

Des Moines Area Community College Open SPACE @ DMACC

Banner News

Student Work

1-31-1996

Banner News

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Bear Facts

Volume XXIV - Issue #8
Des Moines Area Community College

"The Voice of Boone Campus"

Student committee organizes

AIDS awareness program today

Angela Cherryholmes
Bear Facts Staff Writer

With the growing prominence of AIDS in our nation and hometowns, a collaboration of DMACC students have designated January 31, 1996, as DMACC AIDS Awareness Day. This day has been organized to develop the truths from the myths concerning AIDS.

One myth surrounded former superstar basketball player for the Los Angeles Lakers, Magic Johnson, who recently returned to the NBA. Johnson retired from the NBA on November 7, 1991, after testing positive for HIV. Johnson's reluctant retirement from the NBA was surrounded by controversy and fear. The fear of not knowing enough about the virus ended Johnson's "magical" career.

Many NBA player's op-

posed playing with Johnson because he was diagnosed HIV positive. In the years that have followed since Johnson's initial retirement, the American society has learned more about the virus. Education can be the best tool to combat the AIDS virus.

The presentation on the Boone Campus is Wednesday, from 10:10-11:00 a.m. in the auditorium. It begins with an introduction from Mike Clark, Boone Mayor Pro Temp, followed by Pam Carmine from the Story County AIDS Coalition, and speakers who have contracted the HIV virus in various ways or been affected by those who have died.

The auditorium lobby will display a wide variety of AIDS-related brochures and pamphlets. Condoms and lubricants are also available for stu-

dents courtesy of the Story County AIDS Coalition.

Also in the reception area there will be refreshments donated by Archway Cookies and McDonald's of Boone.

A portion of the Names Project quilt will be exhibited in the L. W. Courter Center from 9:00 a.m. till noon. The Names Project quilt is sectioned 12x12 with each individual quilt the size of a casket reminding us of those who died of AIDS.

This is DMACC's second AIDS Awareness program offered in the last few years. However, organizers of the event plan to make DMACC AIDS Awareness Day an annual occurrence. The committee believes that "We need to educate ourselves everyday and this is just one step we can all make to arrest this disease crippling America."

478 Iowans claimed by disease

Audrey O. Burgs
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Iowans are dying of AIDS. The disease has claimed the lives of 478 Iowans according to the Iowa Department of Public Health. In the first eleven months of 1995, there were 105 new cases of AIDS reported in the state. This number can be compared with the four cases that were reported in 1984.

AIDS is most commonly spread by contact with three body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, and blood from an infected person. There is no cure for AIDS, nor is there a vaccine to protect against getting the virus. There are measures that can be taken to

minimize your risk in contracting the disease.

Being celibate will put your chances of contracting AIDS through sexual contact at zero. Changing your sexual habits will minimize your risk. The use of latex condoms when having anal, oral, or vaginal sex has been shown to prevent HIV infection. The condoms must be used correctly and every time you have sex.

If you shoot up drugs or steroids, you can get HIV from sharing needles or syringes. The HIV virus from an infected person can remain in a needle and be injected directly into the body of the next person who uses it. Bleach can be used to clean a syringe before it is used again.

If you have your ears pierced or get a tattoo, make certain that the individual you go to uses a new or sterile needle for each procedure.

Some people contracted AIDS from blood transfusions that they received in the past. Since 1985 all blood donations are tested for HIV. If the virus is found, the blood is thrown away. These measures have virtually eliminated the possibility of contracting AIDS from a blood transfusion.

If you need more information about minimizing your risk of being exposed to AIDS, you can contact the Center for Disease Control's National AIDS hotline at 1-800-342-AIDS or the AIDS Coalition of Story County at 292-5487.



Photo By Tricia Whitcher

DMACC students return for the Spring semester on January 16th.

Enrollment at 1000

Samantha Hutcheson
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Scheduling classes is always hectic. When you think you finally have it all together and you have all the classes you need, you come to school only to find out that one or more have been canceled. You then have to run around like a chicken with its head cut off to reschedule all of your classes, wondering "Why me? Why did they have to cancel that class? I need it to graduate!" Or say "Uh, uh, that sticks," like Binney, a DMACC student. Well, Dean Kriss Philips has the answer.

The process of canceling a class starts with a computerized class list of those who have registered before the start of school. If the list has twelve or more students on it, the class is a go. If not, the list is put the pile of maybes.

If more people register on the first day of classes and that raises the number to twelve, then the Dean will let it go. If not, the class is canceled.

There are some circum-

stances that the Dean takes into consideration. One of them is if the class is new, like the Principles of Reporting or if a large number of students need it for graduation.

By the third day of class, with the exception of night classes which is made by the fourth class, the Dean makes all final decisions on which classes are a go and which ones are not.

Discussing the first day of class, the Dean mentioned with a smile on his face, "Tuesday (Jan. 16) was the busiest day for both the offices and the bookstore I have ever seen since I've been here."

As for enrollment for the Boone Campus, it is almost exactly the same as last spring at one thousand students. It is down from the fall semester, but that was expected with the bad weather conditions. Along with that note, the schedules for the summer semester will be out soon according to Dean Philips, so be looking for them.

One last reminder, the last day to drop a class is April 2.

Nigeria: Graft and corruption rampant

Audrey O. Burgs
Bear Facts Staff Writer

"There is now a total disregard for the rule of law and personal freedoms in Nigeria," said Dr. Nubi Achebo a recent speaker on the Ankeny campus DMACC continues its Nigeria Year observance by focusing on the current political crisis in that country.

Dr. Nubi Achebo, a Nigerian who now lives in central Iowa, delivered the presentation. Dr. Achebo gave an overview of Nigeria's political history since its independence from Great Britain in 1960.

Nigeria is a constitutional democracy but has been under military rule since a 1966 coup. Achebo detailed the negative effects of military rule on Nigerian society. He said "The militarization of a society causes the people to begin to accept it as the norm and not as an aberration."

Nigeria makes about \$100 million daily from the sale of crude oil. The military rulers have siphoned off the vast majority of these profits and the bulk of the population lives in abject poverty. Graft and corruption are rampant.

The present administration led by General Abacha is the most regressive in Nigeria's history. It has dismantled all the democratic structures that were in place. The government controls all the universities and

has not allowed them to reopen this semester.

There has been a crackdown on labor unions that caused a strike in the oil sector. Ethnic minorities are also under pressure from the regime. Political opponents face prosecution by special tribunals set up to usurp

the judiciary system. The military acts as accuser, judge, and executioner.

The execution of writer and human rights activist Ken Saro-Wiwa has brought international attention to the injustices that the Nigerian people are suffering. Saro-Wiwa was an ethnic Ogoni, a small group who live in Nigeria's oil-rich south. The Ogoni are farmers and fishers whose land and waters have been destroyed by oil industry pollution.

You can contact your member of Congress at the following addresses:

Charles Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)224-3744

Tom Harkin
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)224-3254

James Leach
2186 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)225-6576

Jim Nussle
303 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)225-2911

Jim Lightfoot
2444 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)225-3806

Greg Ganske
1108 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)225-4426

Tom Latham
516 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501
(202)225-5476

Source: Congressional Directory 1995-96

A bill to impose sanctions against Nigeria has been introduced in Congress by Senator Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas. Achebo encouraged the audience members to write their members of Congress and ask that they support Kassebaum's bill.

If sanctions are imposed, Americans could feel the pinch at the fuel pump. Nigeria is America's fifth largest source of crude oil.

Nigeria year shirts available

The shirts for Nigeria Year are now available from Bruce Kelly Room 127 or Jan LaVillie Room 212. They were designed by Jennifer Pierrick, a Commercial Design Student on the Ankeny Campus. The shirts come in Large, X-Large, and XX-Large sizes. There are T-shirts (short and long sleeved) and sweatshirts available. The prices are as follows:

Short Sleeve T-shirts.....\$6.00
Long Sleeve T-shirts.....\$8.00
Sweatshirts...\$12.00

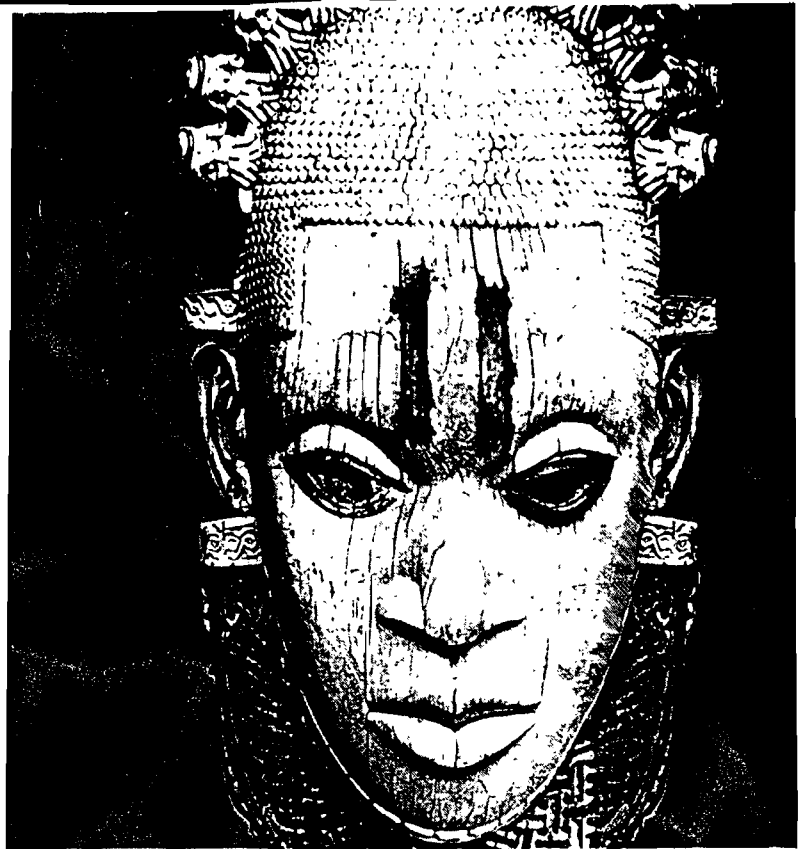
Students, staff encouraged to keep food/drink out of classes

According to a recent DMACC Bulletin, DMACC prohibits food and drink in most building areas, especially carpeted classrooms and corridors. Signs are posted in these areas and the instructors teaching in the rooms are required to enforce this rule.

Building carpet is extraction cleaned every three months during break periods when it is most efficiently done. Spot cleaning needless beverage spills in between is very time consuming, expensive and reduces the life of the carpet.

Beverage spills are very unsightly and significantly detract from the appearance of our buildings.

Last day to drop classes is April 2, 1996



Nigeria art work by Ankeny Campus commercial design student, Jennifer Pierrick.

Iowa New Choices: For men and women

By Lorraine Powell
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Have you heard the name, Iowa New Choices? In case you have not, it's the same service that has been offered by Des Moines Area Community College since 1987 as Project Self Support. The name change came about to better coordinate the program throughout the state. It now has nineteen sites operating out of Iowa Community colleges. Its director at DMACC in Boone, Maggie Stone, says the goals of Iowa New Choices are still the same: to offer single parents and displaced homemakers the opportunity for educational and career assessment counseling, pre-employment counseling and financial assistance

towards child care and transportation.

Single dads-don't think you're not eligible! It is not just for moms. It's for all parents that have full or joint custody of their children and for single pregnant women. Last year 84 single parents and displaced homemakers took part in Iowa New Choices at the Boone campus.

She also says that two upcoming spring workshops will be entitled "Computers Don't Bite" and "Pre-Employment Job Search Skills."

For more information contact Maggie Stone at 515-432-7203. Her office hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 8 A.M. and 4:30 P.M.

By George

Planning to transfer? Don't miss this opportunity! On Wednesday, January 31st from 9:00 a.m. to noon, several Iowa colleges and universities will be represented by admission advisers in the L.W. Courter Center. Advisers from Drake, Grand View, Iowa State, Simpson, University of Iowa, and University of Northern Iowa will be on hand to answer

questions about transferring, admissions, and articulation, deadlines.

This will be an opportunity you'll not want to miss. Take advantage of the expertise these advisers bring to you. The first student who brings a neon lime "Planning to Transfer?" poster to my office gets a certificate for a free pizza.

Rezoomers is for all ADULT STUDENTS.

Meetings are held the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Tuesday of each month in the conference room, C-110, at the east end of the L.W. Courter Center from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Your letters

Letter to the Editor

Has this ever happened to you? You are in a class at 10:30 and your instructor has given you your assignment for Monday. The assignment must be completed in a format that requires you to use a computer, but you don't own a computer. You are probably wondering when and where to complete your assignment. You will not have any class time, and you cannot stay after class because you have just enough time to get home and get ready for work. This could be a problem for anyone, so what do you do? Wouldn't it be nice if the computer lab was open on the weekend, either Saturday or Sunday for at least a few hours? I would like to use the lab on the weekends. What about the rest of the student body? Why isn't the lab open on the weekends?

I talked to several people who might have an answer to this question. Ron Erickson, LAN specialist, said that in the two years he has been running the lab no one has expressed an interest in having the lab open on weekends. I also talked to George Silberhorn, student advisor. He stated that he would think having the lab open would be a good idea and would like to have some student response on the subject.

I think that if enough students show interest in having computer access on the weekends and use the facilities when they are opened, then we could get the computer lab opened for weekend use. So come on students, if you would like computer access on the weekends, then let Mr. Silberhorn or the Bear Facts staff know. If enough of us want this type of access, I believe we can do it.

Julia Edson
DMACC Student

Card of Thanks

Joy Koch, a case manager at the Boone Lighthouse, wishes to thank all those from DMACC who generously supported the toy and clothing drive sponsored by the Rotaract Club. Koch says, "The holiday season was a little brighter for the participants in the Boone Lighthouse program because of your donations."

Letter to the Editor

While eating in a local establishment the other day, I overheard a conversation coming from the table next to ours. The person speaking professed to be a college teacher. The conversation went something like this: "If parents only knew how little effort some of their kids put forth in college they would be shocked!!"

Since I am not a parent of a college student, I can only suppose that this might be true. Now let's add one word to this scenario by saying, "If parents only knew how little effort some of their kids' teachers put forth in college they would be shocked."

As a DMACC student, what I am saying is: Teachers, before you criticize your students, take a good long look in a mirror and ask yourself, "Am I giving my students all they are paying for?"

Gene Pepper
DMACC Student

Letter to the Editor

I am so fed up with the way the computer lab in the library is being run. I am a frequent visitor to the lab and every time I'm in there the same people talk so loud that I can't concentrate.

Please get the message out to the chatter boxes who sit in the lab for hours, that there are students studying on the computers and when they talk, it is hard to concentrate. I realize that some people are in there helping other students with their homework, but I would just like some peace and quiet to study as well!

I would like to know what to do if this annoyance is not taken care of. I have thought of going upstairs, but the classrooms with computers are usually occupied by scheduled classes. I hope those who are guilty of being inconsiderate of others will read this letter and change their behavior.

Layla Zenor
DMACC Student

Horoscopes

By Audrey
Astrologist to the Ordinary

Aries (Mar 21-April 19) You will be faced with a situation that will truly try your patience. Don't back down. Stand up for what you believe in.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Your bluntness is often mistaken for rudeness. Continue to be truthful. A potential employer will appreciate your veracity.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Redouble your efforts to keep your New Year's resolutions. A change in the way you look and feel will have a positive effect on your attitude.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) You are feeling a tremendous amount of financial pressure, but relief is in sight. You can expect a monetary windfall later this month.

Leo (July 22-Aug 22) Your self-esteem is at an all time low. You are not alone and will find comfort from an unexpected source. Keep your eyes open.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Spring break is still a couple of months away, but it is not too early to make your travel plans. Consider an island in the Caribbean.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 23) You tend to give others more chances than they truly deserve. Try putting yourself first for a change.

Scorpio (Oct 24- Nov 21) Not even dreary January can put a damper on your fun-loving spirit. Reach out to others who could use some cheering up.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) Use your experience to your advantage. Evaluate all offers with great care.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) A person in authority will finally give you the recognition that you deserve. Use this opportunity to secure your financial future.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Take a breather to sort things out. Share your troubles with a trusted friend. Emotional bliss is in your future.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Your independence makes you a good example for others. You will find yourself setting the pace in an unlikely place.

Vittles with Vern and Virginia

Sukothai: A window on Welch

Virginia thinks that Vern needs some international culture so this semester we decided to sample ethnic restaurants. We hope to cover as many nationalities as we can and as time permits.

Our first visit was to Sukothai at 223 Welch Avenue in Ames. Their specialty is Chinese and Thai cuisine. As we walked into the second-floor dining area the aroma of garlic and soy sauce teased our palates. Window seating is available at virtually every table which makes the atmosphere quite delightful. One disappointment was that the background music was easy rock, not Oriental as one would expect. They could use a day off to wash their walls, too.

Prices were comparable to other Oriental restaurants in the area, averaging around \$7.00 to \$9.00 for dinner. Some meals were a little cheaper and others a little higher.

Menu selection was plentiful with several pages from which to choose. Vern got so confused that he decided on the buffet. Virginia followed suit. The buffet choices were four entrees, soup, fried rice, egg rolls, and wontons. Two desserts were available, although not Oriental...chocolate eclairs and deep-fried apple pie. All in all, not bad for \$7.99. The buffet is available every day but Saturday.

There seemed to be lots of garlic in everything (Virginia kept her distance from Vern for the rest of the day; Vern wasn't too crazy about being around Virginia either!). Vern's opinion was that one shrimp dish was a little too salty. Virginia thought that the soup looked too thick and greasy for egg drop soup.

Service was prompt and friendly, although the waitress failed to split the check as requested.

Delivery and carry-outs are available, as well as a private party room.

Hours are as follows:

MON-THUR: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
FRIDAY: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
4:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
SATURDAY: 11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
SUNDAY: Noon to 3:00 p.m.
4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Rating: ☺☺☺

Bear Facts

Established 1971

January 31, 1996

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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 slipped under the door 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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Printer—Boone News Republican

**LIVING
WITH HIV
INFECTION**

*CARRYING FOR SOMEONE
With AIDS*

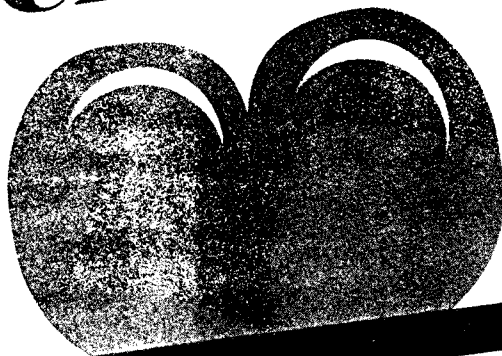
**ALCOHOL
PROGAS**

**WOMEN
AND
HIV**

**What Is
Safer
Sex?**

Friends,
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With A

**PREGNANCY
- AND -
HIV**



THE WELLNESS WAY

**UNDERSTANDING
AND PREVENTING
HIV INFECTION
AND**

A Brief Guide to

**HIV
body
Test**

**CONDOMS
FOR**

AIDS: Do you

Julie Ann Cronin
Bear Facts Staff Writer

With a virus like AIDS, it's always important to know facts and statistics about the virus in case you or someone you know becomes infected.

HIV virus can be in your body for up to nine years before showing any symptoms of AIDS.

As an example of the severity of this nine year time frame, a couple having a sexual relationship with two other people over a one-year period of time could expose 512 people.

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. This virus causes AIDS--Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.

HIV is spread from one person to another through sex and blood-to-blood contact.

People can still look and feel healthy for years after they are infected. HIV can be transmitted in the following ways:

- Having vaginal, anal, or oral sex with someone who is infected with HIV.
- Sharing needles or syringes with someone who is infected with HIV.
- From an infected mother to her baby during pregnancy or childbirth, or rarely through breast feeding.

Current research shows that you cannot get HIV in the following ways:

- Breathing, coughing or sneezing

- Sitting next to someone at work, on a bus or elsewhere
- Touching, hugging, shaking hands, or from a social kiss
- Eating in a restaurant

Using rest rooms, water fountains or telephones

- Caring for a person with AIDS, while using proper procedures
- Donating blood
- Being bitten by mosquitoes or any other insects.

If symptoms occur, they may include the following:

- Swollen lymph glands in the neck, under arm or groin area
- Recurrent fever including "night sweats"

- Rapid weight loss for no apparent reason
- Constant tiredness
- Diarrhea and decreased appetite
- White spots or unusual blemishes in the mouth.

If you have any of these symptoms for more than a week, see a doctor.

When HIV takes over the body and mainly attacks the immune system, it also attacks the brain and the spinal cord.

The immune system is made up of many different types of blood cells. These cells work together to defend the body against infections and diseases. When an infection enters the body, the virus that causes AIDS attacks and weakens the immune system. A weak im-

mune system then can no longer protect the body from disease and infection. When an infection enters the body, the immune system goes into action. When HIV gets in the body, the virus that causes AIDS, attacks and weakens the immune system. A weak immune system can't protect the body from disease and infection.

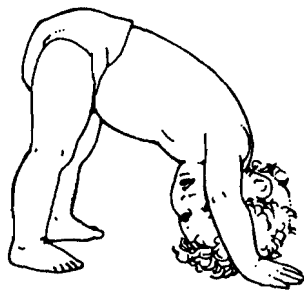
Many different cells of the immune system can be destroyed. When these cells are

destroyed, the body can't recognize infections. Even if infections are recognized, the body may be unable to defend itself against them.

BEWARE OF BABIES

Melinda Gorman
Bear Facts Staff Writer

The Oral Polio Vaccinations (OPV) we get for our babies to protect them can be lethal to an individual with A.I.D.S.



Boone Public Health nurse, Colleen Farley, said that the OPV is a live virus that lives in the babies intestines and bowels for eight weeks or longer. If a baby is going to be around a person with a depressed immune system, an Inactivated Polio Vaccination (IPV), which is a killed virus can be given.

AIDS SYMPTOMS

- *Extreme tiredness
- *Fever
- *Loss of appetite and weight
- *Diarrhea
- *Night sweats
- *Persistent dry cough

12 Monkeys

“Visually stunning, dark and eerie”

Mark H. Williams
Bear Facts Staff Writer

From the man who brought us “Time Bandits” and “Brazil,” comes the moviegoers new mind game, “12 Monkeys.” Terry Gilliam creates and melds the different worlds into one amazingly intricate and interesting film. With the help of cinematographer Roger Pratt, Gilliam has created Earth of the past and future, and it’s a bleak picture as man is set on destroying himself.

After a plague, not unlike AIDS, has wiped out over 5 billion people in the year 2035, a prisoner by the name of James Cole (Bruce Willis) is sent back in time to try to find the cause, so the scientists of the future can prevent it from happening. In this world of the future all of mankind lives underground, while the animals have taken over the surface of the world.

Cole is sent “top side” to gather samples to see if it is yet safe for humans. Wearing what can best be described as a “body condom,” he goes out in Philadelphia, or what has become of Philadelphia. We are greeted by ‘lions and tigers and bears,’ plus a few other beasts that don’t really belong in that

part of the world.

Cole is then transported back to 1990 where he is admitted to a mental institute. While there, he meets Jeff Goines (Brad Pitt), a true nut case. Jeff does nothing but talk incessantly as he shows Cole around the patients’ area of the institute.

The audience is also introduced to his psychiatrist, Kathryn Raily (Madeleine Stowe) at this time. She hears Cole’s story, as to how he is trying to save the earth by finding how the killer virus got its start. He also tells her of a reoccurring dream that he has, of a child in an airport lobby, and how he sees something, but he is unsure of what—at first. As the movie progresses, we see a little bit more each time the dream appears.

In November of 1996, just a month before the plague starts, Cole is once again thrust into the middle of Goines and Raily’s lives. By this time Goines is out of the institute and living with his father, a wealthy Nobel Prize winning virologist. Dr. Goines (Christopher Plummer) has just engineered a new lethal virus, while his son Jeff has just started a group of environmentalists called ‘the Army of the

Twelve Monkeys.” Guess what virus daddy has invented and guess what his son ends up doing? It may not be what you think!

The acting in this film is outstanding, especially Brad Pitt’s Golden Globe-winning performance, which is over the top at times, but truly mesmerizing. Willis is quite good in the unattached and dazed role of Cole. Stowe was credible as the psychiatrist who begins to believe what Cole has foretold. The only somewhat miscasting was that of Plummer as a Southern doctor.

This film is visually stunning, if not somewhat dark and eerie at times. Depicting a world that is not full of hope and happiness may be the biggest complaint that most moviegoers have, and yet director Gilliam gets plenty of laughs throughout from the audience, especially after the animals have been let loose from the zoo. The only other problem may be that you must, I repeat, you must pay attention *all*through the film. If you do not, you will become hopelessly confused by the end. This film gets a ☺☺ as I see it.

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

know all the facts?

Giving blood not risky

Donations of blood have decreased in Iowa and across the nation since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, according to the American Red Cross. The notion that giving blood puts you at risk is a misconception. Donating blood will not put you at risk for HIV. In other words, you cannot get AIDS from giving blood. Sterile needles are used to draw blood for donations. They are used once and then destroyed.

Several films with AIDS-related themes

And The Band Played On Great ensemble cast ☺☺

An Early Frost First film to deal with AIDS. ☺☺

Boy’s On The Side Woman with AIDS story line. ☺☺

The Cure A young boy’s search. ☺☺

The Living End Not for all tastes, but... ☺☺

Longtime Companion Ten years and its effects. ☺☺

Outbreak Disease gets loose in USA. ☺☺

Philadelphia Oscars for Tom and Bruce. ☺☺

One out of every five people with AIDS today is between 20 and 30 years of age. It can take up to 10 years for symptoms to appear.

DMACC student gets early start on college

Cory Williams
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Amy Davis planned to graduate early; she was tired of high school. She just needed something different. Davis is a new student at DMACC second semester.

She graduated at mid-term from Ogden High School because she had enough credits. She was planning on moving to Kansas, but due to a conflict, she changed her mind.

She took some classes in the spring of '95 and last semester, so she has taken a total of five classes. She really enjoys DMACC and all the teachers she has had have been nice to her. Her future plan is to get an AA degree and then transfer to a four-year college.

She wants to major in journalism or English.

Davis works part-time at K-Mart for right now, and in the



Photo By Tricia Whitcher

Amy Davis

summer she works at the Boy Scout camp at Mitigwa, where she also lives. She likes working at the camp, because there's a lot of new kids that she gets to meet from all over Iowa and out of state.

Davis's favorite sport is soccer. She used to play on the Urbandale soccer team. Occasionally, they have soccer

tournaments at the camp, and she has a good friend who used to play at Doweling who comes down to the camp and competes with the scouts.

During her free time, Davis loves helping her dad at the camp. Right now, they're working on a staff shower and a lounge. Most of the time she's helping her dad or hanging out with friends.

Despite physical challenge--

Student completes semester

Tim Titus, DMACC student
Contributing Writer

My problem started in 1987, that is when I broke a vertebra in my lower spine. I was working as a mechanic when it happened, and I soon found out, I would never be a mechanic again. I had two surgeries on my lower back, both to solve the problem of releasing pressure on my spinal cord. The surgeries were called laminectomies, fusions to you and me, two different doctors performed two different surgeries, both very confident that their technique would work.

It has been over eight years since the first surgery, and four years since the last, both doctors failed to fuse my spine, and now doctors refuse to do anything about the movement in my spine, citing, that with all of the new damage and arthritis, another surgery even if successful, would not decrease the pain I endure. The only option left to me is pain management, which is an approach to help people with chronic pain cope with their lives.

Over the last year, my condition seems to be worsening rapidly, it's to the point of needing major pain killers just to keep up the activities most people take for granted. Three weeks ago I found myself facing a problem which is the basis of this essay. I was in the position of needing a wheelchair to get around, I can still walk with a cane or a walker for short distances.

I am trying to lead an active life despite all the difficulties I have, my family and I are on a fixed income from social security disability. I am thankful for the assistance I receive, but a problem with getting Medicare to pay for a wheelchair, so I can continue to go to school, and do other activities I can no longer walk for, arose. Medicare would only pay for a wheelchair, the pharmacist told me, if you are absolutely sedentary without it. This entails a doctor qualifying you as, "bed ridden" without a wheelchair, my doctor had already written a prescription for a wheelchair, but that was not good enough.

In the meantime I was missing classes, sure I kept in touch with my instructors and they were very supportive, but I had to face the inevitable, if I missed too many classes, I would never catch up. My financial aid would also be in serious jeopardy, I had to drop my classes last semester due to back injury, and if I lost my financial aid, that would kill my goal of becoming an active part of society once again, so this was the problem I had to face and overcome, as soon as possible.

The first thing I did was ask my doctor for a prescription for a wheelchair, which he did immediately. I took this right away to a pharmacy that deals with wheelchairs, that is when I was informed about Medicare's policy on wheelchairs, a long drawn out process, and I may not even be approved. I didn't even take the necessary forms to my doctor, because I knew it would be too late if I did get approved, to catch up on classes, I have dealt with Medicare before and speed is not one of their attributes. I asked how much a wheelchair would cost, and I found out quickly that it was something I could not afford, four hundred dollars was the cheapest around, so I took the next logical step and asked about used wheelchairs. The pharmacist informed me that they do sometimes sell used wheelchairs on consignment, but had none to offer at this time. A quick check of other pharmacies in the area turned up the same results no used chairs to offer at this time.

What about a rental? That sounded like the answer to my problem, so I called pharmacies in the area fifty bucks per month was the answer. This amount seemed outrageous to me, I could not afford that, and my problem was not a short term one that would go away in a month. Then a pharmacist gave me an idea that turned out to be the answer to my particular problem, I want to say this was my answer, others may find that if not pressed for time like I was, going through the process might be a better and less expensive way. The idea the pharmacist gave me was to put a wanted ad in the local newspaper, I hurried home and did this.

The ad did not come out for a week, but the first day it ran, I received many calls. I ended up paying one hundred fifty dollars for a used wheelchair with air filled tires. Thus, my problem was solved, and I returned to school.

Oh, one more thing, never over-inflate wheelchair tires, because the first day back to school I had a blowout in the Courter center and had to send in my wheelchair to be repaired, but that's another problem.

No Frozen Pipes

Audrey O. Burgs
Bear Facts Staff Writer

When the outside temperature drops to below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, waterpipes in homes with little or no insulation are likely to freeze and break which can cause costly damage of catastrophic proportions.

This threat exists each winter and victimizes hundreds of thousands according to a study sponsored by State Farm Fire and Casualty. The company funded the study at the University of Illinois because of the hardship and costs resulting from this little-recognized type of disaster.

The researchers noted that large-scale freezing of pipes is much less likely where winters are coldest because homes are better built to resist freezing; however, pipes freeze almost anywhere freezing occurs if abnormally cold weather persists long enough.

In individual homes, freezing could also occur above 20 degrees, especially if there is a hole in the wall near the pipe

and a strong wind blows.

To prevent losses, property owners can take certain steps before cold weather arrives. These measures include disconnecting garden hoses, wrapping pipes in open areas such as attics and crawl spaces with insulation, and sealing any

leaks where cold air may enter around pipes or ducts.

Further safety precautions include letting water drip from faucets, opening cabinet doors under sinks, and keeping the thermostat set no lower than 55 if you leave home.



Teams busy over break

Amy Davis
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Though the basketball season is well under way, I am sure most of you did not make it to many of the away games or the ones over winter break.

The women's team lost all three games over break; however, they had a good game against Simpson J.V. winning 68-61.

The men also had a tough schedule after break, going 1-5 overall, with a win over Wau-bonsee 75-86.

On the men's team the top scorer, with an average of 20 points a game, is Dax Connely. The women's leading scorer is Emily Pool with 18.6 points a game.

The leading rebounders for the men's team is Chris Larson, averaging 14.0 rebounds per game. Angie Kading is the top rebounder for the women's team averaging 5.5 rebounds per game.

The next home game for the men's and women's team is Wednesday January 31, women tipping off at 5 p.m. against

Wartburg and men to follow at 7 p.m. playing against Clinton Community College.

With the men's overall record being 5-16 and them only having nine players, it's a big adjustment have played with a team of fifteen players first semester.

The men's last three games brought them one victory, beating IWCC-Clarinda 83-82, after coming off two losses to Clinton C.C. 108-85 and also to IWCC-Council Bluffs 93-82. "Larson broke out of his shell, scoring 30 points last night against IWCC-Clarinda and scoring 29 points the other

night against IWCC-Council Bluffs," said head coach Russ Jones. He also commented, "We are starting to play better, our freshmen are playing more

mature, and you can see that in their stats." Replied Jones.

The women's team was on a winning streak, that came to a halt Monday night when Central College beat the women 65-52. The Bears won their two previous games beating

Simpson College 68-61 and also beating Marshalltown 80-57. "We played really well in our last two wins, and our loss last night was due to the girls being flat. We were only 13-39 from the free throw line, which really hurt us," said head coach Dick Criner.

Next home basketball game tonight, January 31 at 5:00 & 7:00.

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Still no Internet

Audrey O. Burgs
Bear Facts Staff Writer

When will DMACC students catch up with the rest of the world and get access to the Internet? Will the computer network be upgraded to Windows '95?

According to Roger Fiderlick and Joe Robbins, several things will need to occur before students will have access to the Internet.

Procedures for usage must be developed and additional hard drive space on the servers must be purchased. A method of security must be developed allowing students a sign-on identification and a password.

Progress is being made on all of these items and it is anticipated that students will be granted access to the Internet beginning with the Fall term of 1996.

Windows '95 is used most on stand-alone machines, but very few businesses, industries, and educational institutions have adopted the software on a network platform.

DMACC will not be upgrading its Wide Area Network with Windows 95 at this time.

Professor publishes again

By Audrey O. Burgs
Bear Facts Staff Writer

Former DMACC-Boone English professor, Rick Christman, has had two short stories from his new book, *Men Without Children*, accepted for future publication.

Christman's story, "Returning" will appear in *Happy: A Story Quarterly* that is published in New York City. The second story, "A Sustaining Presence," will appear in *Descant*, the literary magazine of Texas Christian University.



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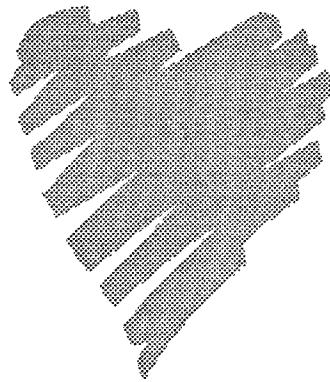
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What a deal! For only one penny a word you can let someone special know you really care. Do it with a personal ad in the Bear Fact's Valentine Day issue. Place your ad with a member of the Bear Facts staff when we set up our table in The Court.

Volunteers Needed

Are you a caring person who likes to be helpful to others? If so, Boone County Department of Human Services have several volunteer opportunities for you. DHS utilizes volunteers for a variety of needs: transportation, supervised visitors with foster care children, payees, friendly visitors and clerical tasks.

If this is the opportunity you are looking for, call Tressa, Volunteer Coordinator, at 433-0593 to receive an application. Help serve the people of Boone County by becoming a DHS volunteer.

•18,500 U.S. children and adolescents born of AIDS mothers orphaned by end of 1991.

•By 1996, the total is expected to rise to 45,600.

•By 2000, the total is expected to be 82,000.

--CLIP AND SAVE-- WEATHER CANCELLATION INFORMATION

If weather conditions in the early morning hours warrant, Executive Dean Kriss Philips plans to arrive at the decision to cancel classes due to inclement weather no later than 5:30 a.m. As soon as a decision has been made to cancel Boone Campus classes, the announcement will be called into the radio stations listed below as well as recorded on the Boone Campus telephone system.

- KWBG-AM (1590) Boone
- KCIM-AM (1380) Carroll
- KKRL-FM (93.7) Carroll
- KDLS-AM (1310) Perry/Jefferson
- KDLS-FM (101.7) Perry/Jefferson
- KLSN-FM (98.9) Jefferson
- KEZT-FM (104) Ames

The announcement on the telephone system can be accessed by dialing 432-7203 directly or by contacting the Boone Campus through the toll free number 1-800-362-2127.

If the weather conditions during the school day warrant an early dismissal, Philips will make the decision, notify staff and notify the radio station as soon as possible. The decision to cancel evening classes will most generally be made by 4:30 p.m.


--CLIP AND SAVE--

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