

11-21-2007

Banner News

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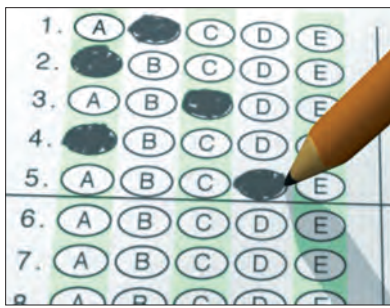
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YOU WEAR A PAIR
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WINERIES MAKE
IOWA TASTE GOOD.
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BANNER

DMACC
BOONE CAMPUS
STUDENT NEWSPAPER
1956 ——— 2007
VOICE OF THE BOONE CAMPUS
"Go Bears!"

NEWS

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOONE CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21 VOL. 7, NO. 6

Veterans Day honors local war vets

Molly Lumley
Banner Staff Writer

On a chilly, windy day with skies that looked like they would issue forth with rain at any minute, a small crowd gathered in Linwood Park Cemetery for the Veterans Day ceremony.

As the crowd mingled, the color guard handed out flags and prepared to display them at the ceremony. There were flags from various service organizations, such as the Boone County American Legion, the Veteran of Foreign Wars Women Auxiliary, the Marine Corps League, the Boone Veterans Council, and the Mid-Iowa Chapter of Former P.O.W.'s. There were also members of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts holding flags that represented the different branches of the military.

Lisa Kahookele, study skills and developmental writing instructor at DMACC, was there with the Boy Scouts along with her husband Dan Kivlahan and their two sons, Edward and Thomas Kivlahan. Kahookele and her husband are both Boy Scout leaders. She said that the VFW financially supports the Scouts, and this was their way of giving back.

"Today's boys Scouts will be tomorrow's future," Kahookele said.

The ceremony began with the singing of the national anthem, and then the invocation prayer by Don Schoof of the Boone Veterans Council and American Legion. Senior Chief John Chidester introduced the guest speaker, his son, Commander Wyatt Chidester.

Commander Chidester entered the Navy in July of 1979 and was promoted to Navy Chief in 1987. From July 2004 to July 2005 Commander Chidester was the Executive Officer on the USS Sullivans, a ship which was named after five brothers from Iowa who perished on the USS Juneau during the battle of Guadalcanal during World War II. Commander Chidester is currently an Assistant Surface Warfare Captain Detailer at the Naval Personnel Command Center in Tennessee.

Commander Chidester called Veterans Day "the most important celebration that America has every year."

Chidester presented a brief history on Veterans Day. On Nov. 11, 1918 the Allied Nations and Germany ended World War I, and in Nov. 1919, President Woodrow

Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11, as the first Armistice Day. In 1954, the 83rd Congress renamed it Veterans Day.

"Several months ago, my wife Sharon and my daughter Kelsey and I were visiting family in Chariton, Iowa. The day before we left to return to Memphis we visited my grandfather who is in an assisted living home there," said Chidester. "He fought in the Marines, and sitting with him were two men who also served in World War II. One, an Army Air Corps captain, flew P-47's for twelve hours during the D-Day invasions. The other, a Navy destroyer sailor, told us that two ships had sunk from beneath him. So on a quiet summer day in small town Iowa, my family and I sat amongst national treasures and, in my mind, real heroes."

The ceremony ended with a 21 gun salute and the playing of taps. Pete Jones, commander of the VFW post 817 said the VFW does this at every military funeral in the Boone area to honor fallen veterans.

Even though some celebrate the holiday, it isn't an important part of some veteran's lives. Kerry Newbanks, instructor for the Civil Engineering program, who was in Afghanistan from



Photo: Molly Lumley

A veteran gazes upon a memorial to his fallen fellow soldiers after the Veterans Day ceremony.

June 2004 to June 2005, said that Veterans Day is not a very important holiday to him. "I got a few text messages from some of my buddies wishing me a happy Veterans Day, but that's about all."

"It's not something I considered when I joined the military," he said. "I think it was more important to me that I was defending my country. I didn't expect any reward for it."

Winter flu season hits Iowa, DMACC students Untreated illnesses cause progressively bigger problems

Molly Lumley
Banner Staff Writer

Sneezing, coughing, runny noses and nausea; the time of year for getting sick has arrived.

Along with the common cold and the flu, another ugly infection is becoming more prevalent in the local community. Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, more commonly known as MRSA is mutated form of the standard staph infection.

Bacterial infections are usually treated with antibiotics, but sometimes those bacteria become resistant to the antibiotics and mutate into another form.

The typical staph infection starts a small lesion on the skin and if left untreated, can get bigger and can start to infect other organs. According to the Mayo Clinic website, MRSA can cause fatal infections in the



Photo Illustration: Eden Hinrichs

blood stream, bones heart lining or lungs. Most infections are accompanied by fever, chills and sweats. People suffering from these symptoms should consult a doctor immediately, as these symptoms can and will get worse if left untreated.

Vicki Imerman, Associate Professor of Nursing, said the

only antibiotic that can treat a staph infection is Vancomycin. "The MRSA infection is resistant to Methicillin and it's becoming resistant to Vancomycin as well. It's beginning to be more of a widespread problem," she said.

"It's been around for about five years, but it has increased a lot in the past few years locally

and in the clinical setting."

Imerman said the main way to spread MRSA was through direct contact. Hand washing can help to prevent illness. "Intimate objects, such as water faucets, keyboards, and phones can have harmful germs."

Other than MRSA, colds and different forms of the flu are starting to spread. Symptoms of upper respiratory flu include runny nose, productive cough, and chest congestion. Stomach flu includes nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramping.

Imerman said that any antibiotics can help with bacterial infections, but they shouldn't be given for viral infections. She explained that some doctors just give them out to patients only because they ask, not because the patients really need them. She stressed the importance of finishing all of the antibiotics instead of stopping them when

the patient feels better.

Christina Graham, Clerical Assistant, said she had been sick with an upper respiratory illness a few weeks ago. "I'm always sick," she said. "But I didn't have to miss work because of it. I got steroids from my doctor."

Other people around campus are not worried about getting sick. "The more I'm around sick people the more I build up an immunity [to getting sick]," said Lisa Savits, Bookstore Clerk.

Tim Prindle, Associate Professor of Accounting, said he takes extra precautions to avoid germs. "I'm careful," he said. "If I touch someone, I use hand sanitizer. I run a lot too."

To help prevent the spread of these illnesses, simple things such as washing the hands, using antibacterial wipes on keyboards, and drinking orange juice can greatly help to protect the immune system.

DMACC winter formal to be held on Boone campus

Eden Hinrichs
Staff Writer

On Saturday Dec 1, shortly after the DMACC Bears play Grand View J.V., the Student Activities Council will be holding a winter formal in the Courter Center to celebrate the holiday season.

Not only is this a chance for girls to find a second use for the expensive dresses purchased for high school proms, but it is also a fund raiser to raise money for various charities.

"I'm so glad we are having a formal! We spend so much money on dresses, it's awesome we get to wear them again," said Jodi Jurik.

Some students who have spent over \$500 on dresses are eager to wear them once again while supporting local causes.

Although it is only recently that plans for the formal have come to fruition, the idea has been discussed since the

beginning of the semester.

The SAC is enthusiastically gathering a massive amount of decorations from local businesses.

"It's a cool idea so we will see what the reaction is," said SAC adviser Steve Krafcisin

The SAC is holding a Christmas decorations drive. They are asking students and faculty to donate any used decorations to the SAC for the dance. After the formal, the decorations will be donated to Red Rock Community Action Center.

Donations may be dropped off at Krafcisin's office and will be eagerly accepted.

There will be a DJ for the dance as well as door prizes. The DJ has not yet been selected, nor has the list of prizes been finalized.

Admission is completely free and open to all students and faculty.



Photo illustration: Eden Hinrichs

How well do you know that turkey?

Chicago Tribune (MCT)-- You can thaw the holiday bird in the refrigerator if you have time, or speed things up by submerging it in cold water that you change every 30 minutes, according to the USDA. Do not thaw the turkey on the counter at room temperature. If thawing in the refrigerator, place the turkey on a tray or pan to contain any liquid that may drip.

In the refrigerator (about 24 hours per 4 pounds)

Weight: Time

8 to 12 pounds: 2 to 3 days

12 to 16 pounds: 3 to 4 days

16 to 20 pounds: 4 to 5 days

20 to 24 pounds: 5 to 6 days

In cold water (about 30 minutes per pound)

Weight: Time

8 to 12 pounds: 4 to 6 hours

12 to 16 pounds: 6 to 8 hours

16 to 20 pounds: 8 to 10 hours

20 to 24 pounds: 10 to 12 hours

Because today's standard turkey is younger and more

tender than in the past, it cooks more quickly. Use these up-to-date USDA recommended times instead of those found in older cookbooks and references.

Cook at 325 degrees. A whole turkey is safe when cooked to a minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees as measured with a food thermometer, according to the USDA. Check the internal temperature in the innermost part of the thigh and wing and the thickest part of the breast. If cooking stuffing inside the bird, make sure the center of the stuffing reaches 165 degrees. Even if your turkey has a "pop-up" temperature indicator, the USDA recommends checking the internal temperature with a food thermometer.

Raw Weight/Unstuffed/Stuffed

8 to 12 pounds; 2 to 3 hours; 3 to 3 hours

12 to 14 pounds; 3 to 3 hours; 3 to 4 hours

14 to 18 pounds; 3 to 4 hours; 4 to 4 hours

18 to 20 pounds; 4 to 4 hours; 4 to 4 hours

20 to 24 pounds; 4 to 5 hours; 4 to 5 hours

Instructions and rules for the DMACC district-wide creative writing contest 2007-2008

Eligibility: Any full or part-time DMACC credit class student enrolled fall 2007 semester.

What to enter:

2-3 short stories, poems, and/or single, sustained personal narratives

Each individual work may be no longer than 20 pages

No more than a total of three works per person (2-3 pieces are your entry)

No plays

Format requirement for cover letter and each piece of writing:

Cover letter with your name, address, phone number, DMACC student ID number, titles of your pieces, a statement expressing your interest in competing for a DMACC scholarship or cash award only, and the following signed and dated certification of originality and publication release:

I certify that the short stories, poems, and/or personal narratives that I have entered in this contest are original to me. Also, I grant permission for DMACC to publish my work in Expressions, DMACC's Creative Writing Magazine, and on the DMACC Creative Writing Website.

Your name (fill in) Date (fill in)

Format requirements for each piece:

All pieces need to be typed

Each piece should be titled.

All short stories and personal narratives should be double-spaced.

No names or other identifying information on any of your pieces.

Submissions:

Put all of the pieces that you are submitting along with the cover letter in an envelope marked DMACC Creative

Writing Contest Fall 2007 and do one of the following:

- bring to Judy Hauser's office: Bldg. 2, Rm. 5Y, Ankeny Campus, and place in the plastic box on Judy Hauser's office door
- mail to Judy Hauser using DMACC campus mail (Judy Hauser, English Department, Building 2)

3) send via regular mail to Judy Hauser, English Department, DMACC, 2006 So. Ankeny Boulevard, Ankeny, Iowa, 50023-3993.


Absolutely no email or faxed entries will be accepted
Deadline for entering: Friday, Dec 7, 2007 at 5 p.m.

Keep your own copy of your entry in electronic format: (Microsoft Word 6.0)

For questions:

Call Judy Hauser, DMACC District-Wide Creative Writing Contest Coordinator, at 1-515-964-6535 or jahouser@dmacc.edu

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Backpacks and you

Jessi Smith
Managing editor

Backpacks are a big part of college life. Everything from books and pens to cell phones and make-up are kept in these packs that almost every student carries. They come in different shapes, sizes, colors and brands. What does your backpack say about you?

People with large back packs probably live farther away from campus or are tacking a lot of credits. Some students only bring the books for the class or classes they have that day and don't stay here long enough to need anything else.

Some carry side shoulder bags featuring their favorite band, while others might take a more modest and simple approach to back pack style.

Student, James Stumbo, carries a faded gray and black JanSport. "[My backpack] says that I do no homework whatsoever and that I live on my computer. All that is in it is my computer and my binder for my music class," said Stumbo. "I've had that back pack for like four years now. I'm too cheap to buy another one."

This seems typical for college students. Most student don't have a lot of extra money to be throwing around on new back packs, yet these bags play a big roll in college life.

Niki Carlson, DMACC student, totes around an old Army green backpack with faded signatures and saying written all

over it. She is rarely seen without her bag. "[The bag] shows how thrifty I am. It's a used bag. It's my friend's old bag. I think it shows a leniency towards friends. It also shows that I like to recycle and not waist things that are still useful," said Carlson. "It has just enough room for my books and the things that I need. It's comfortable, and I like to be comfortable. It says a lot about me."

Liberal Arts major Molly Lumley says that her bag is a lot like her. It is simple, yet efficient. There is always a water bottle in the side pocket and pens and highlighter are visible in the front pouch. "I'm a geek. I like to stay organized. I've got a huge binder in here with all my papers for my classes in it. It's cheap; it's a pretty common backpack. It's my favorite color, red. I guess it does reflect my personality," said Lumley.

Whether you carry a sporty side shoulder bag or an old hand-me-down, your bag shows a little about who you are and what you like. Some of the adult learners can be seen carting bags with wheels, saving their backs and shoulders from the strain of a heavy pack.

The colors, styles and brands of your bag can give the observer a good idea about the person carrying it.

Though a person's bag may not tell all about its owner, it's fun to see what other people's preferences are. Everyone is different, and each bag is unique in its own way.



Photo: Eden Hinrichs

Student Niki Carlson walks towards the Courter Center.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE FALL 2007

Final Exam Schedule for Day Courses – Fall 2007

Des Moines Area Community College

All instructors in all programs are required to follow this schedule. Any deviations should be approved through the appropriate dean or provost. Instructors should consult the dean or provost if their courses do not appear to be included in this schedule. The schedule for evening and Saturday courses is on the reverse side of this sheet.

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Tuesday/Thursday courses

<u>Class Time Range</u>	<u>Exam Time</u>
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.

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Monday/Wednesday/Friday or more courses

<u>Class Time Range</u>	<u>Exam Time</u>
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.

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Tuesday/Thursday courses

<u>Class Time Range</u>	<u>Exam Time</u>
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.

Friday, December 14, 2007

Monday/Wednesday/Friday or more courses

<u>Class Time Range</u>	<u>Exam Time</u>
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.	3:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Monday, December 17, 2007

Make-Up Day

If the College would close due to inclement weather on any of the four days listed above, final exams for that day will be rescheduled for Monday, December 17, at the times they would have been scheduled.

Evening/Saturday Final Exam Schedule Fall 2007

Evening courses will have their finals at the day and time of the final regular class meeting.

Last Monday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 10
Last Tuesday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 4
Last Wednesday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 12
Last Thursday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 13
Last Friday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 14
Last Monday*/Wednesday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 12
Last Tuesday*/Thursday night classes (Final Exam)-----	December 11
Last Saturday classes (Final Exam)-----	December 8

* The last class meeting for the MW courses and the TR courses will be this night.

DMACC men's basketball team off to 3-0 start

The Bears men's basketball team finished last season with a record of 31-5, with a final ranking of 5th in the Nation. This season, they're off to a 3-0 start.

The Bears played their season opener at home against William Penn J.V. DMACC won easily 100-60. Rodney Grace, 10-13 from the field, led the team in scoring.

Their second game, against Morningside J.V., was similarly one sided. The Bears won the game 77-54.

The third game of the season was the lowest scoring game for the Bears this season. They knocked off Minneapolis CTC on the road, 65-43.

The Bears' next home game will be Nov. 27 at 7 p.m., when they face off against South Australia.



Photos: Tim Larson

Above: Rodney Grace plows through William Penn J.V. defence in the Bears' season opener. Grace went 10-13 from the field in the game.



Right: Kenny Neelon is fouled while going for a layup. Neelon was 4-5 from the line.

Boone campus choir to perform Christmas concert



The DMACC Choir rehearses for their upcoming performance.

Photo: Eden Hinrichs

Jessi Smith
Managing Editor

This year's DMACC Choir Christmas concert is set to air on 30, Nov. at 7 p.m. in the DMACC theatre.

A few of this years selections of songs include, Felise Navidad, Let it Snow, and Walking in a Winter Wonderland. "We still have some work to do, but I think it will be fun," said choir director Steve Hoifeldt.

There has been tension with in the choir over members who haven't been showing up to the practices. Through out each practice the choir's improvement has been evident.

"I feel great," said choir member Adam Uhl with a laugh. "I've said this before that I am

going to be a rock star. So if people want my autograph for a reasonable price, now would be the time."

Despite the kinks of not having all the members present during the practices and the difficulty of mastering the chosen songs, the choir endures the practices with smiles and bright faces.

"The Rhythm of Life is my favorite song [that we are singing]. It's fast pace with a good melody, it's different," said choir alto Niki Carlson. "Twas in the Moon of Winter Time has a really pretty tune. I know that one!"

As always, DMACC students and staff are encouraged to come and share this festive music experience.

HOW MANY TIMES WILL YOU WEAR A PAIR OF JEANS BEFORE YOU WASH THEM?



I'll wear them two times, not in a row. I go home and change into my sweat pants, I don't ever stay in my jeans for long.

-Chanda Touch



I'll maybe wear them once. I spend a lot of money on laundry.

-Sean McHugh



Jeans are jeans, they are meant to be worn. I'll wear them until I spill something on them.

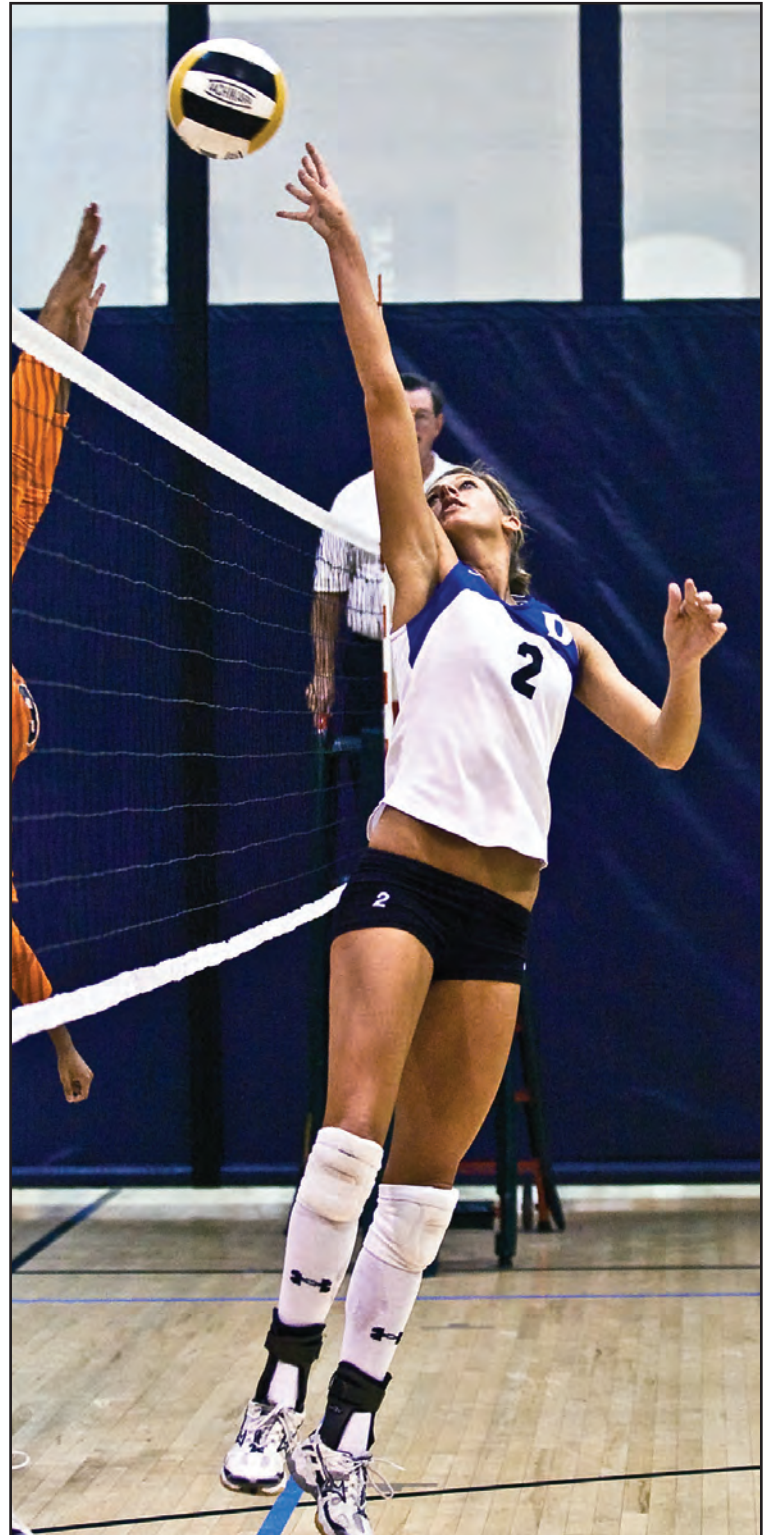
-Shannon Clayton



I'll wear them twice before I wash them.

-Cramer Holland

Bears finish 8th at National tourney



Photos: Eric Ver Helst

Above: Kayla Knobbe stretches to tip the ball past Cowley County's defense. Complete scores are listed below.



Top: Kaitlyn DeVries spikes the ball against Cowley County. DMACC would lose the game in three matches.
Bottom: Kayla Knobbe (2) and Rachel Wenzel (1) keep a volley alive.

In the first round, the Bears beat Iowa Lakes in five; 21-30, 30-28, 30-28, 24-30, 15-10.

In the second round, the Bears lost to Johnson County in three; 30-20, 30-15, 30-15.

Round three saw the Bears drop three straight in their loss to Cowley County in three; 27-30, 20-30, 30-32.

The Bears final game of the tournament may have set a collegiate record for scoring in a single match, 108 points. Hagerstown would come out on top after five; 31-29, 23-30, 53-55, 30-23, 11-15.

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Know more about the wines you drink

Eden Hinrichs
Staff writer

When thinking about Iowa it is rare to think of wine and breweries. Yet wineries in the Iowa area are becoming increasingly popular. These Iowa wineries are contributing ideas to the modern form of creating wine.

The days of women in tubs stomping away at various forms of grapes are gone. Wine itself has a history that is older than 8,000 years old. They used and perfected a vast amount of methods of producing varying forms of grapes for the fermentation process.

Traditionally North American grapes are used much differently than the Europeans breeds which include Chardonnay, pinot noir and merlot grapes. They are more versatile and used for much more than wine alone. Wine is created through fermenting process including crushed grapes and

different types of yeast.

As a society people give wine as a gift when going over for dinner or for a house warming with out really knowing much about wine. Anyone can go into a place that sells wine and pick one off the shelf to give to some one, but there is a lot more that goes into wine than meets the eye.

To skip all the jargon about what grapes do what and what grape skins do what; wine consists different kinds of grapes, rice or fruit that are fermented into alcohol. Aside from the religious and cultural factors that have given wine its infamy, it is also something that every culture can partake in.

So what if you have no idea what wine you like? Or perhaps you had wine once but never want to try it again? No problem. There are different wines for all types of taste buds and lets face it, you're never going to find a wine you like unless you go out there and try some.

Most store wine sections are



Photo: Eden Hinrichs

A variety of fine wines are displayed for purchase at the Tassel Ridge Winery.

divided usually from driest wines to the sweetest wines. Even here in Boone there is a wine club that holds a tasting once a month at the Boone Hy-Vee

Most of the wineries and breweries of Iowa offer tours. Some companies, like Prairie

Moon between Boone and Ames, offer music in the summer time.

There are some wineries that only allow tours by appointment, but most are willing to talk with anyone who wants to know more about wine.

Three rules to wine:

1. Don't just taste the wine, enjoy the wine.

Use all your senses to experience the glass of wine as it was meant to be experienced. Don't be afraid to swirl the glass and to allow the wine to breathe that way you will get a better taste experience. Look at the color of wine while tasting it. You can even tell the age of a wine by appearance alone. White wines when aged go from a pale yellow to green or even a dark yellow. Where as the darker the red the younger the red wine is.

2. Match the wines with the food your are going to be eating.

Never underestimate the power of good paring. You can always use the cardinal rule "Red with red (meats or sauces)" or "white wine with white (meats or sauces)." You should always go by the main dish being served at dinner and what sauces pare with it. That way you can always utilize the flavor of the wine you have selected.

3. Don't be miss-led by the price or date of the wine you are choosing.

Not all wine is going to be perfect if it is from a certain year or if it is the most expensive on the shelf. The most expensive wine is not necessarily the best taste for you. Let your taste buds be the judge for what you enjoy. Don't be afraid to ask the clerk for help if you are not certain what wine would be best. Most wine and spirit stores give their clerks a little bit of training to help deal with these questions.

Eden's homemade pie fiasco

Eden Hinrichs
Photographer

As the turkey day draws near I go about my "test pie" schedule. Although I don't look like the baking type, I love to bake. This year I am attempting a few new recipes to impress the family on ye ol' turkey day. I have already mastered the essence of the pumpkin pie, so I thought that I would tackle the all mightily apple pie.

I set out on a mission to gather the ingredients that the

recipe called for. By one I have gotten all I needed to start my pie. After a quick clean up and a few curse words my less than perfect kitchen was ready for me to create my masterpiece pies.

My husband isn't much for pumpkin pies and he asked me to make him a new dish, an apple pie with a graham cracker crust with graham cracker topping, doesn't sound difficult.

I mixed in my special concoction of spices and went about making the filling. I thought that it couldn't be

too difficult to make an apple pie. People have been making them for hundreds of years! I preheated the oven to 450 degrees to make certain it was perfectly hot and decided that I would turn it down later. I spent a few minutes whipping up the spices and apples and dumped them in to frail white shells.

I put a different crust over the pie because I thought the pie was supposed to look bigger. I chucked the pies in the oven and turned on some music. While I was enjoying my make shift guitar broom I noticed an oddly familiar burning smell in the air.

I rushed into the kitchen and threw open the oven doors. My pies where unharmed, but there was now gook on the oven burner from my pies. I guess not lowering the temperature was a bad idea. I lowered my temperature and put the pies back in and decided to pay better attention to the oven.

After two hours, I jacked up the heat to cook a little faster and in minutes it looked okay. Actually, it was better than okay, it looked perfect! I did a little dance around the kitchen celebrating my first attempt at making a semi homemade apple pie.

Without much thought I threw together my recipe for pumpkin pie and expected it to be great. As time ticked and the evening grew dark I began to notice that although the pie crust had turned golden, the mix bubbled. I thought I would wait a little longer.

I asked my husband to watch over my pie as I went out to get some Hires soda, my favorite. I spent some time cruising around and took my time getting home.

When I pulled into the drive

way I noticed that my kitchen window had smoke coming out of it. I ran inside and saw my husband quietly sitting on the couch. "Hey how are my pies doing?" I calmly asked.

"What pie?"

I ran to the kitchen screaming, "Oh crap! My pies!!!"

I whipped open the oven door to be hit with a gigantic cloud of smoke. My husband was running around frantically searching for a phone to call the fire department. I tried to get the pies to stop smoking, then I threw them outside where I heard the what I had hope to be award winning pies make a splattering sizzle.

There are three decent morals of this story. Moral number one is that nothing is ever as easy as it looks. The second moral is to never underestimate the power of following an actual recipe. And finally, don't ever leave your cooking adventures in the care of your husband!

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POLITALKS

Yes, I'm a liberal



Ted Herrick
Columnist

In a nation where a majority of Americans believe in a clean environment, women's rights, racial equality, worker's rights, corporate accountability and quality healthcare, it amazes me that the word "liberal" is viewed as such a horrible epithet.

In the last 25 years or so, the political right has successfully been able to portray the majority progressive view as one in the minority. The choir of conservative voices has taken on a harsh and forceful tone. They assert the United States would be better served by policies espoused by ultraconservatives that, truthfully, do not serve the interests of the majority of Americans.

The Right's campaign to discredit the word "liberal" has been so pervasive as to actually succeed in convincing liberals themselves to shy away from the term. Liberals will deny that their beliefs are indeed liberal while conservatives embrace the label describing them. A conservative will proudly proclaim his conservatism and denounce all others as liberal. The trap is set and the Left falls right into it.

When voters see this interplay of a confident and strong politician showing pride in his beliefs contrasted with that of a hand-wringing, indecisive, and apologetic politician, voters will side with the "leader" every time. Every national poll finds Republicans hold a huge lead in questions of leadership and decisiveness. After all, who would you trust to combat the terrorists: a cowboy or a wimp?

As John Edwards has said, "It's time for Democrats to grow a backbone." Liberals should not fear electoral reprisal in admitting to a label that correctly encapsulates their belief system. Believe me, voters will appreciate the honesty.

The American people are, at heart, suckers for the truth. Liberals will discover electoral

success, not by denying a title, but rather through the strength of their arguments. The public is intelligent enough to realize that most Democrats hold liberal views and most Republicans favor the conservative point of view. The people can handle it, so why deny it? Indeed, folks were aware, at the time of his election, President Bill Clinton had been unfaithful to his wife. This was a fact that most people accepted. However, only when Clinton denied this widely known fact, did he lose confidence with a significant swath of Americans. Why not just fess up and move on?

In 2004, in addition to differences in ideological worldviews, George W. Bush's "with us or against us" and "I'm the decider" sharply differed with John Kerry's flip-flopping and "I voted for it before I voted against it" message. An election that could have been won on issues advocated by the Democratic Party was lost to Bush and Company. Republican operatives chose to focus attention, not on relevant topics, but on Kerry's weakness as a leader in uncertain times. The country did not vote for ideas in 2004; they voted for strength.

In the most recent Democratic debate held in Las Vegas, John Edwards' performance was striking in several ways. First of all, despite boos from the audience, he continued to delineate differences between his opinions and those of front-runner Hillary Clinton. I guess this liberal-leaning audience didn't want a true debate, but rather a praise session. Secondly, Mr. Edwards continued to address pertinent issues, in spite of Mrs. Clinton's attacks. This demonstrated a strength that Democrats must show to recapture, not only the White House, but public confidence as well.

So, the next time one of you liberal Democrats out there is pummeled with the pejorative "liberal," respond a little differently. Stand up, look your accuser straight in the eye and say, "If liberal means not allowing corporate giants to raid the pension funds of their employees, protecting our environment from toxic chemicals, safeguarding social security, and supporting women's equality, you're damn right I'm liberal. But, the more important question is, why aren't you too?"

EDITORIAL

In the Oct. 31 issue of the Campus Chronicle, Editor in Chief, Bria Robeson wrote a piece entitled "A few of my own personal opinions," in which she made her feelings on homosexuality quite plainly known. The staff of the Banner had a mixed, though universally chagrined, reaction to the piece.

Robeson's piece was littered with grammatical errors and was apparently written far too hastily. Working under the pressure of deadlines will cause problems for even the most seasoned journalists, even more so for young college journalists. Pressure and lack of sleep often lead young journalists to write utter nonsense or to commit the more dastardly offense of plagiarism. Robeson has certainly not engaged in the latter. The editor of a publication is supposed to be, among other things, the last and best defense against a poorly written and/or poorly conceived piece making it to press. Ms. Robeson is working without the benefit of a more experienced editor or adviser to check her less reasoned impulses.

In the issue of the Chronicle published Nov. 7, an entire page was dedicated to Letters to the Editor, lambasting Ms. Robeson for everything from her writing to her judgment. It is instructive to note the tone of these letters. One piece called her a liar, egocentric, ignorant and arrogant. Another called her a bigot and said that her piece was written "at a level far below the writing ability of the average college student." Another letter, written by an Ankeny campus faculty member, said that "All DMACC students, faculty and staff should demand Ms. Robeson's immediate resignation because of her gross incompetence."

The tone of the response directed at Ms. Robeson for her column was substantially more offensive than was her original piece. One would hope that an institution of higher learning would view this error of judgment and performance on the part of Ms. Robeson as an educational opportunity for her and the student body. But alas, those professionals tasked with shaping the mind of the young editor have chosen instead to respond with ad hominem attacks and self-righteous indignation.

The editorial staff of the Banner News does not intend to defend the poor writing of Ms. Robeson's column. Nor do we intend to defend the questionable decision to run such a poorly written piece on such a controversial and sensitive subject. The piece itself was bad, as was the decision to print it. We are, however, appalled that the naivety and inexperience of Ms. Robeson was greeted in such a vitriolic and spiteful manner. If Ms. Robeson's decision to write and publish the column in question is, as one respondent said, an embarrassment to DMACC, how much more so the vindictive response from the DMACC faculty.

The end of term slump



Jessi Smith
Managing Editor

The end of term slump is in full effect right now and I'm seeing it drag a lot of people down. There's the guy that can't get up to make it to class anymore, the girl who's dropping out of school because she can't get motivated, and the students who are stressing themselves out so badly that they can't even get their homework finished on time anymore. This is the time of year when everyone is getting burnt out. Don't give up! This is when everyone else gives up, so don't let that be you!

This time of year, papers that

you used to be able to zip through are now becoming tedious and traumatic. Don't slump so low that you sacrifice your own values. By this I mean, don't turn in a last minute plagiarism and give up a whole semester of work for one stupid mistake. Hand in those assignments; even if they aren't quite up to par or they are super shoddy, any amount of points is better than a big zero on your grade.

I've seen a friend drop out of college this week. I've been the person who completely did not get things done until the last minute, and they sucked really badly, but at least I got them turned in. Had I done them the day that they were assigned instead of sitting down to watch that marathon of CSI, I could have saved myself a lot of lost sleep and strain.

In the spring we have spring break for "mental health". Why

don't we have an in between fall and winter break too? Two days for Thanksgiving doesn't cut it. Other colleges get the entire week of Thanksgiving off. I'm not trying to bitch; I'm just saying that we are stuck in a pretty lame ordeal. Trying to keep my head above water has become a chore. Motivation is found in sparse quantities, but I can't let it get me down.

There are only a few weeks left, hold on! I think one of the best things students can do to help with the stress is to utilize the presence of the DMACC counselor Rita Davenport. I hate being emotional if I can help it, but she was amazing to talk with. Her office is located just behind the front desk. Just stop by and make an appointment, or maybe she will have time to get you in right away. It's worth it; take it from an old veteran of stressing herself out.

Fall 2007 Banner Staff

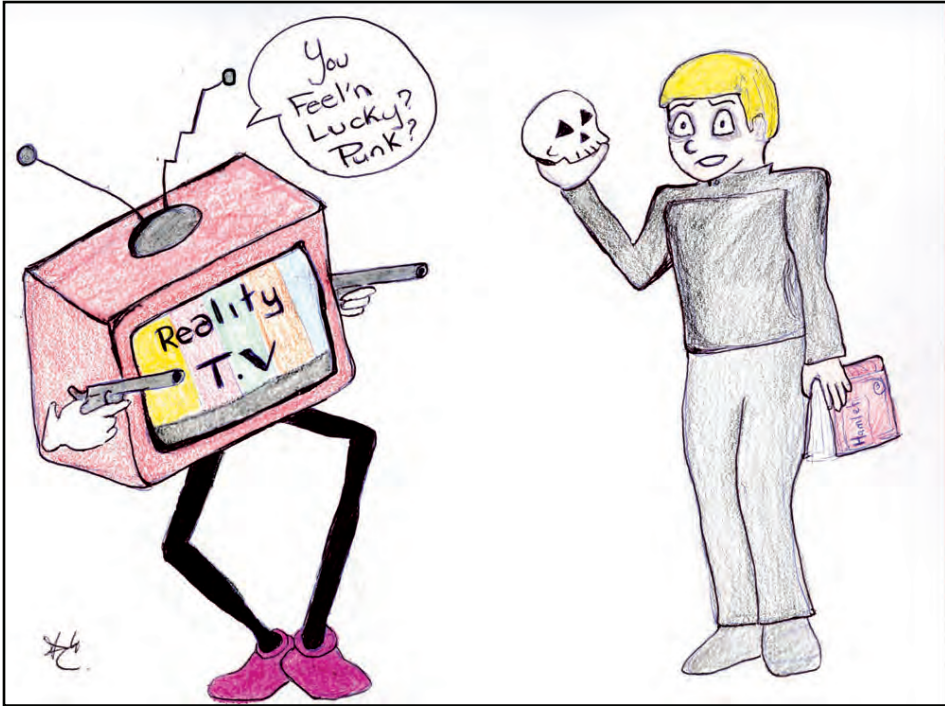
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Toonsies

by Eden Hinrichs



THANKSGIVING WORD FIND



- CASSEROLE
- FOOTBALL
- GRAVY
- HOME
- ICECREAM
- MAYFLOWER
- NAP
- PIE
- PILGRIMS
- POTATOES
- RELAX
- ROLLS
- STUFFING
- THANKSGIVING
- TURKEY
- WISHBONE

Horoscopes

Jessi Smith

Aries (March 21- April 19)

Thinking before speaking could be a great skill for you to master. You might know more about a subject than your peers, but that doesn't mean you need to rub it in their faces, holding your tongue could save your ass.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

That acquaintance of yours that drives everyone crazy but you hang out with anyway is getting very close to bringing on your wrath when he or she fails to yield on a touchy subject. In this case, the truth might not set you free, but it will get the point across.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

Being humble isn't exactly second nature to you, but this week it could be beneficial in helping you to get what you want out of someone. They probably just want to see you squirm a little bit, but you can always get them back later.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

You are taking your repressed feelings out on the people closest to you and it's really starting to piss them off. Try explaining the issues at hand to them instead, a good friend might have a more sensible approach to coping with your problems.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

You've been feeling like you're being walked all over as of late, and for you that just doesn't fly. Leo's are not good at handling being brought down, but don't blow your top, there could be some bigger problems plaguing your pals that you aren't savvy too.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

You've never had a problem making your opinion heard, but this week you're going a little too far. Just because an issue is not important to you, doesn't mean it isn't a huge deal to someone else. Watch your mouth kiddo, or you'll be eating your words.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

You are not a princess/prince! Get over it. Mars is giving you a god-complex right now. Though you might feel like a million bucks, your making others feel like crap, knock it off.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

It's time for a self evaluation. As a water sign, your energy is bursting right now. Use your intuition to look at things objectively and sort yourself out. If you've been overly good, you owe it to yourself to make some mischief.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Mix it up this week, your routine is getting old. It's time to do something that is out of character, like take a poll-dancing aerobics class, or go rock-climbing. You may attract someone's long awaited attention by bringing out your inner spaz.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You have been avoiding the end of semester blues fabulously; you look well rested and clean cut when everyone else is pulling their hair out. Congrats on not sucking at life, you don't have to rub it in.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Your A.D.D. is kicking in big time, don't your fascination with shiny things land you in the ditch while driving home. Focus! You can do it! Oh wait, look at that!

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

You probably drank too much the past few weekends, and it's been showing in your inability to finish the simplest of tasks. That's fine when it comes to your own grades, but behavior like that with group projects will land you at the bottom of the river wearing cement shoes.

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