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## Banner News

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# Boone Banner



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Des Moines Area Community College

## Dr. Hawana gives insight into the Muslim world

Alexander T. Watts  
Banner contributor

Dr. Walid Hawana is a practicing Muslim and has been teaching at DMACC for six years, the last two years of which he has spent as an adjunct instructor of Arabic. On the morning of March 9, 2006, students were invited to attend a presentation on the Muslim world in the Lloyd W. Courter Center on the DMACC Boone Campus. Dr. Hawana was the guest speaker at the event, sponsored by the Philosophy Club.

Pete Miller, a student on the DMACC Boone Campus, asked Dr. Hawana to speak. "Here in the Midwest, all we hear [about Muslims] is from the news," Miller said. "This is a good opportunity to learn about real American Muslims."

One needn't look far to find reason to learn more about Islam. It is currently the second largest religion in the world – second only to Christianity – and is, by most estimates, also the fastest growing religion in the world. On a more local level, however, one can find other reasons to learn about Islam right here in the state of Iowa. Cedar Rapids is home to the first mosque built for the express purpose of being used as a Muslim house of worship, completed in 1934. It is also home to the Muslim National Cemetery, the first cemetery in the United States specifically for adherents of the Muslim faith. In this way Islam is a little-known part of Iowa history.

Dr. Hawana was born and raised in Lebanon and came to the United States in 1975. He says it was the openness of the U.S. that attracted him. "Other places you can speak your mind only in the bathroom," he said with a laugh. Dr. Hawana said that this openness can only truly be understood when you have been outside of the United States in a country where such

freedoms are not a given.

While admitting that one hour is not nearly enough time to give a complete picture of a religion that is almost 1500 years old, Dr. Hawana opened the discussion on Islam by stating that "Muslims believe in God." Islam, like Judaism and Christianity, is a monotheistic religion. In Islam, God is referred to as Allah, a word which means "The creator we cannot see." Islam is based on the teachings of Muhammad, who Muslims believe to be the last prophet of God. Muhammad's teachings are found in the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an, which Muslims believe to have been revealed to Muhammad by the Archangel Gabriel.

Much of the early part of the discussion compared the similarities of Islam to Judaism and Christianity. And with good reason; these three are commonly referred to as Abrahamic religions due to their shared ancestry beginning with Abraham, who is recognized as a prophet in Islam along with Moses, Jesus, and others.

After the conclusion of this brief history of Islam, discussion turned toward more current events. With regards to the recent protests regarding offensive cartoons of Muhammad printed in Danish newspapers, he explained that Muslims take their faith very seriously. The word Islam itself means "submission to Allah" and supplication before God, primarily through prayers performed five times a day, is one of the central tenets of Islam. For this reason Muslims see any affront to God or Muhammad as a major insult. When a student posed the question of how he felt about the war in Iraq, he responded that it was wrong in the first place to invade. However, he stressed that the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, were "barbaric" and he believes that the ensuing invasion of Afghanistan was justified. He also stressed that when such an attack occurs, it is important to "Look at it as a person who



Photo: Alexander T. Watts

Dr. Walid Hawana speaks in the Courter center about Middle East culture.

did something wrong," instead of viewing all Muslims as having done something wrong.

The discussion turned next to Muslim culture, regarding the oppression of women in many Middle Eastern countries. Dr. Hawana said that this is not part of Islam but is instead a holdover from the old culture of these countries. Historically, boys were valued far more than girls to such a degree that girls were sometimes burned alive so that their families would not have to support them. Today, women

Dr. Hawana, continued on page 4

## AAC sponsors World Water Day event

Arley J. Sitzmann  
Banner staff writer

Boone campus students and staff celebrated World Water Day on March 15 to show the importance of drinking water and keeping our water supply clean.

"We wanted to make people aware of how valuable water is and not to waste it," said Mary Ann Koch, math and Academic Achievement Center instructor.

World water day was sponsored by the Academic Achievement Center (AAC) and the library. Water was served all day with facts on the cups.

Students and faculty could also fill out a quiz (10 questions) and win prizes that were donated from the Athletic department and the bookstore. The facts on the cups were answers to the quiz questions. The answers were posted in the

display case the next day.

The international observance of World Water Day is an initiative that grew out of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The United Nations General Assembly designated March 22 of each year as the World Day for Water by adopting a resolution. This world day for water was to be observed starting in 1993.

"We are celebrating water day on March 15 instead of March 22 because on spring break," said Kock.

The Water for Life Decade 2005-2015 will give a high profile to implementing water-related programmes and the participation of women. The UN hopes that the Decade will boost the chances of achieving international water-related goals and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, according to the

International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC).

More than one billion people lack access to a safe supply of drinking water. Water related diseases are the leading cause of death in the world. This killer takes the lives of more than 14,000 people each day and is responsible for 80% of all sickness in the world. Compounding the problem is the fact that more than 50 percent of the water supply projects in the developing world fail.

The World Health Organization estimates that, despite good intentions on the part of those who help, most water projects in developing countries no longer work. Many reasons have been identified as contributing to or causing the failure of water supply systems.

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MTV alternative  
spring break  
focuses on  
Katrina recovery

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Movie Guy reviews  
'Eight Below';  
'V for Vendetta'  
movie review

Sports, page 8

Cold start for  
Bears baseball;  
Bears basketball  
ends with  
winning records



# World News

## MTV alternative spring break focuses on Katrina recovery

**Pam Firmin**  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

BILOXI, Miss. MTV News will bring worldwide viewers to Biloxi next week, starting Monday, with daily reports about the network's alternative spring break, which is under way right now.

Its focus is more than 60 college students on MTV's "The Amazing Break" as they gut and clean mold-infested structures in East Biloxi to help homeowners be able to eventually move back in.

A full documentary about the effort premieres Saturday, March 25, on MTV. The MTV group is among thousands of spring breakers from throughout the nation who are devoting their time off to Katrina recovery efforts.

About 4,000 students applied for "The Amazing Break," which is MTV's first venture into an alternative spring break, and 100 were chosen. About 36 went to Foley, Ala., to work on houses still damaged from Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

In addition to a student's desire to make a difference here, the show sought out people who would take the lessons and stories back home with them, said MTV spokesman Chad Boettcher, "so what happened here isn't forgotten. We're sending them home with civic packages to engage their communities and tell their story about what happened here and what others can do."

To put the students in the houses that needed the work, MTV partnered with the



Photo: KRT Campus wire

University of Central Florida students Bryan Lin, 18 (from left), Tony Russo, 20, and Miranda Kearley, 19, begin to gut the Lakeview home of Anna Guidry, 74, March 13, 2006.

Hands On Network of volunteers that has been on site since right after the storm. United Way is national partner and sponsors are FedEx and Home Depot. Most of the students are staying at Hands On headquarters at a Methodist church in Biloxi. Jonathan Oshiro, of Kailua, Hawaii, University of Hawaii-Windward, said when he saw the public announcement on MTV,

"I told myself right then I had to help. I really wanted to help out with the Katrina efforts. I hesitated to give money, because you don't know where it's going. I write for my school newspaper, and I'm gong to take this back and write a story." "I think it is much more valuable to help people in my own country," said Charlotte Smith of Seattle, a student at Washington

State University, "instead of going to Mexico and getting drunk (like her room-mates)." The spirit of people she's met has had a strong impact on Smith. "I expected sadness here," she said, "but the lady whose house we are working on is one of the sweetest, most genuine people I ever met. She has a courageous spirit."

## McClatchy to sell 12 Knight Ridder newspapers

**Beth Carlson**  
Banner staff writer

McClatchy and Knight Ridder announced that McClatchy would buy KRI's 32 newspapers for around \$4.5 billion. The merger also means that McClatchy will assume about another \$2 billion in debt.

As soon as the transaction is final, McClatchy plans to sell off 12 newspapers that are located in slower growing markets, according to Deborah Yao of the Associated Press. Several interested parties have shown interest in some or all of the newspapers for sale, including Gannett Co., which owns the Des Moines Register.

Knight Ridder employees are trying to buy 12 newspapers that McClatchy plans to sell. According to the

Philadelphia Business Journal, employees have enlisted the help of the Newspaper Guild-Communications Workers of America. They'll also have the financial backing from Yucaipa, a buyout firm in Los Angeles, according to the New York Times.

In order to assist Yucaipa in the potential purchase of the 12 newspapers, they've hired former publisher of Philadelphia Inquirer Robert J. Hall, according to the New York Times. He'll be working with both the buyout firm and the union in acquiring the papers.

According to the Philadelphia Business Journal, employees have the option of using 401(k) funds for the buyout, if Yucaipa and NG-CWA can broker the deal. However, employee investment is not required for the acquisition.

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# Opinion

## The flavor of vomit

**Grant Mulholland**  
Banner staff writer

Have you people seen some of the garbage that makes it onto TV these days? Some of this stuff is so bad it's downright upsetting. They need a new rating system; instead of rating programs by their sexuality or violence content they should be measuring their suck level and warn me before hand.

I actually believe that some of the shows currently on the tube are actually making me dumber. For example, have you seen this "My Sweet Sixteen" monstrosity on MTV? It's like watching a train wreck. You don't want to, but you just can't tear your eyes away.

I'm pretty jaded and not much really surprises me anymore, but this is some bizarre crap. I can sincerely say there aren't many times when I'm watching TV and my jaw is just hanging on the floor, but this is unquestionably one of those times.

Those girls, and at least one guy, make me seriously reassess my hard line stance against smacking your kids. I swear if I had a kid that was ever that spoiled, arrogant, conceited, vain, self-righteous, and just generally that unbelievably obnoxious, they would be right on track for a throat punch.

The way these little trolls act is completely beyond the range of rational thought. When they launch into their idiotic self-worshipping diatribe about how not just anybody can come to their lame ass shindig, I can honestly say that I have to stop myself from launching a brick through my screen in the vain hope that it will magically fly out of their TV and smoke them in the face. Who raises their kids to act like this? If I was one of them, and I saw myself act like this on national

TV, I would kick my own ass.

Next on the list of incredibly bad ideas is "Flavor of Love." I don't even rightly know where to begin. Let's get started with the man himself, Flavor Flav. Wow. I'm pretty sure he lives under my bed.

He's the reason I have to tuck the blankets under my feet at night, because I know that if I don't that little monster will sneak up and bite my toes off with those pointy gold teeth of his. You know you do it too. I'm also pretty sure he lived in my closet when I was little.

Flavor Flav is the reason kids sleep with the light on. How does this reject keep getting his own shows? Just for the record, his sidekick Brigitte Nielsen is the reason I wake up screaming in the middle of the night. That broad is terrifying in every way, not to mention about as ugly as a mud fence.

That said, let's talk about one of the two finalists on this tragedy called "The Flavor of Love." One of them is a drop dead hottie. Unfortunately, I'm pretty sure the other was, at some point, a man. This chick actually scares me. I don't know if it's the manic mood swings or just the incredibly awkward way she fake cries for the camera. What a sham.

This "girl" is a certified loony toon. Before I saw this show, I could honestly say I had never seen anything on TV that really upset me, but now after watching that ogre make out with the little goblin that is Flavor Flav from the comfort of my own living room, I can proudly say VH1 gives me dry heaves.

Thank God I hadn't had any breakfast or I probably would have been wearing it. The proper name for that televised atrocity should have been "Flavor of Stomach Acid" because that's what my mouth tastes like every time I hear someone shout "Flavor Flaiaaaaaaaaaaav."



## Bloggers have taken over the Internet

**Arley J. Sitzmann**  
Editor-in-Chief

Blogging, a shortened version of the term "web-logging," which began in 1995, and its popularity has increased massively alongside the growth of internet.

If you are not familiar with what a blog is, it is a website in which items are posted on a regular basis and displayed with the latest at the top. Blogs often focus on a particular subject, such as food, politics, or local news. These days, you can blog about almost anything. Everything is blog this and blog that.

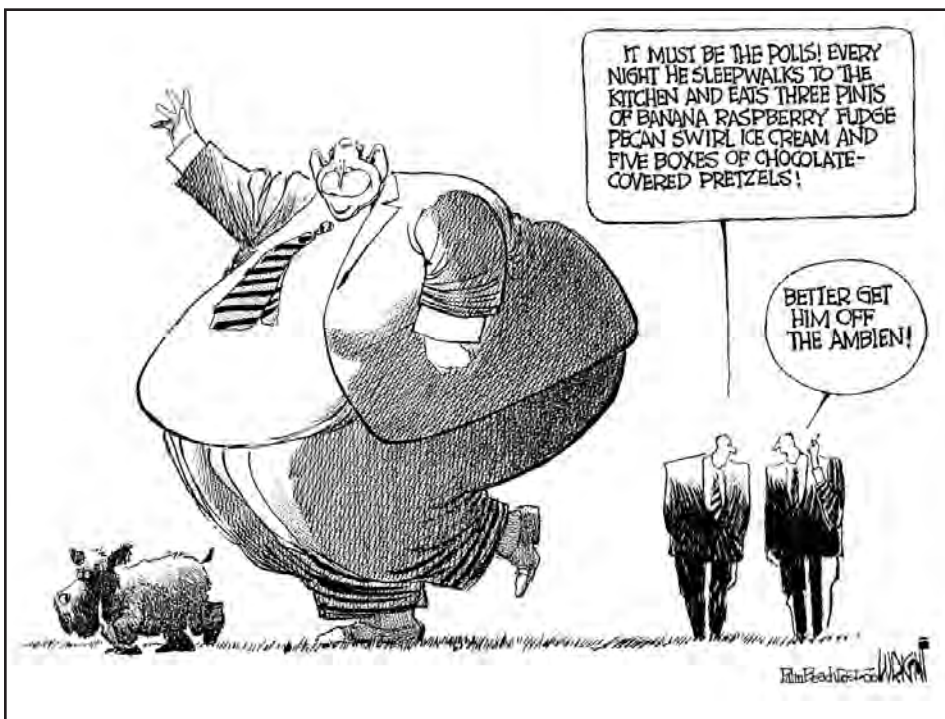
What's the deal with all the blogging anyway? When I turn on the TV the first thing I usually hear is: "You can now view this show in podcast on your iPod and then blog about it on our website."

Blogging is taking over the internet. Any idiot with a computer and a little free time probably has their own blog about anything from how their breakfast went that morning to how people at work are rude to them.

Businesses are even setting up websites for their employees to blog on about their job. Now, how stupid is this. For one, most Americans hate their jobs. So, if there are employees blogging about their job, it's probably not anything good and could possibly cost that person their job. Second, if businesses are setting up a site for their employees to blog, do you think these employees are going to be working or blogging all day?

In my opinion, the term blogging is used too loosely. A blog to me is an opinion piece, which has a specific topic and is backed by facts. An opinion with purpose and logic. Not just a bunch of nonsense that goes no where and tells information that isn't remotely useful or interesting, in that fact, to anyone but the person who wrote it.

Since blogging is the latest, greatest thing to do, maybe I'll start my own blog. A blog complaining about blogging and people who blog all day long. On second thought, why would I waste my time.



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The Boone Banner welcomes letters in an attempt to provide a forum for the many diverse views of the campus. The views expressed in the Boone Banner are not necessarily the views or endorsements of Des Moines Area Community College or the Boone Banner editorial board.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 250 words, signed and brought to the editorial offices of the Boone Banner, mailed in care of the college, or can be emailed to ajsitzmann@dmacc.edu. The Boone Banner reserves the right to edit as necessary for libelous content, profanity, copy fitting, grammatical and spelling errors or clarity.



# Campus News



**First Row:** Mikki Yetter, Tricia Fogarty Jennifer Kruse **Second Row:** Kathleen Crouse, George Cyr, Mike Maynard, Trudy Seidel, Josh Jackson, Sandy Hines, Christine Farrington

## Boone campus students compete at the 2006 PBL State Leadership Conference:

Members of the Omicron Zeta Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (DMACC's professional business organization) sent 10 delegates to the 60th annual Iowa Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference which was held on March 3 and 4 at the University of Northern Iowa.

First place winners were Kathleen Crouse, Future Business Executive and Multimedia Presentation, Tricia Fogarty, Word Processing Fundamentals, and

Sandy Hines, Multimedia Presentation Members from the DMACC Boone Chapter joined over 60 business students from across Iowa in competition for the chance to represent the state at the National Leadership Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, in June.

George Cyr, Boone campus student, won State Historian/Reporter after planning, organizing, and conducting a campaign.

## Boone students named to All Iowa Academic Team



Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Boone Campus students Kathleen Crouse (left) of Gilbert and Jonathan Howe of Boone receive congratulations from DMACC Boone Campus Provost Tom Lee for being named to the 2006 All Iowa Academic Team. Crouse is enrolled in DMACC's Administrative Assistant program while Howe is enrolled in DMACC's Arts & Sciences program and plans to transfer to Iowa State University. A total of 11 DMACC students were among the 52 Iowa community college students named to the All Iowa Academic Team.

### Dr. Hawana, from page 1

are viewed primarily as mothers of children, and as such it is frowned upon for them to leave the house. He also pointed out that the concept of equal rights for women is a relatively recent development even in the Western world, and that change on such a large scale takes time.

Dr. Hawana then explained the word "infidel." Since this word is often seen in news reports, it is understandably a frequent source of misunderstanding. In Islam, an infidel is someone who does not believe in Allah. Dr. Hawana pointed out that this means that Jews and Christians are not infidels in the true meaning of the word.

Finally, the discussion turned to some of the finer points of theology. One of the audience members asked Dr. Hawana what Muslims believe happens after death. He stated that after death Muslims believe that your soul remains on Earth awaiting a day of judgment, a time when your sins will be weighed against your good deeds. If the result is favorable, you go to heaven. If you are found lacking, however, all hope is not lost. You will be penalized for your sins, but you will then be allowed to go to heaven.

The next question was about the role Jesus plays in Islamic theology. In Islam Jesus is considered a prophet, like Muhammad. "We do not differentiate between prophets," Dr. Hawana said. He further clarified that Muslims also believe

in the second coming, as Christians do.

After the conclusion of the formal discussion, Dr. Hawana remained in the Courter Center for an informal discussion with any student who cared to speak with him. During this time, he said "DMACC is a great institution," and he is happy to work here. He also said that he doesn't experience any religious bias or discrimination here, and that if it did happen, he wouldn't hesitate to tell us about it. He was also forthcoming with his philosophies of life. "The worst thing is

to have a one-track mind," he said, while urging students to explore and compare information from many sources. "The keyword is 'research,'" he said.

Reactions to the discussion from the audience were positive. Jessica O'Connor, a Boone campus student, said "It was very interesting. I didn't know that they believed in Jesus."

Tammie Foltz, a full-time instructor of philosophy and sociology who brought her morning philosophy class to the event said, "We try to introduce lots of

ways of seeing the world and one major way is through religion." She then added, "There's lots of misinformation about what Islam is."

Pete Miller, who arranged the event, called the discussion "Very educational. We would like to do it again."

He will get his chance to do it again. A similar engagement - this time featuring a Hindu speaker - is currently planned for April. Those interested should watch their DMACC email for a precise date and time.

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# Campus News

## Identifying warning signs helps prevent suicide

**Beth Carlson**  
Banner staff writer

Every 18 minutes, someone in the United States dies by suicide, according to afsp.org. That's more than 30,000 people every year. Suicide is also the one of the top three leading causes of death among people ages 15 to 24, as listed by the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.

The NSSP website states, "In 1998, more teenagers and young adults died of suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia and influenza, and chronic lung disease combined."

"Suicide is contagious," said Jane Martino, psychology instructor at DMACC. Exposure to suicide, either personally or through the media, increases a student's risk for suicide, according to the NSSP.

### Identifying warning signs

Unlike some of the other leading causes of death, suicide is preventable. Factors that increase risk of suicide as well as warning signs are ways to identify that someone you know may be contemplating suicide.

Warning signs to look for include alcohol abuse, drug abuse, mental disorders, including depression, loss of a friend, peer, or relative, especially from suicide, talking about suicide or death, and verbal cues, like "I wish I were dead."

Additional risk factors such as exposure to suicide through the media, such as a celebrity suicide, homosexual or bisexual orientation, inappropriate access to firearms, parental separation or divorce, and childhood abuse or maltreatment.

### Grief counseling and suicide prevention

After a traumatic event, such as the death of a peer, or even with other feelings of depression, counseling is strongly recommended by Rita Davenport, Boone campus counselor. "I strongly advocate support groups, which will help deal with the underlying problem," said Davenport. She also said that students "may not realize [counseling] is available" after a tragedy.

Jane Martino gives the recommendation that a few things will help students cope with grief. Daily exercise is essential because "your body needs a release of tension," said Martino. "Hit a punching bag, shadow box, do what you have to do" to get rid of anxiety,

### Suicide warning signs

- Alcohol abuse
- Drug abuse
- Mental disorders, including depression
- Loss of a friend, peer, or relative, especially from suicide
- Talking about suicide or death
- Verbal cues, like "I wish I were dead"

### Other suicide risk factors

- Exposure to suicide through the media, such as a celebrity suicide
- Sexual orientation; students reporting gay/lesbian/bisexual orientation are at an increased risk
- Inappropriate access to firearms
- Parental separation or divorce
- Childhood abuse or maltreatment

stress, and grief.

Another suggestion Martino has is to play, even if it seems silly or childish. "Play with kids, go to a playground, scream and yell; it gives your body this time to heal each day. It will help your body respond better throughout other times," Martino said. Playing will also help if students have difficulty concentrating because it provides a release.

One of the things Martino warns about is drinking. "Drinking will work against you," she said. "Sitting around

and doing nothing also compounds the problem," said Martino. She offers a solution to sitting around, though. "You need your friends to support you, so have friends come over and have dinner," also adding that "eating well helps you stay healthy" when you might not otherwise be taking care of yourself.

Counseling is available on the Boone campus from Rita Davenport. She welcomes students to stop by, "as long as the door is open," Davenport said.



Photo: Arley Sitzmann

World Water Day display offers food, facts, and water, of course.

### Water Day, from page 1

"Major cities, including Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Phoenix, struggle to get water to people. In the Midwest, we don't experience this, so we don't think about it. We need to raise awareness for the growing problem," said Koch.

A report warns that the world's water and sanitation crisis will only grow as millions more people crowd into city slums, putting even greater pressure on scant resources. Irrigation for agriculture will continue to drain aquifers and river basins as farmers seek to meet rising demand. Climate change, too, is a major threat to water supplies, according to Tearfund, one of leading relief and development agencies.

## Accident and sickness insurance plans available

**Brenda LaGrone**  
Banner staff writer

Accident and sickness insurance plans are now available through the DMACC administration, according to the Student Assurance Services Incorporated in Stillwater, Minnesota. Dental insurance is also offered.

Some students don't know what to do when they are in school and away from hometown and parents. "I go to Huxley because it's a bit cheaper than some surrounding areas," said Arley Sitzmann, a DMACC student.

Students must be physically and actively attending classes on participating campuses to enroll in the plan. Distance learning and on-line students are not eligible.

Students who enroll in the plan can secure coverage for their family: spouse and unmarried children under 23 years of age and reside with insured student.

The plan consists of three parts. Part A, Basic Benefits have Plan I offering a maximum of \$10,000 and Plan II, a max of \$50,000, while offering Dental treatment, maternity benefits, anesthetist, and more.

Part B is Medical Evacuation and Repatriation (International Student only).

Part C, Tri-Annual Premiums. More information can be found by contacting the Student Assurance Services, Inc. at 1-(800) 328-2739.

There is a health center located on the Ankeny DMACC campus.

### Water Quiz Winners

- Bruce A. Carroll
- Shirley McDonald
- Sam Pritchard
- Josh Jackson
- Christen Mueller
- Barb Gano
- Christine Farrington
- Ginny Jackson
- Connie Booth
- Joseph Crawford
- Mary Stritzel
- Cheryl Chopard

### Facts from the Water Quiz

- 6.8 Billion Gallons of water are flushed down the toilets by Americans each day.
- 80% of fresh water in America is used to irrigate crops and generate thermo electric-power.
- 39,090 gallons of water are needed to make an automobile, tires, included.
- The Missouri River is the longest river in North America.
- The Nile River is the longest river in the World.
- It takes 6 gallons of water to grow one serving of lettuce.
- It takes 2,600 gallons of water to produce one serving of steak.
- One gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds.
- 80% of our bodies are formed by water.
- 90% of the world's fresh water is located in Antarctica.
- 1.2 Million people worldwide do not have access to clean water.
- 49 gallons of water produces just one eight-ounce glass of milk.

### Boone campus Creative writing contest

Entries due  
Monday, April 3

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# Campus News

## Tuition increase planned for fall

Des Moines, IA— Officials from Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) announced today a three percent tuition increase beginning for fall 2006 classes at each of the college's six campuses.

Tuition and fees will rise from the current \$95 for one credit hour to \$98 per credit hour.

Doug Williams, DMACC's chief financial officer, said the college was able to keep the tuition increase low by reducing expenditures by \$410,000, while identifying another \$140,000 in unanticipated revenue.

"We work hard to keep tuition costs down," said Williams. "It's one of our primary goals to provide an affordable, but outstanding education."

Kim Linduska, executive vice president of Academic Affairs said, "DMACC remains one of our nation's best educational values. With 75 career programs and quality classes on six campuses, our students have many opportunities for lifelong success."

## Robinson heads Blue Crew

Anna Sunstrom  
Banner staff writer

The DMACC Blue Crew had a productive season. Blue Crew captain Gennypher Robinson gave insight into how the season went. "Our season was a little rough at first, losing a lot of our squad, but once everything was settled it was awesome. We got along great and worked well together. Not to mention we had a blast!" said Robinson.

Robinson said that she had a lot of memorable moments from being the captain of the Blue Crew. "Shop with a cop was a great experience," said Robinson. She said that putting on a dance camp for little kids was fun because the kids were really crazy and loud.

The Blue Crew appealed to Robinson because it was the closest thing to cheer leading. "I love the positive attitude activities like this bring to the individuals participating. It also keeps me active and out of trouble." She also said that she loves to perform. Robinson will be going to Iowa State next year to major in psychology or human resources.

She is very optimistic towards the future of the team and excited to see what next year brings. "I would like to see the Blue Crew grow in size and perform a little more. Christina [Graham, the adviser] has asked me to choreograph a routine next year so hopefully we can have some routines with different themes and on a totally different level from the previous years," said Robinson.

Robinson wants the Blue Crew to be remembered as a group of people that have interests that are the same and is an "opportunity to provide half time entertainment, have fun, and make new friends." To the future Blue Crew, she gives this advice: "Practice makes perfect. Just because you can go through the dance, doesn't mean you have the dance. Also, positive criticism is always a good thing."

Summer classes won't be affected by the tuition increase. Students may sign up for summer session classes online at [www.dmacc.edu/schedule](http://www.dmacc.edu/schedule) or by calling 515-964-6200.

DMACC is Iowa's largest community college serving 24,780 students enrolled in credit classes on six campuses across Iowa.



Contributed photo

Faculty and students met to discuss "House of the Scorpion." The next all-campus read is "Pictures of Hollis Woods," which is available in the library.

# SPEEDTALK<sup>SM</sup>

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# Entertainment

## Movie Guy Reviews 'Eight Below'

**Moses Powell Eckstein**  
Banner staff writer

Inspiration is the element most lacking in the human experience and most respected when it is present. Even when that inspiration comes from a team of Antarctic sled dogs, it can raise the spirits of those who witness it. "Eight Below" directed by Frank Marshall (also directed "Congo") is about eight sled dogs marooned in the Antarctic winter and their owner who will stop at nothing to get them back.

Jerry Shepherd (Paul Walker) is a guide for scientists at the National Science Research Base in Antarctica during the summer. Scientist David McClaren (Bruce Greenwood), in search of a meteorite from Mercury, recruits Shepherd for an excursion to Mount Melbourne. Unknown to Shepherd or the scientist, this excursion is going to take a few bad turns. A storm sets in and McClaren almost loses his life. Thankfully, the valiant efforts of Mia, one of Shepherd's sled dogs, saved him.

To save McClaren's life, Shepherd and his friend Cooper (Jason Biggs from "American Pie") with the rest of the Antarctic team, abandon the post in a small airplane. Shepherd assures his sled

dogs that he will return for them as he tightens their collars.

Unfortunately, a terrifying winter storms sets in and Shepherd is forced to abandon the dogs he loves so much. As the days pass, recorded so scrupulously by a subtitle, the sled dogs begin to realize that to survive they must break free and work together.

The dogs as actors are amazingly well-trained, displaying a range of emotions and actions as complex as some humans. For example, the team organizes themselves to catch sea gulls and to take down a ferocious leopard seal.

Finally after several months, Shepherd arranges a small voyage, with the monetary aid of McClaren, back to the Base. Will they find eight carcasses? The only way to discover this is to see the movie.

Blessed with emotive acting, a vast believable landscape, and a wonderful score, "Eight Below" is a great family movie, with a couple of scary moments—i.e. the leopard seal. It runs for two hours and is rated PG for some peril and brief mild language.

9 out of 10 Heartfelt Moments



## 'V for Vendetta' well written

**Richie Monk**  
Banner staff writer

Imagine a world where Britain, out of fear of pestilence and war turns willing to a tyrannical and oppressive ruler. The only way for this bleak conformist society to change, is for the masses to act out against the government that their indifference has allowed to be put in place. And the leader of their inevitable coup is only known as "V" (Hugo Weaving). "V" is a well spoken charismatic hero whose knowledge is surpassed only by his unbelievable fighting abilities and use of deception.

"V" is out for vengeance as he plots to rally civilians against their oppressors and overthrow this new world order. This movie, full of action drama and suspense will have you enthralled and

at the edge of your seat throughout most of it. The script is very poetically written, and acted out well by the entire cast including costar of the show Evey (Natalie Portman).

"V for Vendetta" is one of the finest movies to have come from a comic book in recent history. But even if you have never read a comic book in your life, the basic storyline comes from the well known book "1984" written in 1950 by George Orwell. A storyline which I believe to be all too possible to some extent, and which makes this movie one of the best I've seen in awhile.

I would recommend this movie to anyone regardless of your particular taste. If nothing else, it is interesting and enjoyable.

8.5 out of 10 stars

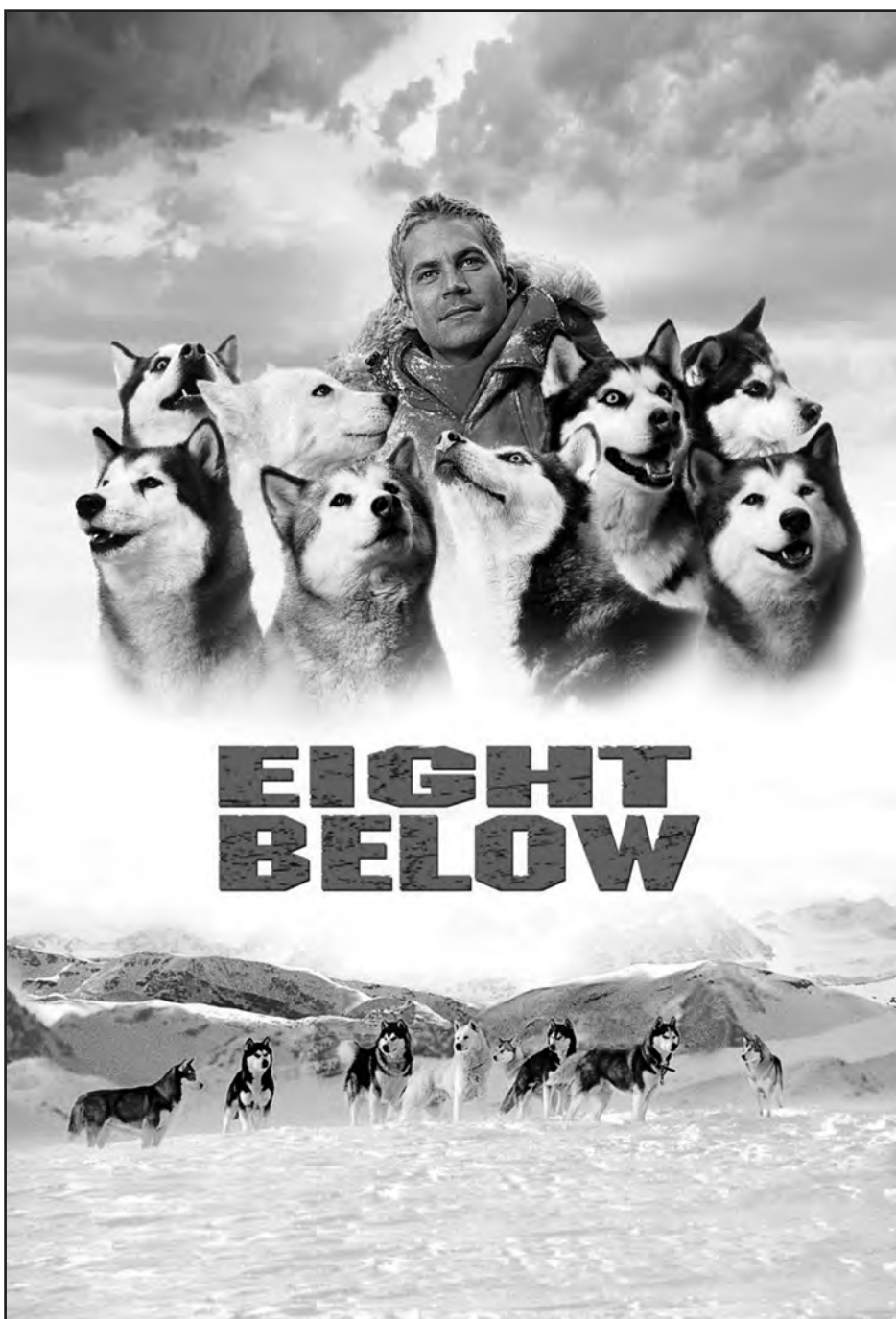


Photo: movieweb.com

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# Sports

## Cold start for Bears baseball

**Andrew Penner**  
Banner staff writer

On March 16, the Bears opened the season on the road taking on Grand View J.V. This was also the first game of Head Coach John Smith's final season as head coach at DMACC. "I feel good," is what Coach Smith had to say about that. Coach Smith said he had no idea as to who will fill his shoes next year but "it will probably be some young guy who will get the job done."

The baseball team took to the road over spring break, making appearances at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, Ok, and Crowder

College in Neosho, Mo. They played five games in five days.

The first game was in Miami, Ok, against A&M Norsemen, where the Norsemen nudged the Bears by a score of 3-0.

Days three and four, the Bears

were in Neosho, Mo, taking on the Roughriders of Crowder College. The Bears fell to the Roughriders 9-5. The Bears met the Roughriders in a double-header the next day, where the Bears lost game one 12-2, but managed to tie the Roughriders in the second game at 10-10.



Photo: Grant Mulholland

Coach John Smith

3/30	Thursday	Grand View J.V.	Boone	2 pm
4/4	Tuesday	Simpson J.V.	Indianola	2 pm
4/6	Thursday	Grand View J.V.	Des Moines	2 pm
4/8	Saturday	Muscatine	Boone	1 pm
4/9	Sunday	Muscatine	Boone	Noon
4/11	Tuesday	Ellsworth	Iowa Falls	2 pm
4/13	Thursday	Kirkwood	Cedar Rapids	2 pm

## Men and women end season with winning records

### Men close with a 22-9 record

**Andrew Penner**  
Banner staff writer

The men's basketball team's season was cut short after the first round loss to North Iowa Area Community College, but did end up with a 22-9 record overall and a record of 9-6 in the conference.

The Bears mauled opponents with their team defense giving up 1,839 points for the season to their opponents and allowing only 59.323 points per game. Many of the players placed in the top ten for conference statistics as individuals: George Pruitt, Will Smith, Dee Eason, Adam Weig, Mustafa Mosley, Austin Palm, Vince Johnson, and Jerry Bennett.

The Bears were led by Bennett who placed third in offensive rebounds with 104 rebounds, was sixth in blocks with 29, and had a player efficiency rating of 15.065 which was tenth in the conference. Next was Pruitt, making 40 of the 52 free throws he attempted. Weig led the conference in total steals with 61 steals. Eason racked up a total of 174 assists, an average of 5.613 which was second best. Smith averaged 2.387 offensive rebounds in 31 games. Johnson nudged past Bennett in shooting field goals by making 49 of 90 during the course of the season.

Several players made all conference honors. Pruitt was named to the 1st Team, Bennett landed on the 2nd Team, and Smith received an Honorable Mention.



Jerry Bennett



George Pruitt

### Women close with a 19-14 record

**Andrew Penner**  
Banner staff writer

The women's basketball team's season ended after a loss to Ellsworth Community College in the semifinals of the region XI tournament. The Bears did end the season with a 19-14 overall record and a 12-6 record in the conference.

The Bears managed to end up fifth in the conference for total team offense and sixth in total team defense. The Bears had several players ending in the top ten in conference standings for individual stats. They were Jocelyn Anderson, Alisa Brinkman, Michelle Kumrow, and Monica Hernandez.

Leading the way for the Bears was Anderson who placed high in every category except in assists. Anderson placed first in blocks having 176 this season, and had a player efficiency rating of 25.667, which was second in the conference.

Anderson was followed by Brinkman who was outstanding in rebounding. Brinkman placed fourth in total rebounds with 261 rebounds and an average of 7.909 per game.

Hernandez and Kumrow landed themselves on the assists leader board. Hernandez had a total of 119 and a 4.103 average, and Kumrow totaled 103 and averaged a 3.121.

Four players received outstanding awards. Anderson was named to the 1st Team All-Region. Brinkman, Kumrow, and Richters were named to the 2nd Team.



Jocelyn Anderson



Alisa Brinkman

## The other side of the Courter...

Who do you predict will make it to the Final Four?



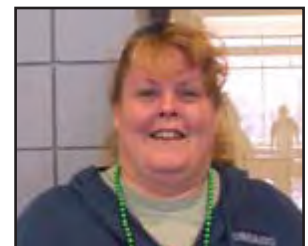
Austin Palm

Duke, Memphis, Michigan State, and Boston College.



Scott Hagen

If I was to pick a team it would be Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.



Jennifer Corbin

I'm not watching it. It makes me mad because it interferes with other TV shows.