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Banner News

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Banner News

Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus

Wednesday, February 9, 2011, Vol. 10, No. 9



Photo by Kevin Langel

Above are members of the DMACC baseball team, along with Sean Taylor and his son Cade. The scooters were purchased by Jane Martino for the Taylor family. From left to right are: Dylan Thomas, John Loeffler, Sean Borman, Cade Taylor, Sean Taylor, Andy Weiss, Harley Thompson and Drew Freie.

Dream team

Baseball players 'recruit' Sean Taylor's boys

By Kevin Langel
Editor-in-Chief

The DMACC baseball team took on a new goal and a couple junior recruits this school year.

DMACC instructor Sean Taylor, a captain in the Iowa National Guard, is stationed in Afghanistan. This fall, baseball team members in Jane Martino's Developmental Psychology class decided to help ease some of the heartache for his sons by asking them to become DMACC junior recruits.

DMACC baseball players presented the boys with team hats and gloves. Then the Taylor kids got to try out their new gear by practicing with some team members. Once baseball season starts up again, the team will make sure that the brothers will get to the games.

"It is all about team loyalty,"

said Martino. "We want them [Taylor's kids] to continue a feeling of belonging and to get through this deployment with as little bumps as possible."

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, Taylor returned to DMACC to thank the baseball team while he was back for the only two-week leave of his deployment.

Baseball team members got to shake Captain Taylor's hand, thank him for his service and present donated scooters they had assembled to his kids. Martino described the event as a good thing and a "choked up" moment.

"I love it that the team is reaching out to my children," said Taylor. "They need to know that they are cared about and that there are people willing to help them and have fun with them while I am gone."

Sean Taylor is scheduled to return to the States this summer.

An update from Sean

"I am currently serving in Afghanistan. We will be there until late Summer. Things are going well for my unit right now. We are in charge of base operations for Bagram Airfield. We have learned our responsibilities and now are making improvements to operations to help build the capacity of one of the largest bases in Afghanistan."

-- from an e-mail, 1-26-11

E-Books, a new way of reading your text books

By Daniel Ginger
News Editor

The way students learn in class is changing. The traditional textbook is now challenged by E-Readers such as the Kindle, Nook and iPad.

"Instructors need to be receptive to new technology in the classroom," said Dr. Timothy Bergin when asked how he felt about students using electronic devices for textbooks while in the classroom.

Large colleges such as ISU offer a portion of the textbooks as electronic books as they incorporate a new era.

Even DMACC's textbooks can be found as online E-books at a discounted price.

The Elementary Statistics textbook is sold through the DMACC bookstore at a cost of \$156. When bought through Amazon.com, the same book costs \$138.

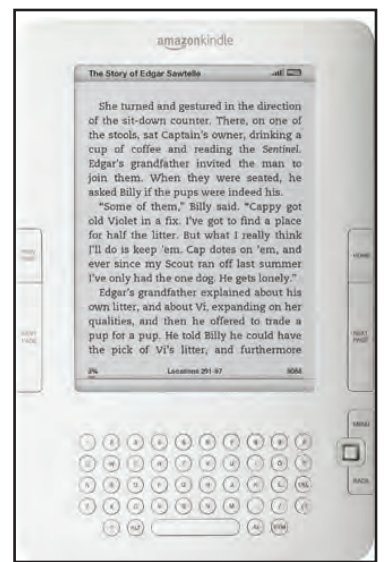
As an E-book, the same book costs you only \$85.25. The drawback being that it is a 360 day subscription.

Not all instructors allow E-books as an alternative,

however. In Mary Ann Koch's classroom students are not allowed to use electronic devices.

Although E-books offer several pros, such as the ability to store several books in one conveniently light machine, your E-book is rarely yours to keep.

After its subscription times out, you no longer have any access to the book.



MCT

The Amazon Kindle is an e-reader, which can display e-books.

Students, Staff attend IACCT Legislative Seminar



Photo by Brian Green

DMACC students Kevin Langel, Editor-in-Chief of the Banner News, and Chris Shannon, member of Phi Beta Lamda, stand next to Gov. Terry Bransted at the Embassy Suites on the River hotel in Des Moines. Langel and Shannon attended the seminar with Brian Green, associate provost at the Boone Campus. The seminar was held Jan. 26-27. The purpose of the seminar was to help promote funding for community colleges in Iowa.

"It was an interesting new experience," said Langel. "I've never been to something like this before. I enjoyed listening to what the other community college students and staff, as well as the politicians, had to say about the community colleges of Iowa."

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"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."

~Robert Frost~

Boone campus offers free income tax help

DMACC-Free income tax help is being offered each Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus from Feb. 4 through April 15.

DMACC accounting students who have been certified by the Internal Revenue Service will help prepare federal and Iowa individual income tax returns for qualified residents.

This service, called the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, offers free tax assistance to those with low-to-moderate incomes (less than \$49,000 in annual personal income).

VITA is particularly interested in identifying those taxpayers who are eligible for earned income tax credit (EITC), which is a refundable tax credit to those who are low wage earners. The Iowa EITC is now refundable.

All tax returns will be prepared on-site at the DMACC Boone Campus by trained and certified DMACC student volun-

teers who use software provided by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Each return will be reviewed by the site coordinator and, after approval and signature of the taxpayer, will be filed electronically with the IRS and the Iowa Department of Revenue. There will be no cost to eligible taxpayers for this service.

Persons interested in receiving this service should bring their W-2 forms, interest statements from banks (1099 forms), copies of last year's federal and Iowa tax returns, along with social security cards for all family members. Any other pertinent information regarding personal income and expenses for tax year 2010 should be included.

Individuals may call (515) 433-5029 to schedule an appointment. Tax return preparation begins at 9:30 a.m. each Friday on the DMACC Boone Campus.

The service will not be available Feb. 18 or during spring break, which occurs March 14-18.

DMACC instructor picked as PTK faculty scholar

DMACC-Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus Associate Professor of Spanish, Stacy Amling has been selected as one of 25 community college instructors from across the country and the British Virgin Islands as a Faculty Scholar at the Phi Theta Kappa 2011 Faculty Scholar Conference.



Stacy Amling

Amling and the other faculty members will serve as discussion facilitators for the 2011 Honors Institute at Boston University and will convene in Jackson, MS Feb. 2-6 to receive training for the upcoming summer event.

Sima Dabir, a Mathematics/Engineering Instructor from Western Iowa Technical Community College in Sioux City, is the only other Iowan selected as a PTK Faculty Scholar.

The annual Faculty Scholar Conference, sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will be held at Phi Theta Kappa's Center for Excellence.

Serving as a presenter for the event will be veteran journalist Helen Thomas, a former White House correspondent, who will present a lecture on "Media and the Democratization of Information."

Other conference presenters include:

Dr. Ron Nief and Dr. Tom McBride, professors and creators of the Beloit College Mindset List, will speak on "The Mindset List and the Democratization of Information."

In addition, Stan Tiner, Vice President/Executive Editor; Anita Lee, Staff Writer; Drew Tarter, Photo Editor; Kate Magandy,

Online Editor - Sun Herald, Gulfport, Mississippi, will speak on "City as Text: The Democratization of Information and the Mississippi Gulf Coast: Hurricane Katrina and the Gulf Oil Spill"

The 2011 Honors Institute will be held June 13-17 at Boston University in Massachusetts.

During this conference the PTK Faculty Scholars will lead groups of 15-20 honor students in seminar discussions of the issues presented throughout the week.

The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,250 chapters on college campuses in all 50 of the United States, Canada, Germany, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the British Virgin Islands, the United Arab Emirates and U.S. territorial possessions.

More than two million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 100,000 students inducted annually.

Better safe than sorry

By Devon Greer
Staff Writer

A student-rights advocate and educational law scholar explained search and seizure law and how it affects student's computer use at school during a lecture Jan. 24 in the Boone auditorium.

C.L. Lindsay said the purpose of his lecture was to teach students in an entertaining manner what the laws are, how they apply to them, and how to work within them. Instead of using graphics and charts, Lindsay used images of action figures in different scenarios.

"It makes concepts like the Fourth Amendment or federal copyright law much more approachable and the students really respond well to the action figures," he said.

Lindsay referred to DMACC's technology usage policy on security and privacy as found on page 59 of the DMACC student handbook. "The policies set in place do not protect students from search and seizure," said Lindsay.

DMACC's Security and Privacy policy states: "the College does not endorse the casual review of electronic communication and storage. However, users should be aware that their uses of DMACC information technology shall have no guarantee of privacy.

Technology resources are considered property of the College and DMACC may initiate inspections or monitoring of information resources if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the College. DMACC may also be required to initiate inspections or monitoring if subject to subpoena or other legal requirements."

This means the Fourth

"The policies set in place do not protect students from search and seizure."

C.L. Lindsay,
attorney

Amendment's protection against unreasonable search and seizure doesn't necessarily apply when it comes to students using DMACC computers.

Students in the audience found Lindsay's information to be relevant.

"The laws and topics that Lindsay addresses are significantly important in at least one aspect of every college student's life," says David, a student at DMACC who attended Lindsay's presentation.

Lindsay says before he gives a lecture at a school he usually goes on to Facebook and MySpace to see what students have posted there.

"It takes about a minute to find students drinking under age, smoking pot, or doing some other foolish stuff," Lindsay said. Downloading pictures he finds from each school, Lindsay pixelated the faces, and then opens the lecture by showing the audience the images they have posted for others to see.

Lindsay said more and more employers are looking at social networking sites to evaluate potential hires. Studies show that as many as 60 percent check out sites like MySpace and Facebook. Half have turned down candidates based on what they found online.

Being careless about online postings cannot only affect the potential for an individual to be hired, it can also put students in physical danger.

Employers are not the only

people who use the networking sites as resources. Lindsay said, "Many sexual predators also use networking sites; they're the perfect tool for them." According to "Campus Computing," a video by C.L. Lindsay posted on YouTube they say that "at any given time there are 40,000 sexual predators online looking for victims."

Social networking sites are one component of this lecture but Lindsay also teaches about some of the ways that a student can get into trouble online.

"Depending what's been happening at the school I'm at I might talk about online stalking, online plagiarism, parties, sexting, and sex extortion."

Lindsay was not always a public speaker. Lindsay was an attorney in New York City. He left the practice in 1998 to establish CO-STAR, Coalition for student & Academic Rights. CO-STAR is a non-profit network of lawyers nationwide who offer help to college students and professors with legal problems.

"I absolutely love what I do," Lindsay said. "It's just amazing to be able to teach these things to students and not only have them listen and understand what they need to do but to entertain them at the same time."

Lindsay said he hopes students understand the importance of his subject matter.

"Being legally accountable is really the same thing as being responsible and safe," he said.

Get your tax refund in days

Des Moines-Most of you qualify to e-File both Federal and State Incomes Taxes for free!

Over 1 million Iowans filed their income tax returns electronically last year and received their refund in days instead of weeks.

"Electronic Filing is fast, safe and easy," reports Leann Boswell, of the Iowa Department of Revenue.

We want to hear your complaints/compliments/concerns!
Please submit Letters to the Editor to bannernews@dmacc.edu.
Remember that all letters must be signed!

Turn to page 8 and "Guess this Pic" Guess the picture correctly and win a prize!!

"Refunds are issued in days compared to paper filing, which can take several weeks to process."

Click the e-File logo on the Iowa Department of Revenue Web site (www.iowa.gov/tax/) to file federal and Iowa income tax returns online. Find out if you qualify to file for free, and follow the simple instructions to e-File your tax returns.

The deadline for filing federal income tax is April 18. For Iowa, the deadline is May 2.

For additional information, please contact eFile Service Unit at 515-281-8453/866-503-3453, or email: idrefile@iowa.gov. For tax-related questions call Taxpayer Services at 515-281-3114/800-367-3388, or e-mail: idr@iowa.gov.

Pollinators Wanted

Forage Genetics, located 5 miles southwest of Ames, is seeking corn pollinators. Employment will last 3-4 weeks beginning after July 4. Pay varies by applicant with overtime and bonus potential. Good fit for 1st semester summer students. All majors welcome to apply. For more info contact bhbrekke@landolakes.com.

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BEAR BRIEFS

Phi Theta Kappa Conference, Blood Drive

DMACC Boone Campus will be the host to the Phi Theta Kappa Regional Conference on Feb. 17 and 18. During the conference, Phi Theta Kappa will be hosting their annual blood drive on Feb. 17. To schedule an appointment, please go to www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

ROC the Dream Sock Drive

Rural Opportunities and Connections (ROC) is hosting a sock drive on campus. People are asked to donate socks for kids ages 10 to 18. The deadline is Feb. 14. Please contact Theresa Angle at 433-7013 with any questions.

Power of the Tongue

An energetic presentation about Black History and Black Literature will be Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 12:15 p.m. in the auditorium. The performance poet will be Ge'ylah. She will be available in the morning to speak in the classrooms. If instructors are interested in this opportunity, they are asked to contact Steve Kraf-cisin at ext. 5078 or sjkrafcsin@dmacc.edu.

Seven Oaks Recreational Outing

The Students Activities Council on the Boone Campus will be hosting a recreational outing at Seven Oaks, which is west of Boone on Hwy. 30 on Feb. 18. Students must show their ID card or a current class schedule when checking in. The SAC will pay for the lift tickets, but students have to pay for the rental of the skis or snowboard (skis-\$15 & snowboard-\$16).

Reporters Wanted

DMACC Boone Campus Banner News newspaper is looking for ambitious students interested in reporting, photography and editing. Work study positions are also available. Enroll in Newspaper Production (JOU 125) or apply for work study at the DMACC Boone Campus business office today.

Cancelled Classes

Students wanting to know if their classes have been cancelled can check it out online by going to the DMACC Boone Campus website and then by clicking on cancelled classes.

DMACC Alert System

The DMACC Alert System, also known as RAVE, is the system to alert students, faculty and staff if the college is closed due to weather or other emergency situations. To sign up for RAVE, go to www.getrave.com/login/dmacc. You can sign in with your DMACC login information.

Gift Certificates

The Business Office is now selling gift certificates to the Campus Cafe for \$5.00 for Valentines Day. If you would like to purchase a certificate, please stop by the the Business Office and talk to Joanne or Vicki.

Every Day is Earth Day

Want to help save the world? Want to make a difference? Please help plan, coordinate and facilitate Boone Campus's 2011 Earth Day activities. If interested in helping and working on this project, please contact Nancy Woods at nawoods@dmacc.edu

Happy Valentine's Day

Donate blood and give a gift from the heart

Boone, IA—Finding the perfect gift to give for Valentine's Day can be challenging. This year, give a gift from the heart by donating blood through the American Red Cross in honor of your special someone. Or double your lifesaving impact by spending quality time together and donating with your partner.

"Instead of buying a box of chocolates or flowers that will be gone by the end of the week, give a gift that lasts," said Greg Novinska, CEO of the Badger-Hawkeye blood services region. "By donating blood, you can give a patient in need and their loved ones more time together."

As Americans become increasingly mobile, you can feel good knowing that when you donate blood through the Red Cross you may be helping patients

not only in your local community, but also your family and friends across the nation.

The Boone Community blood drive will be Thursday, Feb. 17 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Boone Campus.

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in.

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are generally in good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Take a shot at avoiding the flu



By Anna Rinehart
Contributing Writer

The flu season is upon us, and with it comes some frequently asked questions. I hope to answer them for you this week.

Who should get the flu shot?

Nearly everyone should get the flu shot, but its most important for the following: young children older than six months, pregnant women, people over 50 years old, anyone with a chronic disease, and people who work or live in a care facilities.

Should students get the flu shot?

Yes, students should get the flu shot because their immune systems are already lower from stress and not enough sleep. Thus if students get the flu shot, it would help them with their overall health. Hopefully the student will have fewer days feeling sick and under the weather to allow them more time to devote to studying.

Who should not get the shot?

It is important that people who have had severe allergic reactions to chicken eggs not get the vaccination. Moreover, if one has had a bad reaction to an influenza shot in the past, they should not be vaccinated. Children under 6 months old should wait for a vaccination. If you are ill with a fever, wait until you recover to get a flu shot.

Does the flu shot help with more than one flu virus?

The answer is yes. One shot actually helps protect against three strands of the flu virus. The three strands that are in the flu shot this year are the 2009 H1N1, influenza H3N2 virus, and an

influenza B virus. These strands change every year depending on which virus scientists think will be the most probable influenza virus.

Does the shot actually help one from getting the flu?

The answer is yes again. The shot does help one from getting the flu. It does not help or prevent all the different types of flu out there. The shot will only help with the three viruses in that particular shot. Thus, getting the shot does mean one could still possibly get sick from another influenza virus that was not included in the shot. However, one still decreases the possibility of getting the flu by being vaccinated.

Can I still get the flu shot?

Yes, it's still not too late. One can get the flu shot at any medical clinic, Walgreens in Boone, and several locations. Most locations accept insurance that may cover the cost of the shot. Consider getting yours today!

Anna Rinehart is a full-time DMACC student who plans to transfer to ISU in the fall, where she will pursue a degree in diet and exercise.



File photo/Rich Sugg/Kansas City Star/MCT

Delane Kempf, the Flu Shot Program Manager for the American Red Cross in Kansas City, Missouri, holds a bottle of the flu vaccine. It's not too late for students to get a shot at a local clinic or nearby pharmacy.

Ways to stay fit all year long

By Devon Greer
Staff Writer

When trying to stay physically fit, Boone DMACC students have indoor and outdoor activities available.

Jennifer Spry-Knutson, Fitness & Sports manager for Boone DMACC, suggested students trying to stay fit indoors could try Wii Fit. Wii Fit is an exercise program for the Wii gaming system that incorporates entertainment into exercising.

Knutson said a way to stay physically fit outdoors during the winter season is by trying snowshoes. Boone County holds a snowshoe hike every other Saturday. For more information go to the calendar at www.co.boone.ia.us.

Another way to exercise outdoors during the winter is by trying snowboarding or skiing at Seven Oaks Recreation Park in Boone. Seven Oaks is open Wednesday to Sunday. Ski and snowboard rental prices are \$16 to \$20 based on their hours of operation, which are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. or 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Lift tickets

are \$20, but every Wednesday and Thursday evening lift tickets are only \$10.

Richard, a 25 year old Boone campus college student says "due to the environment temperature, when it's cold outside I don't want to endure physical injury, either to the lungs from inhaling cold air or by falling due to ice or snow."

Those concerned with the winter weather affecting their activities can still get fit and remain indoors. One option for DMACC students is a fitness center. Not only does DMACC have a fitness center, but it is free. Students are able to use the machines in the fitness room located in the hallway by the number _ entrance to exercise. The fitness room hours, as posted on the fitness room door are: Monday through Thursday w a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays closed. Those looking to exercise but can't go during the hours the fitness room is available have another option.

Anytime Fitness is a fitness club with locations in Boone, Huxley, Ames and Ankeny. With an Anytime Fitness membership, you can work out anytime, day or

night. The clubs are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Each new member receives a free personal fitness orientation. If you want to give it a try before joining, you can use the seven-day pass feature on anytimefitness.com to locate a club near you and have a pass sent directly to your email box. For a monthly membership college students are charged \$29.99 with no joining fee. A regular adult membership is \$38.99 plus joining fee.

Boone offers a YMCA open Monday through Friday 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. From cardio kickboxing to resistance training and yoga, three levels of classes are available. All classes are free to YMCA members.

A water fitness program is available to students interested in swimming. Childcare options are available for students with kids. The YMCA offers financial assistance for members and program participants who desire to participate and understand the benefits of the YMCA, regardless of their ability to pay the prescribed fee.



Photo by Kevin Langel

Latrice Brackman (left) gets her blood pressure taken by DMACC nursing student Taylor Alexander (right). The nursing students were doing blood pressure screening on Monday, Feb. 7.

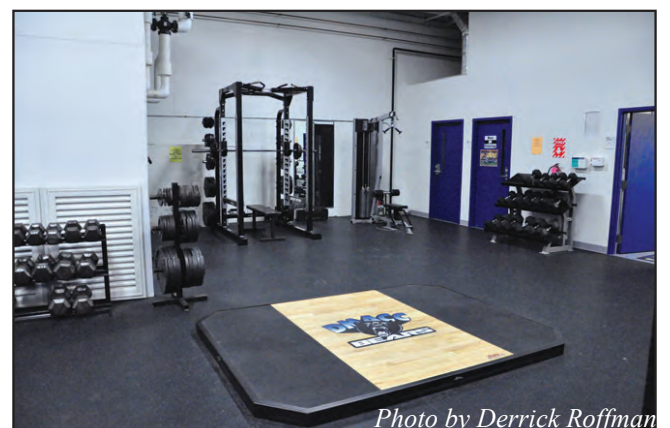


Photo by Derrick Roffman

The DMACC weight room which is located on the gym balcony.

HEARS TO YOUR HEALTH!!

DMACC Bears: Women



Photo by Judah Allen

Bears beat Ellsworth, 70-37

Ashley Hagedorn shoots a successful free throw during the game against Ellsworth Jan. 29. The women came through with a victory 70-37. Freshman Lacy Stevenson from Knoxville had 27 points. Freshman Sam Thrapp from Davenport pulled in 18 points and 3 steals. Freshman Karrie Warehime came through with 12 points, three assists and two steals. "I thought we had great outside shots," said Coach Steve Krafcisin after the game. "We held them to good defense, prevented them from shooting eleven 3's. We felt great about making shots so the shots came out great on the floor."

Stevenson is scholar-athlete of the week



DMACC-The Iowa Community College Athletic Conference has named Lacy Stevenson of Knoxville, a freshman on the Des Moines Area Community College women's basketball team, Scholar-Athlete of the Week.

Stevenson led the Bears to a 70-37 win over Ellsworth Community College on Jan. 29, with a career-high 19 points. She was six of 11 field goal attempts, including a 5-of-7 performance from 3-point range. DMACC improved to 17-6 with the win.

Stevenson is majoring in liberal arts at DMACC and carries a 3.3 grade point average. Her future plans include graduating from DMACC and continuing her education at a four-year university that has an agricultural public service and administration program.

Stevenson is the daughter of Rick and Tamra Stevenson of Knoxville.

DMACC takes Marshalltown, 82-75

DMACC-Sophomore Katlyn Wood of Monroe scored 18 points to lead the DMACC women's basketball team to an 82-75 win over Marshalltown Community College (MCC) Feb. 2 at the DMACC gymnasium.

Wood, who made eight of 12 shots from the field, was one of four DMACC players to score

in double figures as the Bears improved to 18-6 overall and 6-4 in the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC). Freshman Karlie Warehime of Gowrie scored 13 points, sophomore Carli Bunning of Boone had 12 and freshman Jocelyn Coleman of Shenandoah scored 11 points.



Photo by Judah Allen

Kannon Burrage shoots the last of his three consecutive free throws to tie the game against Ellsworth Jan. 29. The men's basketball team fell to Ellsworth, 83-90, in overtime on Jan. 29. Sophomore guard E.J. Hicks had 21 points, two assists and two steals. Burrage pulled out 20 points and five assists. Sophomore point guard Hal Bateman came through with 16 points, four steals and eight assists.

DMACC Bears: Men

DMACC takes down Simpson JV, 82-49



Photo by Judah Allen

E.J. Hicks takes the ball down the court, ready to make his move, during the game against Simpson JV Feb. 3.

DMACC-Sophomore Kannon Burrage of East Moline, Ill., scored 20 points to lead the Des Moines Area Community College men's basketball team to an 82-49 win over the Simpson College junior varsity Feb. 3 at the DMACC gymnasium.

The Bears improved to 18-5 with the win.

Burrage made nine of 13 shots from the field as the Bears shot 59 percent for the game (33-

of-56). He helped DMACC to a 49-18 advantage on the boards with eight rebounds, dished out six assists and blocked two shots.

Sophomore Jordan Young of Parkersburg had 14 points, sophomore Mike Thompson of Bettendorf scored 13 and sophomore E.J. Hicks of Davenport finished with 11 points. Hicks also had eight rebounds in the game and Thompson came away with six.

DMACC men break century mark in lopsided win

The Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) men's basketball team broke the century mark for the third time this season with a 104-54 victory over Clinton Community College Feb. 5 at Clinton.

Sophomore Kannon Burrage

of East Moline, Ill., led the Bears to the victory with a game-high 32 points. Burrage was successful on 13 of 19 field goal attempts, including 4-of-7 from 3-point range. He drained both of his free throw attempts, grabbed two rebounds and had four steals.

Open minds, open hearts, open doors at DMACC

By Allison Buckalew
Contributing Writer

This story was originally published in the Campus Chronicle at the Ankeny Campus. Reprinted with permission.

Taylor Williams is now completely comfortable in her own skin. She is not afraid to be who she really is anymore.

Williams, a DMACC student studying science in the Liberal Arts program, finds the Ankeny campus to be much more accepting to LGBT students than high school was.

LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. "It's like a fresh start. And now I am really comfortable with being open in all of my classes."

Things have gotten a lot better in college, Williams said. In high school, everyone knows everything about you. In college, no one really knows you until you start getting to know them in return, she said.

Williams said that she is one of the lucky ones. "Anyone that I've told here basically reacts like, OK, no big deal, or it's cool with people."

So far, DMACC does not have any support group or club that would help students who are afraid to come out, or those who have come out and need that extra support from people going through the same situations and feelings.

As far as recognition goes, Williams said she feels that DMACC is not very good at recognizing LGBT students. However, she feels as though DMACC has been pretty open and accepting of her so far.

Williams had someone ask her in one of her science classes here at DMACC why she thought she was the way she was. "I don't believe being gay is a choice, especially when it's sometimes apparent from a young age. I also don't like when people call it a 'lifestyle.' Why would someone choose to live a life with adversity?" Williams asked.

So far, Williams has only had one serious relationship during college since being out. However, the girl she was dating wasn't comfortable with acting like a couple in public. "I kind of feel cheated out of the dating experience so far because we had to hide who we are. I really just want the kind of relationship my parents have."

When she needs support, Williams goes to her friends first. She knows she can talk to her mom because she says she is a great listener and supports her, but it isn't something her mom can really identify with.

"It's very liberating to be

out," Williams said, "but it also takes a lot of courage to come out, especially to your parents and family." Williams urges other students to establish a good support system beforehand. "It makes all the difference in the world."

Jonathan Krueger, another gay student on the DMACC campus, recalled what it was like for him before he came out in high school. He knew he was gay, but wasn't comfortable with it until about junior year. "I was bullied some. When people are staring or snickering, you know you are being talked about," Krueger

said. One day, in the middle of one of Krueger's classes, another guy stood up and in front of everyone asked him if he was dating a boy. Krueger felt bad because a few of his friends were in that same class and he hadn't told them yet. "I felt outted before I was ready."

Coming out to his parents was hard. Krueger remembered being scared to tell his mom, but afterwards, felt relief. When his dad first found out, his first words were, "How do you think Jeff (Krueger's brother) is going to be treated at school now?" The words stung, but after the initial shock wore off, Krueger's dad became supportive and is now very protective of him, Krueger said.

Krueger said that, if possible, it is better to talk with someone when you know. The stress of holding in that big of a secret definitely took its toll. "I developed anger issues, anxiety, and problems with depression. It's just better to tell someone. It helps your relationships with other people and yourself," Krueger said.

Krueger has definitely seen improvement in college, though. He's been pleasantly surprised at how open people are. People are much more accepting. "DMACC has been amazing," Krueger said.

"Most university campuses around the country have developed support groups for LGBT students...where is ours?" asked Julie Simanski, a speech teacher on the Ankeny DMACC campus.

Simanski has been an advocate for gay rights for years now, especially because she has a personal connection to someone who is gay, her brother. "We came from a small community and so he couldn't really identify with anyone else. It wasn't until he was a sophomore in college that he finally came out, even though he probably knew long before that, that he was gay," Simanski said.

In 2004, Simanski used a DMACC grant to hold a pride week for all of the DMACC campuses combined. She was able

to get a portion of the AIDS quilt on campus, which is an enormous quilt made as a memorial to, and in celebration of, the lives of people who have died of AIDS related causes.

Simanski was also able to contact Matthew Shepard's mother, who did a reading and a question and answer session with the community. Matthew Shepard was a University of Wyoming student who was tortured and murdered because he was homosexual. Ever since then, his mother Judy has been an advocate for LGBT youth and helps run the Matthew Shepard Foundation, which supports diversity and tolerance in youth organizations.

In addition, during pride week, tables were set up by different organizations that support LGBT students, such as Wells Fargo and Principal, which handed out information to students interested in learning more about tolerance.

Simanski described the whole event as successful for LGBT students and allies alike. The reception for Shepard's mother and her Q&A were very well received, Simanski said. Judy Shepard wasn't the type of person to push her opinions on you, Simanski said, she just felt strongly about equality and treating everyone with respect.

Simanski says that having a personal connection to someone

that is gay, or knowing someone who is, helps to defy stereotypes. "When teaching, I try to be inclusive with relationship definitions." Recently, faculty has had some LGBT support training, but Simanski thinks there is much more that can be done. "There needs to be a group, or a place for resources dealing with bullying, or brochures, or any kind of literature really," she said.

Other LGBT students on the Ankeny DMACC campus may not be quite as well received as Taylor Williams and Jonathan Krueger, and feel like they are alone in their struggles. According to the PFLAG organization, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, "nearly a fifth of students are physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation and over a tenth because of their gender expression."

Laurie Wolf, the executive dean of Student Services, explained that it would be beneficial if students would want to create a club or support group for LGBT students. If so, they should go to faculty and find an advisor to help run it. "Most student-run organizations that are active are such because they have worked hard to be recognized." Wolf has found that students are less responsive to faculty organized groups than to ones they have created themselves. "We would be more than accepting if the idea of

a club or support group would be brought to us," she said, adding that she is surprised it hasn't happened on this campus yet.

According to Wolf, DMACC has a strong anti-discrimination policy that they adhere to no matter what kind of discrimination it involves. "We take any kind of discrimination very seriously, and we have absolutely no tolerance for it," Wolf said. She said she would hope that if any incidents were to occur, students would feel comfortable enough to come to her or any faculty members so they could put a stop to it immediately.

Faculty members have all had to take equal rights, discrimination, and safety program training sessions, which includes anti-bullying. "I hope that we are an open enough community that we won't have to deal with any incidents like that," Wolf said.

For LGBT students dealing with a harsh environment on campus, a good place to start is with a counselor. Also, several instructors now have a pink triangle on their door, symbolizing they are a safe person to come to with any troubles or concerns.

Simanski hopes that we can do more for this campus in particular. "Let's make this a place that's comfortable for everyone."



Taylor Williams

Editor's Update (from the DMACC Daily 2/1/11) NEW LGBTQA GROUP – ANKENY CAMPUS

A new LGBTQA student group will be meeting Tuesday afternoons at 3 p.m. in Bldg. #2, Room 12C. Come join other students in a safe, open and confirming environment. Questions? Email: jlstrachota@dmacc.edu.



MCT

DMACC • Boone Community Blood Drive

Thursday, February 17
9 am – 2:30 pm • Courter Center
Sponsored by Iowa Region Phi Theta Kappa
For an appointment,
call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org
All presenting donors will receive a free
T-shirt while supplies and sizes last.

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



Wanted

Online Editor for the
Banner News
Contact Kevin Langel,
Editor-in-Chief
bannernews@dmacc.edu

Work Study Available

AROUND THE BC



Staying Safe and Secure on Facebook

By Austin Leeds

Columnist

Sometimes we take it for granted that we can share things privately with our friends on Facebook. But what if your privacy was suddenly compromised? The amount of information contained in one Facebook profile is enormous and can cause lasting regret when it is suddenly made public. Here are some ways you can protect yourself (and, by extension, your friends) from the devastation of a compromised account.

1. Only friend people you know and trust. Sure, it's nice to have a bunch of friends, but how many of them are really your friends? Do you really want your girlfriend's brother's best friend's cousin knowing where you work, or what your email address is, or what time you have class? Which brings me to my next tip...
2. Adjust your security settings. Make sure you are sharing with people appropriately—you might trust your brother with your email address, but if you have your email address shared with everyone under your account info, account hackers could use that to quickly break your password and access your account.
3. Filter content. The relatively recent (but no less valid) adage, "If you wouldn't do it in real life, don't do it online," applies here. Post as if a room full of people was reading it—because chances are, they are.
4. Log out. Even on your private computers! If your computer is stolen, your Facebook account makes a juicy target to assist in the theft of your personal information.
5. Stay informed. Make sure you have Facebook set to email or text you whenever your account is accessed—that way, you have early warning in case someone hacks your account.

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

I'm working with the Student PIRGs to run an internship program at Des Moines Area Community College where students can make a difference on issues they care about - like protecting our forests, expanding public transportation, or making textbooks affordable. Students can organize events around weatherizing local homes and community buildings or fundraising for local shelters.

Through our intern program, students will learn how to plan and run the campaign, recruit and train a team of volunteers, work with the media, and educate their campus about these issues.

We are now accepting applications. Students can apply online at <https://www.studentpirgs.org/internships>

Will you forward the link below to your classes or any other student leaders on campus who you think would be interested in our internship opportunities?

Thank you for all you do for your students!

Sincerely,
 Marites Velasquez
 Field Organizer
 Student PIRGs
<http://www.studentpirgs.org>
 o: 392-291-0349
 c: 702-235-9988

Big breaks for big oil

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Analysts are expecting a bonanza when Exxon Mobil Corp. announces its fourth-quarter earnings on Monday; the company's stock has jumped by nearly 20 percent during the last year, and in the first three quarters of 2010, its profit was \$21.2 billion, not a bad haul during a worldwide recession. Other oil companies have had similar success, thanks to growing demand in India and China. Yet U.S. taxpayers subsidize this industry to the tune of \$4 billion a year.

This kind of largesse toward a hugely profitable business seems bizarre, especially at a time when the federal deficit is reaching alarming proportions, yet efforts to end the tax deductions and credits for companies that don't need them have gone nowhere. That isn't stopping President Obama from trying. In his State of the Union address, he proposed an uptick in federal spending on clean-energy research and development, to be paid for by ending subsidies for oil companies. "I don't know if you've noticed, but they're doing just fine on their own. So instead of subsidizing yesterday's energy, let's invest in tomorrow's," Obama said.

He is of course right, but that won't stop Republicans and oil-state Democrats from thwarting his plans. Obama has been trying since his first year in office to cut oil subsidies, calling in his last budget request for the elimination of \$36.5 billion in industry tax breaks over the course of a decade. Congress turned him down.

The oil industry and its backers claim that ending these breaks, such as a domestic manufacturing tax deduction and deductions for certain "intangible" drilling expenses, would cause oil and gas prices to rise and cost American jobs.

Independent analyses suggest that isn't true. A 2007 report by the Joint Economic Committee, which advises Congress on economic matters, found that ending the manufacturing deduction would have a negligible effect on consumer prices. That's because when crude is fetching high prices, as it has for many years and will for many more, companies have ample incentive to drill even without a subsidy - so eliminating it wouldn't cause the kind of supply shortages that push up prices at the pump. Subsidies also have a minimal effect on drilling decisions, including whether companies drill in the United States or abroad, so they don't preserve jobs for American workers.

Obama couldn't persuade Congress to end oil subsidies when it was controlled by Democrats, so it's even less likely he'll succeed now that the House is controlled by Republicans. It's still the right thing to do - and if Obama can make more Americans aware of their government's generosity to oil giants, he can boost his chances.



MCT

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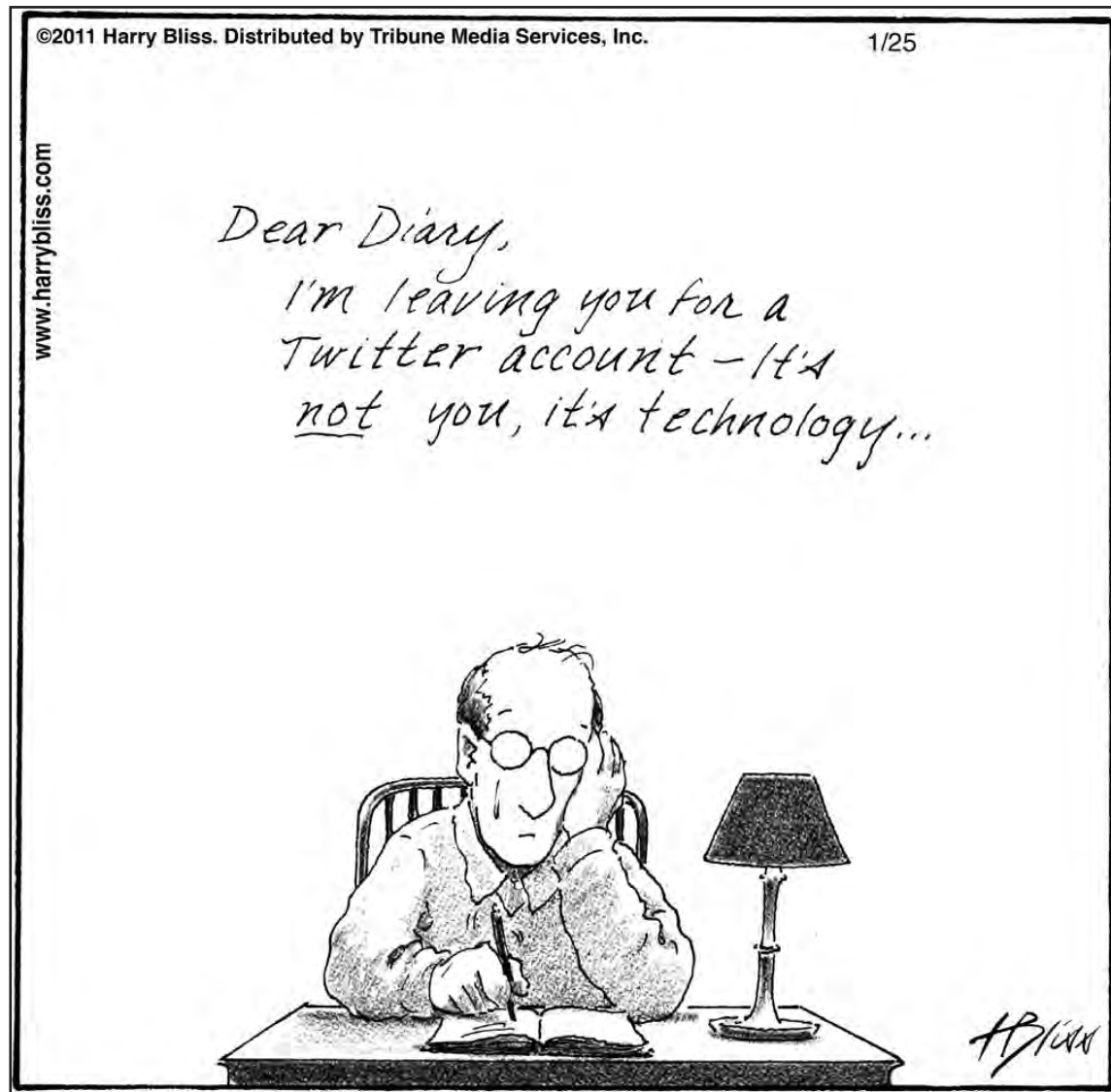
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Beth Christianson
Manager



Guess This Pic



Photo by Austin Leeds

A new item to the Banner News is Guess This Pic. If you can guess where this picture is at in the city of Boone, you will receive a \$5 gift certificate to the Campus Cafe. If more than one person guesses this correctly, each name will be placed into a hat and the winner will be drawn. The deadline for this picture will be Monday, Feb. 21, at noon. Please submit your answers with the specific location clearly identified to the Banner News production room (Room 115) or by e-mail at bannernews@dmacc.edu.

Last Issue's Winner

The winner of the last issue's Guess this Pic was Dylan Thomas of the Bears baseball team. The picture was taken at the Mickey Mouse park which is north of DMACC along Marshall Street.

New Nintendo handheld video game device coming soon

Dual-screen 3DS priced above most students' budgets

By Nate Flathers

Staff Writer

Nintendo's latest version of its handheld video game device is set to hit stores March 27, and some students say it's unlikely they can afford it.

"I don't really think it's a price that students could afford, but I think that \$249.99 is a price that's justified," said DMACC student Justin Clay.

That's the price tag for the system, called Nintendo 3DS. The amount is \$60 more than the initial speculated price of \$189.99 for the handheld itself.

The price is \$50 more than the price of a Nintendo Wii console so some students may choose to go with the more widely known and proven system.

Student Trey Hall thinks the price of the 3DS is fair.

"They could lower it a tiny bit because of the Wii price," he said. But he added that students have enough to worry about without adding additional costs to their videogaming, especially if they aren't working 4-plus hours per week.

"Part-time you'd be hard pressed to buy it," he said. "Full time you probably could unless you have a family to support."

As for Hall, he said he doesn't have the money to buy the 3DS right now. "If anything I need to buy another X-box 360, because mine is breaking down on me. Price being comparable to other systems is a factor in that."

Recently Nintendo has dropped the price on all of their Nintendo DS products by \$20 in anticipation of the release of the new handheld console.

The Nintendo 3DS, as the name implies, will offer three-dimensional (3-D) graphics, but without the necessity for 3-D glasses of any kind. On the system is an adjustable slider that looks much like a volume controller, that sets the depth from 2-D to 3-D. It also has the ability to play Augmented Reality (AR) games through the use of its camera and AR card, which means that it can overlay game mechanics on real life scenes.

The 3DS also uses gyroscopes and accelerometers, which are devices that detect the rotation and angle of the device. This can be used in games that could potentially be controlled only through the motion of the device itself.

Student Darren Colby said, "When you bring out newer technology, you have to pay everybody. If they have another department working on the 3D side of games as well, [you] gotta pay them too. [It's] kinda like when Playstation 3 came out, and it was better than the regular X-box. If so, then why not?"

Speculation for the price being placed at \$189 was mainly due to a quote from a Nintendo marketing manager during an interview with Electricpig.co.uk tech website.

During a video-taped interview posted to the site, John Smith said, "Price, we haven't made any

kind of announcement at the moment, but for everyone who already knows, you know, the Nintendo DSi is available for around \$129.99. The Nintendo DSi XL, with the larger screens, is around \$159.99. So obviously, it's going to fit kind of somewhere within that kind of architecture."

With all these features, and other systems such as the Nintendo Wii, DSiXL, DSi, and DS, as well as other systems such as the PSPGo by Sony (Retail \$199.99) at comparable or lesser prices, will gamers around campus still purchase the device?

"I think personally that I would not buy one, but I'm sure there's going to be lines for it, just like everything else, someone's gotta have the newest and greatest thing," said student Cole Owens.

He said he was not surprised at the \$249.99 price tag. "Things are constantly increasing in price," he said.

Owens predicts that Nintendo will find a "first initial burst of people" to buy it and then the price will slowly drop.

"I think they'll find out shortly that not as many people will buy it as they think. It is pretty steep, and a Wii or any other game console for \$50 more than that, it's kinda hard to justify," he said.

The Nintendo 3DS will be available at Target, Gamerz of Ames, and GameStop of Ames.



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