaking out on Main Street in the sub-arctic temperature and embarrass yourself, again.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

When you are trying to find out what is in the big present under the tree that is making all of the barking noises, don't shake it around or throw it against the wall, or you will be suprized to see a doggy covered in drool.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

While you are shopping, don't make any stoppings or you will miss Santa while he is at your door making knockings.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

And above all, don't forget to leave Santa some skim milk and some low-fat wafer cakes. It's time for that big old guy to lose some weight. Don't you think?

Missing Links Program

"You can never have too many friends"

By Patrice Harson
Bear Facts Staff

The Salvation Army Corps Community Center of Boone is in the process of getting the wheels turning on a program informally originated by Captain Cy Mercadante.

According to Joe Korpi, Program Director and Volunteer Coordinator for The Salvation Army in Boone, Mercadante knew there were some homebound senior citizens in the Boone community, and Mercadante would get food donations from area businesses then go out and visit these people. The problem was that there were more homebound than Mercadante had time to visit.

In the late 1980's, an elderly woman died and left a sizable amount of money to The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army Advisory Board decided that the donation should be used for something that would have been useful to this elderly woman while she was alive. The woman was homebound and few visitors came to her door. The Board's decision was an easy one, and the Missing Links Program began.

"The government won't subsidize friendship."

The money willed by this elderly woman was used to reimburse volunteers and hire a coordinator for the program. Volunteers visit homebound senior citizens. "They're not there to do any housework," said Korpi. "They are there to talk...to be a friend."

The Salvation Army stepped forward to meet the social and spiritual needs of senior citizens by providing a friend for them. By 1990-1991, the program lost its coordinator, and the program eventually disbanded and was temporarily put on the shelf until restarted in November 1996.

Korpi is now matching visitors and hosts by what they have in common--taking into consideration, for example, religious beliefs (i.e. a member of the Evangelical Free Church matched with a visitor from that same church).

Also, many homebound senior citizens are not aware of all the available services, and Missing Links volunteers share this information with participants. If there is a specific physical problem that has otherwise gone unnoticed, the volunteer shares that information with Korpi through a written report. Korpi then obtains the appropriate assistance needed by that participant.

Korpi said, "The Missing Links is a Salvation Army program but it's community based. There's no other program like it and it's for the entire community."

Although the program focuses on homebound senior citizens, The Salvation Army takes every case into consideration. Their number one priority are people who are completely cut off

"The program serves people from all different social-economic backgrounds, said Korpi. "You can be rich as all get out and have a beautiful home. But if you're physically disabled and can't get out, you are completely cut off."

"We do our homework," said Korpi. "We screen our volunteers to make the visit a safe experience for both the volunteer and the host." This screening includes a criminal history background check.

Medicare and other programs will provide home care nurses or other personnel to take care of the homebound's physical health care needs, but, according to Korpi, "The government won't subsidize friendship."

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The Upper Deck



By Jason D. Van Arkel
Bear Facts Sports Editor

Hi, everyone. Welcome to my birthday column. I turned 22 yesterday. Whoop-de-doo. I'm not a happy camper this week, folks. Broken promises will do that to a person. This column isn't as much about sports this time as it is about the crummy way people get treated—although there's plenty of sports-related examples.

First, there's Joe Montana. The man gave his heart and soul to the 49ers his whole career, but when he got injured, the Niners just tossed him aside, forcing a man who had hoped to play his whole career in San Francisco to end his career halfway across the country in Kansas City.

Or Greg Maddux. The guy won the Cy Young award for the Cubs in 1991, but was forced to leave as a free agent after the season because the management—namely Larry Himes, the general manager—didn't like the fact that Maddux was a guy who stuck up for himself. Ryne Sandberg got the seven million dollar contract, Maddux ended up in Atlanta.

There's hundreds of other examples. Scottie Pippen and the Bulls. Marcus Allen and the Raiders. Roger Clemens and the Red Sox. Mark Messier and the Rangers. All athletes who gave everything they had to the organization, only to have that organization either treat them with no respect whatsoever, or carelessly toss them aside. Professional sports has become too much of a business, and the people in charge are by and large a group of greedy cutthroats. There's a reason I like college sports better.

That's all for this time—and for this semester. I don't know if I'll be back in the spring, so if not, I want to thank each and every one of you who took the time to read my articles and columns. I hope you enjoyed reading them as much as I enjoyed writing them. So sit back, slam a Dew and have a great holiday season. God bless.

Basketball teams battle Mother Nature

By Jason D. Van Arkel
Bear Facts Staff

Although both DMACC basketball teams faced some stiff competition in the last couple of weeks, their greatest foe turned out to be the weather.

The Monday night matchup at home against Ellsworth for both the men's and women's teams was postponed due to snowy weather and poor road conditions. Also, the men's home game against William Penn on Thursday was postponed for similar reasons. All makeup games have been scheduled as part of a mid-February homestand.

The men's team did play as scheduled in the Cowboy Classic tournament in Dodge City, Kan., Nov. 27 through 29. The Bears lost to host Dodge City the first day, but came roaring back in the round-robin tournament to crush tournament champion Fort Scott 88-71, picking up their first win of the season. On the final day, Kemper Military barely squeezed past DMACC 78-75.

Guard Chad Behn, who hit all of his three-point attempts against Fort Scott, was named to the All-Tournament team. The Bears' other starting guard, Codey Mann, left the team for undisclosed reasons. Head Coach Terry Jamieson said the decision for Mann to depart was a mutual one, adding, "We're going on without the best point guard I've ever seen."

The women's team dropped three close games last week, losing on the road to the Simpson JV squad and North Iowa Area Community College, as well as a home loss to the Central College JV team.

DMACC basketball picks up again at the start of the spring semester, as the Bears host the DMACC Classic tournament Jan. 9-10.

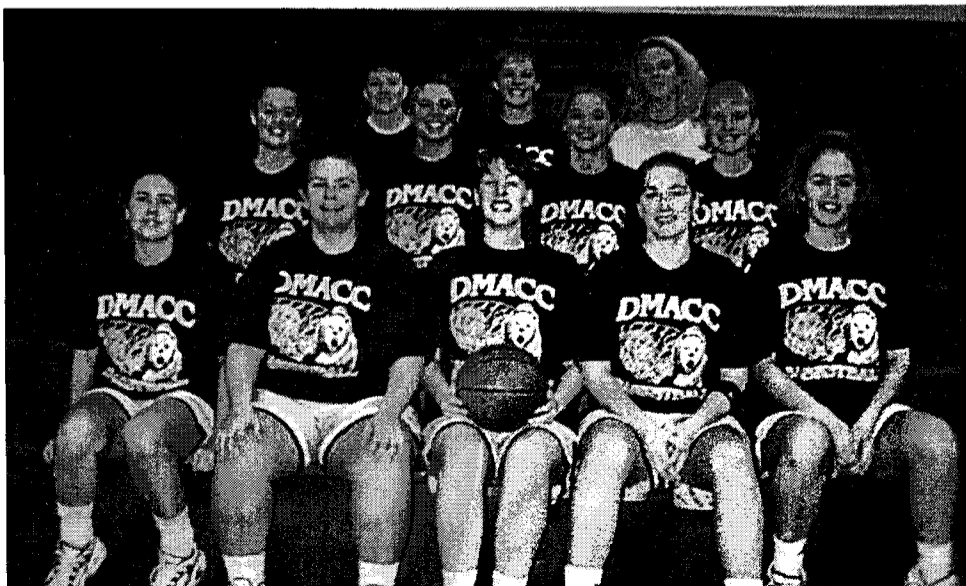


photo by Moses Leuth

The 1997-98 DMACC women's basketball team. **Front row (left to right):** Laura Hatfield, Kindra Tolley, Jaclyn Kelley, Katie Kirkegaard, Sarah Shepley. **Middle row:** Angie White, Kari Hull, Dottie Ausborn, Rhonda Schmidt. **Back row:** Coach Kim Carlson, Jeana Crouch, Aimee Beatty. **Not pictured:** Gina Peter, Amber Walker.



Joel Bryan, operations manager at Seven Oaks Recreation, prepares the slopes for the opening

Ski resort? In Boone?

By R. J. Brogden
Bear Facts Staff

Ski trips no longer require long road trips with new slopes located just west of Boone where R18 meets Highway 30. Seven Oaks plans to open on Friday, December 12.

Joel Bryan, operations manager said they were hoping to start blowing snow Wednesday, Dec. 3, depending on the weather. To make snow with snow machines, the temperature has to be 20 degrees or below. Bryan said they have eight snow machines at Seven Oaks, and if it would rain and cause a melt down, they could have more machines within two hours.

Seven Oaks is owned by the Bryan family, who also own Fun Valley in Montezuma. The Bryan family has owned and operated Fun Valley for 27 years.

Construction started last summer on the new ski hill. The chair lift took five semi-trucks to get here from Kentucky. Approximately 5000 feet of water line was also installed.

The water for snow making starts in a deep well and is pumped into a pond. It is then pumped by a hydrant to 18 different stations, each near an electric outlet. This equipment allows them to change 370 gallons of water per minute into snow.

The cafeteria and lodge were both remodeled as they were former Ski Valley structures. The cafeteria will sell hot dogs, beef burgers, French fries, etc., making it a cafeteria, not a restaurant. The rental department has 550 pair of rental articles and 20 plus snowboards.

Seven Oaks has a high-speed service lift that travels at 15 mph. It will mainly be for snowboarders and those skiers who don't want to wait in line. A beginners' lift is located where skiing lessons will be taught.

There will be snowboard instructors and ski instructors provided for people

who are just learning or wanting a refresher course. The mini-lessons are free, but private and group lessons are available at a cost.

Seven Oaks will have ten runs, including a mogul run and a fun park for snowboarders. The way the runs are rated is not to be compared to any other rating system. Bryan said the runs are 40 percent advanced, 40 percent intermediate, and 20 percent beginner, which is considered good for the Midwest.

Anyone who owns skis can purchase a lift ticket for \$10 during the weekday and on weekends and on holidays, it costs \$16. The night rate after 5 is also \$10.

Seven Oaks offers a package of the lift ticket and equipment rental for weekdays of \$20, and on weekends and holidays it costs \$26.

The night package rate after 5 is \$16. Group rates, which must be scheduled in advance, are available.

The holiday rate applies from Dec. 25 through Jan. 1. It also applies to M. L. King's Birthday and President's Day.

A season pass at Seven Oaks is accepted at three other parks: Fun Valley in Montezuma, Buck Hill in Burnsville, Minn., and Powder Ridge in Kimball, Minn. A season pass for an adult costs \$200 plus tax; for children (nine years old or younger) it is \$140 plus tax, and for a family of 4, \$450 plus tax and \$50 for each additional person.

Seven Oaks will be open seven days a week: Monday through Friday from noon to 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and holidays 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. It will be closed Christmas Day and will close at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve.

Seven Oaks can be contacted by phone at (515) 432-9457 or by e-mail at bryan@funvalley.com or on the web page at www.funvalley.com.

From the Staff: What Christmas means to us

The experience of Christmas is a little different for everyone. In this issue we've decided to ask ourselves, the staff of the Bear Facts, what Christmas means to each of us individually. The following series of quotes is our gift to you:

"Good times with family around the Christmas tree and dinner... the fun stuff."
--R.J. Brogden, Reporter

"Christmas is a time for sharing with your family feelings you feel everyday of the year."
--Melinda Gorman, Columnist

"Christmas is a celebration of the birth of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."
--Scott Kovach, Columnist

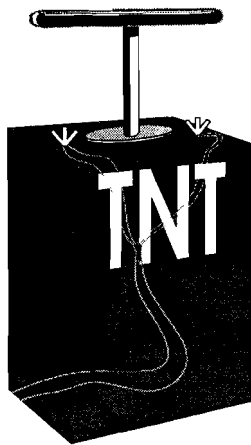
"A two week vacation from the rigors of school, and a chance to gain 10 pounds."
--Moses Lueth, Columnist

"A star, a stable and a baby in a manger... the greatest gift of all."
--Jason D. Van Arkel, Sports Editor

"I love Christmas... I get accused of playing an extravagant amount of Christmas music, and people get even more upset when I crank up the volume in answer to their criticisms. Christmas is a wonderful time of rebirth and of celebrating our love for one another."
--Patrice Harson, Editor

"The first thing I think of when I think of Christmas is the gleam in a child's eye. Now that I have a new grandchild, I look forward to seeing that once again."
--Jan LaVille, Advisor

Everyone at the Bear Facts would like to wish you the best of Holiday Seasons. We hope you have a merry and meaningful Christmas, as well as a safe and happy New Year. Thanks for reading the Bear Facts.



It is my belief that in order for American society to improve our health and minds, we must reduce the amount of television we watch.

In a majority of our American homes, there are television sets, and in front of these TV's we sit and gobble up whatever the television declares to be fact. Television distorts what we know as real, the writer's of these programs are not generally concerned about how it effects the audience. I say this because in watching television, all that is required of the viewer is that we sit and watch. It can become consuming, and all trace of time is forgotten for the viewer who is fully immersed in Melrose Place.

I do not believe that television is wholly bad. It is a wonderful medium to inform, entertain, and teach the public. But it is the amount of time that one spends watching TV that worries me. Television does little for thought. Thoughts are fed us while we sit on our lazy boys and recline with an ice cold Natural Light and Doritos. There is so much more out in the world then we are aware of. Do some of us even know when the television was invented, by who, and how it works?

What I suggest is for hard-core TV drones and America to do is deprive ourselves of our pastime for two days, and instead read a book, not merely a romance novel by Danielle Steele or Tom Clancy adventure, but a different book that will challenge them to think and make them feel. Another possible idea is to actually venture outside to the outdoors and get away from the sedentary life and be active and shed those pounds and stretch those limbs that have been long inactive. We have one life to live. Do not let it pass by. Turn that television off and see what is out there.

Melinda's Musings



The holiday season is upon us once again. It is a time for families to gather and share a time of giving and arguing. Because the Holiday gathering often takes place at the grandparents' house, I'd like to dedicate this Musings to my grandmother, Doris Hasstedt. I have few memories of my other grandparents because they died when I was quite young. This grandma is still ticking.

Grandma Doris has taught me many things. I used to help Grandma in the restaurant she owned in downtown Boone, where she taught me to count change. Grandma Doris also was the one to introduce me to embroidery--what I call grown up coloring. When I was a girl she gave me, two printed pillowcases and several skeins of embroidery floss for Christmas.

I have recently learned that Grandma used to write poetry but having raised five kids on her own, no longer had time for it. It seemed grandma was always working. I used to think that is what kept her young.

In recent years Grandma has bounced back from things that would put many in a nursing home: a broken hip and kidney malfunction. Dialysis, a walker, and tender loving care provided by my Aunt Joyce keeps her on her feet, literally.

Grandma has also had to endure a major rift in the family-family members not welcome in the same room with other family members. Grandma's prayer and my own would be a reconciliation. I hope my family can forgive each other before we're attending a funeral.

I wish, while I still can, to express how much love and respect I have for my grandma. I treasure the many memories that we've shared: berry picking, going for walks, getting ice cream, working in the restaurant, talking in the living room, and working in the garden.

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

The Written Word is Available to All

By Lorraine Powell
Bear Facts Staff



Words are powerful but the written word is even more powerful. For many years traditions were passed down from fathers to sons, and still are, in many parts of the world. Spoken words were and are guarded by the father-son relationship. For example, women were not to know the secret knowledge and rituals that went on in the Indian kivas, in the Grand Lodges of Masonry and in all other exclusive all-male organizations.

As time progresses, however, all-male organizations are facing the reality of gender inequality and discrimination. Even the military has faced the forced inclusion of women in their previously all-male academics.

It is time for all knowledge, both scientific and mystic, to be opened up to all. Women were once kept from hearing and afterwards kept from reading. But no longer in this culture can that continue. When all the knowledge that is in this world is written down, it can then be available to everyone who seeks to know it.

As more and more knowledge is written down and as more and more education is made available world-wide, to both males and females, there will be no more closely-guarded secrets of the male intelligenzia/priesthood from ages past.

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