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Banner News

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Banner News



Photo by Austin Leeds

RAVE--One way to keep students informed, safe

Josie Kramer
Copy Editor

October is the beginning of the wintery months in the Midwest. Although winter's first day is Dec. 21, the Midwest has many snow filled days before that, some as early as mid-October.

DMACC provides many ways for students to find out if classes are canceled or delayed due to inclement weather. Students can check the radio or TV, check the DMACC homepage or sign up for RAVE alert. As a last resort,

the students may call DMACC's toll free number, 1-800-362-2127, press 6 for a specific campus and press 2 for Boone campus or the front desk at 515-432-7203. Students are warned that there may not be someone to answer the front desk phone as the receptionists aren't required to come in on cancelled days.

Tom Lee, DMACC Boone Campus provost, has to take many things into account when trying to decide to cancel classes. He has at least a 50 mile radius to look at as some students and faculty come from Jefferson or Des Moines.

He also has to look at the weather. Will it get better or worse as the day or night goes on? Daytime class cancellations will most generally be made around 6 a.m. For afternoon and evening classes, the classes starting after 3 p.m., cancellations will be made by 2 p.m.

There will be no universal cancellations among all six DMACC campuses. The decision to delay or close is made independently campus to campus. Administration would like to remind students to be certain it is their campus that is delayed or canceled. Also, administration

would like to remind everyone to error on the side of safety.

Brian Green, DMACC Boone Campus assistant provost, said "If [students] personally don't feel safe, they should not put their lives in danger."

Lee recommends the RAVE alert. He called it, "The fastest most up to date of closings of our campus." Students can choose to be contacted through cell phones via text or voice mail as well as through e-mail or a land line voice mail. Students can sign up for the alert at www.getrave.com/login/dmacc.

Green called Rave alert, "Very fool proof."

If students don't choose to have RAVE alert the local radio and TV stations are always contacted: KWBG Boone radio station as well as TV channels 5, 8, and 13.

During the wintery season students are asked to not park knowingly illegal. There isn't much space for the snow to be plowed and certain areas are restricted because of drainage

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Jamie Danielle Thompson

Jamie Danielle Thompson killed in car accident

DMACC student Jamie Danielle Thompson, 23, was tragically killed in a automobile accident, late Friday, Oct. 1.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Oct. 6 at Slininger-Rosow Funeral Home in Jefferson. The funeral service was held Thursday Oct. 7 at First United Methodist

Church in Jefferson, with burial at Richland Township Cemetery, Guthrie County.

Jamie was a 2005 graduate of Panorama High School in Panorama, Iowa and was currently enrolled at the DMACC Boone Campus, where she was pursuing a major

in communications.

According to the obituary in the Des Moines Register, Jamie was a very compassionate girl, who accepted everyone's views for what they were. She loved being artistic, bold and colorful with a style all her own.

Jamie is preceded in death by her grandfather, Bob Scheuermann, and friend Jamie Mischke. She is survived by her mother, Mickey of Jamaica, Iowa; father, Dennis of Whittemore, Iowa; brother, Corey Thompson of Jamaica; grandmothers, Irene Scheuermann of Herndon, Iowa, Wanda Thompson of Jefferson; grandfather, O.J. Thompson of Grand Junction; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

In Remembrance
1986 - 2010

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Poet J. J. McKenna visits

By **Tanner Sandrock**
Editor-in-Chief

On the same day the illusionist entertained the masses, and high school kids got to take a peek at what DMACC had to offer, poet J.J. McKenna read poetry on campus. McKenna read from his new collection of poetry, "Wind and Water."

Starting out his collegiate life, McKenna chose science and math as his main area of interest, but after realizing his true talents were tied to literature and writing, he switched majors. "I can still remember the smell of the science labs that day," said McKenna while reminiscing over his life altering decision.

McKenna said he realized that even though he was intelligent enough to understand and perform calculus and math at a PhD level, he knew he would never be great at it. "I didn't want to be 'O.k.;" I wanted to be good," said McKenna.

"Learn where your talents are." He encouraged students. "Give yourself a chance to let your talents flower."

McKenna gained a lot of inspiration from his aunt, who was an English teacher and graduate

from Cornell. Coming from a working class family he understood the importance of education. He said he knew when he started college that he wanted to obtain a Ph.D. in whatever field he chose.

McKenna always knew he wanted to write. He had a passion to record and store events that happened around him. "I wanted to write poetry, and I wanted to teach classes that were important to students," said McKenna. "I think I've done that."

In "Wind and Water," McKenna writes about ideas of Zen, Feng Shui and Taoist philosophies. He stumbled across Taoism while hiking with his wife in Colorado, when it began to rain, they sought shelter in a bookstore, where McKenna and his wife explored the collection of books for sale. His hand fell upon a copy of "Tao Te Ching," one of the fundamental books of Taoism. "It was fate," said McKenna.

After reading through the book, McKenna said it changed his life, gave him perspective and opened his eyes to what was important: "the people around you that love you, that you love." He believes that everyone needs to find that thing to give him or her

these realizations. His just happens to be Taoist and Eastern philosophies. "Someone once said, 'Life is what happens to you on your way to somewhere else,'" said McKenna. "Pay attention to your journey in life and record it."

With writing non-fiction poetry, and trying to capture the world around him, many of his poem's feature his family and loved ones. "I wouldn't write anything that would damage the people around me," said McKenna. If anything he feels that his poetry builds and celebrates the relationships he has. He also warns and reminds other writers to be conscious of the advantage they have in their writer. He describes writing as a conversation between the writer and the audience and said, "You [the writer] get to talk and they don't," so be weary of that fact.

McKenna is also an English professor at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He received his BA from Allegheny College in Meadville, Penn., and his Ph.D.

LGBT presentation on campus

By **Corey Trader**
Contributing Writer

"I think it's pretty sad that we live in America and we have to live in fear," declared Nate Monson, Executive Director of Iowa Safe Schools, during his hour and a half presentation at DMACC Boone campus on Thursday, Sept. 30.

Following the signing of the Iowa Safe Schools Law by Governor Culver on March 5, 2007, the Iowa Safe Schools organization was founded. This organization's purpose is to support non-heterosexual individuals. LGBT clubs in high schools and colleges are spreading across the state, with the help of the Iowa State Schools law that requires accredited schools to protect its students in 17 different categories. The combination of the Iowa Safe Schools Law and the LGBT program has "made some pretty good leaps and bounds," said Monson.

Even though LGBT and Iowa

Safe Schools are making strides in the non-heterosexual front, much work remains. Seventy-eight percent of individuals who are gay or lesbian are verbally harassed, while 20 percent are physically assaulted. Transgenders endure harsher discrimination, with 89 percent being verbally harassed and 28 percent being physically assaulted. Non-heterosexuals are eight and a half times more likely to attempt suicide.

Much progress has been made in creating equality for non-heterosexuals. States have passed laws to back these minorities, organizations and support groups have been formed and community involvement is at an all time high. However, the road to equality is a long and daunting journey. With the continued efforts of such organizations as Iowa Safe Schools and LGBT, non-heterosexuals will not have to travel this path alone. To learn more about how you can support Iowa Safe Schools visit www.iowasafeschools.org.

Online Classes

By **Austin Leeds**
Staff Writer

In these tough economic times, it's often expensive, and sometimes hazardous, to drive to campus to attend a lecture class. With this in mind, online courses appeal to many on the basis of lower costs, learning and taking tests from home and, in some instances, self-paced progress through the course.

However, the ease of use of online courses brings several major inconveniences for both instructors and students. First among these inconveniences are security concerns.

Boone Campus Instructor Bruce Kelly voiced these concerns quite adamantly: "What's to stop a student from having somebody else take a test for them?" With no supervision, students are free to do as they please while taking an online course, leading to unbridled academic dishonesty and a low educational standard. As implemented by DMACC, Kelly felt that "They [web courses] will go down in history as the greatest disaster in the history of education."

Even with many opportunities to cheat, students often

Online classes page 4



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BEAR BRIEFS

Boone general scholarships

Four scholarships are available for students seeking additional financial aid:

Alumni Association Scholarship

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 29

Boone General Scholarship

Deadline: Friday, Nov. 5

Pioneers Star Scholarship

Deadline: Friday, Nov. 12

District-wide General Scholarship

Deadline: Thursday, Nov. 18

To apply, visit: go.dmacc.edu/foundation/Pages/scholarship.aspx.

Campus closed

Campus will be closed Oct. 22 for a DMACC Staff in-service day.

Dropping Classes

Last day to drop regular term classes will be Nov. 5. Tuition refund deadlines are different from drop deadlines. For information on refunds go to www.dmacc.edu/refund.asp.

Coat Drive

The annual coat drive is underway. Collection of new or gently used clean coats, gloves/mittens, scarves, hats and boots will be taken at all of the campuses, Community State Bank locations, Iowa Health Systems locations and KCWI.

Look for the drop boxes in various locations around the Boone Campus. The coat drive will be continue through Oct. 15.

Spaghetti Dinner

A Silent Auction to benefit Heather Christianson will be Saturday, Oct. 16 at 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at E-Free Church 1407 Kate Shelly Drive, Boone. Christianson lost her eye in a boating accident and has no medical insurance for the prosthetic replacement. Money raised will go towards her medical expenses.

Spring registration begins next week

Returning Career Education students: October 20

Returning Arts & Sciences students: October 26

New Career Education students: November 3

New Arts & Sciences students: November 9

Spring 2011 schedules are now online.

National Domestic Violence Awareness

ACCESS invites students, staff and faculty to support National Domestic Violence Awareness Month by wearing purple on Oct. 15. One in four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.

Hip Hop Artist

Ariel Luckey, Hip Hop Artist will be visiting campus on Oct. 27 at 9 a.m. in room 112.

Costume Contest

A Halloween costume contest will be held in the Courter Center on Oct. 29 during the noon hour. More information about the costume contest and Halloween events will be available in later additions of the Banner News and at www.bannernewsonline.com.

Fall Break

All Campuses will be closed Nov. 25 through Nov. 28, for fall break.

Midterm

Official Midterm will be Oct. 20.

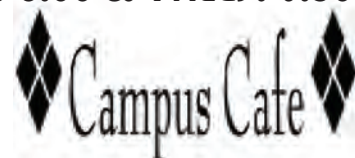
Rave (continued from Page 1)

issues. To the north of the Boone Campus there are neighbors and administrators don't want to run the risk of flooding their basements come spring.

In the past snow has been piled in the far north row of the north side parking. They try to plow, taking up as few spots as

possible. This year there have been new signs posted directing students and faculty to their parking options. Those who don't comply may receive a warning ticket. However, signs are clearly posted and administrators may not be so inclined to give warnings this year.

**Cafe Hours Mon-Thurs:
7:30-6:00 & Friday: 7:30-2:00**



Come to a Spaghetti benefit for Heather Christianson Oct. 16 at E-Free Church, 1407 Kate Shelly Drive

Enjoy Lunch at DMACC!



Photo by Josie Kramer

DMACC student Jade Kreutz assists Dan Sperry, illusionist, with his Russian roulette game. The Student Activities Council sponsored Sperry's visit in the L. W. Courter Center, Friday Oct. 8.



Photo by Josie Kramer

Yellow ribbons were tied around trees by Dr. Jane Martino's Developmental Psychology class on DMACC Boone Campus, to honor the 334th Brigade Support Battalion Soldiers preparing for deployment and those currently serving over seas. They also serve as a reminder to the soldiers that DMACC Boone Campus is thinking about them as part of our DMACC family. Among those being deployed is Capt. A. Sean Taylor, DMACC Boone Campus psychology instructor.

Online classes (continued)

struggle with online courses. Between Blackboard outages and computer problems, web courses can often be more difficult than their traditional counterparts.

Not to mention communication between instructors and students is more distant and irregular.

"I took an online class during the summer," said Brett Daleske, DMACC student. "I hated it. It was confusing. I'd send a message to the teacher and never get a

response back or I'd get it back after the assignment was due."

Finally, web courses may take the fun of learning away from both students and instructors. With no face-to-face lectures, instructors basically test their students against the textbook, with

minimal involvement in the actual learning process. Additionally, students may feel alienated while taking online courses, unable to communicate directly with their instructors or with other students taking the same course.

Boone Campus Instructor

Dr. Tim Bergin, while noting that web courses are sometimes the only way working students can attend classes, spoke for many people when he gave his opinion of web courses: "For my part, it's all of the work and none of the fun."

An early look

By Robert Robson
Sports Editor

Late this past summer and early fall, DMACC baseball has incorporated something that was created in order to assist area high school baseball players in the form of a small fall instructional league. Four teams play each Sunday on the Boone Campus baseball complex.

Schools include Boone, Gilbert, Des Moines, and as far away as Adel.

The small league is helpful to the young players by giving them the chance to have multiple at bats well before their actual season gets underway.

Statistics are kept for batting and pitching in each of the games, so that players can keep track of their progress over the course of the league.

With the challenges of a number of players being involved with fall sports players from different teams are put together to make a full line-up and allow the kids to develop around others that they won't see everyday.

This league, however, is playing a role for DMACC's very own team as well. It gives Coach Dan Fitzgerald the chance to see more of the potential future players at DMACC.

In an interview done earlier this fall, Fitzgerald commented on the importance of the league by saying, "We can only see so many games in the summer, and the fact that there are games being played on our field makes it a whole lot easier to recruit...which gives us plenty of time to evaluate them and see how they perform."

Fitzgerald also looks at the intermingling of players together

as a positive "for kids to play with guys who are not their regular teammates, it gives them an opportunity to make more friends in the baseball world."

The League is in its first year and the fact that there are four teams is no indication of a lack of interest in surrounding schools. Fitzgerald mentioned how as many as 10 teams potentially could be a part of the league next fall, which only expands the field of potential future players. Fitzgerald would go on to comment how any extra at-bats for players are a big deal.

The league, in the first year, has given Fitzgerald reason to see ongoing success. The league just finished up this past season, but it won't be long until, yet again, it starts up with an increased number of teams involved.



Photo by Derrick Roffman

The volleyball team beat second-ranked Iowa Lakes Sept. 29 in a close 5 game set.

DMACC volleyball upsets Iowa Lakes

DMACC- The women's volleyball team pulled off one of the biggest upsets of its season Sept. 29, handing second-ranked Iowa Lakes Community College a 3-2 loss at the DMACC gymnasium. Game scores were 19-25, 25-12, 25-20, 20-25, 15-11 as the Bears improved to 12-10 for the season and remained undefeated at home.

Iowa Lakes had improved from 10 to second in the Division II volleyball poll that was announced Sept. 29. The Lakers fell to 19-5 for the season.

"Of all the games on our schedule, this was a big game," DMACC coach Patty Harrison said. "Iowa Lakes has been beating everybody. We just had it going."

Mikayla Overturf, a sophomore from Nora Springs, led DMACC to a .459 hitting percentage with 16 kills. Elizabeth Ihnen, a freshman from Sheldon, added 13 kills and 10 blocks and Maggie Vondrak, a freshman from Sioux City, had 11 kills.

"The middle was huge for

us," Harrison said. "Mary Jo Twiford (a freshman from Sioux City) had some major blocks. We've been making mistakes, but tonight it just came together. We needed to turn the corner. I kept telling them we needed to turn the corner so this was a big win for us."

DMACC also got 49 assists and three ace serves from Natalie Weis, a sophomore from Bettendorf, and Jamie Buchmann, a freshman defensive specialist from Sioux City, had 17 digs and sophomore Sarah Tjaden of Lake View had 10 digs.

The win could move the Bears into the No. 2 seed in the NJCAA Region XI tournament Nov. 4-5 in Mason City. Kirkwood Community College and Iowa Lakes were expected to be the top two seeds, but Wednesday night's win may move DMACC into the second slot pending the outcome of the Iowa Lakes-Kirkwood match.

Sept. 29 night's match was the first of five upcoming home dates for DMACC. The Bears

hosted Clinton Community College on Oct. 5 and hosted the DMACC Tournament on Oct. 8-9 and closed the home stand against Ellsworth Community College on Oct. 11.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Women's golf

The Women's golf team finished out the fall part of their season by finishing 3rd in the DMACC invitational that was held Sept. 29 at Cedar Point Golf Course in Boone.

Women's volleyball

On Oct. 19, The volleyball team will be hosting Indian Hills in a home game in Boone starting at 6:30 p.m.

The X-Factor



More than an athlete

By Robert Robson
Sports Editor

Too often in this modern era the public becomes too infatuated with athletes of today's sporting world. With the likes of LeBron James, Albert Pujols, Tom Brady and numerous other athletes in America's top sports. Yet, not trying to take away from the awe inspiring skills in what they do they more often than not overshadow those who are more than just sports more than just an athlete, and in the end provide much more inspiration than the everyday athletes we see on television. It is these athletes that hopefully young adults or any person of any age will look to as people you should aspire to be like.

There is a man from Massachusetts who may in fact be the number one father in the world, and one that most any person would be lucky to have. His name is Dick Hoyt, he has taken part in over 1000 races that have included marathons, duathlons, and triathlons. Not only that he even ran and biked across the country in 1992 in just 45 days. The thing about Dick though is that he is not doing these races alone he actually is always pushing his son, Rick, who at birth was diagnosed as a spastic quadriplegic that also had cerebral palsy. Marathons are hard enough already, but with the added dimension of pushing another human being is one I still am trying to wrap my brain around. 1977 was when it all began and was only a 5 mile run for one of Rick's schoolmates that had become paralyzed in an accident that Rick had insisted on supporting. So together the duo took part and struggled, finishing near last. It wasn't long after the race that Rick, with the use of a special designed communication device, told his father "When I'm running, it feels like I'm not handicapped." I cannot even imagine the thoughts that would race through a father's head after hearing such a thing. Although I don't know what thoughts Dick had, it was and still is apparent what actions he would take to help his son. This team has accomplished 1000 races after they finished the 2009 Boston Marathon.

A triathlon consists first off with a swimming stage of the race. Seems like a pretty big problem when your son is in a wheelchair, but Dick wouldn't let that stop him by any means. Dick wears a vest while he swims that is connected to a cord that is attached to the front of a small boat that Rick is in. Just when I thought this man couldn't possibly blow me away any more I hear that and my amazement grows. The lengths that this retired Lt. Colonel from the Air National Guard will go to allow his son the feeling, if only for a short time, of being normal is truly astounding. Rick has said before that if him and his father were only able to do one race a year it would unquestionably be the Boston Marathon. And what continues to add to Dick's greatness as an athlete and father is that in 2011 if the team does compete Dick will be 70 years old.

Greatness in sports is all around us, but to find a blend of a great athlete and great human being is the true pinnacle that major sports athletes should aspire to be. But I'm afraid that in today's sporting world, those people like Dick Hoyt will be forgotten too soon, instead of being celebrated for showing that through sports the potential people have to be truly amazing and inspiring.

Men's golf

Matt Mikkelsen recently lead the DMACC Bears to a team championship in the DMACC invite by shooting a 1-under-par, 71, at the Cedar Pointe Golf Course in Boone. The Men's golf team will be finishing up the fall season this Friday, Oct. 15, at the AIB Fall Tournament at Bos Ladden Golf Course in Pella.

Womens x-country

Next weekend, Oct. 23, the women's cross country team will be competing against Graceland College at 1 p.m. in Lamoni, IA. It will be the last meet that the girls will compete in before the Super Regional Championships that will be at the end of the month on October 29th.

Men's basketball

Recently the men's basketball team began their season by competing in the JUCO shootout in Cedar Rapids and this upcoming Sunday, Oct. 17, they will be

competing in the JUCO Jamboree in Warrensburg, Mo. They will open up regular game play Oct. 25 at home against Iowa Western.

Women's basketball

The Women's basketball also competed in the JUCO Shootout that was held in Warrensburg, Mo., and will be competing in the Mt. Mercy Jamboree this upcoming Sunday, Oct. 17, in Cedar Rapids. The Women's team will be opening up regular game play Nov. 5th in the DMACC Classic that will host Williams Penn JV, Sioux Falls JV, and Ellsworth.

Men's baseball

The Men's baseball team will be hosting their last home game of the fall season Oct. 19 against Southwestern. The team will have its Alumni game that following Saturday, Oct. 23, at 2 p.m.



Contributed Photo

Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus students James Buffum, (front row, left to right), Hannah O'Neal, Michelle Waldo, Jennifer Knapp, Paula Beckman and Nellija Kazmrcuka, along with Judah Allen (back row, left to right) Erin Drake, Jessica Williams, Tricia Tilley, Carli Bunning and Chiinyelunwanne Ughanze-Onyeagocha, all of Boone, were recently inducted into the Tau Phi Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society.

Columbus Day

By Josie Kramer
Copy Editor

Columbus Day is the anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival to the Americas on October 12, 1492. It is celebrated on the second Monday in October since Congress declared Columbus Day a federal public holiday in 1971.

This year Columbus Day fell on the Monday the 11.

Interesting facts courtesy of

history.com and www.timeanddate.com

* The idea that Columbus is a hero is controversial. He forced natives into slavery, many died of struggles between the opposing assemblies and infectious diseases

* Latin American countries celebrate Dia de la Reza or Day of the Race to celebrate their diverse roots.

* Alternative days of celebration include, Hawaii's Discover-

er's Day or Landing Day honoring Polynesian settlers, South Dakota's Native American Day, and Berkeley California's Indigenous Peoples Day.

* Columbus only went as far as some islands like the Bahamas and never got to mainland America. Some argue that he should not be honored for discovering the United States; the emphasis should be his travel to the "New World."

Other Holidays in October

www.timeanddate.com

- Native Americans' Day (Monday 11)
- Indigenous People's Day (Monday 11)
- International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (Wednesday 13)
- World Sight Day (Thursday 14)
- White Cane Safety Day (Friday 15)
- International Day of Rural Women (Friday 15)
- Boss's Day (Friday 15)
- World Food Day (Saturday 16)
- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (Sunday 17)
- Alaska Day (Monday 18)
- United Nations Day (Sunday 24)
- World Development Information Day (Sunday 24)
- World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (Wednesday 27)
- Nevada Day (Friday 29)
- Halloween (Sunday 31)



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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Get involved *Editorial*

As we round the autumn bend, we leave the feeling of a new school year behind us. The smell of new books, the feel of new classes, and the excitement of new faces are quickly replaced by the comfort of familiar ones. As we settle in to the mundane routine of the semester we often forget how fast time is passing us by. Swiftly approaching on the horizon is mid-term and before you know it the semester will be done. That's why it is important to get involved in as many things as you can.

College is about experiencing new things, learning new ideas, and meeting new people, but no one can accomplish any of these things sitting around and doing the same things they did before enrolling here. This time is all about exploring the world around you and those interests you may have glanced over in previous years.

Before you know it the school year will come to an end, and after that, your entire college carrier, and when looking back on this time, years from now, no one is going to want to reminisce and say, "they really didn't do anything." There are tons of groups, clubs, and organizations around campus that are full of fun and interesting people and events. Even if you can't find that one group you would be interested in, start your own.

College has too many opportunities to let pass by, and it goes so fast that if you don't make the effort, they will. We here at the Banner implore you, get up and get active. College can be the best time of your life, it you make it.

Dear editor:

I'm a deputy sheriff for Marshall County and an Iowa state senator. I want to thank you for the opportunity to work with your state senator, Herman Quirmbach, at the Iowa Statehouse.

Together, we've passed bi-partisan legislation to crack down on sex offenders, prevent domestic violence murders and make our roads safer. We've also addressed important issues affecting Iowa's first responders, who put their lives on the line for us every day.

Herman protected children by banning sexual predators from areas near schools, daycares, libraries and other places where kids gather. In addition, sex offenders must now report the car they drive, it is easier for undercover officers to catch online predators, and strip clubs can no longer exploit minors.

I also worked with Herman to build a bi-partisan majority to protect families by preventing convicted domestic abusers from owning guns. And I believe that Herman's work to ban texting while driving has probably already saved at least one life.

Iowa depends on our volunteer and professional first responders, including firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians and others. Herman made it illegal to fire a volunteer for missing work when called to duty; strengthened firefighters' disability and death benefits; and protected first responders from personal liability for certain job-related activities, like using a heart defibrillator in an emergency.

I'm the only active duty law enforcement officer serving in the Legislature. I really appreciated the ability to turn to Senator Quirmbach for help when I needed to convince other legislators to see the light.

In short, Senator Quirmbach has been a great partner when it comes to making Iowa smarter and tougher on crime. I hope you'll send him back to the Iowa Senate to continue this important work.

Sincerely,



Steve Sodders



Cartoon by Josh Schmidt, former DMACC student

Campus Tech

By Austin Leeds
Staff Writer



Congratulations to the Ubuntu Development Team and the Ubuntu Community for the successful release of Ubuntu 10.10 "Maverick Meerkat," Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010 (10-10-10). Keep up the good work!

Something for Everyone

Something unique to Ubuntu (and other Linux distributions) that has never been seen in Windows or Mac OS is the ability to switch desktop environments. That is, Ubuntu can look entirely different (where menus are placed, what functionality each button has, which apps are active and inactive, and scores of other variations) while maintaining its underlying structure. Ubuntu is really just a core, around which the desktop environment is built.

For the typical Ubuntu desktop install, GNOME (the Gnu Network Object Model Environment) is the default desktop environment. For older computers, Xubuntu and Lubuntu utilize Xfce and LXDE, two lightweight desktop environments. For a high-end, graphics-intensive, immersive experience, KDE (the K Desktop Environment) is offered with Kubuntu.

Several specialty versions of Ubuntu are also available, offering different tools for different purposes. Edubuntu is equipped with free educational software for schools, Ubuntu Studio Edition is designed for music and video professionals, and Mythbuntu turns your PC into a set-top box, complete with video recording and DVD/Blu-Ray burning, for your flat screen TV.

An App Store?

One very convenient feature of Ubuntu is the Ubuntu Software Center, which is essentially an App Store for Linux. In previous releases, it was difficult to add apps to Ubuntu, and users were required to have some knowledge of the Terminal, a command line interface reminiscent of MS-DOS. However, with Ubuntu 9.10 came the Ubuntu Software Center, and now, with Ubuntu 10.10, the ability to purchase paid apps has been added.

Working with the Ubuntu Software Center is just as easy as working with the Apple App Store. You search for an app, click install, and the app appears in your Applications folder after downloading and installation (which are handled automatically by the Software Center). To uninstall, simply find the app you want to remove in the Software Center, click uninstall, and the app is removed from your system automatically.

Built-in Power

Like Windows and Mac OS X, Ubuntu has a built-in software suite to handle music, videos, and email. Unlike Windows and Mac OS X, Ubuntu also has a built-in office suite, known as OpenOffice. OpenOffice is capable enough to match or exceed Microsoft Office 2007 (without the confusing ribbons): it can create, open, edit, and save every Office format, including DOCX, PPTX, and XLSX. OpenOffice can also read comments posted by MS Word 2007.

Similar to Windows Live Sync and Apple's MobileMe, Ubuntu One is a built-in file syncing service, but unlike Microsoft's and Apple's offerings, Ubuntu One also has a few added features that really make it worth the while. The ability to stream music to iPod Touch, iPhone, or an Android-equipped smartphone is something neither MobileMe nor Live Sync offers, and 2 GB of free storage space is included for Ubuntu and Windows computers (Ubuntu One for Mac is in development).

How to Install Ubuntu

The process for installing Ubuntu from Windows is simple and easy:

1. Go to www.ubuntu.com and click "Download Ubuntu"
2. Click "Start Download" to install Ubuntu 10.10 32-bit (works on almost any computer)
3. Once the download finishes, double-click the saved ISO file.
4. Windows will bring up a dialog box, showing different options for burning the Ubuntu disc.
5. If everything looks OK, click "Burn Disc."
6. Once the disc has been burned, insert it into the CD drive of the computer you want to install Ubuntu on.
7. The computer will boot from the CD and ask you if you want to install Ubuntu or try it out. Choose whichever option you want, as you can install Ubuntu later from the "try it out" option by clicking "Install Ubuntu" on the LiveCD desktop.
8. If you choose to install Ubuntu, follow the instructions in the dialog boxes until Ubuntu starts copying files to your hard drive (if you want to dual-boot your computer, make sure you choose to install Ubuntu beside Windows when prompted).
9. Once Ubuntu has finished installing, it will ask you to restart your computer. Take the disc out of the drive when it automatically ejects, and press Enter/Return.
10. Your computer will display a list of boot options when it restarts. Ubuntu should be at the top of the list, with Windows listed below it. If left alone, your computer will boot into Ubuntu.
11. Enjoy!

Alternatively, you can use the Ubuntu Windows Installer (Wubi) for a less permanent install. This is located at www.ubuntu.com/desktop/get-ubuntu/windows-installer.

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Not the same ol' sound

By Zach Foltz
Staff Writer

How many times can you hear the same song on the radio before you absolutely can't stand to hear it again?

The band Mumford & Sons offers us a new, unique sound that I think most of us can appreciate.

Time and time again, the radio has taken what I thought was an enjoyable song and ruined it for me by beating it to death with airtime.

You have your classic rock stations that play those beloved, old songs over and over again, while there's the hip-hop stations playing the latest hits from Eminem or TI.

Regardless of what station or genre you listen to, I think we can agree that you can only handle so much repetition.

Bringing us a new sound that combines acoustic guitars and banjos of folk rock, played with the fervor of alternative rock, is the band Mumford & Sons.

Mumford & Sons presents us lyrics that are meaningful, and that come from the heart of the

band members themselves. They write their songs from life experiences and feelings, giving them a more personal feel than what we are used to hearing on the radio today.

The band itself is made up of Marcus Mumford, Country Winston, Ben Lovett, and Ted Dwane.

These four friends were playing in separate bands when they were brought together to play songs written by Mumford, when he was beginning his career as a musician. They started playing for groups of fans and friends in the later half of 2007.

The band came together through their experiences playing in London and began to create their own sound and songs.

The voice of Mumford, on main vocals, has a sound as unique as Brian Johnson of ACDC. Although he doesn't have the same, popular throaty sound of Johnson, Mumford does bring a new dynamic voice to the table: Mumford's voice, combined with witty lyrics and a talented "supporting cast" makes for a great listen.

Their talent can be seen best live where they often switch in-

struments mid-show, according to what is convenient. Many instruments are incorporated in their music, spanning from amazing banjo picking to a stand-up bass.

This group of modest guys plays solely for the enjoyment of playing music. The songs they write are about love, heartbreak, and hardships.

They weren't out to impress anyone. Needless to say, they did impress.

In fact, it did not take long before they were a big hit in our sister country of England. By February 2008 they had already completed a tour in the U.K. with help from Alessi's Ark, Sons of Noel and Adrian, Peggy Sue, Pete Roe, The Cutaway.

Mumford & Sons was named Best Band at the 3rd Annual Balcony TV Music Video Awards in Dublin by July 3, 2009.

Their debut album, "Sigh No More" was released in the U.K. in 2009 and the U.S. in 2010. Their lead single from the album was the song "Little Lion Man." This song was voted the number one on the Australian Triple J Hottest 100, 2009 countdown; one of the



Photo courtesy of mumfordandsons.com

worlds' largest music polls.

They also played the song on The Late Show with David Letterman, and the song "The Cave" for The Late Show with Craig Ferguson.

I highly recommend to anyone who considers themselves "music savvy" to at least give Mumford & Sons a listen. I would

start with their more famous song "Little Lion Man" and branch out from there. If you are lucky enough to find tickets to their mostly sold out shows, grab them while you can! I know if I hear "Nothin' On You" featuring Bruno Mars by B.o.B one more time, my ears may start bleeding.

'The Social Network' reviewed

By Samuel Titus
Staff Writer

Facebook. Depending on whether you're a regular member, or don't think much of it, I found myself curious as to what it took to found such a Web site.

Since its launch in February 2004, and its unveiling for full public use in September 2006, Facebook has been a huge game changer. It had 500 million active users (July 2010) and there are only 300 million people in the U.S. alone (Americans only make up 30 percent of the total members). It is being used by everybody ages 10 and up. Typically half the members will be on it any given day of the week. It has an estimated value of \$25 billion, and is making the co-founders into some of the youngest billionaires ever. But you're not reading this for a history lesson.

Facebook is not only interconnecting different cultures and dominating the technological world, but is deeply affecting how people do business, communicate, and maybe impacts how people view their lives. How does this all relate to the film? I want to emphasize how important the audience's reaction to the depiction of this film, but at the same time it's just a film, right?

The film begins when Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg,) Andrew Garfield (Eduardo Saverin,) and his friends break into the Harvard security network to create Facemash, (comparing two girls for their "hotness"). This caused a lot of upheaval but also had unprecedented exposure. Zuckerberg then became inspired to create a social network, being voluntarily financed by Saverin

at first. Days later, the Winklevoss brothers claimed that Zuckerberg had semi-"stole" their idea and had falsely implied that he would help them create a dating Web site. Zuckerberg didn't care saying, "They had an idea; I had better one." The Web site soon expands beyond Harvard College and entrepreneur Sean Parker (Justin Timberlake) is incorporated into the Web site. However, as the Web site begins to gain national attention, Saverin is dropped from Facebook. Devastated, he sues Zuckerberg who finds himself also being sued by the Winklevoss brothers.

Zuckerberg is the protagonist (and antagonist) in this film and is depicted as a confusing and fast talking jerk. He doesn't seem to care about financial gain, or taking responsibility for his actions, instead caring about being extremely opinionated, and intelligent. Throughout, he disrespects his only true friend, Saverin, jealous of his accomplishments. He also idolizes Parker, who presumably failed in his businesses, seems to be there for the attention. However, Zuckerberg's character isn't fully understood until the very end, which it's ironic that the only two women, who were able to read him, were those who Zuckerberg doesn't understand.

One of the attention grabbers of this film was Eisenberg (Zuckerberg) who steps away from his quirky, shy characters as seen in films like "Zombieland" and "Adventureland," and steps into a sarcastic, dysfunctional role. Less so was Andrew Garfield, the Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus, who did a pretty good job of appearing to be innocent and hold back very deep emotions. Justin Timber-

lake (Parker) may have won two Primetime Emmy's, but I feel his role was too light-hearted. Arnie Hammer plays both the roles of Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss and his mannerisms fit the role of both brothers, but didn't give a strong enough connection.

Overall the acting was good, but the plot dragged. The movie is told through flashbacks, not varying in pace of the story line to a huge extent. They also could have cut down the content, for example, when Zuckerberg runs across campus in the beginning. The film wasn't boring but at the same time it was rather lengthy. In short, there's a lot of dialogue, details, and conversations, which can be dull. However, the director, David Fincher, dramatizes the emotion and the situations to not only perk up our interest, but also notice the emotions and intents of the characters.

The film was based on Ben Mezrich's "The Accidental Billionaires." I think Fincher and Mezrich should have tried to condense, to not deliberately sway our opinions, focus more on the actual characters rather than the details, and actually vary the pace or greater ascending action.

The tagline, "You don't get to 500 million friends without making a few enemies," is inaccurate to the message they have portrayed in this film. The film is not just about "business is business," power play, or the ownership of an idea, but a nonsocial person creating a social network. It's about a person who doesn't know how to be a friend, creating a Web site that's all about making friends. It's about not being satisfied with themselves or with their environment and this Web site is

used as an outlet.

The topic of this film affects the everyday lives of many people, and I feel this film doesn't take into account how important that is. This film is lengthy and detailed, with some dramatized emotions, but reveals the oxymo-

ron of society and a thoughtful message of how people identify themselves with others. Nevertheless, I suggest and encourage people to watch this film, but with a grain of salt. I give this a 3 out of 5 stars.

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