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Banner News

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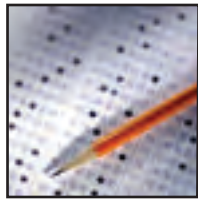
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BANNER NEWS

Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus

Wednesday, April 15, 2009 Vol. 8, No. 13

PBL sponsors annual Easter egg hunt

Shane Meier
Staff Writer

Thursday April 9, 2009 was host to PBL's annual Easter egg hunt. PBL has these every year as a fundraiser for their club and charities in the Boone area.

The fundraiser began by hiding the eggs. "[There are] 430 eggs," said Jill Siders and Joni Rentschler after much deliberation. They were hidden all over campus hidden in shrubs, behind doorframes, atop sculptures, etc. They continued to recycle the eggs that had been used.

Inside the eggs were pieces of papers with numbers on them. Students and faculty would then take them to the Courter center where their was a table with various prizes that they would receive,

depending upon the number on their piece of paper.

Siders made mention of the prizes that they had. "We have pop, candy, pencils, notepads, pennants," she continued to list other prizes.

PBL also had its bake sale where it offered some of its usual goodies.

Students and faculty overall had a good time with it though. Some students who were going into classrooms while classes were in session looking for eggs. teachers had to look on helplessly as the students disrupted their class.

One teacher in particular was seen running back and forth carrying eggs like a little school girl.



PBL adviser, Linda Plueger, and members Jill Siders and Joni Rentschler set out prizes for the Easter egg hunt.

Photo by Shane Meier

Bugeja visits Boone Campus to discuss his book 'Interpersonal Divide'



Michael Bugeja

Craig VandeVenter
Executive Editor

Michael Bugeja, Director of the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication, lectured in the Boone campus theatre on March 30 about the effects technology has had upon society and its inner communication among human beings.

Bugeja's lecture material came right out of his most recent publication "Interpersonal Divide: The Search for Community in a Technological Age," his book published in 2005. "I predicted that newspapers would die in ten years, and they are. There is no more journalism anymore. It

doesn't matter anymore; no one reads newspapers anymore," remarked Bugeja.

Interestingly enough, Bugeja had each member of the audience recognize what their own personal connection with technology was, such as what gadgets they were carrying on them at the time. He quickly assured everyone in the audience that there is more to life rather than relying on a technological device to communicate and do things for us. "Technology is honest, but only when money is not the main issue at hand," Bugeja said.

Through research Bugeja found that people in society today lack face-to-face interaction and communication with other human beings. Instead they have too much technological interac-

"I predicted that newspapers would die in ten years, and they are [dying]."

tion with just themselves, meaning that they rely on technology to communicate for them. Bugeja stressed that the complication in people's lives has the power to further destroy print journalism. "Individuals in society have let

technology rule their lives," he stated.

Bugeja spoke throughout the lecture with quite a startling thought for people today. To remove yourself from the vast amount of technology you use on a daily basis. Convert back to how things were in the past. Actually interact and communicate face-to-face with other human beings again. "Culture wanted information, now we want affirmation of that information," said Bugeja.

He is not asking people to fully remove all of the technology from their lives, just use it in moderation and in small doses. "Nobody can beat me in Command and Conquer, but that's only on the weekends," added Bugeja. His intent is for people to cut back and to acknowledge that interpersonal connections are still necessary between human beings. "Socialize with the people around you and be active," said Bugeja.

Bugeja's message of how tainted journalism is today is that news is rewritten to appease the interests of big corporate industries and their overpaid CEOs across the nation. "We need a society that needs to know what the truth is," he added, "We only know what we are told," said Bugeja. "However I'm not knocked down yet, I'm still alive and kicking."

AQIP reviews college

Hannah Quinn
Staff Writer

Two Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) reviewers completed their assessment of DMACC on March 27.

AQIP is a process through which DMACC goes through to analyze whether or not the organization meets the Higher Learning Commission's standards for continuing accreditation, and from March 25 - 27, they conducted their once-every-five-year "Quality Checkup."

The goal of the review was to provide critical feedback on the activities and initiatives DMACC has put in place to meet their goals of higher and continuous education.

The two AQIP reviewers, Dr. David Todt, Provost/Vice President of academic affairs at Shawnee State University and Dr. Maura Abrahamson, geology professor at Morton College, came with a five-step plan for assessment.

First, they looked to affirm the accuracy of what DMACC is doing for quality improvement. Second, they reviewed the actions taken to improve on issues since the last AQIP visit. Third, the reviewers addressed any newly reported issues to the organization, followed by assessing DMACC's federal compliance. Lastly, the reviewers evaluated commitment to improvement.

One of the main issues that was cited by the reviewers was one that was also an issue in the past. In regards to the faculty to student ratio, diversity is very low. In other words, the diversity of the staff at DMACC does not

match the diversity among students.

As of now, there is no process to make sure the faculty and staff being hired is mirroring the student diversity.

"[Recognizing the problem] is the essential first step," said Todt.

Another topic was the record of student complaints. Although there were few, there was very little follow-up recorded on the ones that were submitted. Again, a proposed solution to this was to hire someone to solely deal with these issues.

In relation to the student complaints, the other large issue cited was the general communication between students and faculty in online courses. The "help desk" is only open and available during specific hours through the week.

Both AQIP reviewers agreed that help must be available 24/7 for distance and online learning

In general, the Boone campus had fewer complaints, but Urban campus students specifically said that they were not getting the help they needed, especially when it came to math.

In the end, the reviewers noted all issues as "minor things." The topics that were addressed will be focused on by DMACC and improved on by the next visit in five years.

"It was a good visit," said Todt.

One step to improve the quality of higher education and commitment to improvement are satisfaction surveys distributed more frequently, which highlight the importance of communication.

Final Exam Schedule for Spring 2009

Monday, May 4, 2009 Monday/Wednesday/Friday or more courses

Class Time Range Exam Time

8:00 a.m. - 8:55 a.m. 8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
 10:10 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. 10:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
 12:20 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
 2:30 p.m. - 3:25 p.m. 3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5, 2009 Tuesday/Thursday courses

Class Time Range Exam Time

6:30 a.m. - 7:55 a.m. 6:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
 9:40 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. 9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
 12:50 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. 11:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 Monday/Wednesday/Friday or more courses

Class Time Range Exam Time

6:55 a.m. - 7:50 a.m. 7:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
 9:05 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
 11:15 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
 1:25 p.m. - 2:20 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
 3:35 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 7, 2009 Tuesday/Thursday courses

Class Time Range Exam Time

8:05 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
 11:15 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. 10:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
 2:25 p.m. - 3:50 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. - 5:25 p.m. 3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Evening/Saturday Final Exam Schedule

Evening courses have their final exams at the time and day of the final, regular class meeting:

Last Monday night classes (Final Exam)----- May 4
 Last Tuesday night classes (Final Exam)----- April 28
 Last Wednesday night classes (Final Exam)----- April 29
 Last Thursday night classes (Final Exam)----- April 30
 Last Friday night classes (Final Exam)----- May 1
 Last Monday/Wednesday night classes (Final Exam)----- May 4

The price of a pack

Hannah Quinn
Staff Writer

The new price-per-pack is hoped to finally be enough for people to kick their cigarette habit.

The federal cigarette tax will increase from 39 cents to \$1.01 per pack in April, which will be added to the current average \$1.19 state tobacco tax.

"When I started buying cigarettes a few years ago they were four-something a pack," said Jamie Johnson, 24, of Ankeny.

Before the current raise in prices, the national average price per pack, including state and federal taxes, was \$4.32.

On February 4, 2009, President Obama signed the congressional SCHIP bill that included another increase in the federal tobacco tax by 61.66 cents per pack of cigarettes, and as of March 9, 2009, 17 states were pending to increase their state tobacco tax as well.

The goal of the 62-cent per pack federal tax increase is to fund anti-smoking programs, prevention among kids and also to aid those trying to stop smoking.

Another desired outcome of the federal and state tax increases is the financial boost they hope to have on the economy.

According to tax economist, for every 10 percent increase there is on tobacco products, there will be a four percent overall decrease in tobacco use. They predict that for every dollar increase in the cigarette tax, about 25 million fewer packs would be sold

per state.

The State Legislatures expect a sharp decline in state revenue during 2009 due to the raise in tobacco taxes. However, they also expect a monetary gain from the higher prices in the long run.

Obviously Iowa is not the only state using the increased tax for smoking prevention and anti-smoking campaigns. At least 12 other states, including Arizona, California, Idaho, New Jersey and Oregon among others, are using the revenue to fund their states' tobacco control programs.

"[Smokers] are paying for our own health care," said Johnson, referring to the tax on cigarettes that is going towards health care, such as Medicare.

Cigarette smoking was estimated to be responsible for \$193 billion in annual health-related issues in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control.

Are there any worries associated with the tax increase? Initial decreases in tobacco sales and the idea of "stockpiling" or traveling to neighboring states with a lower tobacco tax have all been taken into consideration.

"The only thing I have noticed are a few people trying to decide on a cheaper brand," said an Ames Kum and Go employee.

Cigarette smokers are not the only ones being targeted by the tax increase. In fact, the tax on everything from cigars and roll-your-own tobacco products will go up in accordance to the new bill.

◆ Campus Cafe ◆

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7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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Boone Area Humane Society Annual Garage Sale

April 22 - April 25
At the Boone County Fairgrounds

April 22, 6:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.
April 23 - 24, 9:00a.m.-8:00p.m.
April 25, 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

We will pick up any items that are donated on Saturday, April 4th, 11th, 18th.
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Bears continue to dominate their opponents

Justin Mitchell

Sports Writer

In today's world of sports we typically see all dominate teams hit a snag or two during their quest for league supremacy, but during this season the Bears look to avoid the hitch all together. Usually the snag hits teams with a combination of fatigue; both mentally and physically, and the injury bug that likes to poke its ugly head around once or twice during mid-season. The number one ranked Bears (26-6), have avoided both during their amazing start to the 2009 campaign.

They have also bested their record at this same point in the season last year by 3 wins. The longest losing streak of the season which is just two games, hints at the Bears overall dominance and

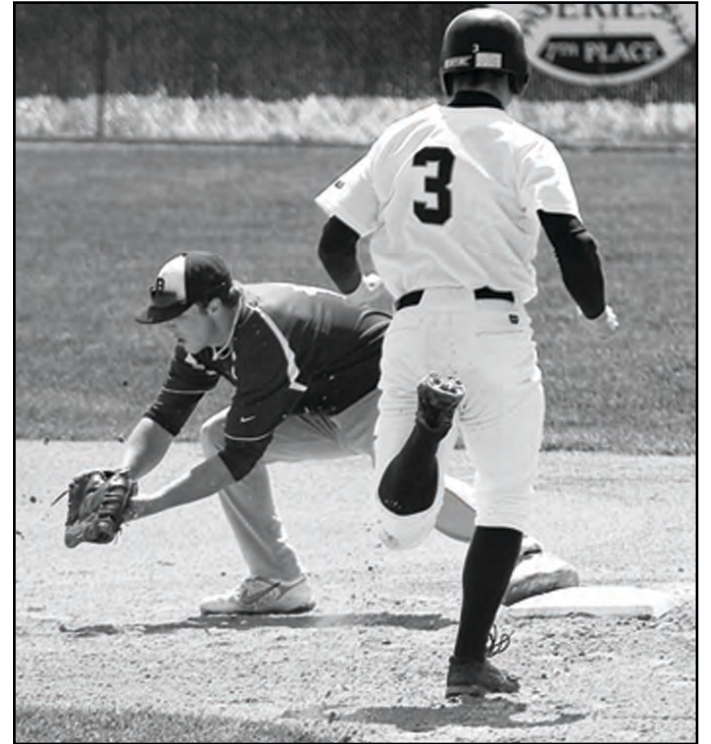
the amount of work the coaching staff puts in while preparing them to play.

Both Jake Astor and Joel Hutter continue to crush the ball, hitting over .400 and placing in the league's top five in hits. The Bears are getting solid pitching from both Eric Holmes and Mark Schroeder who are tied for the league lead in wins with six, while hard thrower Patrick Cooper leads the league in strikeouts with 42.

While they are full of individual league leaders the Bears are also atop some of the key team statistics. With a team batting average of .353 and an opponent's earned run average of 10.53 the Bears are simply feasting on opposing pitching. The Pitching has also played at a much higher level than their opponents as they have the best team earned run average (3.43) in Division II.

The overall success of the season can't just be put solely on the big name players. Solid contributions from role players like Nick Anderson, batting .300, in limited playing time is crucial to a team's success. Additional role players for the Bears include Mark Radmacher and Parker Price and they are also performing well in their limited playing time. With less than a month to go in the season the Bears bench looks to continue in helping keep the everyday players fresh and ready to make another deep playoff run.

The bears look to improve upon their 9-1 conference start as they get ready for a home stand against conference foe Ellsworth community college before playing 4 with Longview community college beginning on April 15.



contributed photo

Bears first baseman Jake Astor safely secures the ball in his glove for the routine out.

Joslin twins to play volleyball at DMACC



Contributed Photo

Taking part in the signing ceremony were members of the Joslin family (Front row, left to right); Their mother, Debbie Joslin, Heather, Lindsey; and their father, Dave Joslin; (back row, left to right) DMACC Head Volleyball Coach Patty Harrison and Galva-Holstein Head Volleyball Coach Scott Mitchell.

DMACC--Galva-Holstein High School senior Lindsey Joslin and twin sister, Heather, have signed national letters of intent to play volleyball for the Des Moines Area Community College Bears.

Lindsey Joslin was a four-year starter and letter winner for Galva-Holstein. In her sophomore season, she was named to the Maple Valley Conference Honorable Mention team. In her junior year, she was named Most Valuable Player on her team, was a Second Team All-Conference selection, named to the River Valley All-Tournament Team and was a Maple Valley Conference Second Team Selection. During her senior year, she was named to the Rockwell City-Lytton All-Tournament Team and was a First Team Western Valley Conference

Lindsey holds the school record in career digs with 1,415 and in career aces with 202. She has also been active AAU Volleyball.

Heather Joslin was named to the Second Team All-Conference Team in 2006, to the Galva-Holstein All-Tournament Team and to the Maple Valley Conference Honorable Mention Team. As a junior, Heather Joslin was a First Team All-Conference Selection, a First Team All-District member, named to the Honorable Mention All-State Team and was a Galva-Holstein All-Tournament Team Selection. During her senior year, Heather was again a First Team All-Conference Selection, named a First Team All-District Selection, received a Special Mention All-State Recognition,

was her team's Most Valuable Player and was a Galva-Holstein All-Tournament Selection. Like her sister, Heather Joslin has been active in AAU Volleyball while in high school.

"Lindsey and Heather Joslin have been excellent high school volleyball players and we look forward to their transition to the collegiate volleyball level for the DMACC Bears next season," said DMACC Head Volleyball Coach Patty Harrison.

The Joslin's join the Bears, who have advanced to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II National Volleyball Tournament for the past three consecutive years. The Bears finished eighth in the national tournament and had a 41-9 overall record in 2008.

From tragedy to triumph

Justin Mitchell

Sports Writer

Everybody has had to overcome things in their life, especially to get to where they ultimately want to be. In certain cases what people have had to overcome cannot be measured. DMACC student Jeremy Brokaw has had to overcome things that most people would wince at.

During his junior year of high school Brokaw was the point guard of his state ranked basketball team when tragedy struck. Brokaw suffered a traumatic brain injury that caused damage to his right frontal lobe, with the injury came a loss in his motor skills and his memory.

"A player from the other team punched me in the head during the game, so I basically got assaulted," said Brokaw when recalling what happened that fateful night. He suffered from chronic headaches for about a year but he knew that things would get better, "My faith in Christ and the

support of my family would pull me through this". Eventually his motor skills, athletic skills, and academic skills were going to return but the process was slow, "I went from knowing 80 to 100 basketball plays to knowing only one, I was irritable all the time and I just didn't know how to deal with myself." The process was described as not knowing who you are anymore and feeling like your identity was truly lost.

Not only did he have to bring the focus back on school work he had a constant reminder of the accident in the form of a lawsuit. Court hearings and going on trial was something else he had to overcome. It was the type of things which no 17-18 year old should worry about. Especially when his main focus was getting his life back to normal.

Head baseball coach Dan Fitzgerald has willingly allowed Jeremy to be a part of the baseball program here as a student-coach. Brokaw jokingly describes his job on the team as, "doing all the

things the coaches don't have time to do and don't want to do".

His passion and work ethic associated with his job with the Bears provides a little foreshadowing into his future dreams.

Brokaw will be graduating from DMACC this spring with a degree in liberal arts and is preparing for next fall in which he will attend Louisiana State University and focus on a major in sports administration. While LSU will be different from Iowa and anything Brokaw has experienced before he will have some familiarities as he will become the team manager for the LSU Tiger baseball team.

My dream job replied Brokaw "is to work in the front office of a major league baseball organization, hopefully the St. Louis Cardinals." With all the things he has his dream can be looked at as just another obstacle he needs to overcome to get the where he wants and needs to be.



contributed photo

Jeremy Brokaw, first base coach (right) chats it up with Jake Astor, the Iowa Community College Athletic Association player of the week.

Question of the Week

How do you feel about the recent Iowa Supreme Court ruling concerning same sex marriage?



Josh Marker, sophomore
“It’s been a long time coming. I’m indifferent, but good for them.”



Teisha Hartle, sophomore
“Religion should be taken out of government and left to the churches.”



Lizzie Jones, freshman
“It’s wrong because of my evangelical background. I hope it is overturned.”



Tim Schafer, freshman
“I’m all for social equality. No discrimination.”

Screens for alcohol abuse

Derrick J Roffman & Shane Meier
Staff Writers

Community and Family Resources visited DMACC Boone campus Thursday, April 9, offering a screening test to see if people are susceptible to alcoholism based on drinking behavior.

“Alcohol use disorders are identified on a one page screening to see if people are at risk,” said a representative of Community and Family Resources.

This is a national screening that is done once a year and is put into a database in order to gain funding for government programs, so that people who would like help from the community are able to receive it.

Also, by doing these screenings, Community and Family Resources hopes to gain awareness into the problems of alcoholism and the side affects they bring to families in the community.

“We want the public and students to be aware of the problems of alcoholism,” said a representative of Community and Family Resources. Raising awareness to the abuse and mistreatment of alcohol and its affects is one goal of the outreach center.

In addition to substance abuse, a spokeswoman said, “We [offer] gambling services covering Boone County and the surrounding counties.”

Clickers on campus

Shane Meier
Staff Writer

Clickers are remote control devices used to record answers to assignments in academic settings. They function like TV remote controls, utilizing inferred signals in conjunction with receivers.

The nursing department is currently using these clickers.

“[We] had some research articles saying they’d be useful; we’ve gotten a lot of positive feedback from students. They make their answers more anonymous,” said Vicki Imerman, DMACC Boone Campus nursing instructor. “We primarily use them to review for tests.”

A number of the nursing instructors use them: Connie Booth, Vicki Imerman, and Cori Peterson.

They have not had any significant problems, said Imerman, although set up was a bit difficult.

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