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## Banner News

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**Authors**

Alicia Chavira, Tim Larson, Mary Elizabeth Drahos, Eden Hinrichs, Molly Lumley, and Jessi Smith

## Women take Southwestern in three



Photo: Tim Larson

**Kayla Knobbe (2), Kayla Black (4), Kaitlyn DeVries (14) watch as the ball drops in their favor in DMACC's 3-0 win over Southwestern Community College. The Bears dominated in all three games, 30-16, 30-15, 30-18.**

**Alicia Chavira**  
*Banner Staff Writer*

The success continues for the DMACC volleyball team as they opened their season with a dominant win against Southwestern Community College on Sept 5. The Bears ended last season 36-9 and finished 10th overall in at Nationals. The Bears seemed as though they needed little time getting back into the swing of things as they took a 5-2 lead over southwestern with the help of two massive kills from freshman Shelby DeNeice.

The Bears continued to dominate at the net taking a four point lead. After what seemed to be lack of communication between two DMACC players, Southwestern was looking for a comeback. However, DeNeice put a stop to that after she had back to back kills. The Bears continued to win the battle at the net with the help of great assists from setter Kayla Knobbe. After yet another massive kill from DeNeice, the Bears took a dominating lead of 21-11.

Courtney Casper took advantage of the lead as she pounded the ball to the floor. Southwestern's error only added to the Bears lead, bumping it up to 14. Freshman setter Stephanie Evans came into the game to assist Kayla Knobbe who closed

the game with a kill leaving the final score 30-16.

The Bears started game two off slow, allowing Southwestern to get the first two points. However, Freshman Kaitlyn DeVries slammed the ball back at Southwestern, giving the bears momentum to take the lead. The Bears' freshman continued to dominate the net as she hit another straight to the ground. A rotation error on the Bears' side gave a point to Southwestern.

After an ace serve from Sophomore Jodi Jurik and another kill from Shelby DeNeice, DMACC took a 13-7 lead. DeNeice put the Bears up by 10 after three more massive kills.

A back row hit by Libero Rachel Wenzel went unanswered to put the Bears up 20-8. A good volley ended in Southwestern's favor but a few more kills hit the ground in DMACC's favor. The Bear's started to slip as a few Southwestern tips went untouched. However, Jodi Jurik had back to back kills to close the game with a 15 point victory.

Southwestern took their first lead of the night as the Bears were unable to return the first two serves.

The Bears came back strong with a kill and a volley that ended in their favor. A tip from Kaitlyn DeVries tied the game at

three. A net serve from DMACC once again put Southwestern in the lead. Things started looking up as a perfect set from Knobbe assisted DeNeice for yet another monstrous kill.

The game continued to be neck and neck until there was a kill by the Bears followed by a DMACC ace. Soon the Bears took the lead and stretched it to a six point game. A carry was called against the Bears putting the score 14-9. After three DMACC kills and a scramble volley the Bears enjoyed a comfortable 10 point lead.

The Bears were called for being out of rotation but quickly redeemed themselves when Courtney Casper slammed two back to back kills at Southwestern. However, the Bears then let the ball hit the ground due to lack of communication. Both teams seemed to have no control over the ball as they scrambled to get the ball over the net. Then a kill from freshman Lindsey Volz put the Bears up by 10. An ace from DMACC sealed the victory 30-18.

The win gives the Bears a record of 1-0. They will be traveling to Cedar Rapids on Sept. 7 and 8 to participate in the Kirkwood Tournament. Their next home game will be Sept. 19 at 6:30 pm.

## DMACC launches new student ID card Success of program remains unknown

**Tim Larson**  
*Executive Editor*

After several years of lobbying for student ID cards, DMACC has partnered with the New Haven Conn. based company, Higher One, to issue the OneCard.

DMACC formed a committee three years ago to explore the prospect of instituting a student ID system. Ben Voaklander, DMACC Assistant Controller, was heavily involved in the process. According to Voaklander, the committee found that students wanted to have a photo ID which could also be used as a credit or debit card.

Initial projections for cost ranged from \$400,000 - \$500,000 for systems which provided the cards and infrastructure for the cards to DMACC. These systems would require that DMACC continue to administer

all financial aid disbursements and would have required security upgrades for DMACC's computer system. According to Voaklander, by storing students banking information, DMACC would "run into security issues."

In Jan. 2007, Joe Robbins, DMACC Controller, approached Higher One about the possibility of using their system. Brian Green, Assistant Provost, said, "For us I think the financial aspect of it was the driving force. We didn't have any financial commitment in getting an ID card. We pay nothing to have this service provided for us. Zero money comes out of DMACC's coffers."

In partnering with Higher One, DMACC provided ID cards for students without developing internal systems for producing and maintaining the cards. "To start up, with the picture taking, and all of the things it would

take to get a system in place; for us, it was a way to get into the student ID business without having to take on a huge financial commitment," said Green.

"There's no way we could have had this up and going by this fall, without combining forces with someone who's already been doing this."

While there is no up front cost to the school, the OneCard is not completely free to DMACC. "It's free...to an extent," said Voaklander. DMACC is charged \$5 to add a photo to the OneCard and \$20 to replace lost cards. Voaklander said that students will be able to replace their card one time without charge. For tracking purposes, a \$20 charge will appear on the student's tuition bill along with a \$20 credit, which nets out to no charge.

DMACC agreed to pay Higher One to manage financial

aid disbursements, which will begin next week. For each financial aid check issued, Higher One charges DMACC \$5. This is a substantial reduction from the \$20-\$30 cost of checks issued through DMACC.

Higher One's promotional materials claim that the OneCard will alleviate the logistical problems associated with student ID systems. Voaklander was not yet convinced that the system would perform as well as advertised. On the issue, Voaklander said, "Call me in a few months."

As an additional incentive, Higher One will refund .08% of transactions using the OneCard. DMACC, likely to issue over \$10 million in student aid this year, could potentially get \$10,000 from Higher One. According to Voaklander, this money would be used for student activities, not to recoup DMACC expenses on the

program.

The addition of a photo ID has been a boon for DMACC students. "We have a lot of international students who have struggled in the past when they go to get a drivers license. One of the first things they're asked for is a student ID," said Green. "With our admission partnership with Iowa State to have a DMACC ID along with an Iowa State ID; it makes it a lot easier for our students to do what all students should be able to do over in Ames."

According to Green, adding photo ID cards was a necessary step. "I can't imagine a lot of colleges of over 25,000 students that don't have student ID cards," said Green. "If there [are] people over there that aren't students, we have an idea if they have an ID. Before they could say 'I'm a student' and we would have no idea."

# Hypnotist entertains students



Photo: Eden Hinrichs

Dr. Jim Wand hypnotizes students in the Courter Center last Wednesday.

**Eden Hinrichs**  
Staff photographer

“You will not get naked!” said, entertainer and hypnotist, Dr. Jim Wand as he began his routine in the Courter Center for the SAC’s Wild Wednesday on 5 Sept.

Last year Wand came to the Boone campus to demonstrate his ability to hypnotize the crowd. Wand found time within his busy schedule of 250 performances a year to visit DMACC again this year. The performance last year had been so successful that the SAC scheduled a repeat performance for the price of \$1500.

There were twenty empty seats as the show began. 20 students filled the empty seats and got ready to be hypnotized. As the show progressed, five students left their seats to watch as their peers were hypnotized,

leaving 15 students to be hypnotized by Wand.

Wand hypnotized the group to believe that they had gone from steaming hot to freezing cold. He convinced them that it was so cold that several students banned to together to keep warm. He also made them run and kiss the celebrity of their dreams. With the wave of his hands he pulled the students back, forth, up and down. He had even made the students believe that he had no head and slowly made his other body parts disappear, horrifying the hypnotized students.

He even made people believe that they were celebrities and they lip synced to some of their greatest hits. No students were harmed during the performance, just as Wand had assured them “You will be completely aware of what’s going on you just won’t care.”

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# Cast selected for ‘You Can’t Get There From Here’

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

This semester, the DMACC drama club will perform “You Can’t Get There From Here.”

The play takes place in The Mavis Garner Bed and Breakfast, whose rooms are populated almost entirely by motorists unfortunate enough to hit the huge pothole on Main Street. The two owners, Liz and Myrtle, like to play around with the people who have to stay, but they do it with good intentions.

Arthur, a reporter, comes to town to find Pulitzer Prize winner Lillith Mansfield. During his stay he decides to do a story on the scams of the town. However, he ends up falling in love with Ann, Liz and Myrtle’s great niece.

Rehearsals for the play start on Monday, Sept. 10 and go on until the production dates on Oct. 26 and 27.

Cast in the play are Patty Rockwell as Liz, Lauren Vidimos as Myrtle, Jaci Zimmerman as Ann, Caleb Avery as Arthur, Mary Elizabeth Drahos as

the town news paper editor Queenie, Stephanie Allen as Arthur’s conniving boss Dolores Van Damm, and Jonathon Loutzenhiser as Horace McClintock, Dolores’ chief.

The set will be designed and built by Adam Smith, Heather Bassett, and Rebecca Russell. The production will be directed by Kay Mueller.

Students interested in joining the cast can contact Mueller at kemueller@dmacc.edu.

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# Enrollment up in Boone campus, Ames center



Photo: Joseph Mawien

Increased enrollment has caused many classes at DMACC to become crowded.

**Molly Lumley**  
Banner Staff Writer

Enrollment at DMACC has caused classes so large that the students are overflowing into the hallway.

According to Brian Green, Assistant Provost for the Boone campus, enrollment is up by 15 percent this semester. At the present count, there are "374 more students over the same date last year."

The final student count will come out Sept. 10 or 11. This later date is to allow students to drop out of undesired classes and get their refund, or to add new ones to their schedules.

"We get legislative funding for our final count. Students are still

dropping and adding classes. The first few weeks of class the state doesn't come in and get an official count," said Green.

"I think there are a number of different reasons for the increase. I think one thing is our student housing is very successful," said Green.

The Borgen Square Apartments provide housing for students, some who may not have transportation, and a large part of the athletes live there as well. The apartments are now at a full capacity of 132 tenants and there is a waiting list with other students who want to live there. The apartments cost \$295 per month which includes utilities, cable and wireless internet.

"If you look around Boone there's not an abundance of affordable apartments that anybody would want to live in that are in a close proximity to the college," said Green.

Green believes that students are starting to look at DMACC first before they look at other colleges.

"We used to be seen as a last choice, but I think now we are getting a much higher percent of students who are looking at us first to launch their first two years," said Green.

DMACC's lower tuition costs, one of the lower priced schools in the state, has also added to the increased in student population. "As the cost of tuition at Iowa State increases and we are able to maintain a much lower rate the economy of taking courses at DMACC, I think students see us as much more of a player in the higher education game then we maybe are used to," said Green.

"With the Ames Hunziker Center, we are increasing the number of Iowa State students who are aware of DMACC's presence. I think there are a lot of Iowa State students in the past that didn't even know there was a DMACC in Boone Iowa, just 15 miles away."

Other attractions for students include the Campus Café, now opening in the evenings from 5-7, Mon through Thurs, to provide a healthy alternative to fast food dinners to evening students. The café is currently open during the day from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Courrier Center is also open on weekends, which will provide students with a quiet atmosphere to study and wireless internet. There have been discussions about opening the library on the weekends as well.

Along with the increase of students, the Boone campus has also seen an increase in full-time faculty. There is a new psychology and sociology instructor, Sean Taylor, Mary Ann Koch, the new director of the Academic Achievement Center, and a new CET, the land surveying program, instructor, Kerry Newbanks.

"One of the college's missions is to increase the number of full-time faculty, people that we have rather than continually increasing adjunct faculty," said Green.

There has been an increase in the number of adjunct faculty. Adjunct faculty are part-time instructors; they could teach at another campus in conjunction with the Boone campus, teachers at the Ames center, or instructors for the online classes. The number of adjunct faculty has increased to around 15 this semester for a total of over 100.

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# Bears Baseball



Photo: Tim Larson

DMACC's second baseman Tyler Robbins tags his opponent out in Friday's game against North Iowa Community College. DMACC defeated NIACC 12-3.



Photo: Tim Larson

Jamie Schleifer, 5'11" freshman for the DMACC Bears, grounds the ball in last Friday's game against North Iowa Area Community College.



Photo: Tim Larson

Nathan Briscoe, 6'1" freshman for the DMACC Bears, signals to the pitcher in Friday's game against North Iowa Area Community College.



Photo: Tim Larson

DMACC's pitcher, 5'11" freshman Nathan Hilgenkamp, in mid pitch in Friday's game against North Iowa Area Community College.



Photo: Tim Larson

DMACC's Jamie Schleifer poised at the plate, ready to bat against North Iowa Area Community College.

# FALL 2007 BANNER NEWS STAFF



Alicia Chavira  
Staff Writer  
alchavira@dmacc.edu

Alicia Chavira, 19, graduated from Hubbard-Racliffe in 2007. This is her first semester at DMACC. While in high school, she was actively involved with the yearbook. In her free time, Chavira likes to shop, watch movies and chill with her nieces. Some of her favorite movies include Mean Girls and Shrek 2. As for her music preferences, Chavira says she listens to a little bit of everything, depending on her mood.



Mary Elizabeth Drahos  
Opinion Editor  
medrahos@dmacc.edu

Mary Elizabeth Drahos, 26, hopes to be the host of Passport to Europe on the Travel Channel in the future. Outside of class and work, she enjoys watching movies (with Billy Elliot and Goonies being her favorites), read, cook, clean and go running. Drahos is a self-proclaimed klutz who tends to break at least one bone a year. A few years ago, she broke a bone right in half and had to get it surgically removed since it wouldn't fuse back together.



Eden Hinrichs  
Photographer/Staff Writer  
echinrichs@dmacc.edu

Eden Hinrichs, 22, is taking 16 credits this semester. Her favorite class is literature which is fortunate since she wants to graduate with a Ph. D. in literature. After graduating, she hopes to be a teacher and travel a lot. Hinrichs openly admits she is eccentric and can sing the Star Trek theme. During her free time, she can be found reading or watching obscure horror movies such as Army of Darkness.



Tim Larson  
Executive Editor  
tslarson@dmacc.edu

Tim Larson, 26, took over as Editor-in-Chief for the Banner halfway through the fall semester of 2006. This is now his third semester leading the Banner and will be his last semester at DMACC and as Executive Editor for the Banner before transferring to a 4-year college to continue his degree. Larson is currently is majoring in Business Administration and plans to graduate in 2009ish.



Molly Lumley  
Staff Writer  
mllumley@dmacc.edu

Molly Lumley, 19, keeps pretty busy during the semester since she is taking 18 credits. When she does have free time, she likes to spend it taking walks, reading or hanging out with her friends. In the future she wants to graduate with a journalism degree and wants to write for a newspaper. One unique thing about Lumley is she really is 6'4" but she just keeps it all hidden in her shoes.



Joe Mawien  
Photographer  
jmmawien@dmacc.edu

Joe Mawien, 22, is a criminal justice major who plans to graduate in 2008. Mawien came from Sudan 6 years ago, and hopes to go on to Iowa State after graduating from DMACC. He lists R&B as his favorite music, while his favorite movie is Save the Last Dance. Since he is taking 18 credits this semester, Mawien doesn't have a whole lot of free time. When he does, though, he likes to play football or eat pizza.



Jason Munday  
Layout & Design Editor  
jamunday@dmacc.edu

Jason Munday, 23, is an Ames native and a second year DMACC student who plans on transferring to Iowa State University for fall semester of 2008 and finishing there in spring 2010. Being a non-traditional student and musician, Munday has been signed to two different record labels, been on MTV, has music on iTunes, and has been traveled to places like Toronto, London, and Nairobi. Also, he is overly addicted to Lost and The Office.



Jessi Smith  
Managing Editor  
jksmith10@dmacc.edu

Jessi Smith, 20, is a very talented person who can read upside down and write backwards. She is also in her second semester in DMACC and writing for the Banner. Smith would recommend being on the Banner staff because it is a fun-oriented place for motivated people. Some of Smith's favorite things include Chinese food, Dr. Pepper, '90s garage grunge bands (such as 311 and Cake) and the movie SLC Punk.

## What was your most memorable summer accomplishment?



"I moved out and got some new roommates."

-Caroline Meyer



"Ron Paul bought me lunch and a beer."

-Campbell Desousa



"I went swimming in Ames."

-Jane Chen



"Being on the river. I went wake boarding."

-Max Dotson

# Tattoos with Keevan River Rompers to clean up Boone area



Photo: Mary Elizabeth Drahos

Tattoo artist Keevan Verkerke providing his service to students in the Courter Center for the Boone Campus' first Wild Wednesday.

**Jessi Smith**  
Managing Editor

The first of many Wild Wednesdays of the year kicked off on Aug. 29 with "Totally Tattoos" with Keevan Verkerke, hosted by the Student Activities Council.

Verkerke, of The Smith Agency, was airbrushing tattoos in the Courter Center for many willing participants. Verkerke came with several brightly colored air brush paints and a case of stencils to choose from. Students got a variety of different air brush tattoos from barcodes to four leafed clovers, to rock star portraits of Jim Morrison. "It only takes a minute to dry," said student Kim Shultz.

"They come off with rubbing alcohol. It's really easy. They can stay on for a few days," said Verkerke.

"The SAC booked this through this agency [The Smith Agency] and the agency sent me here," said Verkerke as he pointed to his TSA shirt, "This is my third year of airbrushing tattoos. My goal is to do as many tattoos as possible."

The tattoo exhibit attracted not only the students who had free time in the Courter Center, students were making time

to stop by. "We just decided to come down here between classes," said DMACC student Brooke Wagester. Students swarmed Verkerke's makeshift airbrush tattoo shop table to get the colorful tattoos. "Everybody likes tattoos," said student Kelly Brant.

"It looks like a lot of fun," said student Marcy Bernholtz as she picked out her stencil.

"I talked to my roommate, who was doing a wax hand exhibit, and he told me about airbrushing. I put in an application and they sent me to Virginia. I've been doing it ever since. I get to travel even as far as New Mexico," said Verkerke about his experience in airbrushing.

"I get to go to Florida in January to airbrush. I like to get away from the snow. I get to visit my family when I go out to airbrush," said Verkerke.

"The price ranges anywhere between \$650 to \$2000. It depends on the program, the show, and the dates you're looking for," said Bill Smith, representative from The Smith Agency. DMACC paid The Smith Agency \$800 to send Verkerke and his airbrushing skills to the campus.

**Eden Hinrichs**  
Staff photographer

The second annual Dragoon River Romp project is underway and looking for volunteers to help clean up the Des Moines River.

In 2006 the first annual Dragoon River Romp was supported by over 130 volunteers and collected 6,320 lbs of garbage. 3,760 pounds of that garbage was then recycled. Despite the poor weather last year, participants cleaned a 12 mile area of the Des Moines River.

This year the River Rompers will be divided into two groups that will meet at Seven Oaks. The first group, the Paddlers, will arrive at Seven Oaks at 7:30 a.m. They will be cleaning trash out of the river its self. The second group, the Land Lovers, will arrive at 8 a.m. to prepare for the official start time of 8:30 a.m. This will be an all day event that will end at 5 p.m.

There will be an awards

banquet and buffet meal after the cleaning. At the end of the night the band Obsidian Dreams will play while the River Rompers celebrate their completed project.

Shortly after the first River Romp project was established plans for a second River Romp began promptly. "Our main goal is to clean up the river and recycle as much of the trash as we can," said Amy Lakin, a coordinator for the River Romp. With over 200 volunteers all ready, the coordinators of this project plan to extend the clean up farther south this year.

Many volunteers are still needed and space is still available. The last date for registration is Sept. 14 For registration details please contact Lois Powers via email, [kbc@boonelandfill.org](mailto:kbc@boonelandfill.org). "We would like to be able to educate everyone on the importance of keeping our community clean so maybe year after year we will not have to pull as much trash out of the river," said Powers.

## REZOOMERS CLUB TO HOLD FIRST MEETING

If you're an adult student coming back to school, consider joining the Rezoomers Club. This is an informal campus organization available to all adult students (those who are returning to formal education after being away for two to 20 years or more).

The purpose of the Rezoomers Club is to provide support to adults who are resuming their educations. The lunch meetings provide the opportunity to share information and make new friends. Short programs of interest to the group are presented during the year.

You can "brown bag it" or buy lunch at the Campus Café. You can also come and go as your schedule permits. Starting back to school can be a little scary, and talking with those who are feeling the same way or talking with those "who have been there, done that" can help.

The first meeting of the semester will be held Monday, October 1 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Courter Student Center. Come check out the Rezoomers Club. Contact Maggie Stone in Room 124 if you have questions.

## DMACC BOONE CAMPUS HOSTS CONSTITUTION DAY EVENTS

Thomas Jefferson personator Steven Edenbo will make two free presentations at the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Boone Campus as part of Constitution Day, Sept. 17.

Edenbo will remain in character as Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, throughout his presentations. The first will be from 9:05 to 10 a.m. in Room 117 on the DMACC Boone Campus and will be sent via the Iowa Communications Network to other DMACC campuses. The

final presentation will be from 11:15 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. in the Boone Campus Auditorium.

For the past eight years, Edenbo has given new life to Thomas Jefferson. Edenbo regularly brings his portrayal of Jefferson to The National Archives in Washington, D.C., as well as at Independence Hall, at Declaration House and in Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia.

All DMACC Constitution Day events are free and open to the public.

**First Amendment  
Freedom of Religion**

Des Moines Area Community College

**Debate**

**Should the "Wall of Separation"  
Be Built Up or Torn Down?**

moderated by  
KCCI-TV's Marcus McIntosh

**SPEAKERS**

Chuck Hurley, J.D.  
President, Iowa Family Policy Center

Connie Ryan Terrell  
Executive Director,  
Interfaith Alliance of Iowa  
and Action Fund

Boone Campus, Room 117  
10:15 am

**Constitution  
Day**

September 17  
9am – 1 pm

"... and Secure the Blessings  
of Liberty for Ourselves and our Posterity"



# That's right, I am a superstar



**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

For all of my life, I have always wanted to be a star. I wanted to be known around the playground but never had the chance to shine.

This summer, that all changed. You are now reading the column of that-one-girl-in-the-Better-Business-Bureau-commercial, aka the-'Baby-Got-Back'-karaoke-girl-in-Ankeny.

Yes, I know. Try to contain yourselves. It is a pretty big accomplishment for me to be known as that one girl. The one where you have no idea who she is or what her name is, but you have seen here *somewhere*.

Maybe I should describe how I became so widely known.

It all started at a graduation party. I had a few beers and decided that maybe I should try to sing karaoke. I picked the charming, yet heartbreaking song of "Baby Got Back." It took me a good 26 years to finally rock the mike, but rock the mike I did.

The first time singing it, I was a little rusty. But realizing karaoke was held 3 nights of the week at a bar close to my house, I got in a lot of practice. By the

end of the summer, the DJ would see me and call me right up there.

That's right, I had so much A-list star power that I got moved to the *head* of the list and I didn't even need to fill out one of those little slip things.

But nothing could have prepared me for what happened next.

After a hard night of rocking the mike, I was wanting to sleep in and lounge around in my pjs when I got a call asking me to be in a commercial. Of course I said yes. I have always wanted to be on TV.

Don't think it is that easy to get into a commercial, though. I didn't go the typical route such as auditioning through the TV stations nor did I have an agent. I went the other route; I rubbed noses with the casting director/photographer.

Before anyone gets their panties in a twist, it's not what you think. I was dating this guy off and on for two years before he even mentioned needing me in the commercial.

I had great perks, though, I must say that. First off, I got to waste my own gas to drive down to Des Moines. Then, I didn't even get paid. Oh, and even better, I got to break if off with him afterwards (okay, that actually *was* a perk).

Anyway, that day, I got a text at 10:30 a.m. asking where I was. When I told him I was in bed, he told me to hurry up and get ready because he needed me for a part at noon. After the quickest shower ever I hurried down to the studio.

At the studio, he started setting me up when I asked the smartest question an actor could

ever ask: what's my motivation?

After looking at me bewildered for a second he called me an idiot. Then he said, "okay, your motivation is you are opening an envelope." I had to dig down deep to find that within my thespian soul, but I did. And I must say, I opened that envelope with gusto.

My whole experience as a professional actress totaled about 7½ minutes, but it was perhaps the most rewarding 7½ minutes of my life.

But now, because of my celebrity status, I decided to change a few things about my life. I only drink one kind of water (the wet kind), I refuse to do anything I don't want to do (unless you threaten to fire me, then I will work my ass off), and I insist that no one looks me in the face (ok, look at me all you want. I like it).

I know that may alienate some of you 'common folk' out there, but I don't care. I am a superstar.

## Breaking Up

By Mary Elizabeth Drahos

Lying in bed alone  
thinking deep dark  
thoughts  
stomach is queasy  
because it seemed so easy  
to fall in love with you  
but now we are apart  
and i am crying out my  
broken heart  
while lying on my bed  
thinking about my  
deep... dark... doom

# Ok, so I had a bad day

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

It is my first day off in weeks, but you couldn't tell by the way I looked.

Due to my allergies, I only had about 2 hours of sleep. Adding that to the thousands of hours I've been working for the past while, I *knew* I looked (and felt) like hell. It took me about half-an-hour just to get dressed because I wanted to make myself look as thin as possible.

I started to feel halfway decent about myself until I walked by the new artwork in the DMACC hallways. At first, I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary. But after one of my friends brought it to my attention, I gave it a second glance. After looking closely at it for a few minutes, I absent-mindedly started adjusting my shirt.

The artwork can be described as a 'twisted model view of perfection.' It has four ladders with four people on them. But these people are all thin, cute, model kids that have characteristics that seem to look very Anglo-Saxon.

Maybe it is just me, but if I was trying to make cool-looking artwork for a college, I would make sure to represent all the people who come to that college. All of us aren't skinny, white, and cute.

For many years, DMACC has

been becoming a melting pot of students. When logging on to the main website, you can't help but notice the pictures of many different types of people displayed on the DMACC site. So why can't that extend to the artwork? Why couldn't there have been people that were different races or, God forbid, one with a body that isn't a twig?

Am I the only one who feels this way? Am I the only one that feels slightly bad about having a normal body? When I'm trucking my Sicilian ass past a poster (or in this case, artwork) I don't want to be reminded that I'm not a blonde-haired, blue-eyed, small-assed perfect person.

I know an argument for the race side can be that they are all blue and purple, but they didn't even try to make them have different characteristics. Why can't there be a difference in the hair styles or anything to be able to tell that they are not just Caucasian?

Don't get me wrong, I really love artwork. I love the fact that DMACC finally has artwork in the building. It does have beautiful colors, and it is something that catches the eye while walking by. But next time, please practice what you preach. If you're trying to make students feel welcome and promote equality, that should extend to everything that is associated with the college, even its artwork.

## EDITORIAL

In an age when the general population has virtually the entire cannon of human knowledge available to them, why are we all so dumb? We live in such a painfully stupid society, it's a wonder we maintain our cultural dominance in the world. After three weeks of class, many students haven't even cracked a book. Not only have these students not read a single word from their textbooks, but they brag about that accomplishment.

Stupidity is not a virtue, nor should it be termed vice; it is more on the order of a disease. Like any other disease, stupidity, if unchecked will ravage its host, ultimately killing it. Like many other diseases, stupidity is transferred by coming into close contact with an infected person.

Once a person has become infected, stupidity begins to break down the individual's ability to differentiate between issues of importance and mere drivel. It is at this point that the symptoms of stupidity start to present. Those infected with stupidity will develop an affinity for bands with no discernible talent. Notably, Nickleback, Kid Rock, Puddle of Mudd, Seether and basically any other band on Wind Up Records.

As the disease spreads, infected persons will begin to present inclinations toward celebrity gossip. At this stage the individual feels that the inability of certain young starlets (you know who you are) to remember to put on panties is somehow a matter of national importance. At this point the subject has little or no cognitive function remaining, to say nothing of conversational ability.

The final stage of stupidity will present as arrogance about and pride in the totality of one's own vapidty. By completely releasing logic and reason, the subject now believes that he/she is superior to those who can read an entire page of text without suffering a brain hemorrhage. The ability of the idiot to walk upright remains something of a fascination for scholars. While this ability is not fully understood, it may simply be the most advantageous position for texting.

In all seriousness, I know that stupid people don't read, and they especially don't read the Banner. That fact alone makes the whole process of writing this editorial seem to be a wasted effort. For those of you who do read this, you would be well served to share the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with your stupid friends. "Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."

## Chemical Reactions

By Jessi Smith

There is anarchy between us  
and it fills us with pride  
Abominations from a lost nation that died  
There is no mission to accomplish  
no prophecy to fulfill  
so we waste our time breathing pollution  
from the skies  
The chemicals demote  
any sense of hope that remained  
as you offer up your last sacrifice  
We have failed all their demands  
and they are taking action  
Your gods have been proven false  
so why waste your time in prayer?  
There's a lesser god that rules  
all we've come to deem worthy  
Bombs are crashing from the sky  
yet we do not stay inside  
There is blasphemy yet to be seen  
These chemical combustions  
that rule our lives  
have been watered down  
You are a placebo

# COURTIER CENTER STUDY GUIDE

Date: 09/17/07

Time: 9:05am - 10:00am

Location: Rm. 117 (S&N Room)

Time: 11:15am - 12:10pm

Location: Theatre

## Constitution Day



Have you ever wondered what it might be like if our founding fathers and mothers could step off the pages of history books, come down from their monuments, and speak with us? Come meet Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence.

*All are welcomed to attend this free event.*

DES MOINES AREA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1125 Hancock Drive  
Boone, Iowa

Contact: Rita Davenport  
Phone: 515-433-5030

E-mail: rldavenport@dmacc.edu

Sponsored by Boone Campus SAC, Library,  
Banner, and Student Services

## Horoscopes

Eden Hinrichs

**Aquarius:** This month is definitely your month. You're calm, focused and ready to take on the world but beware of adverse circumstances concerning loved ones. This issue may put a damper on your focus but it will help in the long run.

**Pieces:** Your inexplicable mood swings are the result of having way too many issues happening at once. Try to narrow down what goes and what stays or else you will be crushed under the pressure.

**Aries:** You're full of confidence and energy but don't let it get to your head. Remember to watch your mouth it may cost you friends in the long run. Arrogance is your greatest weakness.

**Gemini:** Your duality will come in handy when you are faced with a big decision. It helps to look at both sides with a plate, rather than believing what you want.

**Taurus:** Bull headed nature kicks in to full gear when you finally realize what you want. But what you want might not always be the best idea long term. Take some time to think about things before you jump in with both horns blazing.

**Cancer:** Watch out for things too good to be true. Some one may try to squeeze some money out of you for all the wrong reasons. What may seem like good will is actually problematic.

**Leo:** Fortune will shine for you as all your hard work is finally paying off. Keep focused and the world will be yours.

**Virgo:** Your self centered nature will clearly be abundant when you fail on a friend. Look for the signs the might not be crying wolf.

**Libra:** Feeling low? It's time to get out and do what you do best to get rid of that gloom. Get out and socialize! People miss you and it time to crawl out of the shell.

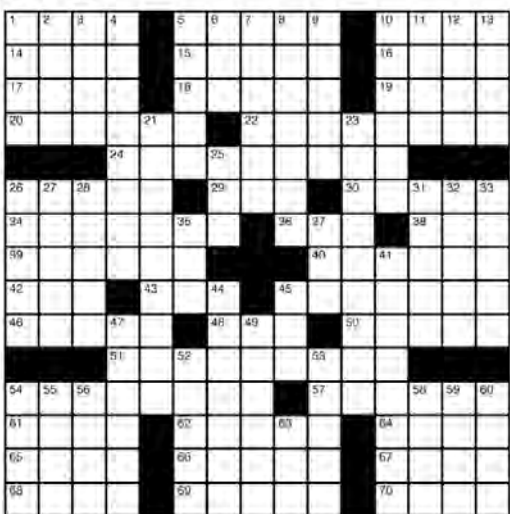
**Scorpio:** Think twice about diving into a relationship that look like it may have its down side. Carefully weigh the pros and cons before heading face first into an adverse situation.

**Sagittarius:** No one likes for their parade to be rained on. Even though you are overjoyed and content with life but don't rub it in a persons face who is down in the dumps. All they need is for you to listen to them.

**Capricorn:** Good luck is on your trail! Tread wisely because if you miss this opportunity it might not come for a long time.

## Crossword

- ACROSS
- Actor Guinness
  - New Guinea
  - Italian sauce
  - Corpse
  - Become violent
  - Building wings
  - Secret retreat
  - To the point
  - Putting face
  - Tempt
  - Metabolic disorder
  - Canary Islands city
  - "The Seven Year Itch" star Tom
  - Cry of discovery
  - The Forbidden City
  - Out of the rat race
  - Org. of Giants
  - Hot spring
  - B-complex component
  - Spring holy day
  - Ovum
  - Links grp.
  - Muddling
  - Valentino role
  - Permission word
  - Our world
  - Pennsylvania city
  - Black-and-white game
  - Revolves around
  - Bowls over
  - Metric units
  - Asian sea
  - Actress Russo
  - English race course
  - Brief message
  - Cuts short
  - Wineglass features
  - Do beaver's work
- DOWN
- Up to it
  - Bank offering
  - Correct text
  - In the Russian alphabet
  - Rose and Sampras
  - Metric measure
  - Muslim sex segregation
  - Greek letter
  - Peppard's TV group
  - Interlock anew
  - Heaps
  - Sticking stuff
  - Applications
  - Ironman of the Orioles
  - Crooner
  - School of whales
  - Ocean raptors
  - Use a scale
  - French floor
  - Moving about
  - All done in
  - Cultural scream
  - E.S.L. part
  - Govt. agent
  - With force and much noise
  - Massachusetts college
  - Vote for
  - Sacred Egyptian birds
  - Lorraine
  - Forum fashions
  - Party-givers
  - Act boldly
  - Writer Wister
  - Fix
  - Remove wrinkles
  - Casual farewell
  - Offed
  - Pop's partner



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9/15/07

### Solutions



Words of Wisdom:  
Nothing can be learned through an open mouth.



## BOONE CAMPUS BOOK OF THE MONTH!

"THE TORTILLA CURTAIN" is the book to read for discussion in the DMACC Library on the Boone campus.

When: Thursday, Sept. 27  
Time: 12:40 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.  
Where: Room 222C

Free PIZZA provided!

Review:

"This highly engaging story subtly plays on our consciences, forcing us to form, confirm, or dispute social, political, and moral viewpoints. This is a profound and tragic tale, one that exposes not only a failed American Dream, but failing America." *Booklist*