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## Banner News

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## Bears win NJCAA Regional Championship Advance to Nationals



Photo: Joseph Maduol

Members of the DMACC Bears basketball team pose with their trophies after defeating Kirkwood 66-44 in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Region XI championship game on Mar. 13. Pictured are (from back left) Jesse Blackwell, Grant Burns, Eric Ver Helst, Cy Wynn, Rico Gillespie, Joey Terpstra, John E. Holmes, Francois Harrison, Clayton Weber, Rodney Grace, Dusko Stojnich, Ashton Sauls, Brent Jackman, J'Sean Gaddy.

**Quintez Gillespie**  
*Banner Sports Writer*

The Men's Bears played on the road March 13 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They faced the Kirkwood Eagles for the NJCCA Division II Region XI Championship. In the Bears' and Eagles' first meeting, The Eagles snapped the Bears' 15 game winning streak; their next encounter was for all the marbles, a trip to nationals. But the Eagles were not so successful.

The DMACC Bears packed up and got on the bus in search of Danville, Ill.

The Bears would face the Mott Community College Bears. DMACC Bears came out pumped up, but it seemed like all the pumped players were on the bench. DMACC's Jesse Blackwell ended the game with 12 points off the bench. DMACC was running in quicksand after Mott jumped out to a 10-6

lead. Rob Giles of Mott hit consecutive threes after Ashton Sauls knocked down his free throws 13-6.

"They came out more aggressive than us" said John Holmes, Bears forward, who did not play like himself. The Bears missed 9 of Holmes average 15 points. The Bears went in to the locker room with heads down trailing 40-34.

After 20 minutes of play and 15 more minutes of half time, DMACC still didn't have a spark of energy that they needed. This spark would come in the form of a powerful 6'10" center Dusko Stojnich.

Stojnich came in with a nice athletic post move for the sky hook. "I knew I had to do something. Coach put me in the game, and I was the biggest guy on the court, so I got it done," said Stojnich. Maybe it was just a shock because the Bears turned the ball over on their next

possession. DMACC's turnovers continued and Mott continued converting off them all the way to the end. The final score was 69-55.

DMACC's loss brought them to the losers' bracket where they would face the South Suburban Bulldogs. In the Bears' last day in Danville, they were competing for 7<sup>th</sup> place. The early game and small crowd did not put much stress on the already loose Bears.

DMACC jumped out to an early lead 7-0 when they took a 30 second time out. The Bulldogs struck back and cut the lead down six points 15-9. DMACC built an 8 point lead when John Holmes and J'Sean Gaddy hit back to back threes. The Bears finally got rolling in this tournament and had the lead 29-15 with less than three minutes left in the half. Bulldogs held DMACC to a couple stops and converted, cutting DMACC's halftime lead to 32-23.

The Bulldogs must have had a good talking to in the locker room because when they came out of the locker room it was their half. At the 15:00 minute mark the Bears had let the Bulldogs cut the lead to 38-33. The Bears couldn't get anything going. Grant Burns hit a free throw to tie the game back up with 1:41 left on the clock. Burns jacked up a three after the Bulldogs used their whole shot clock, Burns three was no good but Holmes was fouled on the rebound. Another DMACC turnover lead to another Bulldog lay-up.

One more DMACC turnover and the game was thrown away by the Bears after they had the lead most of the game. The final score was 64-58 putting the Bears in 8<sup>th</sup> place for the Division II National Junior College Basketball Tournament.

## Boone Campus students place at PBL competition

Several Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Boone Campus students were place winners at the 61st annual Iowa Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) State Leadership Conference recently held at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

Sheila Bergman of Ames received a first place in the Payroll Accounting, Financial Analysis and Decision Making categories and a third place in the Accounting Principles event.

Adam Conzemius of Ames received a first place in the Business Decision Making category, a second place in Impromptu Speaking and a third place in the Business Graphics event.

Katy Farlow of Ames earned a first place in the Accounting Principles and Business Math categories.

Vicki Spears of Ogden earned a first place in the Applied Business Knowledge category, a first in the Business Decision Making event and a first in the Business Law category.

George Cyr of Grand Junction received a second place in the Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda category.

Trina Bishop of Boone received a third place in the Computer Concepts category and a fourth place in the Computer Applications event.

Joni Rentschler of Boone earned a third place in the Computer Applications category and a third place in the Job Interviewing event.

The DMACC Boone Chapter received the first place award for having the largest chapter in the state and a first place in the Community Service Project category. Students who finished in first or second place in their events can travel to Chicago to compete at the PBL National Leadership Conference in June.

For more information, contact PBL Advisor Linda Plueger at 433-5080.



# DMACC Students selected for All Iowa Academic Team

Mary Elizabeth Drahos  
Opinion Editor

Recently, Pamela Holt and Hannah Blum, students from Boone were selected for the 2007 All Iowa Academic Team.

Eligibility requirements for this program are strict. Students must have a GPA of 3.25 or above for all class work done in the past five years. Also, students have to be on track to earning either an Associates or Bachelors degree. A minimum of 45 credits must have been earned Dec 31, 2006, and 53 credits by Aug 31, 2007. Requirements also state the student must not have been nominated for the All-USA Academic team before and their college record must be free of suspension, probation, or any disciplinary actions. Finally, the students must have full citizenship in their country.

Every community college has the opportunity to nominate two students from their campus. The selected nominees then must write an essay and complete an award application that highlights what they do for their school and for their community.

Their applications are then sent to the honor society headquarters where they are judged to determine if they are eligible for the All Iowa Academic Team. If they are eligible, they will be selected as representatives and be eligible to receive numerous scholarships for different colleges around the area.

Pamela Holt, one of the winners, was really excited about getting the award. "To me [the award is about] recognition of leadership, scholarship,

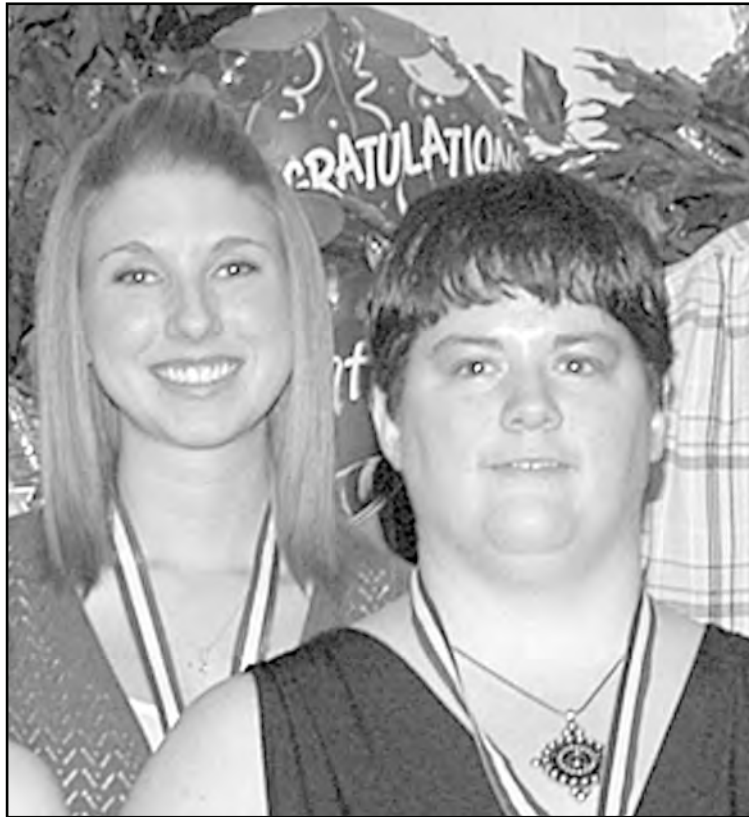


Photo: Contributed

**Students Hannah Blum (left) and Pamela Holt (right) recieved All Iowa Academic Team honors. Both Blum and Holt are Phi Theta Kappa members.**

service [which is] community involvement, and fellowship... This award recognizes the efforts that the team members have made to serve in the community, help others, share life, and still get good grades."

Scholarships now available to Holt and Blum include \$1500 for University of Iowa or Simpson College, \$10,000 for Texas A&M, or even \$15,000 for Cornell College.

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# DMACC expands nursing department



Photo: Contributed

**DMACC nursing students attend a lecture at the State Capital building. DMACC boasts one of the state's premier nursing programs.**

Steve Fisher  
Banner Staff Writer

With a new expansion in the nursing department and a nationwide shortage of nurses, DMACC is helping to quell the acute shortage by training quality individuals.

DMACC has recently expanded the nursing department giving future nurses greater opportunity to succeed in the work force with increased lab sizes and more computers. This, mixed with hands on training at local hospitals, creates students who are ready to enter the field with a quality degree and great experience.

The nursing program has a waiting list nearly a year long. Each semester 24 nursing students are admitted into the program. With small class sizes students are given great opportunity to learn. With a total of 24 computers each nursing student now has access to their own computer in the class room. Increased lab space helps students work easier and more efficiently.

There are two levels of nursing programs offered at DMACC; Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and a Registered Nurse (RN). An LPN can make about \$30,000 out of college and an RN can generally make around \$40,000. These are the averages depending on what part of the country, and the demand in the area, whether it is the city or a rural area.

For students who want to enter the field with an LPN degree, it enables them to work with patients but under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician. Students also learn problem solving skills and nursing judgment to perform basic nursing tasks.

A Registered Nurse can work on his or her own, but this involves more responsibility and higher skill level. Keeping detailed records and communicating with patients with a variety of health care situations is also in the job description.

The hands on training nurses receive is real life training, directly related to the field. "One to two days a week clinical rotations are done at local hospitals, where practicing nurses who are under supervision actually take care of patients" says Vicki Imerman, associate nursing professor at DMACC for the past four years.

DMACC has consistently had high board passage rates which makes DMACC one of the premier schools in the area. "In this program students actually come to class, they have to want to be here to pass" said Connie Booth.

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# Housewife Convicted of Frying Husband

**Stan Lehman**  
Associated Press Writer

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) -- A Brazilian housewife was convicted and sentenced to 19 years in prison Friday for killing her husband, chopping his body into small pieces and frying it. Rosanita Nery dos Santos, 52, drugged her husband in his sleep, then stabbed him to death two years ago in Salvador, about 900 miles northeast of Sao Paulo, said police spokesman Idmar Bonfim.

She then hacked Jose Raimundo Soares dos Santos' body into more than 100 pieces, which she boiled and fried before hiding in plastic bags beneath a staircase in her house, Bonfim said. He said police discovered the body parts after receiving an anonymous phone call.

Bonfim said the killing was either part of a black magic ritual or an attempt by the wife to collect life insurance worth about \$34,000.

Citing testimony from the woman's relatives, he said she may also have

committed the crime "to avenge many years of humiliation from her husband." He did not provide further details.

Santos denied killing her husband but said she chopped up his body, Bonfim said.

"She claims masked assailants entered her house, killed her husband and then forced her to cut up the body and fry it because that would prevent the stench of a decomposing body from alerting neighbors," he said.

# Dietnation.com can bring back beach body

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

With swimsuit season coming closer and closer, it is not uncommon for students to start diets and get in shape. Little do they know that some of those 'fad diets' don't even help.

Dietnation.com, a website devoted to helping people stay fit, have broken down 75 different diets, and whether or not they actually help. They also give advice on how to make the transition from crash dieting, to changing your eating habits and lifestyle.

Diet myths are especially troublesome; on the site they nail down false rumors such as 'carbs are bad' or 'you can lose weight without exercising.' One of the most interesting myths is supposedly healthy food that is fattening.

Salad dressing tops off the list. Normally, one will eat salad with good intentions. All the vegetables are good for you and have great nutrients. However, that is all destroyed once salad dressing is poured all over it. Dietnation.com suggests using diet dressing, but only if it is on the side and the salad is dipped in it.

Rice cakes were next in line. They are extremely high on the Glycemic Index-meaning they make your blood sugar increase quickly. Because of that, they make you feel hungry again right away. Also, anyone who has actually eaten a rice cake knows they taste like flavored Styrofoam.

Frozen yogurt, although better than actual ice cream, is overloaded with sugar that can cause the pounds to pack on if overeaten. Dietnation.com suggests eating this only in moderation.

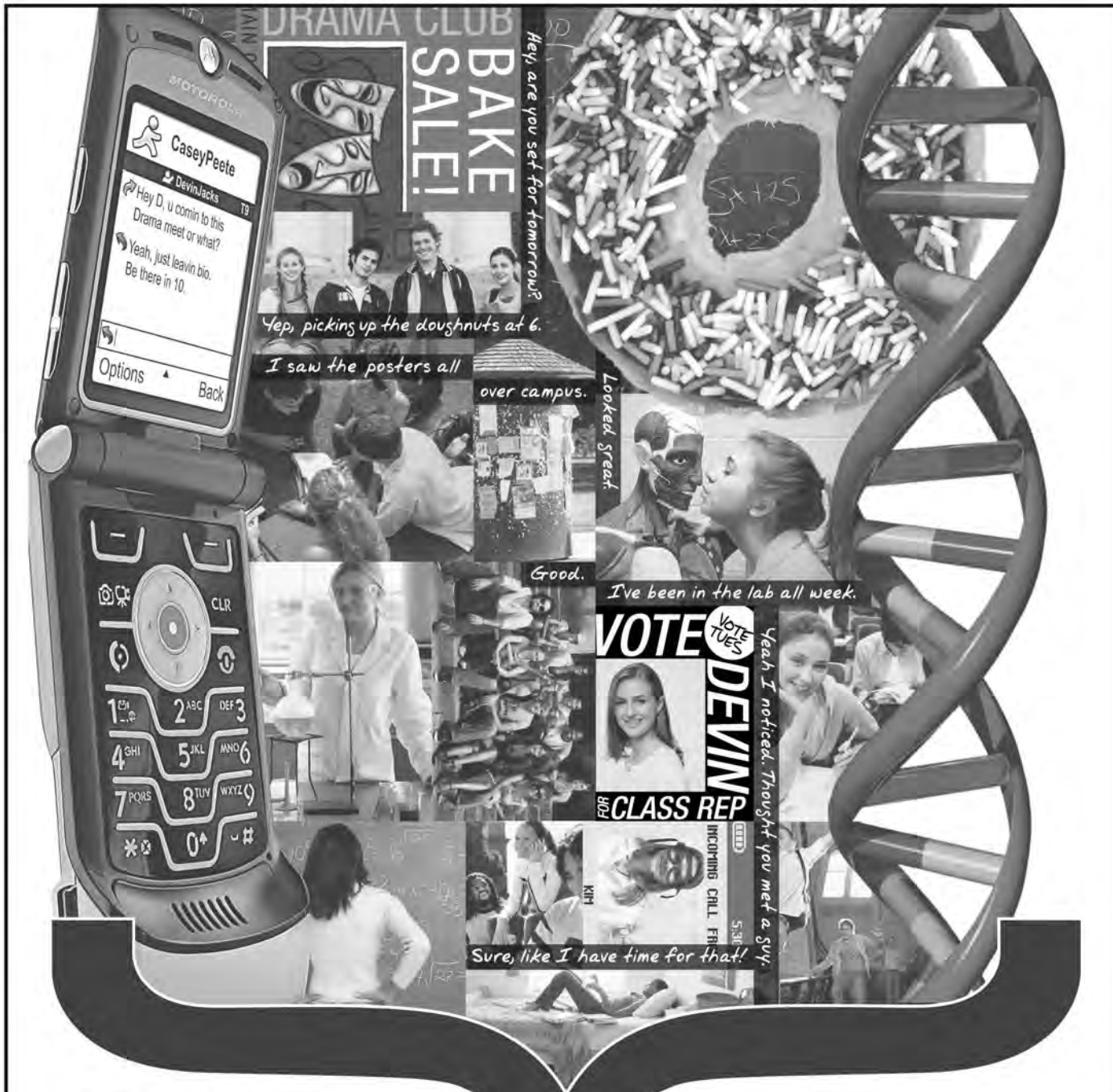
Prepackaged frozen diet meals are also a scam in disguise. Although they are low in fat and calories, they are so entirely small that they don't even fill you up. They also have lots of sodium and preservatives. It is better to make your own healthy meals in advance, then freeze them. That way you save time later.

Protein bars and meal replacement shakes are all over bad. They are high in calories and preservatives and cost a lot of money. Instead of trying to replace meals with those, eat real food. You will save money and cut back on calories.

Granola, although praised for being healthy, really isn't. They are high in fat and calories, even in small enough servings.

Juice has lots of nutrients, especially real fruit juice, however they are extremely high in sugar making it bad for you. Instead of drinking juice, eat an apple or orange. If it is thirst-quenching you are after, try water flavored with lemon juice; it is a lot better for you.

For more information visit [www.dietnation.com](http://www.dietnation.com).



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**Jokes:**

- Tommy- " Can you teach me to do the splits?"
- Gym Instructor- " How flexible are you?"
- Tommy- " Well..I can't make Tuesday's."
- Why do farts stink?
- --So deaf people can enjoy them too.
- A Woman in a store buys milk and bread.
- Man at counter: "Bet you're single".
- Woman: "Yes! You knew it because of what I bought?"
- Man: "No, you're just ugly".
- A wife asked her husband: "What do you like most in me, my pretty face or my sexy body?"
- He looked at her from head to toe and replied: "your sense of humor".

# SUDOKU

	9	8				1	3	
			8		2			
6	1			3			2	5
		6	7		5	4		
9								2
		1	3		8	6		
7	6			8			4	3
			9		3			
	3	4				5	1	

DIFFICULTY: MEDIUM

courtesy of www.sudoku-puzzles.net

To play Sudoku, enter the digits 1-9 in each cell of the 9x9 grid until every region (3x3 grid), row, and column contains only one appearance of each digit.

Answer to this week's puzzle:

9	1	5	6	7	2	4	3	8
8	9	7	3	4	6	2	5	1
3	4	2	1	8	5	9	6	7
7	5	9	8	9	3	1	2	4
2	8	3	4	6	1	5	7	9
1	9	4	5	2	7	6	8	3
5	2	8	9	3	4	7	1	6
6	7	9	2	1	8	3	4	5
4	3	1	7	5	7	1	3	4

## WORD FIND

S N I S E I R A G E M I N I  
 U H R E L B A T U M A V P E  
 I S M O T E N U T P E N L U  
 R S E S C L S D N I E S U S  
 A U R D R I I U T O U H T U  
 U N C W E A R B N I O M O R  
 Q A U A A C M P R E C M N U  
 A R R T J T A A A V O R A  
 T U Y E E U T N R C G I U T  
 E R Y R O T P D C R U P T F  
 S E C S I P I I I E F R A I  
 U S O G I N R V T I R O S X  
 O H A E A R T H R E A C V E  
 H S E L L N O E A I R S T D

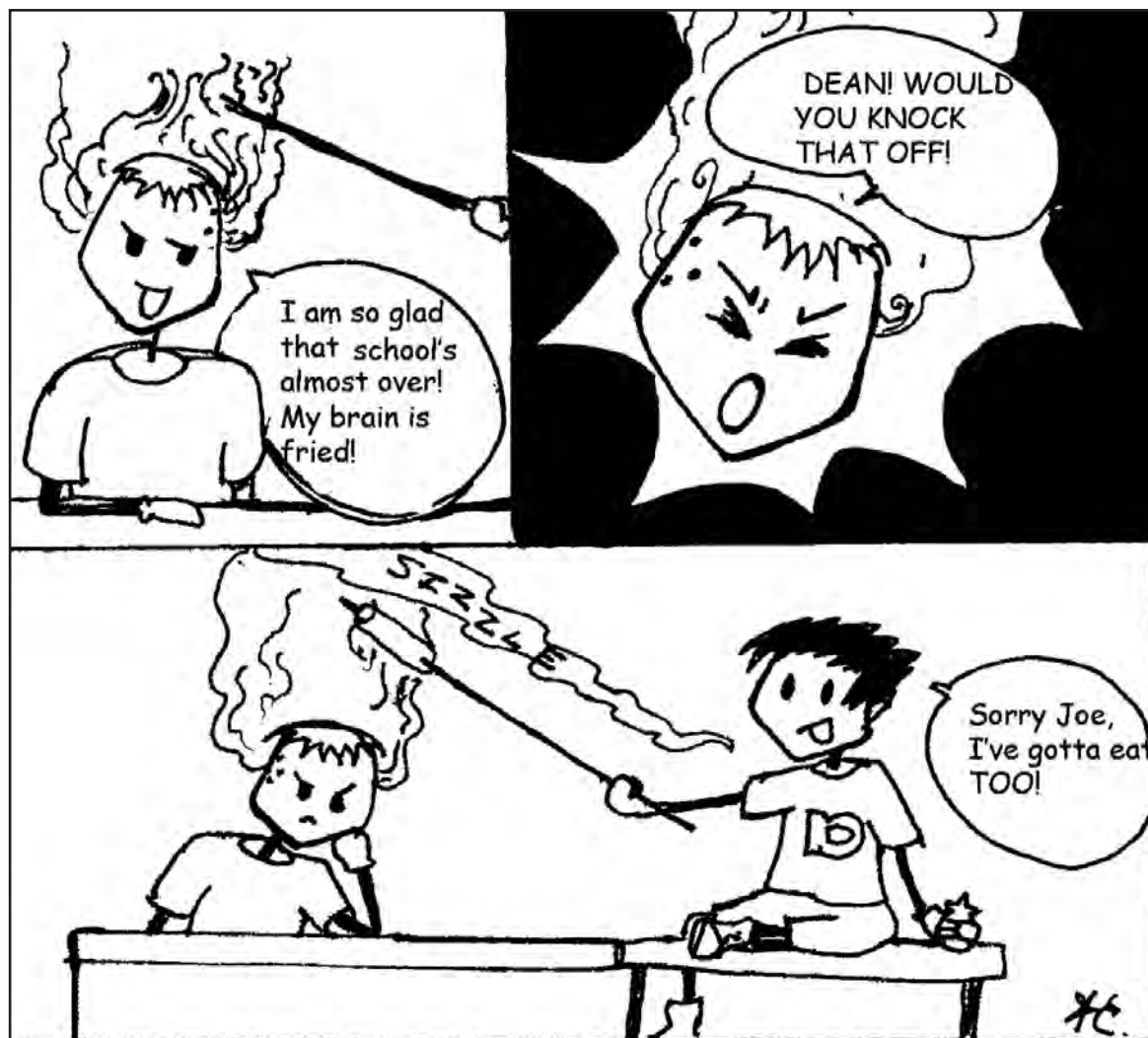
## A NICKEL'S WORTH OF FREE ADVICE:

Keep expectations low to avoid disappointment.

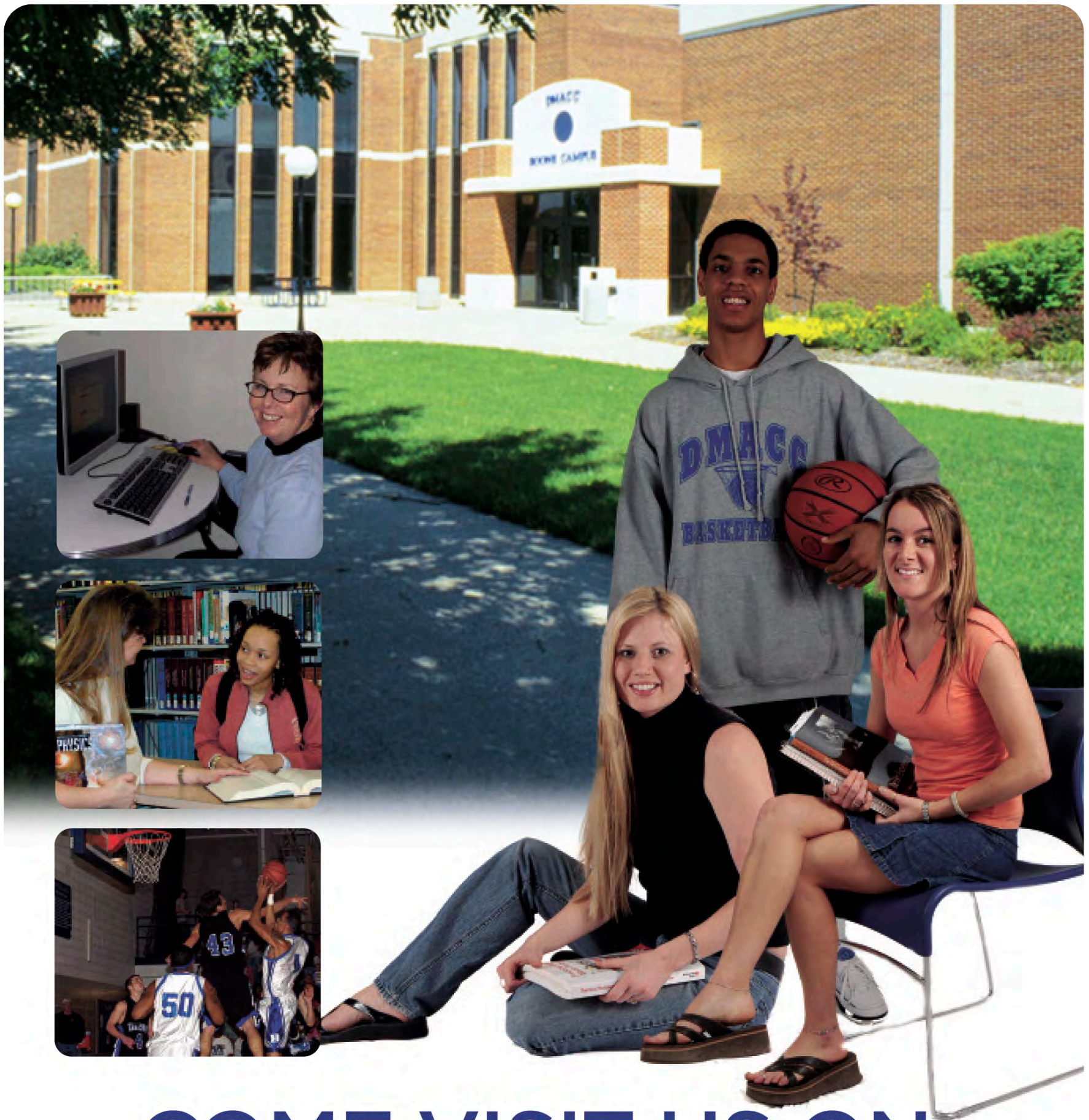
# JOE'S WORLD

BY EDEN HINRICHS

- AIR
- AQUARIUS
- ARIES
- CANCER
- CAPRICORN
- CARDINAL
- EARTH
- FIRE
- FIXED
- GEMINI
- HOUSE
- JUPITER
- LEO
- LIBRA
- MARS
- MERCURY
- MOON
- MUTABLE
- NEPTUNE
- PISCES PLUTO
- SAGITTARIUS
- SATURN
- SCORPIO
- TAURUS
- URANUS
- VENUS
- VIRGO
- WATER



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# Jackson revisits DMACC

**Quinntez Gillespie**  
Banner Sports Writer

Jamal Jackson number 12 of the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 DMACC Men's Basketball team came back to an oh-so familiar place to re-live a rivalry in which his team went 2-1 against the Kirkwood Eagles.

Jackson who is now in the All-Time DMACC Bears Men's Basketball Records, with 178 steals in his two year career, and the record of 92 steals in his second season.

Jackson went on to Siena College in New York and got a four year degree in Psychology.

Jackson said, "It means a lot I came from Jersey to be here. It's a rivalry, it's definitely a test. There is no advantage at that high magnitude of the game."

In Jackson's sophomore season the Bears beat Kirkwood at their home court for the Championship. The 2006-2007 Bears second game against The Eagles was postponed due to an ice storm on March 13. The Bears would repeat the 2001-2002 game.

# '300' brings legend to life

**Jessi Hackler**  
Banner Staff Writer

'300' sold out theaters across the country on its opening night Friday, March 9.

'300' told the legend of a Spartan Militia consisting of 300 soldiers going up against the Persian Army which controlled 1000 different conquered nations. Persia's quest to conquer the world lands on the shores of Thermopylae, forcing the Spartan King, Leonidas, to take immediate action to protect his beloved Sparta and stop the Persians for taking over all of Hellas (present day Greece). King Leonidas lead a group of his personal bodyguards, against the wishes of the local oracle to honor a Spartan holiday, to save his country from being enslaved by the Persians.

The Persian nation was lead by a man who considered himself a god to be revered and worshiped. Xerxes is shown as a giant of a man whose manipulative and persuasive manner allows him to get exactly what he wants and enables him to take down nation after nation with brute force.

The movie's special effects were far above standard. The film was shot in only 60 days using blue screen technology.

Considering the graphic nature of the battle scenes, there is no question as to why this film sold out in so many theaters. The fight scenes embraced the gore and ferocity of war. The Spartans used the corpses of the Persians to make massive walls to block the other soldiers.

Characters in the movie appealed to both male and female viewers with the amazingly attractive cast. The muscular, half-naked men and vivacious women were enough to keep the attention of the masses.

Frank Miller, the film's writer, did take the liberty of tweaking different parts of the battle, making those parts historically inaccurate. For example, the fighting style of Spartans was changed from its traditional form to make it seem more dramatic, making the soldiers more dangerous and fierce. However, the movie's story line as a whole coincided well with the truth behind the Greek war against Persia. Under the direction on Zack Snyder, Miller's creation came to life in a gallant clash of steel blades and magnificent warriors. History tells us that at age seven Spartan boys were taken from their families and sent to be trained as warriors. Each male character in '300' harbored rippling muscles and the attitudes to match, making the soldiers look extremely authentic.

Though the film's general motif is serious, there were many sections of threatening and amusing humor intertwined into the dialogue, making '300' well rounded script all together. When a Persian messenger asks why the Spartan Queen thinks herself worthy to speak among men, she snaps back, "Because only Spartan women give birth to real men." Lines like this allow the viewer to get more into the Spartan mindset. Many of these excellent quotes were actually historically accurate. For example, when Xerxes commands Leonidas to bow to him, Leonidas tells him that he has gotten a cramp in his leg from killing so many Persian soldiers, so bowing was simply out of the question. It's the attitudes of the characters that make them real. Those same attitudes help to pull the viewer into the film in such a way that when it's over, you want more.

Final summation: this film was well worth the \$8.50 and then some.

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## When do bullies grow up?



**Jessi Hackler**  
Banner Staff Writer

We're in college now, not high school. So why are there still students who have to put others down in order to feel self assured? Are there even college bullies?

This semester I'm taking my first ICN class. For those of you who haven't taken one, it's a class that is linked with one or more other campuses via TV and microphone. To talk, one must press down on the microphone so that all the other linked class rooms can hear what you are saying, and a camera projects your image onto the TV so the other classes can see you as well.

This may not seem like such a big deal to some, but for me, pressing down that microphone and having myself shown on the TV is equivalent to what standing in front of the class naked would be to others. My stomach tenses up and I fear that I will trip over my words every time I go to answer a question.

As if that isn't devastating enough, there is a student who sits behind me who constantly makes snide comments about what I'm saying when I do answer questions. It makes me feel unsafe and I don't like answering questions in that class

anymore because I'm afraid that this student might diss what ever I'm saying. How terrible is it that a person is willing to sacrifice their participation points in order to avoid a bully?

This is college! Grow up kids! There is absolutely no reason to torment your classmates. In fact, outside of taking that ICN class, I've never seen this student before in my life. So why does he insist on making my already shaking nerves explode? Why? Because he is a bully, that's why. If there is one, that means there are more. "There are some [bullies] here. I've never experienced it, but I've seen it," said DMACC student Dan Hawkins.

There are several different types of bullies; they aren't just the stereotypical egotistical tough kids who love to push people around. A bully can be someone who criticizes your art work without constructiveness, or someone who hogs a computer everyday in the library and never lets you use it. It doesn't matter what they look like or how the dress, their actions make them bullies.

This needs to stop! There is no reason to be rude to the people around you. Since kindergarten we've been taught the golden rule 'do on to others as you would have others do on to you'. So why, decades later, is that not ingrained into our brains? It all boils down to mass immaturity. I think it's time for a few students to do some self re-evaluation. It's up to you to decide what kind of person you want to be.

## Pig Farmer in the house

**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

The Venue is known around Boone for hosting country-rock bands on weekends. Pig Farmer's show on Fri, Mar. 16 was no exception.

Attendance at the show was sparse. Spring Break or lack of knowledge about the Venue's operations, may have contributed to the poor attendance. Whatever the cause, the slightly country, slightly rock n' roll tunes fell upon only a handful of people.

"They are really good," said Julianne Hamil, DMACC student and Venue bartender. "It just sucks that no one is here, though."

Pig Farmer, behaving more professionally than their name would suggest, played their hearts out to those few in attendance. The band encouraged everyone to sing along when they performed Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline," made everyone clap along with Cash's "A Boy Named Sue," and made the crowd dance with their cover of CCR's "Bad Moon Rising."

In between songs, the band members (Jim Hellerich, Jay Albright, Jeffrey Scott, and Jason Riley) joked with audience members, stopping the show to cheer on one of the Venue's bartenders as he rode a mechanical bull.

"Everyone here has been really nice and we enjoyed playing here. Hopefully if we play here again, more people will show up," said Jason Riley as the band started to load out.

The Venue is open Fridays and Saturdays from 5:30 p.m. until 2 a.m. with free draft beer and \$1.50 well drinks from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m.

## "Sinking Ships"

Jessi Hackler

Sun shown so brightly that I feared it would blow up  
But why worry about that now?  
If it does I'll never comprehend until it's too late  
I doubt this is the day for epiphanies and if it is then let it hit me  
Everyone's worried about hanging  
And I've just learned to ride the currents they've never done me in  
People riding in canoes across the rapids  
I'd rather bodysurf and feel connected  
Hiking unhikable places just to say I'd been there  
Jumping bridges just to pass the time never looking back  
Thinking twice if for those who care too much about life  
And not enough about living

## It's a good year for the movie industry



**Mary Elizabeth Drahos**  
Opinion Editor

This year is an eventful one for me when it comes to movie watching.

I normally only go once or twice a year but with this years upcoming releases, I may have to go at least seven times.

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles": As a person who worshipped the 90's version, I am a little skeptical about this one. Although I have heard many good things about it, I feel a little disheartened that Shredder won't be making an appearance. Also, everything is CG, making it a little less realistic (not that four walking, talking, pizza-eating turtles were that realistic in the first place, but you know what I mean).

"Blades of Glory": Anything involving Will Ferrell stereotyping followers of a sport (i.e. "Talladega Nights") is guaranteed to be funny. Two rival male skaters joining together to skate as a pair's team? Pure hilarity. Oh, did I mention that Mr. Feeny (William Daniels) from "Boy Meets World" has a role? I know I will have trouble not screaming the 'Feeny Call' at the movie screen.

"Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters": Yes that is the entire name of the movie. It is a mouthful. As a connoisseur of the Aqua Teen series, I know that all the shows are only about 15 minutes long and really have no plot line whatsoever. What are they going to do with 86 commercial free minutes?

"Year of the Dog": This is supposed to be about a happy woman whose life is turned

around by the death of her dog. Some of you who know me know that my dog died recently, so this movie seems to speak to me. With Molly Shannon in the lead, I have a feeling it is going to be somewhat funny (what Molly Shannon project ISN'T). However, I am hoping it doesn't run hot and cold. I don't want to be emotionally drained by the time I leave the theatre.

"Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End": Okay, I know. It is another movie that has pirates, sword fights, and Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom looking hot. What else is there? Oh yeah, how about the big squid looking guy getting beat down? Or (for the ladies) what will happen with Bloom's and Keira Knightley's romance? Also, what happens to the dog? The last we saw of him was when the big tribal mob chased after him. I personally can't wait to see Keith Richards, who Depp based his character on, making a cameo as Jack Sparrow's father.

"Transformers": In a perfect "Transformers" world, the movie will be 90 minutes of transforming robots blowing each other up. This movie won't be like that. Although there will be human plot lines, I think the fight between the Autobots and the Decepticons will be the ultimate cinema experience for me. I can't wait to see Optimus Prime open up his six-pack of whoop-ass. The only thing I'm not too sure about is Frank Welker (AKA Fred from Scooby Doo) as the voice of Megatron. Not that I'm expecting Megatron to walk out wearing a white sweater with an ascot, but you never know.

"The Simpsons Movie": This is a long awaited movie for me. It is good to know that they finally came through with a movie after hinting at it for almost 10 years. I guess they probably realized they had to finally put up or shut up. I'm glad they didn't do the latter. The actual plot is unknown, but I have a feeling that I may shoot pop out of my nose by the time the movie is over.

## Diary of Samantha

As I was sitting in the Airport waiting for my next plane, I began to question my logic. What was I thinking agreeing to go and visit Jane? I should have waited or something. What if I don't like her? What if she doesn't like me? What if she is crazy and tries to kill me? Okay so she probably won't kill me, but I'm nervous!

I tried to calm my nerves by going down a list of things that I have packed; tooth brush and other toiletries, clothes... did I bring enough clothing? What if my bathing suit is inappropriate? What if she thinks I am hooker or something? There you go again Sam think about something else. I picked up a book and flipped through it, put it down.

I tried to think back to a less crazy time in my life but come up short.

When I used to go to church, I remember a crotchety nun named Sister Alice standing over me with a crooked pointed finger attempting to explain the world in a rather elevated tone. In short she was yelling at me. "You can never understand the pleasures of heaven or the pain of hell!" I, the wide eyed child, reflected on her words with great fear. When I composed myself enough to ask what purgatory was, her demeanor turned relaxed for a moment. "Think of a giant waiting room. A bunch of people waiting to go somewhere but can't or else they risk their number being missed."

"What about people who are baptized? Are they waiting too?" I managed to shakily ask.

"No, they go ahead of the unbaptized." She said as her demeanor returned to the crotchety old sister I knew and feared. I suppose then I should have asked weather not that meant that judgment day had an "express line" for ten sins or less. I highly doubt that purgatory is full of people sitting restlessly on worn out chairs flipping through magazines, while the florescent lights flicker to the beats of Kenny G's Greatest Hits. While I was sitting there, waiting for a plane to arrive, it occurred to me that Purgatory is more like an airport; people from all walks of life waiting for the next plane out of here.

An airport would be so much better then a giant waiting room filled with old magazines after all, they have lockers, stores, television, bathrooms and hell even a Pizza Hut. Not to mention you can stretch your legs out and relax a bit. I don't think I'll take that chance though. Why was I even thinking about Sister Alice in the first place? Wasn't it to distract me from...oh now I remember; Aunt Jane.

Moments of time that are passing through my mind I try to push away those thoughts because, to me, the past doesn't matter, only people who matter from the past.

## Spring 2007 Banner Staff

March 28, 2006

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# HOROSCOPES

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** – Seize the day! Whatever you think about and feel about, you bring about! Positive thought brings positive outcomes.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** – Say yes to all exciting new endeavors. The only way to live your life is to go along with what it brings you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21)** – It’s not so easy for you to communicate this week. Pause before thoughts escape your lips that could take you further back from your goals.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22)** – If you need some relaxation time, stop excepting all the extra work. The world knows you’re a superstar, so take a break before the work breaks you!

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** – Focusing is the most important task of the day, if you need to accomplish something. Turn off the I-Pod and focus with all your positive energy; then things will unfold that you couldn’t possibly imagine.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** – If insecurity is creeping up your back, take the day off to appreciate yourself and all that you have to offer!

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** – Nothing brightens your life like a make-over! Get into the spring season with a great new look!

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)** - Think of your problems like you would a puzzle. If you just put the pieces back together, you have no problem!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** – Lustful attractions are running you down. Don’t answer the door or the phone, and maybe sooner than later, they will leave you alone!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** – Keep your pants on! The only true side affects to sex are empty promises, STD’s (STI’s) and babies. Guys only want what they can’t have!

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** – This week is about rest. Stress is a factor in every disease and illness known to man. Getting the right amount of sleep is the answer to avoiding cancer.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** - Your desire to make things permanent this week will be strong. If the guy or girl you’re seeing isn’t the one, redecorate your apartment and resign your lease. Divorce gets expensive.

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