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Banner News

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Banner News

Your Life, Your Campus, Your News



Beloved DMACC instructor retires

By **Kodie Butterfield**
Staff Writer

At the end of this school year DMACC Boone Campus will say goodbye to a long-time faculty member. Jan LaVille, Honors Program director, has worked for DMACC for 28 years, 22 of those full time. She has taught journalism, English, and has been the advisor for the Banner and the Chronicle.



Jan LaVille

"It's the students and my coworkers, that's what I'll miss the most," LaVille said.

LaVille will be retiring at the end of the semester. Although she said she loves her job, DMACC's policy states that employees who work full-time for at least 10 years and are at least 55 years old are able to collect a type of severance pay. For LaVille, May 2013 is the last date she will be eligible for this pay, and she said she couldn't walk away from that amount of money.

Since 2011 LaVille has been leading the DMACC Honor Program, which reaches all campuses. She also started the DMACC Kids College Journalism Camp, where middle-schoolers learn about and create a newspaper. LaVille has not only worked on the local DMACC campuses but also went overseas with the London Study Abroad Program to work as a teacher.

LaVille first started teaching at DMACC in 1985 when one of her friends had an English class overflow. The class was split into several sections and her friend asked if she would be willing to

help out. At the time LaVille was teaching at the high school in Carroll but gladly took on the challenge of teaching at a college level. Since that day she has worked on the Carroll, Boone, Urban and Ankeny campuses.

Boone Campus Provost Tom Lee has had the opportunity to work with LaVille during the past eight years he has been here.

"Jan will be dearly missed at our campus," Lee said. "She is very versatile in many topics and has a tremendous knowledge base." Lee first met LaVille when he applied for his current position and she showed him around the campus.

"She is the ultimate professional that truly cares about her fellow faculty members and who keeps the students at the forefront of every action and decision she makes," Lee said. Her friendship is one of the things that Lee says he will remember most.

Kevin Langel is a DMACC

See LAVILLE, page 3

Busting myth of love at first sight

By **Jessica McNeece**
Staff Writer

For more on Valentine's Day, see p. 6

Sean Taylor still remembers the moment he walked into the house his sister lived in after a long days work. Little did he know that his future wife would be sitting in the room.

"We met in college. The first time I saw her was when my sister was having a party at our house. I came home early from work and my sister had her powder puff football team over. She was on

the team and when I saw her it was like A-WOOGA!" Sean said.

"When I saw my wife, I can honestly say we fell in love at first sight. We have been married 21 years now," said the DMACC professor.

Taylor and his wife, Shannon Taylor, are both psychology teachers at DMACC. Shannon teaches at the Hunziker Center in Ames, while Sean teaches at the

Boone Campus.

Though the teachers fell in love, they have their psychology experience to argue against the concept of love at first sight. Although two people may fall in love, psychologists will say that there are many other components than just the sight of a person.

"I don't believe you can

See LOVE, page 2



Gilberto Nenez



"I want to spend Valentine's Day with a person that is really in love with me."

How would you describe your perfect valentine?

Stephany Brown



"Someone that respects me and doesn't want to change me. Someone to buy me things."

Cassie Troup



"Support me and help me out. Has to have a good job. Also likes to buy me things."

Sean Hanlin



"Someone funny, smart, big hearted, and willing to take care of herself when I'm not around."

Emilee Uttersen



"He has to be funny, cute, and family oriented. He has to have goals in life and buy me stuff."

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Center can help students achieve



Photo by Josh Stevens

Instructor Jim Dose assists Anna-Grace Fleckenstein with her math homework in the AAC.

By Josh Stevens
Staff writer

Students at the DMACC Boone campus logged an average of 418.33 hours per week at the Academic Achievement Center last year.

That means students spent 16,733.5 hours using the facility for 2011-12, according to statistics.

"We like to be taken advantage of," said Mary Ann Koch, director of the Achievement Center.

The center, which is located down the hall from Entrance 16 on the northwest side of campus, offers tutoring, proctoring, career exploration, computer based learning and more. The AAC offers a variety of opportunities to aid in a students learning experience and success.

Walk-in tutoring with faculty members is available at no cost for students. Tutors are available in English/composition, math,

reading, accounting, computer classes and more. Another option is peer-to-peer tutoring, but those sessions are by appointment.

Jim Dose, math professor, has helped in the Center for six years. Pegi Blevins, Jenanie Roth, Ann Keisel and Rosie Irvine are also faculty members who work in the AAC.

Aaron Overbeck, a student and a third baseman for the DMACC Bears baseball team, said, "It's nice to have guys like Jim to help out with the math."

The AAC provides individual consultations to help students deal with problems such as test anxiety, time management, test taking techniques and how to get the most out of a textbook.

Proctored testing is a main component of the AAC. Koch said it is important for students to "know your instructors name and bring photo identification." Last year 3,230 make up tests were conducted. The AAC also proctors COMPASS assessment,

CLEP Tests/Challenge tests and GED tests, which are now available on computer.

Another element the AAC offers is career exploration. For more information go to IHaveaPlanIowa.gov

Help for those learning English as a second language is also offered in the AAC with the use of programs like Rosetta Stone, Focus on your Grammar and Lose your Accent in 28 days.

There is also a program called Assistance with Word Processing. This program helps with people unfamiliar with Microsoft WORD 2003. If you are looking for help with less human interaction they offer e2020, which is a computer based learning system.

AAC hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday in room 102.

"It's a quiet environment that you can go and tutors are readily available," said Britney Lee, a liberal arts major.

Looking for love(s) at first sight

LOVE, con't from p.1

actually fall in love at first sight, but you can be attracted at first," said Shannon Taylor.

Student Matthew Beyer also talks about his experience with love at first sight.

"Personally, I don't believe in love at first sight. It seems too vain to fall in love due to looks, although good looks are beneficial when seeking a mate. My fiancée and I didn't fall in love at first sight, but we definitely knew that something was there," Beyer says.

Sean uses a triangle graph form a psychology book to demonstrate his point. Love is in the middle while commitment, intimacy, and passion make up the three sides to form love. A person's first sight of someone would only be passion; therefore you can't have the full love at first sight.

"The first time we actually met was in Biology. I had to buck up and sit next to her. I wanted to ask her out when one day she ended up asking me if I wanted to go dancing that night." Sean says.

For some couples it takes time for love to evolve. Student and Baseball player Xander Morris and Basketball player Carlee Schuhmacher have been dating for 2 months.

"I saw her in the hall and started talking to her. She was nervous at the time," Morris went on to say, "There definitely wasn't love at first sight. She thought I was weird."

Even people who think they are experiencing love at first sight might have that feeling occur multiple times in their life.

"We fell in love at first sight. That being said, there was also sparks with other girls before my wife that I thought was love at first sight," Sean says.

So since attraction isn't enough, how do people know when they are in love?

"Love is being committed to someone else being happy," Shannon went on to say, "I realized I was in love with Sean when I was in college. I went home to California and realized I didn't want to be without him."

Roughly 20 percent of

people meet their spouse in college. There are about 4,015 students enrolled this year at the DMACC Boone Campus and the Hunziker Center together. That would mean that almost 803 students would have met their significant other at DMACC during their college career.

"I think couples mainly meet in college, you date people you mainly hang around. If you work you will date someone you work with, if you are a student you will date someone you go to school with," said Sean.

On Valentine's Day couples might want to double check their gifts and reevaluate their feelings about that special someone.

"Our Valentine's Day plans are simple this year. We actually bought a new dog as a joint gift this year and will be spending the night at home, making dinner, watching movies, and cuddling with our new puppy," said Beyer.

"For Valentine's Day we will go to dinner and I'll get her chocolates on the 13th because I have baseball on the 14th," said Morris.

LaVille leaves legacy behind



Photo by Kodie Butterfield

Jan LaVille prepares to leave DMACC after 28 years of teaching journalism, English and humanities classes.

LAVILLE, con't from p. 1

graduate and is also a past student of LaVille's. He has taken part in Pep Band with LaVille and also worked with her on the Banner newspaper. Langel said he would not be where he is today with journalism without all of the help he received from LaVille.

"Jan is someone who is willing to go the extra mile to help somebody out," he said. When LaVille worked as the advisor of the Banner she would not let anything go in until it had met its full-potential.

Langel recalled a trip to St. Petersburg, Florida at Pointer Institute. On their way home the Banner News staff got stranded for three days in Chicago because of a snowstorm. They were shuffling around hotel rooms and the airport. Then when they finally got back there was a blizzard going on. He recalled LaVille was standing strong to figure it all out and kept everyone together during the time they spent in Chicago.

When LaVille retires from DMACC she will be going on to work for the Veterinary Medicine department at ISU as an editor. She will work on editing information before it is posted on their website. LaVille says that she isn't ready to stop working and wants to stay employed.

DMACC student Kennedy LaVille, one of Jan's granddaughters, said "I definitely think that

if she could stay till she was hundred, she would."

Some of LaVille's favorite memories of her time at DMACC are playing in the Pep Band and one time when a group got together to start a Documentary Film Festival. She says her favorite memory will be "The students I kept in touch with after they left. I've been able to see them grow here and then go on to other things."

Sam Pritchard, Jocelyn Anderson, and Julie Roosa are a few of the teachers that will be taking over in LaVille's place after she leaves. When asked what advice she would give her colleagues LaVille said "I would say don't be afraid to take on a new responsibility because you get back what you give a hundred fold."

LaVille recalls how close she was able to grow to the other faculty members and especially to the students she taught Journalism to. She feels that there is something different about teaching journalism. "You get closer to students when creating a newspaper together. It creates long lasting bonds."

Her final words of wisdom for her students and faculty are "Just go for it." LaVille said that the only way to get something is to give something first. She feels that you always get more out of something when you take the time and effort to make it into something.

Dear Jan

"When I think of DMACC, I think of Jan. She is DMACC in my mind. She represents everything I aspire to be because she is so student centered, she's smart, she's organized, and she's capable. I could just go on and on. I consider her to be a great mentor and a friend."

---Julie Roosa, journalism

"Well, if I had never met her, I wouldn't have found out how much I love networking, and I also never would have met my girlfriend."

---Austin Leeds, student

"How much I appreciate her leadership, her knowledge, and her sound advice. The other thing I appreciate is how she conducts herself professionally and how she cares about her students. She is going to be truly missed at this college and especially on the Boone campus."

---Tom Lee, provost

"I'd like her to tell us what we should know before she retires."

---Sam Pritchard, English

"I would like Jan to know that she was the one person who not only challenged me academically while at DMACC, but made me realize that the clouds were only the beginning of what I am capable to achieve."

---Mia Pierson, Honors

"It's been a pleasure working with her all these years. Keep up the professional image. Your dedication has paid off by helping the students of DMACC."

---Sandi Johnson, staff

Do you want to share something about Jan? Visit Banner News on Facebook.



Photo submitted by Emma Allen

DMACC study abroad students Melina Nuzum, Danielle Smith, Megan Kroeger, Jessica Short, Olivia Herr, Emma Allen, Kaitlin Harman and Brian Lundgren and instructor Randall Jedele pose in front of Tower Bridge in London.

Boone student studies abroad

By Cainon Leeds

Editor-in-Chief

Emma Allen was the only student from Boone Campus to join the DMACC study abroad program this spring.

She and seven other DMACC students departed for London on Feb. 2 with DMACC English professor Randy Jedele to explore the United Kingdom's history, customs and culture.

Allen said she wanted to study abroad because of a vacation she took with her family in Britain for a few days last summer. They saw such historic cities as London, Liverpool and Edinburgh.

However, Allen said that the trip was mostly devoted to sightseeing and that she would have enjoyed more time to experience English culture.

"I'd like to feel like I'm a part of it," she said.

Kennedy LaVille, a former DMACC study abroad student, advised that all students who are interested in studying abroad should "take every opportunity to try new things and experience it."

Former DMACC study abroad student Kenzie Tedrow shared similar thoughts from her experience studying abroad. She stressed the importance of the "little things" like visiting with a shopkeeper in France and enjoying evenings with her roommates.

"My absolute favorite moments were sitting in bed and enjoying ice cream and cake with my roommates," Kenzie said.

Allen spoke of her hopes of taking in part of English culture by visiting British pubs, eating fish and chips, steak and ale pie and other local dishes.

She also said that she wanted to do some sightseeing of her own. In addition to a bus tour of Scotland and getting better acquainted with her classmates, she wanted to visit some famous places from literature.

"I want to go to Whitby because that's where 'Dracula' is based and Whitehaven Mansion from Agatha Christie's 'Hercule Poirot,'" she said.



Photo by Megan Kroeger

DMACC Boone student Emma Allen embraces British culture with some sightseeing in London.

Although students like Allen, LaVille and Tedrow pursued and were able to study abroad, the number of students studying abroad at DMACC seems to be decreasing. According to Jedele, he took 16 students abroad in 2005, 17 students in 2009 and now he's taking eight students.

LaVille speculated that most students may not take the opportunity to study abroad at DMACC because of the cost of the program. Because of DMACC's comparatively low tuition rates, lower income students may not be able to pay for the \$9,565 it takes to study abroad, and that doesn't include the personal expenses associated with living in London or the optional packages available to students.

"I think it was around \$12,000 total," LaVille said. Tedrow took advantage of the scholarships available to help pay for the expenses of studying abroad. She agreed that the program was costly but worthwhile.

"I met three of my best friends studying abroad," Tedrow said.

Bear Briefs

Musician

On Feb. 14 Zach Svoboda will be performing in the Courter Center from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

No Classes

Feb. 15 there will be no classes and the offices will be closed for DMACC President's Day.

Pool Contest

On Feb. 19 there will be a 4 Ball Pool Contest in the Courter Center from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. provided by the SAC.

Seven Oaks

Feb. 21 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. DMACC students will be able to ski or snowboard at Seven Oaks and the Students Activities Council will pay for your lift ticket. You can bring up to five family members or one guest. You must bring your DMACC I.D.

Ping Pong Tourney

On Feb. 26 there will be a Ping Pong Tourney held in the Courter Center from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



HOMETOWN HERO

Son of Ogden teacher survives Iraq attack

By Nathan Lake
Contributing Writer

Brian Reimers sat at his desk, pen in hand, and an open notebook in front of him. Sure, it was blank now, but the longtime Ogden High School teacher would make it into much more. Brian would turn the notebook into a chronicle of his son Seth's accomplishments. It would become the tale of a soldier, one who risked – and nearly lost -- it all for his country.

At work in California, Seth Reimers, who grew up in Ogden, supervises the moving of hundreds of thousands of pounds of armor-clad desert tortoise. They are giant creatures, some weighing in at more than 400 pounds. Part of Seth's job is to oversee the safety of these creatures. As a wildlife biologist whose career is based on the study of environmental impact, he often works on projects that protect the land of San Diego. But seven years ago, he was in a different land. Protecting his life, the lives of his friends, and the country he served.

The echoing snaps of distant gunfire filled the sky of Mahmudiyah, Iraq. It was a land coveted for the fertility of its soil enriched by the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. It was considered a sacred land, and during the heat of the Iraq War it was a battle scarred land known as "The Triangle of Death."

Seth was one of the 5,000 men in his infantry division deployed to this feared area in July 2005. He was an Army Ranger at the time, holding the rank of first lieutenant. His rank and skill meant he was responsible for leading a platoon of men. The platoon was a mixed group, consisting of 25 Americans and 40 Iraqi nationalists. Seth's job was to work with these men to complete missions that could be deadly. More specifically, they were in charge of hunting down the terrorists who threatened the land. Their lives were put on the line constantly as they were thrown into gun-battles eight to 10 times a day.

Then, one April day in 2007, Seth faced his greatest danger yet -- one that put him at death's door. It was the day after his birthday

when the attack occurred. Seth, weary from completing a mission, had returned to the base for the day. The platoon had to make use of the meager resources at their disposal and as such, their base consisted primarily of a bombed-out chicken processing factory. The building was nothing but a hollow shell, lacking many proper facilities. They had no running water, no bathroom, and no air heating and cooling system.

Upon his return, Seth made his way to his living quarters. After stripping off several layers of protective armor, Seth realized that he had forgotten something. "Sensitive items" as he described them were sitting in the Jeep parked outside the building. He set out to retrieve the items, leaving his armor lying on the ground. Ian, another platoon leader and longtime friend to Seth, accompanied him on this seemingly simple task.

They passed through the living quarters doorframe into a corridor stemming from the factory. Except for one U.S. soldier, who was not accompanying them at the time, Seth and Ian were the only ones occupying the corridor. Seconds after crossing the doorframe, the attack occurred.

An enemy rocket, flying directly overhead, descended on them. It crashed into the ground within close proximity of the men. The rocket's explosion, filled with sheer power, sent shrapnel flying in the air as its impact sent the men to the ground. The soldier who had not been accompanying them at the time of the explosion, was killed instantly. Seth, sustaining major injuries, struggled to crawl to Ian, who was also sent to the ground from the blast. And then, as his remaining energy left him, Seth blacked out. As the minutes passed, Seth faded in and out of consciousness. The last thing he could remember was the hot air being pressed on his face from the helicopter propellers circling overhead.

Brian Reimers was in Washington, D.C., at the time of his son's injury. Brian is a longtime educator at Ogden High School, where he teaches physical education. This year is his 34th year. He also serves as the school's athletic director, head wrestling coach and assistant football coach. He had volunteered to

go to Washington, D.C., in April 2007 as a chaperone for the high school's annual senior trip. It was midway into the trip, visiting Central Park, during their detour to New York, when he received the call from his son, Luke Reimers. "Dad!" Luke said. "The Army has been trying to contact you. I don't know what is going on." Luke, who was back at home in Ogden, is Seth's older brother. Three years separate the two siblings. Luke was not on his brother's immediate contact list, and as such, he could not be told what had happened to his brother or his current condition. Upon hearing this, Brian immediately called the Army number that Luke gave him. The man who answered informed Brian of his son's injury. Seth had been airlifted to a military hospital in Germany. Seth had sustained several injuries, and he and friend Ian were in critical condition. Brian, frantic from the news, returned home early from senior trip. The school arranged for him to take a flight back to Iowa. The Army had offered to pay for him and his family to fly to Germany to see Seth. But the trip would not be necessary. Seth had been stabilized enough to be transported back to the United States.

Brian and Luke stood outside of the hospital room door in anticipation. They both had suffered a recent loss. Brian's wife -- Luke and Seth's mother -- Marci Reimers had lost her battle with cancer only months before. The Reimer men were still grieving her loss, and now Seth was on the brink of death. Luke could lose his brother and Brian could lose his son.

Brian opened the door and walked into the room. "It's going to sound strange," Brian said, now years after Seth's injury. "But at that moment, I felt a very warm feeling. I felt that Marci was with me at that time. I thought she was saying, 'Here he is. I got him this far, now it's your turn.'"

When Brian saw his son in the hospital bed, he was taken aback. Seth's body had been broken. He had been pierced by shrapnel with several pieces lodged in his brain. His left leg had been broken, severing a major nerve within it. He had suffered from tremendous blood loss,



Photo courtesy of Brian Reimers

Seth Reimers, originally from Ogden, received the Purple Heart in 2007 after being injured while serving as an Army Ranger in Iraq.

mostly due to the severed clavicular artery in his chest. Doctors told them that if he had not received immediate medical attention at the base, he would have died. "I remember saying, 'He's not going to make it,'" Brian said. "But when I said that, Luke looked at me and said, 'He has to.'"

After enduring more than 20 surgeries, Seth, despite the odds, survived his injuries. He spent a year in recovery, living with Brian during some of that time. He has recovered almost fully, but some of his injuries still stay with him. He has limited use of his left arm. The severed nerve in his leg has yet to be completely restored, but it continues to grow back slowly. He still has five pieces of shrapnel lodged in his brain.

When the shrapnel entered, they were so heated that they were completely sterile and cauterized the wounds. It was decided to leave the shrapnel in because right now they are non-threatening.

Ian survived his injuries as well. Surprisingly, doctors say that Ian's injuries practically mirror Seth's, only his are on the opposite side of Seth's. This is because they were walking next to each other at the time of the explosion.

Ian now lives in Florida. He has yet to qualify for medical leave and still has connections to

the Army.

Seth now lives San Diego. He was granted a medical leave from the Army and is now working as a wildlife biologist. He is married to Nancy Reimers, who also works for the Army. Nancy has been at Seth's side to help him recover both physically and, because she is a certified psychologist, mentally as well. They have a child, a 6-month-old girl named Isabel.

"He is very humble," Brian said about Seth. "He has been awarded two Medals of Valor and other awards during his service, but he never brings them up or talks about his achievements."

Seth's humble nature has caused Brian to take action. He hopes one day his grandchildren and others will learn of his son's sacrifice for his country. To accomplish this, Brian is chronicling his son's story. He is keeping Seth's records preserved in ink in a composition notebook. He will share it with Isabel, and any other children Seth may have, when they grow up.

"I just want his children to know their dad is a hero," Brian said.

Nathan Lake is a senior at Ogden High School and is taking classes at DMACC. He wrote this story as part of a human interest assignment in his Newswriting and Reporting class.

Brain Pain: DMACC takes steps to reduce impact of concussions

By Kolby Vetter
Staff Writer

Derek Williams, freshman point guard on DMACC basketball team, says the last thing he remembers from the game on Jan. 16 was running down the court going for the ball.

From there on it was just a blur.

"I got elbowed on the side of my head, I blacked out and all I remember was getting help from the people after I regained consciousness," Williams said.

Williams was sidelined for the rest of the game against the Clinton Cougars. When he returned to DMACC, he was diagnosed with a concussion.

Concussions is a serious topic and DMACC is following decisions closely by the Iowa High School Athletic Association to set more guidelines and policies to prevent and respond to head injuries, said Orv Salmon, Athletic Director.

"We have changed our approach on the issue, based on the consultation of the doctor that is in town, we do exactly what he says, and he follows the exact protocol that was set up by the IAHSAA," Salmon said.

Salmon said that the topic of concussions is a not new one, but



Banner News file photo

Derek Williams, No. 5, freshman point guard for the Bears suffered a concussion during a game on Jan. 16. Williams has since returned to the lineup after experiencing symptoms for five days.

more awareness is being brought up around the country.

In 2012 there were between 1 to 3 million concussions nationwide, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

When a concussion occurs, the scientific term for what is hap-

pening is that the person's brain is being hit against the skull, which causes bruising and can result in serious brain trauma. But this brings up a point of what determines how serious a concussion is.

"If a player loses consciousness he or she will not be allowed

to go back into the athletic competition, and that's directly from our athletic trainer, then that player needs to be evaluated by doctor," Salmon said. The player must run through a series of tests to figure out the severity of the injury. From there it is taken day by day based on how he or she is feeling, Salmon said.

Salmon said that as the issue is becoming a bigger topic of discussion more rules will be placed. He also said that the NJCAA is starting to play a bigger role when it comes to the injury. Salmon believes that over the next couple of years the rules will become even stricter.

Salmon said the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference has general policies in place for responding to concussions, "but our frame of reference for handling this is always just trusting our local doctor here."

After the injury, Williams had to go through what he called a "seven day cycle" that included a lot of rest, and staying in.

"The first day, I was supposed to sleep for 24 hours, no TV or anything, and as the days progressed just get back to the normal way of life, like using my phone and everyday things," Williams said.

Williams went through five

straight days of headaches and called the concussion on a scale of one to 10 an eight. According to the IAHSAA for a player to return to the court he or she must complete a seven-step process that includes: Completing physical and rest, returning to everyday activity, light exercising, non-contact training drills, medical clearance, and finally returning to normal competition.

"Before I could return I had to make sure my balance was okay, I had to go to the doctor three times to make sure it was right where it should be, and from there get the okay from the doctor," Williams said.

Williams and Salmon agree that as the years progress and the risk of concussions go up, it will be considered more serious; there will be more guidelines and rules to follow that minimize the chance of suffering a concussion.

Baltimore Ravens and Super Bowl champion, Bernard Pollard, a defensive back, told ESPN that he believes that football won't even exist in 30 years because of the nature that it is played and the brain injuries it causes.

Williams said, "You need to start being more careful, and not getting back so early after a concussion, because it can really mess you up in the long run."

Sports Roundup

Women extend winning streak



File Photo by Dick Kelly/DMACC

Freshman point guard Jasmine McCoy, 32, drives the lane in a game against Iowa Lakes on Feb. 7. The DMACC Bears improved their record to 19-6 (8-3) with a 28-point win over Southeastern Saturday. Freshman Carlee Schuhmacher dominated the stat line by posting a double double, scoring 16 points and 11 rebounds. With the win, the Bears are now tied with Iowa Central Community College at second in the conference and are ranked 16th in the latest poll. The Bears return to the floor Wednesday night, Feb. 13, against Southwestern.

Bears come up short on the road against CCC



File Photo by Dick Kelly/DMACC

Sophomore forward Devonte Smith, 21, handled the ball in a 79-71 win over Iowa Lakes Feb. 6. On Sunday, the Bears record fell to 14-11(3-6) after a nine point loss to CCC, 88-79. The Bears out-rebounded CCC, but the shooting woes continued, connecting only 26 field goals on 67 shots. Sophomore LaTree Russell led the way with 24 points. With five regular season games remaining, DMACC looks to finish strong starting Wednesday night when they take on Southwestern.

DMACC Sports Calendar

Men's Basketball

Feb. 13 @ Southwestern 7:30 PM
Feb. 16 Clinton 1:00 PM (H)
Feb. 20 @ Ellsworth 7:30 PM

Womens Basketball

Feb. 13 @ Southwestern 5:30 PM
Feb. 20 @ Ellsworth 5:30 PM
Feb. 23 NIACC 1:00 PM (H)

Commercialism kills St. Valentine



Kodie Butterfield
Staff Writer

The story of the origin of Valentine's Day takes place during ancient Roman times. Emperor Claudius II made it against the law for young soldiers to marry. Saint Valentine was a man who went behind the ruler's back and preformed marriage ceremonies for young couples. He was caught and put to death for repeatedly breaking the law. It wasn't until after being put to death that he was considered a saint.

What is Valentine's Day really about? Is it about how many cards, flowers, or chocolates you get? Or is it where your significant other takes you for dinner? Valentine's Day has been advertised for many years as a day to treat the person or people you love special.

Today the stores start covering themselves in hearts and chocolates as soon as the new year begins. Couples start planning their dates and figuring out what that 'perfect' gift might be. Valentine's Day like so many other holidays has suffered the

disease of commercialization. The holiday has developed into a chance for stores around the country to make money off of unaware consumers.

I work at a grocery store here in Boone Iowa and the holidays just don't mean the same anymore. I have had first-hand experience for the past two years seeing all of these people scrambling around the day before Valentine's Day to find that gift for their significant other. I've had the pleasure of watching the floral department become swamped by men sweating and rushing to get roses for their wives or girlfriends.

Now commercialization isn't the only thing that has made this holiday what it is today. There is also the stress factor. We can see this appear as early as elementary school. Even at this young age kids feel the pressure to get the "best valentine" or to get the most in your decorated shoe box. I remember myself as a kid working for hours with my Mom on decorating the perfect box for all of my classmates to put in my special Valentine cards. I would spend another hour picking the perfect card out of the set for each individual person. I know now that almost every girl in my class did the exact same thing.

Then I look at my 8-year-old niece. Last year she was in second grade and I still remember her talking about her Valentine's Day party at school. She went on and on about how a certain boy in her class gave her a "special" card. For her this meant it had her favorite

cartoon character from some Disney movie. Then my niece continued to tell me about how there was a girl in her class that she didn't like. My niece gave the girl a card that had one of the evil stepmothers from a princess movie. I had a complete mental flashback to when I was young and worried about the same thing.

Valentine's Day isn't just a stress for the women or girls though. My best guy friend in elementary school did the same thing I did. He didn't want certain girls to get the wrong idea, but I do remember he would always save his favorite for me.

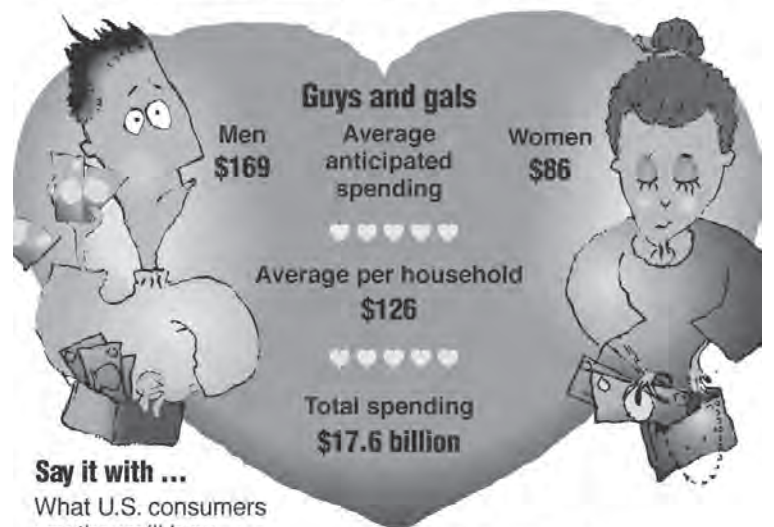
Then when I go to work on or near this holiday I see more men than women. They are the ones running around trying to get flowers, chocolates, and the perfect card.

The idea behind Valentine's Day today is to show that special someone how much you care. I personally think it is great that people want to shower others with love and gifts. The question remains though; why do we need just one day a year to do just that? Why do we need an excuse to treat the people we care so much about special?

I'm not saying that Valentine's Day is a bad thing, but much like many other holidays it is just a reminder of the things we should be doing every day. Personally, I would rather have a random act of kindness or love throughout the year then just have one day to feel extra special.

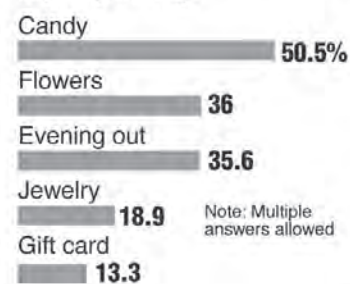
In the pink?

The country may be less than fiscally fit, but Americans are feeling flush when it comes to Valentine's Day spending.



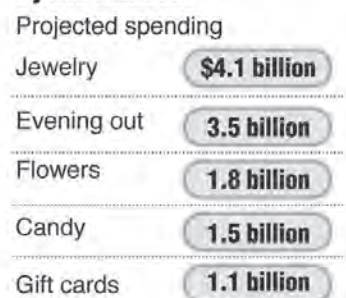
Say it with ...

What U.S. consumers say they will buy:



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Source: National Retail Federation (U.S.)

By the numbers



Single's guide to Valentine's Day



Brian Osborn
Staff Writer

Oh Valentine's Day, a day of love, gifts, and time to spend with that significant other. But for those of you without that special someone, Valentine's Day is like the new MTV show *Buckwild*, sad and pointless. So if you are going to be like me and order Chinese food for one and live in cynical bliss, here are some ways that you can redeem the day.

The way I look at it is that you have to replace the emotion that you are missing with the next best thing. So how about laughter?

The *Funny Bone* in West Des Moines would be a good option. Darrell Joyce, who has had spots on Comedy Central, will be performing on Valentine's Day. So you could grab your buddies, sit around, have a good chuckle, and forget about the empty bed you will be going home too.

What about excitement? There are many theaters in the area that should be showing some kind of a film that will trip your trigger. For guys, we can see just about anything because let's face it, we're pretty easy to please.

"*Django Unchained*" (which is my pick for movie of the year) has many aspects to do so.

Quick drawing guns, explosions, comedy, and even a love story that you can get behind instead of those movies with cheesy lines and vampires that sparkle in the sun instead of blow up.

Unfortunately for women, theaters right now are soaked in masculinity and your options are pretty limited, unless you can get into a love story between a zombie and a living girl. The day after V-Day premieres a movie called "*Safe Haven*" starring dreamy eyed Joshua Duhamel (*Transformers* Series) and Julianne Hough (*Rock of Ages*) that shows promise if you're into that type of thing.

But if that doesn't do it for you, you could always have a "Twilight" marathon with you and your other single girlfriends and get lost in Taylor Lautner's washboard abs.

For those of you trying to fulfill a sense of adventure, why not try and go on an adventure (if weather allows it). During the summer, my roommates and I would make a quick drive over to Ledges State Park night and just walk along the trails, talk, lay in the grass and look up at the night sky.

I always found something peaceful about those trips. It just gave me a good time to think, put things in perspective and have a good talk with my friends about life and other things.

But if all else fails and you are of age, there is usually a bar not too far away where you can have a drink, make some new friends, rekindle old ones, and just have a good time. And who knows, you might even find a valentine. Just don't drink and drive or you could go home to an empty bed in a six by six prison cell.

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Football player gets lured by 'catfish'

'Catfish' should be 'gutted' Intent justifies 'catfishing'



By Cainon Leeds
Editor-in-Chief

Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o thought that his online girlfriend, Lennay Kekua, died of leukemia, but the truth was even more horrific than that. Lennay Kekua never existed except in the heart of Te'o and the mind of a 22-year-old man named Ronaiah Tuiasosopo.

In the first part of a Dr. Phil interview with Tuiasosopo which aired on Jan. 31, Tuiasosopo confirmed on the show that he was the one who had indeed fooled Te'o, using voice recognition and voice mails from "Lennay" as evidence.

This form of false identity while on-line dating has become known as "catfishing" because of a 2010 documentary called Catfish in which a young man is fooled into an online relationship with a middle-aged, married woman, and made to think she was a beautiful 19-year-old girl the whole time.

What was the reason for the "catfishing"? According to Tuiasosopo, he had been sexually abused as a child and he felt that the creation of "Lennay" was a way to accomplish things and control his life.

"I felt that I couldn't do things, accomplish things, pursue things, live out as Ronaiah," said Tuiasosopo during the interview with McGraw, "And I felt the need to create this. It has everything to do with what I went through as a child and my experience with child molestation and abuse."

But was what Tuiasosopo did wrong? Was it any different than, say, using a profile picture of a cartoon character on Facebook, creating a pen name, or a superhero wearing a mask? I would argue yes, this is wrong and different than cartoons, pen names, and superheroes. Here's why.

First off, I understand that Tuiasosopo had his problems, but I don't believe that justifies how he treated Te'o because Te'o did nothing to harm him first. This could be considered a case of egoism, albeit confused egoism. Egoism is the belief that individuals should do whatever furthers their own interests. I truly believe that Tuiasosopo knows what he did was wrong and that, as the relationship grew, he developed honest feelings for Te'o, but at the time

he started "dating" Te'o, he clearly had number one's interests in mind. Maybe he didn't originally intend to seduce men like Te'o, but he didn't nip it in the bud when it began either.

Secondly, Tuiasosopo made the charade and made it believable. Most cartoons come nowhere close to fooling anyone. He changed his voice to sound like a girl's voice and kept the charade going after he knew that Te'o's relationship with "Lennay" was growing. This shows that he created a believable hoax and kept up with it. That takes serious deliberation.

And lastly, pen and stage names are used by authors, actors, and musicians to protect their private lives. As far as I know, they do not mean to trick anyone into believing that they are someone they're not, especially not to start a relationship or feel in control of their lives.

Superheroes wear masks to protect their identities as well. On top of that, I know this may come as a shock to some, but superheroes aren't real.

This is a trap I think we all fall into at some point: we put so much faith in how someone looks that we fall for a mask or false appearance. MaryJane fell in love with Spiderman and Christine fell in love with the Phantom of the Opera, both without

seeing the man's face. And I'm sure that Tuiasosopo wasn't the first to find out that we tend to rely so heavily on looks that sometimes we overlook the important things.

One hard earned piece of wisdom that we can learn from all the "catfish" in the world is that we should treat people we haven't met in person or haven't seen in years online as though he or she is wearing a mask. I'm not saying that online dating is wrong or naive. Who knows, I may even try it someday. I think we all just need to use a little more common sense when we're online.

That's the only way we're going to "gut" these "catfish."



By Jacob Johnson
Staff Writer

What better way to kick off St. Valentine's Day than a case of forbidden love? How about a case of forbidden love when only one person realizes it's forbidden? Notre Dame's star linebacker and Heisman trophy runner up Manti Te'o recently discovered that his online girlfriend of two years was actually his boyfriend. When I hear about a situation like this, my first thought is that Francis was secretly born Frank, but this is something completely different.

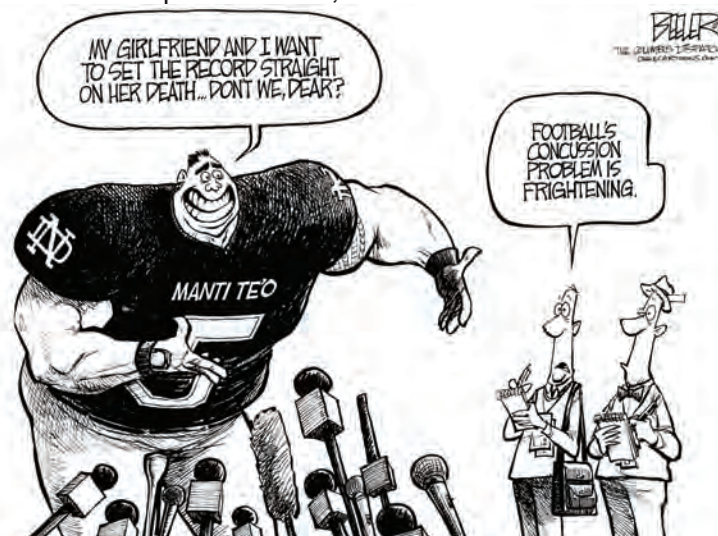
By using a false name and a few pictures he picked up off the Internet, Ronaiah Tuiasosopo

created a fake identity as a woman so that he could find a way to act on his homosexual nature without being persecuted by others while he was discovering his sexual identity. While doing so he met Te'o, and the two of them had an immediate connection. The only problem was that Te'o never realized he was actually talking to a man. As the relationship developed, Tuiasosopo wanted to tell Te'o the truth about his gender, but he feared losing the man he had come to love.

As insane as this whole plot seems, is it really so terrible? Yes, he was lying about his identity, but their emotions were real. Both men have admitted in interviews that they were in love.



Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o fights back tears after a loss on the field.



MCT

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This week's horoscopes

Today's Birthday (02/13/13). Your creative spark is on fire, and the flame's catching. Fun, sports, family time and cultural activities keep you socially buzzing until June, when work steals your attention. A career shift launched leads down a fruitful road.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 9 -- You're the super-hot star of your own movie. Play an everyday hero and succeed. Don't take yourself too seriously, though. Consider the stress factor. Beauty's in the details.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Listen carefully for the next two days. Don't make any important decisions without consulting a friend first. There's a brilliant idea in there somewhere.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- The competition



may be tough, but you're tougher. View from a higher perspective. Wait for the right moment to follow a hunch ... not too long. Watch, and then pounce.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Take the detour that you crave most, and dive into

an adventure. Angels guide you on a mysterious path. Keep your eyes farther down the trail.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Hold on to your hat; this show is about to begin. There may be a high ticket price. Keep your eyes on long-term

goals. Patience is a virtue, especially now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Focus on work and paying bills. Empower and support the strategists, and encourage wild suggestions and brainstorming. Push for big improvements. Clean house.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Anticipate surprises. It could get explosive, so take care. A strong leader takes charge. Vivid feelings and expressions of love occupy you for the next two days.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Expect a heavy workload. Inspiration guides creative effort. Plug a financial leak. Start by reviewing the rules for a startling revelation. Teach self-sufficiency.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- There's time to relax soon. Confusion is ram-

panant now, so stifle it with snappy comebacks. Romance is a growing possibility. You have a surprise visitor.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Emotions increase at home, with a confrontation possible. Get into household projects. Follow an exotic idea or unusual interest. New responsibilities come soon.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Study the situation. Discipline is required. Inspire your team without pressure. Don't push yourself too hard, either. Someone else already does. There's a lucky break.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Here's where you start making profits. Ask for what you've been promised, and gather resources together. Be careful with an outrageous proposition, and ask questions. Have faith in your imagination.

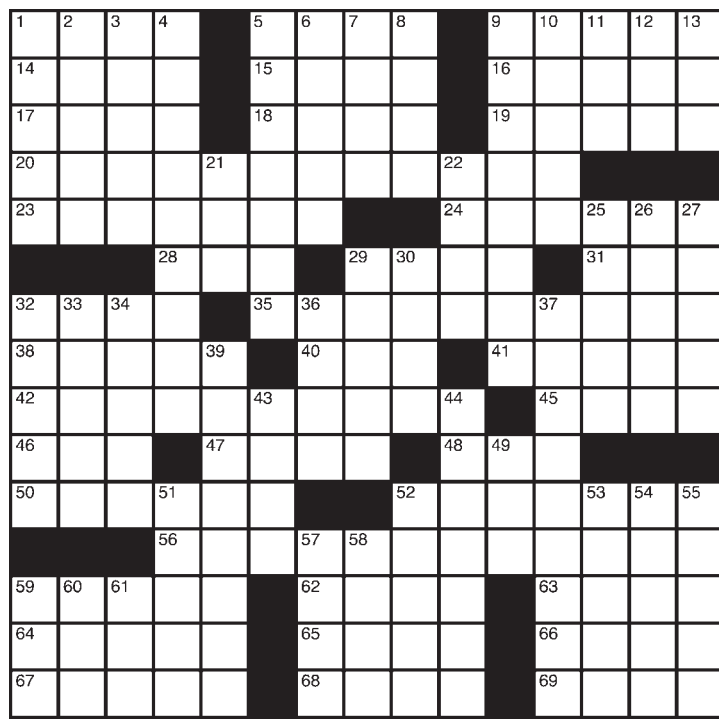
FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 11, 2013

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Tip, as one's hat
- 5 Empty spaces
- 9 Subsides
- 14 Suffix with switch
- 15 Wilson of "Wedding Crashers"
- 16 Texas shrine
- 17 Tall tale teller
- 18 "Deck the Halls" syllables
- 19 Tear to shreds
- 20 Residential loan
- 23 About to happen
- 24 Bronze from a day at the beach
- 28 René's friend
- 29 Appear to be
- 31 ___ Linguist: Irish carrier
- 32 Russian fighter jets
- 35 "I'd like to hear the rest"
- 38 Italian violin maker
- 40 Squeak stopper
- 41 Rigs on the road
- 42 1974 Jimmy Buffett song
- 45 Reasons for extra innings
- 46 "Tastes great!"
- 47 Poet's inspiration
- 48 Sow or cow
- 50 What social climbers seek
- 52 Curtail
- 56 Office communication, and what can literally be found in 20-, 35- and 42-Across
- 59 Gangster John known as "The Teflon Don"
- 62 Twice-monthly tide
- 63 Paths of pop-ups
- 64 Place on a pedestal
- 65 Show some spunk
- 66 "That makes sense"
- 67 Saunter
- 68 Vehicle on runners
- 69 Proof of ownership



By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke

2/11/13

DOWN

- 1 New ___: India's capital
- 2 Hunter constellation
- 3 Heads on beers
- 4 Hint of the future
- 5 "Take a shot!"
- 6 Informed (of)
- 7 Attack, as with snowballs
- 8 Stocking tear
- 9 Military practice
- 10 Visitor from afar
- 11 Treat jet lag, perhaps
- 12 Earthbound Aussie bird
- 13 Dip, as bread in gravy
- 21 Dad's partner
- 22 "Lemme ___!"
- 25 Vocalist Judd
- 26 Really strange
- 27 Bride's purchase
- 29 Base runner's option
- 30 Scat legend Fitzgerald
- 32 Flagship store at New York City's Herald Square
- 33 Words from one with a bad hand

Saturday's Puzzle Solved



(c)2013 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

2/11/13

- 34 Letter after beta
- 36 Long, long time
- 37 Parking ticket issuer
- 39 Resistance to disease
- 43 Expel
- 44 Like a slingshot handle
- 49 Christmas, e.g.: Abbr.
- 51 Proof of ownership
- 52 Simple trap
- 53 Far from talkative
- 54 Intro giver
- 55 Snooped (around)
- 57 Pulls the plug on
- 58 More than lifelike
- 59 Precious stone
- 60 Big name in kitchen gadgets
- 61 Profs' helpers

