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## Banner News

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**Authors**

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# News Briefs

## Graduation

If you are completing degree or diploma requirements at the end of spring, summer, or fall semester check those requirements against a program information brief and complete a graduation application so DMACC will provide you with an official evaluation. Get your applications in by Oct. 1 for fall, Feb. 1 for spring, and June 1 for summer graduation.

## Rezoomers meet in two weeks

Ellen Fairchild, Coordinator of the Office of Adult Learner and Commuter Student Programs for ISU, will be the guest speaker at a special meeting of the REZOOMERS CLUB Wednesday, April 17, at 12:00p.m. in the conference room east of the L.W. Courter Center. She will discuss the services offered by ISU to adult students. There will be an opportunity for questions. All adult students who are considering transfer to ISU are encouraged to attend this meeting. (You do not need to be a member of the REZOOMERS CLUB TO participate.)

## Free van to take students to ISU

On April 17 school van will leave DMACC's southwest door at 2:30p.m. for a tour of ISU. The tour will be completed by 4:30p.m. If interested contact Maggie Stone in Room 124 by April 16.

## Talk Back

How has the weather affected you this semester?

*The canceling of classes caused me to get behind and not get my assignments done on time. The weather also made me lazy and not want to go to the library and study.*

Mohamed Al-Kadas  
Sana'a, Yemen



# Bear Facts

Volume XXIV - Issue #13  
Des Moines Area Community College

"The Voice of Boone Campus"



Photo by Kay Muller

DMACC cast members Dana Hesser, Adam Wile, and Tina Smith rehearse for the up-coming production of *The Butler Did It*, premiering April 12.

## A play within a play

Amy Davis  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

"It's a play where nothing is as it seems," says Greg Hager, one of the actors, in the upcoming play *The Butler Did It*. Hager says he enjoys playing Detective Mumford.

He has been in six other plays, most of them here at DMACC. Perhaps you've seen him in such shows as *Barefoot in the Park* done last fall, or *Something's Afoot* from last spring.

Another actor in the DMACC Boone Campus spring play is Tim Rose, who plays Anthony Leftcourt in the upcoming play, but this man has played a lot of faces throughout his life, being in nearly 35 to 40 plays.

"It's fun as an actor to play different parts, not hitting the same roles as a character," Rose said when asked what he liked best about this play. He also enjoys the people working with him and the nice variety in the show.

"The best part would be meeting new people and the night of the performance," said Dana Hesser. She plays Mrs. Butler and Natalie in the upcoming play. She really enjoys acting and has been in a few plays. She was in *Bare Foot in the Park* last fall and in some all through high school.

Adam Wile plays Michael Severino, who plays Aldo the Butler in this spring's play. Wile has done several plays and even a few commercials. He's auditioned for movies, but

hasn't quite made it to the big screen. The last play he did here was *Love, Sex, and the IRS*.

One rookie in the group is Curtis Neff. This is his first play ever, and he is really enjoying it. He is playing Robert Lattimore, who plays Raymond Butler. "I'm not doing it for the glory, just the experience," he said.

Tina Smith plays Claudia, who plays Victoria Butler in the play. Smith, from Las Vegas, Nevada has been in plays before.

The performances will be on April 12 and 13 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door. They are \$2.00 for DMACC students and staff and \$5.00 for the general public.

## New classes offered this summer

Samantha Hutcheson  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Summer class schedules are out, and it's time to register. Official registration runs from April 22 to May 29, but you can pre-register as soon as you get your classes chosen.

Several of the classes listed below are known to be difficult to schedule at ISU, according to George Silberhorn, DMACC counselor, and he recommends that you take them here and get them out of the way.

Summer classes run from May 22 to August 2 and finals will be on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2.

As you look through the class schedule, you may notice that there are some new classes, along with classes that are condensed into a few days.

Out of the nine new classes for the summer, two are in the science area: Environmental Conservation (BIOL118), 3 credits, and Ecology of Iowa (BIOL155), 3 credits; six of them are in the computer area: CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) (CADD401), 3 credits, Cobalt II (COMS126), 4 credits, Basics (Visual) (DATA103), 3 credits, Excel (DATA335), 1 credit, Spread Sheets (DATA345), 1 credit, and Pascal (COMS174), 3 credits.

The last one is in the sociology area: Race, Ethnic and Gender Relations (SOCY105), 3 credits.

### Accelerated Classes

Three week-long classes run from May 11 to May 20. These are Word (OFFC349), 1 credit, in the office technology area, Intro. to Computer Literacy (COMS181), 3 credits, in the computer science area and In-

Continued on page 2

## Summer employment available

Melinda Gorman  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

A group of people dressed in swimsuits covered with long pants and long sleeved shirts, possibly a hat or kerchief stand waiting for a bus. They're carrying work gloves, a lunch and thermos of water or other drink. The bus will take the crew to a cornfield where detasslers will walk down the rows of dew-laden corn pulling tassels from the female corn.

Detasseling is only one of the many summer jobs available in central Iowa. Prairie Meadows needs pari-mutuel tellers. An art gallery needs people for setting up and recorders for art auctions. Public pools need lifeguards and managers. A nanny service needs people to travel to New York or Philadelphia to care for children and the list goes on and on.

These and many more job opportunities are posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

George Silberhorn, DMACC counselor asks that if you get a job to let him know so that the notice will be removed from the bulletin board.

Perhaps a summer business would be more to your liking. Garden space, some seeds, and young plants are the ingredients for a business at the Farmers Market. Membership costs \$50. For more information contact Greg Rinehart at 432-4480.

DMACC instructor Jan LaVille suggests that the part-time job chosen should match your career goals.

An internship is another avenue for consideration. Mary Jane Green is DMACC's Internship Coordinator. Her office is room 212. An internship is a paid or unpaid on-the-job training for college credit. DOT offers an unpaid internship Adventureland offers several paid internships.

Green said that some of the best paying jobs offer unpaid internships.

Whether looking for an internship or regular summer employment, check the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Courter Center and the cork strip outside RM 212 for possible jobs for this summer.

## Nigerian luncheon scheduled for Apr. 9

Angela Cherryholmes  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

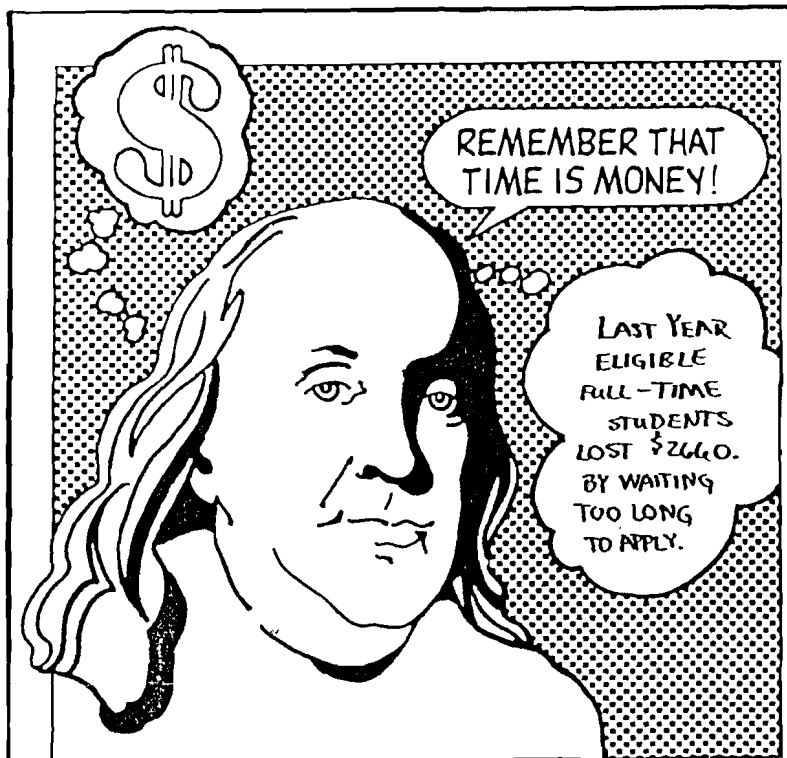
The year of Nigeria continues to bring international customs and ideas to our DMACC Boone Campus. During this upcoming Nigerian event DMACC students, faculty and staff are invited to attend a Nigerian luncheon. The luncheon will be April 9, 1996, from 12:00p.m. - 1:00p.m. on the Boone Campus in C108-109.

The luncheon's menu consists of authentic Nigerian food surrounded by a Nigerian atmosphere, provided by Margaret Speke Davison. This will be Davison's second appearance here to the Boone Campus. She previously appeared as a guest speaker for students,

faculty, and staff. Davison will again display her Nigerian artifacts, discuss life in Nigeria, and demonstrate Nigerian dress.

Tickets for the Nigerian luncheon can be purchased in advance at the Academic Achievement Center for the cost of \$2.00 each. Only 100 tickets will be sold and they will not be sold at the door.

Just yesterday two Nigerian women were guests here on the DMACC Boone Campus speaking about the gender issues in Africa. The speakers Nkechi and Yejide were hosted by DMACC sociology instructor Lee McNair. Following the lecture Nigerian clothing could have been purchased in the Courter Center.



It's a fact. If you wait to apply for 1996-97 college financial aid, you will not get an Iowa Tuition Grant!

Use the financial aid renewal form you got in the mail - or - call to have an application sent to you.

...but don't wait!

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## Continued from page 1 Summer School

terpersonal and Small Group Communication (SPCH117), 3 credits, in the speech area.

Jinny Silberhorn, professor of Interpersonal and Small Group Communication said, "It's the exact same class as the fall and spring class, only it's one week long." The class consists of lectures, group activities, small group presentations, and 3 tests over the lecture and book.

Silberhorn also added, "You will have absolutely no life outside of this class. You're in class from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. then you go home and read three or four chapters in the book for the next day. It is a very intense class, but you can get it out of the way, and you have the whole rest of the

summer for other things or classes."

This class does run May 13 through May 20, from 7:30-11:30 and 12:00-3:30. There is no class on Saturday or Sunday.

Word runs from May 13 through May 17, from 8:00-2:30. The Intro. to Computer Literacy runs from May 11 to May 20 with classes on both Saturdays from 8:00-3:30.

### Comp I offered on ICN

English 117 will be offered for the first time on the Iowa Communications Network. Students in Boone will be linked up students in Indianola and Newton. The tabloid is incorrect--the class is on Tuesday/Thursday at 12:30-2:35 p.m.

One other error is under the "TV Courses." SOCY204, Social Gerontology, should have the CRN # 31201.



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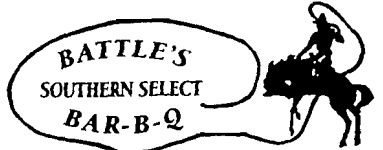
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Robin L. King  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

How do children cope with death? Do they understand death? This is a question I have thought long and hard about. My oldest son's grandfather was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer and has only a year to live if that. I thought of the impact that something like this could have on an eight year old. Will he understand, only time will tell.

When telling my son of the news of his grandfather I was very careful in choosing my words. I told him that grandpa was sick in the hospital. He asked "Why?" to which I told him that his grandpa had cancer like his grandma did several years ago. I also explained that grandpa's condition was worse than grandma's was. Then my son surprised me when he asked if grandpa was going to die.

I told him that everyone in the world dies at some point or another and that grandpa was going to go to heaven earlier than the rest of us. I asked him if he understood what death was about and what it meant. He simply replied that when you die, they bury you in the ground and then you go up to heaven to be with God. Then to my sadness he also said that when you die you can't be with your family anymore.

It became clear to me that he understood exactly what death was but I was still concerned about whether he could except the loss of his grandfather. We all hope that grandpa has a long life ahead of him. No matter what the future holds for grandpa I know that dealing with death at such a young age is difficult.

Most children think that when you die that you can come back. This is due to the people on television that die and then reappear a week later on another show. I feel that each parent at some point must talk to their children about death and what it really means.

## Vittles with Vern and Virginia

### V & V travel south of border

Vern and Virginia went slightly south of the Boone area over spring break to taste a little bit of Mexico. Pancho's Mexican Buffet in McAllen, Texas is a definite stop for anyone partial to south-of-the-border cuisine. McAllen is a fairly large city about the size of Ames.

The \$4.79 price will give you a choice of any or all of the following Mexican morsels: tamales (one of Vern's favs), several kinds of enchiladas, flautas and tacos (both tops in Virginia's book), chalupas, and rellenos. In addition to these, chips and salsa are served tableside upon arrival and the meal is topped off with a basket heaping full of sopapillas.

These are light-crust pastries into which you pour gobs and gobs of honey. If this isn't enough, a salad bar and soft ice cream bar awaits your call.

Much of the food is hot and spicy which made Virginia's father's head bead with sweat and his eyes water. Vern tried a tomato-onion salsa that made him go screaming into the night. Nonetheless, he said it was "bueno." (That's the only Spanish word that Vern knows.)

One of the fun features of Pancho's is the "seconds system." When your plate is clean and you want more, you raise a little Mexican flag that's attached to a pole on the table. Soon a waiter/waitress will take your order and promptly return with your request so that you can gorge yourself more.

The dining area was decorated with pinatas and primitive Mexican art. Seating is plentiful with both smoking and non-smoking sections.

Pancho's is located at 2622 N. 10th St. in McAllen and is open seven days per week.

BUENOS DIAS!

Rating: ☺☺☺☺½

### Former Bear Facts columnist hospitalized

Robert Plumb, Jefferson, suffered a heart attack over the weekend and is hospitalized at Mercy in Des Moines. Plumb graduated from DMACC Boone Campus this past spring and for two years was the "Old Codger" columnist for the campus newspaper. Kelly Plumb, his wife, is currently a Boone Campus student.

## Talk Back

### How has the weather affected you this semester?



*Driving to school on slippery roads was awful. When you add in missed classes and car problems this equals a very bad winter semester.*

Azmi Khozi  
Jakarta, Indonesia

*I've got spring fever and would like to do things outside. Spring seems to be teasing us this year.*

LeAnna Haidsiak  
Madrid



*The weather has definitely affected me. I've been depressed and more easily discouraged. Getting to class in bad weather is also a problem when you live out of town.*

Julia Edson  
Frasier

*This was a very hectic winter for me. A family member needed daily medical treatment in Des Moines and traveling there in bad weather added to the stress.*

Maggie Stone  
Boone



## Divorce decision very difficult

Lorraine Powell  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

The issue of divorce has become a very important one in Iowa, especially in this past legislative session. Governor Branstad's plans to end the no fault divorce and to make legal divorce much harder to get has stirred up peoples' thinking about who or what should make our decisions to get a divorce.

Divorce is something that causes suffering to all parties involved, especially children. My own personal experience of divorcing my husband after twelve years of marriage and five children was very difficult. The thing that pushed me "over the edge" in my decision was when I heard the hurt in my little girl's voice when she told a children's group she attended that her most important wish was "to have a friend."

When a parent awakens herself or himself to their children's needs they need to weigh out what is going to cause their children the most hurt. Should they stay married to a selfish partner who thinks of no one but himself? Do they free themselves and their children of another's control and allow the discovery of good things about themselves and the growth of self esteem?

I did not divorce my husband because I did not love him. That would have made the divorce a lot easier. Those who can divorce

knowing the love is gone or was never there, as far as I'm concerned, have it easy.

What is hard is having to divorce a person who you "chose" to be a life partner and with whom you shared so much but at the same time refuses to change anything about himself or herself. Is it right that just one person in a marriage should get to run things? Is it right to be in a relationship where "It's my way or no way at all?"

I would agree with Governor Branstad on the issue of mandatory counseling as a needed step in the divorce process. It will not take very long in the counseling process to ascertain if both parties want to try to work out problems in the marriage. A person who does not want to change will not desire counseling or will not stay in counseling for very long.

My advice to either partner in a marriage who wants to avoid divorce is to find out how much each of you is willing to change in order to make the marriage more equitable and just for all concerned, especially the children. Remember, a man and a woman in this nation choose one another but children happen. If a partner is not willing to change, take a long hard look at the results that this will have in your life and in the lives of your children.

And when all else fails, remember this "Do unto others as you would want others to do unto you."

Photos and text by Audrey Burgs



Photo by Audrey Burgs

ESL lunch bunch meets in Courter Center. From left to right, Hendry Muljadi, Tonny Tannur, Elina Tanoto, Juliana Tanoto, Juliani and Achmad Ramadhani

Adding cultural diversity

# Ten percent Boone Campus international

**Audrey O. Burgs**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Imagine going to school in a different country. Think about the many adjustments you would have to make.

The culture would be different and you would have to adjust to the climate. The most difficult obstacle to overcome would probably be learning to speak, read and think in a different language.

Ten percent of the students on the Boone Campus deal with the language barrier every day. They are international students who have chosen to get their education in the United States.

Many of them have studied the language in their home countries, but find that putting what they have learned in theory is hard to put into practice.

Our international students come from every continent, but the majority of them are from

Asia. They do not blindly choose this campus, but usually have a connection to a relative or friend that has attended school here or at Iowa State.

The Academic Achievement Center has organized an ESL club to help these students improve their conversational English. The students meet informally the Courter Center at 12:15 p.m. on Fridays. Any native speaker is welcome to join in the discussion.

## REMINDER

**ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**  
**The Annual International Dinner tonight**  
**When: 6:00 p.m.**  
**Where: The Courter Center**

# Crossing the

**Tuan Trinh**  
Contributing Writer

*"We hid...for almost ten hours."*

**Editors Note:** This article, written as an assignment for an English 117 class illustrates the struggle of one student and his family, seeking a new life.

"Where are we going, Mom?"

"We are going to the beach at Vung Tau."

"Are we coming back here?"

"Of course. Honey! Your grandpa is here."

The short conversation between my little sister and my mom almost brought tears to my eyes. My mom had just lied to my innocent sister; she knew we might not come back. It was also the last time we said good bye to our relatives and neighbors without the promises of seeing them again.

I remembered how heart-broken I was when I finished my last journey through the door of my home which was filled with love and a lot of memories. It was, perhaps, the saddest situation my family had to face.

It was six years ago in 1989, when I was thirteen, my parents decided to escape from our homeland, Vietnam, to other countries for freedom. It was a difficult decision for my parents to decide because it was a very dicey flight.

*"We would have to cross the sea for two or three days...our boat could be buried by the ocean."*

My parents knew we would have to cross the sea for two days, three days or even one week if something went wrong, or our boat could be buried by

the giant ocean. If the trip was not successful, we would be in jail because there was a very strict law for people who ran away from Vietnam at that time. But we had no choice.

My parents saw that there was no future for my sister and me in Vietnam if the political restriction kept holding us back from education; therefore, they determined to take this chance.

After making such a difficult decision, my parents used the money from selling all of their possessions to pay for the conductor who coordinated the escape. We prepared food, water, and anything that was necessary for the trip a week before we left.

Finally that day came which in August of 1989, we came to our appointed place in the small village near the access of the sea called "Vung Tau." We hid in a small brush house in the village for almost ten hours, and also I realized that there were a total of fifty people who were also looking for freedom like my family; they all prepared very well.

There were men and women, parents and children, and also some infants from one to three years old. We waited until midnight when the darkness covered the whole scenery in the village until the conductor's voice was loud enough to awakened everyone when he said, "Time to leave!"

His voice was toughened as he proclaimed, "After we get out of this house, everyone must be quiet and follow me; no one can talk or make noise otherwise, you know the consequence!" Everybody kept silent.



Tuan

# sea: Leaving my homeland

seemingly to show their agreement. Looking at my mom's and my dad's faces, I could see how worried they were. So was I.

A group of fifty people all dressed in black slipped out of the brush house following the conductor. He was so experienced at distracting the sentries' attention at the access of the sea. Moving along the shore in the windy, cold, and dark night, I felt very nervous.

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*"I bit my tongue and tried to keep calm as the coldness of the sea crawled through my body."*

---

I bit my tongue and tried to keep calm as the coldness of the clean, fresh air of the sea crawled through my body and made me feel a little excited. It was so silent that I seemed to hear everyone's breath. My dad was carrying my little sister; she seemed to be unaware of what we were doing.

My mom's hand was cold when she grasped my hand tight and pulled a little bit forward to tell me to move faster.

After an hour walking in the icy cold night along the shore, we reached the boat, and time began to race by. I was glad that we were safe after each person quickly jumped down into the boat and sat down quietly. The conductor used his ten fingers to signal everybody to lie down and keep still as we left. The boat was big enough to fit a throng of fifty people and a few supplies for the trip that we could not even decline our legs.

As the boat started leaving, I heard the sobbing from several ladies, and somebody was praying to God to bring fortunes to them and the trip.

I was really depressed when the boat went further. My eyes were full of tears that slowly rolled down my cheeks. I believed that we were really leaving now with an unsure thoughts of coming back anymore.

---

*"The boat was going further and further, but my eyes were still on the land."*

---

The boat was going further and further, but my eyes were still on the land until it became smaller and disappeared slowly. Everyone in the boat had the same feeling as mine except for my little innocent sister, Thanh; she was only five years old at that time and had no idea what was going on. My parents looked very frightened. The anxiety in myself was increasing when all I could see were dark blue water and the darkness accompanied by the waves sounded like thunder on both side of the boat, making it sway.

It was unpredictable what would happen to us if we went further; the ocean could destroyed or bury our boat at any-time, but the boat kept going forward in the direction of Malaysia. I felt our boat was as a little grain of sand lost in the desert.

The next morning everyone in the boat was sleeping. Most of us were so seasick that our faces looked pale and exhausted. My parents and my sister were sleeping at the corner of the boat seeming to look very fatigued. I was awakened by the sun light and realized that I was clueless as to where we were.

The boat was bobbing in the ocean combining with the smell of gasoline and sweat, making me very tired. Once while I was sleeping, something was dropping down on my face. "Oh, my god!" I jumped up immediately as realizing that it was the vomit from the old lady dripping down on my body. After awhile, I didn't even notice when someone was vomiting because even I was throwing up also.

At about five o'clock in the evening, we met another boat. We tried to ask for help because we were almost out of food and water.

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*"When their boat approached, we were appalled to realize that they were Thailand pirates."*

---

When their boat approached closer to ours, we were appalled to realize that they were Thailand pirates. It has always been a fear for people like us because it's hard to tell what would happen when we met them.

Quang, our conductor, quickly deviated and tried to get away from them. But it was too late. They stopped us in the middle of the ocean. Everyone on the boat was so scared and tried to hold tight their own things and keep it safe when those pirates jumped into our boat.

Each of them was holding a gun and knives hung around each hip. They looked very fierce and ugly. One had a clean-shaven head, another had a long dirty and greasy hair with some deep scars on his face. They walked down along the boat searching every single person for valuables such as gold, money, and diamonds.

They beat up some men who tried to go against them or blocked their way of searching.

My mom and my sister were crying hard. I was trembling with overwhelming fear as one of them came to us. My heart seemed sinking down into the deep sea, and my legs were shaking rapidly.

"Hey, where your money?"

"We...We...don't have any," said my father.

"Shut up! Don't fool with me."

"No...No..., Ooouuccchh!"

The guy gave a very hard punch right at my dad's nose before he had a chance to finish

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*"I was really mad and scared when I saw blood coming from my dad's nose."*

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his sentence. Now I was really mad and scared when I saw the blood coming from my dad's nose. My mom screamed so loud as she held me and my sister tightly in her lap.

I found myself totally panic when the guy started to search our bags, clothes, and our bodies, but he forgot to check my parents' shoes. Before we got into the boat, my parents hid gold and diamonds in their socks, so we did not lose anything except for other supplies.

Then he walked away while he was still looking with a furious expression on his face. I heard screaming and crying from women and kids accompanied by laughing, shouting, and the gun shots from those pirates.

After they finished robbing us, they gathered all of the females in one side of the boat and tied all the male together with the ropes. I was confused of what they were trying to do, and I was really upset when one guy grabbed my collar and pushed me down on the floor and tied me next to my dad.

Suddenly, he grabbed the hair of a fifteen-year-old girl, the youngest one, and pulled her head back and said, "You are mine!" He was laughing hard as the girl cried harder. The girl's mother leaped up immediately to grab her daughter back, but a big hand from the guy standing next to her dropped down right at her face and pushed her back to the floor.

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*"She cried... 'Leave my kid alone! I could trade for her.'"*

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She cried and said, "Please leave my kid alone! I could trade for her." The leader began to laugh harder, seeming to ignore what she said.

I just wanted to kill them all. I wished we had never escape from our homeland for freedom as I cried. I wished I was blind and deaf that I could not see what was happening in front of me and hear the screams and cries from a fifteen year old girl and all the women who had been raped by those mean pirates.

My mom was lucky because she had her period on that day, so they left her alone.

---

*"Our dream of freedom was like a broken glass."*

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Three hours later, after they had gone, everyone remained quiet. No one said a word; no one ate or drank anything. They just sat there like people who lost their souls; our dream of freedom was like a broken glass. I was still haggard from what had happened.

After hours and hours just sitting of doing nothing, it was midnight already. My mom and my dad started walking around, talking, and passing out food and water for everyone.

One more day had passed, the boat kept going forward. Everyone now seemed to look a little bit better, and their activities came back to normal. I felt much better when I saw people talking and smiling.

Another day had passed, but we were still in the middle of the sea. We still had little food and water left. Everyone looked dirty, dead tired, and our eyes were tired of waiting to see any indication of the land that we had not seen yet.

In the sunny afternoon while we all were sleeping, a loud voice of the conductor awakened us, "I saw it!" said the conductor.

"Saw what?" said my dad.

"The... the... land!"

Everyone stood up quickly, and I really saw it, but I thought it was just an illusion. A few seconds later I knew it was real. We made it! My happiness was beyond description and I found myself speechless.

People cried because they were so happy. Some just jumped up and down, yelled out loud, and hugged each other in an exhilaration state.

The boat approached the shore of Malaysia slowly. People from the land tried to help us pull over the boat. Some jumped into the water and swam to the shore because they could not wait. Now I knew we were saved.

My parents' eyes looked very excited and happy as they looked at me. I could see the hopes of the future for everyone and for my family, and our dream of freedom became real.



Photo by Audrey Burgs



# The Birdcage

Come as you are



**Mark H. Williams**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Some movie remakes are an improvement over the original. Some remakes should never have been attempted. *The Birdcage* falls into the latter category. Where the original was fun in an over the top sort of way, the new version is just plain bad.

This is the 90's version of "Amos and Andy." Yes, there are some funny bits, but the one joke goes on far too long. The "joke," if you don't know, is that the son, Val (Dan Futterman), of Armond (Robin Williams) is marrying the daughter of one of the country's most conservative Senators.

Armond Goldman is the owner/manager of "The Birdcage," a bar where female impersonators perform. His lover, Albert/Starina (Nathan Lane), is the star performer at the club. Interesting that there is not one gay person in the bar watching the show. Much of the action takes place in the apartment that Armond and Albert share over the club.

Val comes home to announce his intentions of marrying Barbara (Calista Flockhart), the Senator's daughter. At the same time, Barbara is telling her parents, Senator Keeley (Gene Hackman) and his wife (Diane Wiest).

The high jinx begin when another Senator dies in the arms of a prostitute. Not just any hooker, mind you, but the black, underage, illiterate type is portrayed here. What makes this "funny," is the fact that both he and Keeley are the sponsors of the family decency act, part of the conservative agenda. Keeley must flee from the press, who is hounding him for answers. The Keeleys decide to go to South Beach, Florida, to meet Val's parents.

While all this is going on, the Goldman's are busy degaying their apartment, getting ready for the impending visitors. In amongst all the usual pratfalls, we get to meet Val's mother, Katherine (Christine Baranski). Her character is played no differently than her character on the TV show, *Cybil*.

After the parents meet, have dinner, and the media locates them, the big joke hits. We get to see Gene Hackman in drag! Not a pretty sight, nor is it even remotely believable. In fact, none of this movie is believable, and that is the biggest problem with this movie.

I do not expect comedy movies to be fact based, but I do expect a reasonable amount of realism in them. When was the last time any of you went to see a drag show and the audience was entirely heterosexual, and the clientele

made a point of letting you know? I know the last time I saw one, at least 85% of the audience was gay. South Beach is supposed to represent Florida's version of San Francisco or Greenwich Village, but all you see are heterosexual couples running around on the beach. Yes, all of them are muscle men in thong bikinis, with women hanging all over them.

This movie might not be as offensive as it is, if Hollywood would put out a few honest movies, depicting gay people as the real people that they are.

The only characters that Hollywood seems capable of showing are ones of either psychos (*Silence of the Lambs*, *Fatal Attraction*), drag queens (*Too Wong Foo*, *The Birdcage*), or as non-sexual/non-emotional (*Philadelphia*, *Making Love*). The American independent and foreign film makers have not been afraid to show honest aspects of the gay life (*Maurice*, *The Living End*, *My Beautiful Laundrette*, *Poison*).

It is time for Hollywood to take note and stop continuing their "Amos and Andy" attitude of gay characters, and give them the respect they deserve.

In my opinion this movie rates a ☹☹. Go see it only if you find negative stereotypes funny and amusing.

☺☺-Excellent  
☺☹-Very Good  
☹☹-Average  
☹☹-So-so  
☹☹-Bad  
☹\*-Bomb

**Creative  
Writer's  
Group  
Meets  
Today  
2:30 P.M.  
Courter  
Center**

## What a Drag

- 1. The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert** ☺☺  
An Australian road show that brakes down.
- 2. The Crying Game** ☺☺  
Have you figured out the truth?
- 3. Kiss of the Spider Woman** ☺☺  
Touching story of South American prisoner.
- 4. La Cage Aux Folles** ☺☺  
Much better than the American version.
- 5. Mrs. Doubtfire** ☺☺  
Robin's first drag, and better.
- 6. The Rocky Horror Picture Show** ☺☺  
Kinky horror spoof, and Susan Sarandon sings!
- 7. Tootsie** ☺☺  
Jessica Lang's first Oscar, rest of cast as good.
- 8. To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar** ☺☺  
Slow drag show hits the road.
- 9. Victor/Victoria** ☺☺  
Good but overlong, ending is worth the wait.
- 10. Yentil** ☺☺  
What, Barbara Streisand as a man, maybe?

Mark H. Williams

## Horoscopes

By Audrey  
Astrologist to the Ordinary

**Aries** (Mar 21-Apr 19) An old love is about to be renewed. Do not resist. Bend over backwards and give the old flame a chance to blaze.  
**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) You have suffered through a cold, dreary winter. Your turn to bask in the sun is coming soon. Keep your mental attitude receptive.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21) Use your impeccable good taste to choose an impressive gift for your current love. Being generous will bring you favor.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22) Love and happiness have washed over you like a fresh spring rain. Your spiritual awareness has been heightened. Take time out to savor all that surrounds you.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug 22) Go beyond the edge and expose yourself to new ideas. Take a risk and explore new physical and mental adventures. You will find the answers you have been searching for and more.

**Virgo** (Aug 23-Sept 22) You stand on the verge of a spiritual renewal. Take time out to reflect and meditate. Murky matters will become clear.

**Libra** (Sept 23-Oct 23) Your charm and intelligence allow you to be a good listener as well as an interesting conversationalist. You will become active in a project that will enhance the lives of others.

**Scorpio** (Oct 24-Nov 21) Life is too short to live by a hidden agenda. Get on the peaceful path that will allow you to fulfill your dreams, hopes, and desires.

**Sagittarius** (Nov 22-Dec 21) You are an intelligent and exceptionally imaginative person. You are about to find success through originality, intuition and inventiveness.

**Capricorn** (Dec 22-Jan 19) The wait is about over. After many disappointments and setbacks, you are about to receive great achievement and reward.

**Aquarius** (Jan 20-Feb 18) Your great artistic abilities will lead you to fame and fortune. Do not allow your success to be detrimental to your personal relationships and happiness.

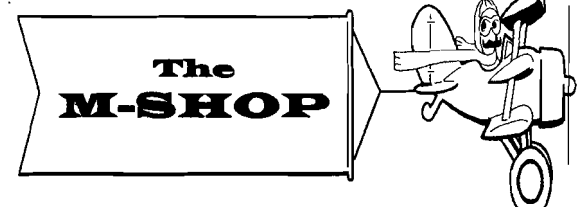
**Pisces** (Feb 19-Mar 20) You possess many diverse and unusual talents. You are about to embark on a career that will satisfy your material and spiritual needs.

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10P \$1 at the door
- Th 4/11 Tiny Lights  
9P \$6/\$5 students
- Fr 4/12 Gary Primich  
8&10P \$5/\$3 students
- Sa 4/13 Tripmaster Monkey  
with Speed of Rain  
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Ticket Info: 294-8081 or

294-2758

Iowa State Memorial Union







Photo by Lorraine Powell

DMACC women's softball coach Catherine Schroeder, poses for a picture during a recent practice.

## Schroeder anticipates up-coming season

**Lorraine Powell**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Catherine Schroeder has coached DMACC women's softball team for the last four years. Schroeder, according to one of her team member's was, "an awesome pitcher and picked for the All Star Team. However, she was injured in her sophomore year."

Schroeder graduated from Saydel High School in Des Moines in 1976. She worked for ten years and then attended Drake University and DMACC. She graduated from DMACC in 1986 and transferred to ISU where she received her physical education degree in 1991.

### Schroeder's main goal

Is to coach and "represent women as aggressive ball players that have respect for their opponents, umpires and people." She remembers the days when womens' sports were unpublicized in the media. Schroeder stated that if it had not been for the Federal Law Title 9 which was passed in the 1970's that things would

still be the same. She wants to see womens' sports on an equal status with mens', both financially and publicly.

**Schroeder believes that the team she has this year is the best group of young women she has worked with so far. "I wouldn't trade them for the world."**

The overall record of the team has gone from 1-15 in the first year of her coaching to 26-14 in her third year. She thinks that this year they will win over half of their games.

### 6 Sophomores

The following are the sophomore members of the team: Nicole Feeney, Lori Tilley, Meleena Henderson, Diane Schmitt, Becky Hostetter, and Tina Stuhldyer.

### 4 Freshman

This years new incoming freshmen are Emily Pool, Julie Dill, Missy Mozena, and Jessica Paulsen.

The first year that Schroeder coached, the team used the Little League Park. Now they have a new field on the Boone Campus constructed through the

combined efforts of Athletic Director, Harold Johnson, her husband, Alan Schroeder, and herself. Holly Seifert designed the dugouts and the team members donated their time and efforts. The team now also has new uniforms.

The team has 32 games schedule, depending on the weather. Some of their strongest rivals will be NIACC, Waldorf, Kirkwood, and ICC.

**The most important things that the women are learning this year is, "how to handle pain, how toll compromise and how to be a real cohesive team," said Schroeder.**

She hopes that many of the students will support the womens' sports program at DMACC.

Next home  
baseball  
games 4/6  
& 4/7 at  
noon  
Next home  
softball  
game 4/5  
at 3:30

## JUCO honors awarded to 3 DMACC players

**Julie Ann Cronin**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Three DMACC-Boone men basketball players Chris Larson, Dax Connely and Malcom Holman were honored for their outstanding effort and talent this season.

Larson a sophomore on the team was honored by leading the team and conference in rebounding averaging 15.2 per game. Larson was placed on the second team all-conference and he is also one of the top ten rebounders' in the nation.

Russ Jones, the men's basketball head coach, was upset Larson was not named to the first team. "I'm very disappointed, with the outcome. If you look at Larson's honors, he should have been named first team all-conference."

Larson was honored by the award he has received, but he is

also very disappointed on the outcome. "I'm extremely disappointed we didn't have a player on the first team. We had three of the best players in the conference on our team. It's disappointing that the coaches' votes were effected by our record. I'm happy about the honor but I was shocked that two of our players, one in the top five for scoring and the other in the top five in assists were on third team.

Connely, a sophomore, was selected third team all-conference, and he was also third in the conference in scoring, averaging 19.8 points per game.

Holman also a sophomore was named third team all-conference averaging 8.0 assists per game.

Coaches from DMACC's conference were responsible for the voting results.

## Gibbs spends spring break fishing

**Cory Williams**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

During Spring break, there was only one thing on Tom Gibbs' mind. That was to fish for walleye and catfish. Gibbs is a DMACC student who enjoys fishing almost all year long.

The reason he was fishing for walleye is they are the most active during the cold weather. Gibbs didn't have much luck, but everybody else he talked to did. Gibbs said, "When fishing after the ice is out, patience is a must. Bait presentation must be slow."

Gibbs has only fished walleye for 2 years but has fished a total of 8 years consistently for other fish. Gibbs would rather fish for crappie and catfish than for walleye. He loves to fish for cat.

Gibbs fishes for crappie and walleye during the months of February, March, and, April. And when May hits, its time to go fishing for catfish, until October.

Gibbs doesn't fish in a boat very often; he's more of a bank fisherman. He goes by the farmers' almanac or the back of the sport's page in the *Des Moines Register*. Gibbs says, "The moon plays a big part in fishing, sometimes before a full moon and a couple days after."

Words to live by, "Please practice catch and release."

**ISU Coordinator of Adult Student Services**  
*will speak at a special REZOOMERS Meeting, Wednesday, April 17 at 12:10 p.m. There will be a ISU tour following the meeting.*

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DMACC student sees it all

Spring break adventures lead to Hollywood stars

**Julie Ann Cronin**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

While many of you stayed in Iowa over break, I was lucky enough to go to the sunny state of California. I arrived in the Los Angeles Airport (L.A.X.) on March 8, to a sunny day with the weather about 80 degrees, where I would be spending the next twelve days in California.

From Rodeo Drive to Sunset Blvd; to going to Disneyland, West Beverly Hills and we can't forget the hottest tourist spot O.J. Simpson's house, I still needed to make time to get a tan. So I decided to keep a little diary about the highlights of my trip.

**March 8-9, (Fri. & Sat.)**

Went to San Diego for the weekend. Highlight of the weekend was lying in the sun and going to the Kansas City Barbecue where the piano scene from *Top Gun* was filmed.

**March 10-11, (Sun. & Mon.)**

Went to Mexico for two days to shop and get tan. Highlight of the two days was running into people who were there from my hometown and getting lots of good deals. I got a great woven rug. Got sun!

**March 13, (Wed.)**

Went to Hollywood to see the stars on Hollywood Blvd. and cruise Sunset Blvd; also went to

Cal State University, Long Beach to look at the university for grad school. We walked down Hollywood Blvd., to look at the shops and at all the stars on the sidewalk. The highlight was meeting a Michael Jackson impersonator and getting my picture by Bob Barker's star on the sidewalk. Got Sun!

Drove on the California interstate for the first time by myself and it was crazy!

**March 14, (Thurs.)**

Went to the beach all day to get a tan and watch my friends surf. The temp today was 82 degrees.

**March 15, (Fri.)**

Went to O.J.'s and Nicole's house and went shopping on Rodeo Drive. Highlight of the day was talking to O.J.'s bodyguards and taking pictures there and also buying a purse on Rodeo Drive.

**March 16, (Sat.)**

Went to Huntington Beach all day to play volleyball and get sun. Highlight of the day was going to a brewery and drinking raspberry beer along with running into a friend I went to school with at Iowa State University who now lives out there.

**March 17, (Sun.)**

Happy St. Patrick's Day-- my favorite holiday of the year. Went to the beach all day to work on my tan. In the afternoon went to a barbecue with



Julie Ann Cronin, a DMACC student poses for a picture by Bob Barker's star in Hollywood over spring break.

friends, then went to the bars to drink beer. Highlight was meeting Jim and drinking green beer.

**March 18, (Mon.)**

Went to Newport Beach today to work on my tan. Highlight of the day was being in the sun, playing basketball and going over to Jim's for dinner, the guy I met last night.

**March 19, (Tues.)**

My last day here. Laid in the sun and packed. Highlight of the day was seeing the guy I met. Took a flight out of L.A.X. at 3:40 p.m. and arrived back in Chicago at 2:00 a.m. Besides the weather being in

the 80's everyday, I met a lot of really nice people and saw the culture of California.

I would recommend California to everyone for Spring break next year, if they like the sun, shopping and seeing the stars. I spent about \$650 total on the trip including my plane ticket, which was only \$180 round trip to Los Angeles.

Huntington Beach and Newport Beach had a lot of activities for people in their middle 20's. So if you are looking to find a new vacation spot to travel to, I would suggest sunny California.

Women's financial program planned

**Angela Cherryholmes**  
Bear Facts Staff Writer

If you're a woman concerned about your financial future and wonder what you can do about it, the ISU Extension office can help. They are offering a women's financial information program open to any age group.

The workshops will be held on Thursday evenings from 7:00p.m.-9:30p.m. beginning in April through May. Workshops will be at the Boone County Cultural Center. The cost for the program is \$25 per person. You can register at the ISU Extension office at 603 Story Street

The program consists of a series of seven workshops covering a variety of topics including: organizing financial records, managing your cash flow, using banks and credit, managing your risks, planning for the unexpected, investing for retirement, and a Q&A panel.

The ISU Extension also offers free baby-sitting to anyone that wants to attend the workshops. For more information call 515-432-3883.

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