

2-9-2005

## Banner News

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# BOONE BANNER

Vol. 4 No. 8

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Des Moines Area Community College

## Erin Kiernan to leave KCCI, to work for WHO TV

By Andrew Austin  
Banner Staff Writer

Erin Kiernan, anchor/reporter with KCCI News Channel 8, announced her resignation from Iowa's top news station to join WHO TV Channel 13, KCCI's top competitor.

As reported in a recent Des Moines Register article, Kiernan's departure from KCCI has been largely mysterious. Kiernan recently spoke with the Banner on her transition.

Kiernan was a featured speaker as part of the 2005 Iowa College Media Association convention and trade show.

"This decision just felt right ... I followed my gut in deciding to leave KCCI," Kiernan said.

Possible problems with contract negotiations may have been part of Kiernan's decision; she told the ICMA that negotiations "hadn't gone too well." Kiernan also alluded to a lack of professional stimulation.

"I'm not someone who ... likes to be complacent," said Kiernan during the luncheon. "I like to keep myself feeling challenged."

Kiernan's contract expires at the end of May this year. However, a "no-compete" clause will prevent her from working on the air until approximately the same time in 2006. According to Kiernan, she will most likely work as an off-the-air writer and producer during this time.

The no-compete clause is a standard attachment to most media-based contracts, designed to discourage personalities from leaving for other local stations. However, such clauses have ignited several lawsuits in the past few years, particularly on the East Coast, where personalities claim they are being prevented from working because of the clause. Kiernan says she does not feel that way.

Kiernan was expected by many to be one of the top contenders at KCCI for the 10 p.m. anchor vacancy left by Jeanette Trompeter's



PHOTO: JAMES BREGENZER / BOONE BANNER

## Construction on campus still a big mess

By Jenifer Schumacher  
Banner Staff Writer

Construction work is being done at the Boone campus to replace the 37-year-old heating and cooling system in the existing academic wing.

"The more we can get done now, the sooner things will be ready for fall semester," said Dean Hatch, project manager on the Boone campus.

Construction workers in the building are now distributing ductwork in the ceilings above the existing academic wing on both stories, the theatre and gym, where the new system units will go, Hatch said.

"We're anticipating some time in April to turn off the boiler to replace the heating and cooling system. Most systems run anywhere from 25 to 35 years, and this particular system is aged out at 37 years," Hatch said.

The boiler unit on the Boone campus supports every room in the building.

"We have to wait until the weather is warmer to turn off the boiler,"

Hatch said.

The construction crew will install refrigerator-sized units in the ceilings above each classroom.

Julie Sondergoth, a DMACC student, noticed the clutter in the hallways and the missing tiles from the ceiling.

"The banging and clanging should be more controlled, so it doesn't disrupt classes," Sondergoth said.

The vertical units should be installed in the corners of many classrooms on the second story.

"We anticipate that we will have the boiler off for two to three months," Hatch said.

Until everything is completely connected, there will be no heating or cooling in the building during that period.

"We would like to let the students and faculty know that during this time period it would be best to dress in layers," Hatch said.

During Christmas break, the science lab in rooms 223 and 225 were renovated. The partial lab in room 209 will be connected to room 208 when the wall is knocked down.

"I always feel like something is

See **MESS** on page 4

## DMACC holds highest black student population percentage in Iowa, little planned for Black History Month

By James Bregenzler  
Banner Staff Writer

February is Black History Month, which presents one of the nation's least-diverse states with a unique opportunity to remember the accomplishments of black Americans, learn something about black culture and realize the increasing need for diversity.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Iowa's black community comprised 2.3 percent of the state's total population in 2003, indicat-

ing Iowa as the fifth-lowest black population in the nation.

Fred Gilbert, provost of the Urban campus, said, "The most important aspect of Black History Month is that the contributions African Americans have made for the betterment of society are expressed and explained ... these are things that others need to know."

Local organizations are also doing their part to promote diversity throughout Iowa with similar views on Black History Month.

"The importance of Black His-

tory Month lies in its ability to educate, inspire and uplift all people of African descent and to enlighten the rest of humanity about our cultures," said Kimberly Baxter, director of the Iowa Commission on the Status of African Americans. "[Black History Month] is a source of strength, cultural pride and inspiration that we can draw upon to improve our nations, our communities and our lives," Baxter said.

Despite the state's seemingly ethnic homogeneity, DMACC's

black student-body percentage ranks highest of all colleges and universities in Iowa, with 701 black students enrolled in 2004, according to the Iowa College Student Commission's "Student and Faculty Ethnic Diversity Report," released January 2005.

The report reveals DMACC had more black students enrolled in 2004 than at the University of Iowa and only 10 black students fewer than at Iowa State.

"What's important to note here," said Fred Gilbert, provost of the

See **KIERNAN** on page 3

See **HISTORY** on page 3

### IOWA NEWS

Sen. Jack Kibby, the "godfather of community colleges," speaks about funding to students



### CAMPUS NEWS

Phi Beta Lambda, student organization for business leadership, hits record enrollment



### SPORTS

DMACC women lose to Kirkwood on home court, 65-70 OT



### FEATURES

Boone Campus Blue Crew's first performance at men's Kirkwood game





# WORLD NEWS

## Pope's health fuels retirement speculation

By Matthew Schofield  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

ROME -- Ten years after an assassin's bullet almost killed him in 1981, Pope John Paul II laid it in the crown of a statue of the Virgin Mary. The meaning was clear: He was thanking her for sparing his life so that he could continue the work of the church.

So how does a man who believes he was appointed to his job by God and saved for it by the Virgin Mary face the idea of retirement as his health fails? Simple. He doesn't, and for many, that's a growing issue, though perhaps more outside the church than inside.

"Outside the Vatican, there's a lot of talk of retirement, of whether or not he's still healthy enough to perform in the job," said John L. Allen Jr., the author of "All the Pope's Men" and "Conclave," books about the inner workings of the Roman Catholic Church. He's also the Vatican correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter.

Inside the Vatican, Allen noted, "the issue is a nonstarter. He's been very clear on the matter."

Pope John Paul appears to be recovering from his most recent

health scare, prompted by flu and a throat infection that made it hard for him to breathe. He was rushed to Gemelli Hospital on Tuesday night, but the alarm quickly gave way to relief as Vatican officials reported he was gaining strength. Wednesday, Vatican officials said he was able to talk comfortably.

Friday, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls offered an upbeat assessment: "The state of health of the holy father has improved," he said. "Tests confirm that he has stabilized and his breathing is much better."

The pope is expected to deliver his usual Sunday homily from the window of his hospital room.

Still, there's much speculation about whether the 84-year-old pontiff - who has Parkinson's disease along with a medical history that includes the gunshot wound, stomach surgery and various broken bones - is strong enough



KRT ILLUSTRATION

to preside over the affairs of the world's largest religious organization.

No one in the Vatican is willing to be quoted by name advocating that the pope step aside, and reports discussing the subject are opaque as to who feels how. Some Vatican observers say the discussion isn't needed right now, with the pope on the mend.

But they still wonder if the subject won't have to be confronted soon. "We are talking about an 84-year-old man with advancing Parkinson's," said one Vatican observer who works for a church-related entity and who asked that neither he nor his organization be identified.

## Gonzales will be first Hispanic attorney general



KRT PHOTO

WASHINGTON, DC -- Alberto Gonzales, left, joins President George W. Bush, right, in a statement to the media after being nominated to fill the spot of U.S. Attorney General to replace John Ashcroft.

By Frank Davies  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON -- The Senate confirmed Alberto Gonzales as the first Hispanic attorney general Thursday, ending a bitter three-day debate that focused on his controversial role in pushing the legal limits on the treatment of prisoners.

The Senate voted 60-36 to confirm Gonzales, President Bush's longtime friend and White House

counsel, to succeed John Ashcroft as attorney general. Vice President Dick Cheney swore Gonzales in shortly before 6 p.m. at the White House.

The 35 Democrats and one independent who opposed Gonzales exceeded the 13 who opposed Condoleezza Rice for secretary of state. Four years ago, 42 Democrats opposed Ashcroft for attorney general.

Six Democrats voted for Gonzales, and he had the unanimous

support of Republicans.

Republican leaders called Gonzales a highly qualified nominee who renounced torture and became an unfair target of Democrats who oppose Bush's policies.

"He is a total professional with a high regard for the law, and he has been subjected to groundless criticism," Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said before the vote.

Democrats said Gonzales made serious mistakes that led to abuse of prisoners at U.S.-run detention facilities in Afghanistan, Cuba and Iraq. They also said he evaded questions during his confirmation hearing and lacked the independence ever to disagree with the president.

"It's hard to be a straight shooter when you're a blind loyalist," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

Democrats criticized Gonzales for key legal advice he gave to Bush, including scaling back Geneva Convention protections for detainees, deciding that some anti-torture laws don't apply to foreigners held overseas and asserting that a president can override U.S. laws and authorize torture in "unusual circumstances."

Republicans said Democrats used Gonzales' confirmation to attack Bush's policies and lay the groundwork for opposition if Gonzales is ever appointed to the Supreme Court.

"He has been charged with monstrous offenses," said Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., the chairman of the Judiciary Committee. "His opponents are blaming him inappropriately for what happened at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo."

## IN BRIEF

### US renews role in Mideast peace process

JERUSALEM -- After a three-year break, the United States is returning to the job of helping broker peace between Israel and the Palestinians, but it is moving cautiously for now.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, less than two weeks in office, arrived here Sunday to confer with Israeli and Palestinian leaders on the eve of their summit Tuesday in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheik. The summit could lead to a formal cease-fire.

Rice immediately declared it "a time of optimism" and said the Bush administration will help take advantage of the sudden momentum toward peace talks after 4 1/2 years of violence and despair.

### A new direction for Mexico's airlines

By the standards of the troubled aviation industry, Mexico's flagship airlines possess an endearing quality: They'll make money this year.

The long-anticipated privatization of AeroMexico and Mexicana - the twin titans of the Mexican skies - will finally go ahead this year, Mexican officials said.

The government also plans to sell two smaller carriers bundled into a single airline, probably to be called AeroNacional, which would be revamped into a low-cost carrier.

All the airlines are controlled by holding company Cintra SA, which is 55 percent owned by the state with a minority stake trading on the Mexican Bolsa.

A successful sale would herald a transformation of the Mexican airline industry -- one that could bring lower airfares and more airline service not just for Mexicans but also for tourists, businesspeople and migrant workers on the booming routes between Mexico and the United States.



KRT PHOTO

Mikhail Obozov, a university student in St. Petersburg, has launched an opposition youth group called Walking Without Putin.

### New anti-Putin youth movement draws old reaction

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia -- They came together only a few weeks ago, with a core group of about 10 university students. Quickly, they decided on their name -- Walking Without Putin.

They printed fliers, worked the Internet and got several hundred students to join an anti-government march last Saturday through the bitterly cold streets of St. Petersburg.

They also stirred up the interest of the Federal Security Service, the successor agency to the Soviet-era KGB, who told the students to change the group's name and strongly suggested not to openly criticize Russian President Vladimir Putin or the war in Chechnya.

"We shall definitely keep our name," chief organizer Mikhail Obozov said in a late-night interview in the cafe of a small hotel. "But for now, for the sake of the preservation of the movement, we might not directly mention Putin or Chechnya."

"We didn't really set ourselves up to attack the president. We just want to protect students' rights."

-Compiled from Knight Ridder Newspapers

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# IOWA NEWS

## Students, lawmakers discuss budget for lower tuition costs

By Andrew Austin  
Banner Staff Writer

Lobbyists and students met in Des Moines last week to persuade state lawmakers to increase funding for community colleges in his budget report – less than half of the \$7.8 million requested by community college lobbyists – money they hope will decrease tuition fees.

Governor Tom Vilsack has recommended allocating \$3.1 million to community colleges in his budget report – less than half of the \$7.8 million requested by community college lobbyists – money they hope will decrease tuition fees.

“Tuition should not exceed one-third of the cost of your going to school; the state should make sure that doesn’t happen,” said Wally Horn, co-chair of the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

“The state should be the primary supporter of [community colleges],” said Jack Kibbie, senate democratic president, and long-time proponent of community colleges. “We have shortchanged the community college in general state aid the last few years.”

In an effort to persuade lawmakers to allocate more funds to community colleges, community college students throughout the state gathered in Des Moines as part of the Iowa Association of Community Colleges.

“Almost 60 percent of the budget of the state treasury goes to education,” said Senator Jerry Behn. The amount of money is not the issue, but how it is utilized, Behn said.

Another topic senators and congressmen at the seminar discussed was K-12 education and its impact on community colleges.

“I’d like to see K-12 [schools] do better with their students so community colleges don’t have to remediate like they do,” Behn said.

K-12 teachers’ and community college instructors’ salaries are also an issue, Kibbie said.

“Many community college faculty members make less than their K-12 counterparts. We have left you behind,” Kibbie said.

The Iowa Congress will be in session until the end of April, with this budget marked as their top priority.



Horn



Kibbie

## A taste of Iowa

Iowa Legislature and visitors invited to sample A Taste of Iowa products

**Feb. 1, 2005 (Des Moines, Iowa)** — Members of the Iowa Legislature and visitors to the State Capitol have the opportunity to sample Iowa food products at the A Taste of Iowa® event being held Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2005, from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the first floor rotunda at the State Capitol.

Participants in this event are part of the growers, producers and manufacturers who are members

of the A Taste of Iowa® program.

Companies will host food tables featuring small samples of a wide array of Iowa products and restaurant menu items, including salsa, barbecue sauce, ice cream, meat, honey, beverages, snack/dessert items, and more.

“This is the fifth year for this very successful event,” said Gail Kotval, Manager of the A Taste of Iowa® program at the Iowa Department of Economic Development.

“It continues to be a great opportunity to help raise awareness of Iowa products.”

A Taste of Iowa® is a logo iden-

tification program developed to help consumers recognize food and agricultural products that are at least 50 percent raised, grown or processed in Iowa.

Over 1,500 Iowa food products can proudly display the A Taste of Iowa® logo on their packaging. A Taste of Iowa® is designed to help growers, producers and manufacturers sell their products to local, statewide, national and international markets.

-Press release from Taste of Iowa

## Volunteer Iowa telethon encourages Iowans to commit to serve

**Johnston, Iowa** – For the third consecutive year, Iowa Public Television and the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS) will invite viewers to commit time to helping others during Volunteer Iowa on Sunday, February 13 at 7 p.m. Organizers will this year look to surpass the milestone of one million hours of volunteer service committed by Iowans since Volunteer Iowa started in January 2003.

In this collaborative effort, IPTV will present a one-hour live broadcast aimed at collecting pledges from Iowans of volunteer hours for 2005. Viewers across the state will be invited to call (800) 308-5987 toll-free to pledge the number of hours they can volunteer in 2005. Viewers who pledge will then receive follow-up informa-

tion on how to volunteer in their communities in ways that interest them most.

“Volunteer Iowa will provide Iowans with a unique opportunity to give more to their communities and neighbors in 2005,” said Daniel K. Miller, executive director and general manager of Iowa Public Television. “Together with ICVS, we are proud to provide the link that connects engaged Iowans with organizations that need volunteer help this year. This is an important public service effort that is at the heart of Iowa Public Television’s mission to our state.”

The program will be hosted by Pat Boddy and Emmy Award-winning actor Greg Alan Williams (a Des Moines native with recent appearances on NYPD Blue and Boston Legal) and will include profiles

of Iowans already volunteering as well as opportunities to pledge hours of service. Viewers can also pledge service hours online at www.iptv.org.

After viewers call in to pledge the number of hours they can volunteer in 2005, ICVS will provide them with an information packet summarizing their pledge and providing contact information for local organizations in need of volunteers in their area.

This is the third Volunteer Iowa effort. In its first two years, Volunteer Iowa raised nearly one million hours of service from Iowans, and this year viewers will be urged to help surpass last year’s remarkable results by tuning in and pledging.

-Press release from Volunteer Iowa

## Pierce’s dismissal from Iowa permanent

By Melissa Isaacson  
Chicago Tribune

Amid growing pressure on campus and increased speculation criminal charges eventually would be filed against his star player, Iowa basketball coach Steve Alford “permanently dismissed” Westmont’s Pierre Pierce from his team on Wednesday.

“I regret this step has become necessary, but Pierre has betrayed the trust we placed in him when he was given a second chance two years ago,” Alford said in a statement. “Pierre is an excellent basketball player who will be missed by our team. But, given the circumstances, I feel this is the only appropriate response.”

Iowa athletic director Bob Bowlsby, who suspended Pierce from the team in 2002 after Pierce was charged with felonious sexual assault \_ pleaded down to a misdemeanor charge of assault causing injury to a female athlete at Iowa \_ said he doesn’t second-guess the school’s past treatment of Pierce, which many Iowa observers viewed as too lenient.

“I don’t look back and think, ‘Gee, we shouldn’t have given him a second chance,’” Bowlsby told the Chicago Tribune. “I think young people need a second chance under the right set of circumstances, but you have to hold people accountable and I think coach Alford has done that.”

The latest trouble for Pierce came after allegations of assault to commit sexual abuse against a woman in West Des Moines last week with whom he reportedly had a 2½ year relationship.

Police said Pierce is also under

## HISTORY from page 1

Urban campus, “is that DMACC has a greater percentage of minorities than ISU, U of I and UNI. We have a greater percent of ethnic representation ... while DMACC is just 10 black students shy of ISU, [Iowa State] obviously has a lot more students.”

This being said, Iowa State places a higher priority on diversity issues on campus, appreciation and representation of minority students and multicultural student affairs than DMACC. There are numerous student organizations and clubs for black students to become involved in at Iowa State, such as the black student alliance, black graduate student association and black student government.

Students at Iowa State can study African American studies, multicultural education, attend multicultural student events or go to one of several multicultural student centers located on campus.

According to Iowa State’s “Resource Guide for ISU Students of Color,” from the Multicultural Student Affairs department Web site, “We, at the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA), maintain that culture shock and racism are real and can leave you disoriented if you are left alone to transition without guidance and support from your new community.”

These efforts clearly demonstrate Iowa State’s emphasis on minority students, while a much needed change on campus in regards to the school’s diversity and inclusion of minority students is a reoccurring concern brought up by both ISU students and faculty members every year.

“DMACC shares the same emphasis [on diversity and multicultural student affairs] as Iowa State,” Gilbert said. “We place a lot

of emphasis on all ethnicities on campus, because we have a huge diversity represented at DMACC.”

On the urban campus alone, there are over 20 languages spoken by students comprised of many different ethnicities and backgrounds, Gilbert said.

Although having the highest percentage of black students in Iowa, there are only a handful of events planned at DMACC for Black History Month, all of which are being held at the Urban campus.

There is only one student organization specifically catered to black students at DMACC, the African American Student Alliance on the Urban campus, said Verl Long, multicultural liaison of the Urban campus.

Ben Conrad, the new student activities coordinator on the Boone campus, was not aware that February is Black History Month or of any events planned for it at DMACC.

“There are definitely no events [for black history month] at Boone,” Conrad said.

“Lacking isn’t an appropriate word, but there needs to be a heightened awareness at DMACC to the sensitivities of working with minority students and a diverse student population,” Gilbert said.

“In order to grow ... we must be committed to tolerating and encouraging diversity,” Gilbert said. “This is a societal issue, not just one at DMACC.”

## KIERNAN from page 1

announcement that she will be leaving the station for a position at WCCO in Minneapolis, Minn.

Kiernan says her decision to return to WHO TV brings her “full circle.”

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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 e-mailed to jmbregenzler@dmacc.edu. The Boone Banner reserves the right to edit as necessary for libelous content, profanity, copy fitting, grammatical and spelling errors or clarity.

Member of ICMA, ICCMA and the ACP



# CAMPUS NEWS

## Campus News Briefs

### CHRIS THOMAS

What: The Official Publicist for the Elizabeth Smart Family  
Where: Great Hall, Memorial Union  
When: Feb. 17, at 7 p.m.

### DMACC BLOOD DRIVE

What: Blood drive  
Where: Ankeny campus bldg. #5 gym  
When: Feb. 18, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact: Mary Lonsdale at x6376 or Barb Aubrey at x6359.

### SALON OF THE MIND

What: A philosophical discussion group of students and faculty  
Where: Courter Center, Boone Campus  
When: Monday, Feb. 14, 11:30 a.m.

### PHI BETA LAMBDA

What: Meeting  
Where: LW Courter Center  
When: Friday, Feb. 18, 11:15 a.m.

### S.A.F.E House

What: Open house  
Where: LW Courter Center  
When: Thursday, Feb. 10, 4:30 p.m.

### PHI THETA KAPPA

What: Members meeting  
Where: Room 225 Boone Campus  
When: Mondays, 12:30-1:15 p.m.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

What: DMACC MBB at Clinton Community College  
Where: Clinton gym  
When: Wednesday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

What: DMACC WBB at Iowa Western CC  
Where: Council Bluffs Gym  
When: Monday, Feb. 14, 5:30 p.m.

## Banner Survey Results

Boone campus instructors were asked to distribute surveys to students in their classes.

Nearly 400 surveys were received, the top five areas students wanted to see in the Banner are as follows:

1. News (national, state, local)
2. Sports (college/national)
3. Classified ads
4. Opinion page
5. Crossword and cartoons

### MESS from page 1

going to fall on my head," Sondergoth said.

The new heating and cooling system, parking lot and expansion on campus is set to cost approximately \$5 million.

"We purposely had the parking lot done first so that we could use it this winter," Hatch said. "I appreciate students being patient with the clutter in the hallways."

Hatch said that the new parking lot has helped tremendously. It is easier to move snow in the winter, and it decreases the number of students parking on Hancock Drive.

"The dirt and dust in the hallways can aggravate people's allergies and asthma," said Dr. McCaffrey, English instructor at the Boone campus.

The new addition north of the Courter Center will house civil engineering technology labs and classrooms, four general purpose rooms, a nursing center with two classrooms and a new bookstore, Hatch said.

"I understand that it has to be done, and there is no way around it, but I wish the crew would clean up better in the hallways," Sondergoth said.

Construction on campus, including the new furniture brought in for the classrooms, is projected to be done by Fall 2005.



Phi Beta Lambda's 2005 officers include (from left to right): Tricia Fogarty, secretary; Trudy Seidel, vice president; Linda Plueger, PBL advisor; Megan Runge, President; Kathleen Crouse, Parliamentarian; Lori Johnson, Treasurer.

## PBL pulls in 35 members

By Lori Johnson  
Banner Correspondent

Phi Beta Lambda currently has 35 members and always welcomes more to the organization.

DMACC's only student-run business organization was started by Glenn Tays in the summer of 1986.

PBL sponsors several events on the Boone campus throughout the year. These activities include:

- Fundraisers
- Adopt a family for Christmas
- Chapter Christmas party for PBL members
- Graduation luncheon
- PBL pride week
- Secretaries' Day
- Valentine's Day (guessing game for DMACC students)
- Easter (Easter egg hunt for DMACC students)
- Halloween (trick-or-treating in the hallways at DMACC for day-care kids)

Highlighting the year is the PBL State Leadership Conference, which is held in various locations throughout Iowa.

The conference joins all PBL chapters for a weekend to compete in a large assortment of events.

There are workshops and testing sessions in which each member is expected to compete in at least two.

The events and testing sessions include (but are not limited to):

- job interviews and application writing
- salesmanship presentation
- business law
- business graphics
- economics and marketing
- telecommunications/C++, java and visual basic programming
- public speaking
- accounting principles
- payroll accounting
- business math
- multimedia presentation
- computer applications and

concepts

- impromptu speaking
- Web site development
- word processing and fundamentals

This year's conference will be held Mar. 18 and 19 in Clinton, Iowa.

DMACC students leave campus late afternoon Mar. 18 and return late evening the following day.

Transportation for the weekend will be provided by DMACC.

PBL pays all expenses to attend the conference with the exception of \$10 and two meals.

Contact PBL Advisor, Linda Plueger at:

Office 201  
Phone: 433-5080  
E-mail: ljplueger@dmacc.edu

## Drama department begins rehearsals

By Andrew Austin  
Banner Staff Writer

The Boone campus drama department has begun rehearsals for the spring semester play, "Don't Mention My Name."

The production, a comedy-drama by playwright Fred Carmichael, was cast Jan. 24, and will be

directed by Kay Mueller, speech communications teacher at the Boone campus.

Nathan Edwards stars as "The Man," the main character, who is afflicted with amnesia. Longtime DMACC actress Liz Bennett plays Jane.

Tammy Hartman is Chandler; Patty Rockwell is Wilma; Jessica

Peel is Sylvia and Michele Anderson is Kitty.

The play centers around "The Man," who tries to discover his identity throughout the production, while constantly being called different names by different people.

The performance is scheduled for March 4 and 5 in the Boone

## Boone campus sets enrollment record

DMACC -- Spring semester credit enrollment at Des Moines Area Community College's Boone campus has set an all-time record, even eclipsing the fall semester numbers which are typically higher than spring semester figures.

The DMACC Boone campus credit hour enrollment is 15,306, up 4.7 percent from the 14,614 credit hours taken by Boone campus students last spring semester.

Overall, spring semester credit hour enrollment is up 1.5 percent on the six DMACC campuses and head count is up 1.6 percent.

Students are enrolled in 124,053 credit hours of classes this spring on the Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, Newton, Urban Des Moines and West Campuses and at the off-campus locations. Students were enrolled in 122,262 credit hours in the spring of 2004.

The 124,053 credit hours is also a DMACC record for a spring semester.

There are 14,291 students enrolled at the six DMACC campuses, which is a new record high for a spring semester, exceeding the 14,067 student head count in the

spring of 2004.

These figures are taken from the official enrollment figures reported to the state of Iowa on the 14th day of classes to reflect an accurate comparison between this spring and last spring.

DMACC offers credit classes in career education, career option and college parallel programs at campuses in Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, Newton, Urban Des Moines and West Des Moines.



Michele Anderson rehearses the part of Kitty for the upcoming Boone campus spring theatre production, "Don't Mention My Name."



# OPINION

## Minimize the disruption

In the back of our minds, we know the construction on the Boone Campus is for benefit of both the campus, and DMACC as a whole. In the end, we will have an amazing new addition in which to house our nursing program, bookstore, and fitness center; as well as expanded and retrofitted laboratories for the science departments.

However, the end result is a long way off. And while it may be exciting for the campus faculty and staff, the majority of the current Boone Campus students will never see the end result, much less make use of its benefits.

So we find it hard to be enthused about construction that, for all we care, equates only loud noises interrupting our lectures and dust aggravating our allergies and asthma.

We are all here to learn and the facilitation of our learning should be the primary concern of the college. If we cannot hear our lectures, or if students are forced to skip classes because of aggravated allergies, then how is our learning being facilitated?

Furthermore, the constant clutter in the hallways makes traversing those halls more like navigating an obstacle course than walking to class.

We understand that the construction presents a logistics nightmare, however, the primary concern of the campus faculty and staff should be the students currently on campus.

Not that there's a lot that could be changed to better the situation; the work has to be done and much of it can only be done during the day.

However, one would speculate that certain tasks, say requiring loud noises or inordinate amounts of dust, could be put off until such a time when the disturbance to classes would be minimized.

If drilling through the ceiling is required, then by all means, drill through the ceiling.

But perhaps said drilling could be done later or earlier in the day – times it would be less likely interrupt a class. There's nothing like missing 15 minutes of your history/English/literature instructor's lecture because someone is drilling through concrete on the other side of the door.

If overtime compensation is required to complete these tasks with minimal disruption, then perhaps that is a cost the college should consider undertaking.

*Staff editorial by Andrew Austin, managing editor*



President Bush opens with a joke....

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Winners Overlooked

I've just started reading through the latest Banner edition. I like the new layout, and admit that I haven't looked through the entire copy yet, but I have read the entire article about the Lego competition that you wrote. It was well written, however I am disappointed that you failed to mention that the winner of the 6th grade division was a local team from Ogden, and instead mentioned teams from farther away.

**-Jean Brown**

#### Too Much Canned Content

The new Boone Banner sure looks snazzy. All that color and such a nice layout. The only thing missing is an abundance of original student material.

What's the point of a student newspaper if a large part of the articles are not written by students? If there isn't enough content to fill a 12 page paper, cut it half, and spare us the nationally read filler.

I'm not trying to be mean, just offering constructive criticism.

**-Trent Kirkpatrick**

#### We want your views

Send us letters in response to the construction on the Boone campus by 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, and we will publish them in the next issue.

Here's how to get your letters to us.

E-mail: [jmbregenzer@dmacc.edu](mailto:jmbregenzer@dmacc.edu)

Letters must be signed and include your DMACC campus or hometown. Letters should not exceed 250 words.

## Super Bowl's half-time show deserves penalty flag

By James Bregenzer  
Banner Staff Writer

As can be an expected result from last year's "wardrobe malfunction," this year's half-time show, brought to you by a joint effort from the NFL and FCC, was totally safe for all viewers: a very wholesome, family-friendly production for people of all ages and levels of open-mindedness.

To be straightforward, the Super

Bowl half-time show this year was boring and a huge disappointment from years passed.

The half-time show for football's grandest game has followed a pattern of increasing grandiose and over-the-top production, for every year that I can remember seeing the show.

Following the familiar "more is more" recipe for American pop-culture production, these shows soon escalated into billion dollar

spectacles, and much like every other successful advertising campaign, included "pushing the envelope" in some regard.

And though the actual level of "entertainment quality" was arguably self-destructing, as evident in such transitions as 'Nsync and Aerosmith in 2001, to Bono and U2 the following year, to Shania Twain and No Doubt in 2003, the shows under no uncertain terms became bigger and bigger, attract-

ing larger audiences and earning more and more corporate dollars, even if shows did become tacky and shamelessly under-thought.

The climax, of course, being Justin Timberlake's ripping a piece of Janet Jackson's half-time costume away to reveal a jewelry-festooned breast, causing a nation-wide meltdown, fueled by hundreds of representatives of the overly-concerned public, that is just now starting to settle down.

I can certainly appreciate the NFL's immediate concerns and dilemma they have faced for the past several months leading up to Sunday's big event:

Book a half-time show too safe, and you break a long-standing tradition of a somewhat modern, popular show, and run the risk of advertisers pulling million-dollar advertisements, as they won't be reaching their young, intended target audience.

Book a show too risqué, and the public outcry for a more family-friendly production will cost more in legal battles and public-service announcements to actually benefit from planning the event in the first place.

This year's solution? A reflective stroll down "memory lane" with the sounds of yesteryear's billboard hits strummed out by the infamous Paul McCartney, former rock-n-roll super-star.

Although still quite entertaining, McCartney, 62, has passed his live-show prime.

This year's planning committees could have made a few more fitting

choices in booking this year's "big show."

By force-feeding the nation a show so overly-cautious and boring, the long-time fans of the Super Bowl and its half-time show are left feeling neglected and insulted.

Especially when they decided Paul McCartney would still have to be broadcast on a 5-second delay.

Granted, entertainers don't have to shock and offend their audience to have an effective show, but choreographing old Beatles' songs to fireworks and screaming teenagers seems fake, and inherently outrageous.

Sunday's answer to last year's isolated mistake was uncalled for, and insulted its viewers.

Hopefully future half-time shows will only improve from here, but this year's attempt certainly deserves a penalty flag.

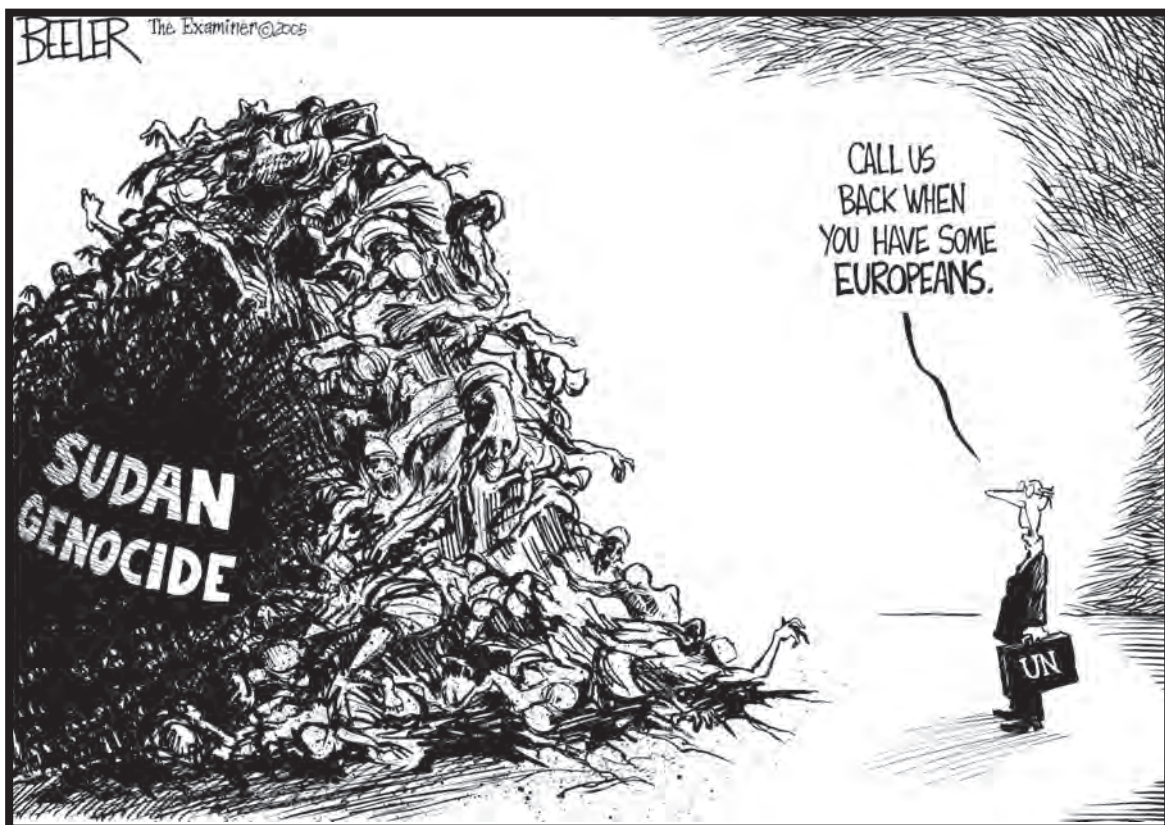
#### We want your views

Send us letters in regards to the importance of Black History Month, and DMACC's role in multicultural issues on campus by 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, and we will publish them in the next issue.

Here's how to get your letters to us.

E-mail: [jmbregenzer@dmacc.edu](mailto:jmbregenzer@dmacc.edu)

Letters must be signed and include your DMACC campus or hometown. Letters should not exceed 250 words.





# SPORTS

## DMACC men beat rival Kirkwood in Boone, 78-75.



Jarry Bennett, freshman in business, defends against Kirkwood forward, Jim Strand, for a home-court win 78-75. DMACC men are currently ranked no. 6 nationally with the National Junior College Athletic Association, with a record of 17-4 overall.



DMACC men play defense against Iowa Lakes Saturday, leading to their victory 86-70 at the Boone campus.

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Teammates watch anxiously at Kirkwood game, lose 65-70 in overtime.



DMACC women defeat Iowa Lakes Saturday, 67-58.

**PIERCE** from page 3

investigation on possible charges of burglary, intimidation and criminal mischief, alleged in the police report to have caused an estimated \$1,300 worth of damage to the woman's apartment.

Police are continuing their investigation. Pierce and his attorney, Alfredo Parrish, are expected to meet with investigators this week.

Parrish told the Associated Press that Iowa officials acted too soon in kicking Pierce off the team.

"They should have waited until all the facts were out," Parrish said. "By them jumping way ahead of the curve, we believe they have

not acted either in the best interest of the university or the best interest of the students, and clearly not in the best interest of Pierre Pierce."

But criticism on campus that Alford and Iowa officials acted inappropriately in their support of Pierce has not abated over the last two years. That Pierce was allowed to redshirt a season and return to the team\_he had to perform 200 hours of community service, receive counseling and be on probation for a year but his record eventually was expunged\_was thought to be a main cause of dwindling attendance at games, from more than 4,000 fans to about 500 in the student section.

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# YOUR PAGE

## Ben's Banter



Benjamin Bolluyt

### You're not even trying, are you?

So, in this little column last time, I begged—begged, people—for a friggin' bone. Submissions, praise, complaints, haiku, bratwurst recipes, anything.

Know what I got?

... That's what I got. A long walk to nowhere. A big community brain fart.

A "trust fall" exercise in a therapy session in which I lean back to be caught by my peers, and wake up two weeks later with a bump on my head to match my bruised ego.

I'm giving everyone the benefit of the doubt, just this once.

You may not have known where to find my e-mail address, [bjbolluyt@dmacc.edu](mailto:bjbolluyt@dmacc.edu), which is also located in the staff box on page two, next to everybody else's.

Or, you may have been turned off by the editor's changes in my previous column.

The Cubs suck.

But consider this fair warning: sending zero submissions leaves me in charge of this entire page of print.

Anything I feel like writing, it's going in.

Excruciatingly detailed accounts of cloud formations, squirrels in my backyard, plumbing instructions.

You don't want to leave this up to me, people.

## Time to get crackin' - the big day is fast approaching

By Rachel Sutherland  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Mama always said it's the thought that counts. When it comes to Valentine's Day, the more thought, the better. The from-the-heart holiday is just days away and you've been putting off today what you could do tomorrow. Do you still have time to impress? You betcha. If you get crackin' now, you'll stay out of trouble with your sweetie. Here, are some ideas that will earn you hugs and kisses, and can be pulled off with a minimum of fuss.

### DO-IT-YOURSELF

There's nothing more special for your sweetie than a one-of-a-kind gift you made with your own hands.

Flowers are an evergreen Valentine gift, but thinking outside the box will score you points for creativity (not to mention saving you some bucks). Think volume and space: A single carnation is just cheesy (they're the generic of the flower world), but a tightly-packed, wide-mouthed bowl of red carnations is stunning. Buy at least

two dozen carnations of a single color, find a suitable vessel, trim the stems uniformly, and pack 'em in. A lush bow would be a nice finishing touch.

Express your inner creativity with stamps, velvet and lace: Make your own one-of-a-kind Valentine.

### GET SHOPPING

You don't have to spend a bundle to show your beloved that your heart is true. Just Born, the creator of Marshmallow Peeps, has launched a new Valentine's Day Decorating Kit complete with four pink, sugared marshmallow hearts and a tube of decorating gel and tips on how to personalize your Peeps. \$1.99. Multiple retailers.

Valentine's Day doesn't have to be all hearts and cupid. Defy convention and go for colorful gifts. Just about anything red or pink will do, but choose wisely. A sassy, hot-pink wallet or suave red argyle socks will remind your sweetie of your love all year long. Banana Republic rocks the lace on killer pumps (below), \$128. Banana Republic stores at various locations and online at [www.bananarepublic.com](http://www.bananarepublic.com).

## Can-do fondue

By Nicholas Boer  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Even if you can't cook. Even if you're a man who opens cans. Even if you are more curmudgeon than Casanova. You can make fondue on Valentine's Day.

Try it. She'll melt.

Pop a bottle of Champagne. Pour some for her and a cup for the pot.

Pour a bag of chocolate chips in a bowl and douse it with Grand Marnier. Nuke it on high for two minutes.

Stir until smooth.

Bust out the strawberries.

Start dipping.

I shopped and made this fondue last week after a long day at work.

I took notes so you can follow the bouncing ball.

### CHOCOLATE FONDUE

Serves 2

You can use whatever chocolate and liqueur you prefer. High-quality dark chocolate (such as Valrhona or Scharffen Berger) and Grand Marnier make a particularly deadly fondue, but if milk chocolate chips and Kahlua (or coffee if she is a teetotaler) is what she likes, that works, too.

You can also dip whatever type of fruit you like: bananas, pineapple and mango are all good. Pound cake, cut into squares, is also nice.

12 ounces grated dark chocolate

¼-½ cup Grand Marnier

Fresh strawberries

### SET THE TABLE

It might be a cliché, but it couldn't be more true: The quickest way to the heart is through the stomach.

Confident in the kitchen? You can't go wrong with surf and turf. Pick up lobster tails and filets and wow your date.

Want someone else to cook for you? Make a reservation. Today. Many restaurants are offering dinner specials on Feb. 14.

### DO-IT-YOURSELF

Think of it as a mix tape for the new millennium: Make your honypie a CD chock-full of love songs. They can be silly, syrupy sweet or sexy. If you're at a loss, check out the "My Groove" section of [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com). There, you can download a prescreened selection of tunes (including Sam Cooke, Willie Nelson and Stevie Wonder) for about \$25. If you're feeling lucky, try [www.tinymixtapes.com](http://www.tinymixtapes.com). Send in a topic and a song list is generated for you.

## Totally Accurate Horoscopes

By Forte DeMusique  
Banner Correspondent

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Your sign is noted for humanitarianism and progressive ideologies. That's fine, hippie, but get a job already. Fraggie Rock videos do not bring equality to all mankind.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** You're passionate, but humble, and often imitate your friends to hide your own insecurities. You should stop; you're actually much cooler than them.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** Your ambition usually brings you great success, and no obstacle seems insurmountable. This week, however, you should definitely say no the guy who makes the call about the thing at the place.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** Either you're self-assured, stubborn, and determined, or your parents are lying about your date of birth. Sorry, that's the way it is. If the description does fit, then it won't matter how we tell you to live your life, will it?

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** You're good with words. You should talk to Jan LaVille, because the Banner needs some writers. In fact, the guy on horoscopes doesn't even care about your future.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** Your emotions can whip you around like a cat by its tail. I'm allergic to cats. Therefore, don't get too emotional because you might end up on my face, and I'll sneeze on your belly.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** The pride for which you're known isn't necessarily a bad thing; however, the "Princess" shirt isn't fooling anybody.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** You're analytical and discriminating. This is excellent because your opinion is needed: Are these horoscopes just a big, fat pile of horse excrement, or what?

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Your diplomatic skills are formidable, but you've been reaching too far: owing to a long football rivalry, Bud and Bud Light will never, ever get along. Accept it.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** It's time to combine your attributes of creativity and loyalty. That sonnet/dance routine/brownie recipe you've been working on is just what your senator/teacher/family needs to break out of its depression/funk/cell.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** You enjoy the moment, sometimes sacrificing responsibility to do so. If I steal your job, can we still hang out? 'Cuz you're fun.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** You're practically the opposite of my whimsical friend the Sagittarius: ambitious and successful, you often overlook the little joys in life. Hopefully you understand, when I hang out with him instead of you, that it's still okay for you to buy me stuff.

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The Boone Banner will soon be offering a classified section for all students who are interested in placing ads. We will be offering ad space for \$5 per ad for 20 words or less.

Contact the Banner to place an ad, or to find out more information.

(515)433-5092 or e-mail your ad to [jmgolembiewski@dmacc.edu](mailto:jmgolembiewski@dmacc.edu)



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**A College Girl Named Joe**

By Aaron Warner



**2 Dudes**

By Aaron Warner



**DITHERED TWITS** by Stan Waling



Pet Cuss Words

**You Are Here** By Aaron Warner



**Crossword**

- ACROSS**  
 1 Work stint  
 6 Pouchlike structures  
 10 Guitar adjuncts, briefly  
 14 Core group  
 15 North Carolina university  
 16 Bearing  
 17 Poe's middle name  
 18 "Auntie \_\_\_"  
 19 Notion  
 20 \_\_\_ there, done that  
 21 Scattering  
 23 Drink voucher  
 25 "Exodus" author  
 26 June celebrant  
 29 Warded off  
 31 Ovine statement  
 34 Political refugee  
 36 Uncanny state  
 38 Episcopal cleric  
 39 Steno book  
 40 Municipal  
 41 Unbalanced  
 43 Formal attire  
 44 Silent assent  
 45 Carnal  
 47 Permit to  
 48 Sound quality  
 49 Type of school  
 51 Unstoppable  
 55 Plaster support  
 59 Resting atop  
 60 Actress Skye  
 61 Far from specific  
 62 Roofer's supply item  
 63 Type of curl  
 64 Endangered layer  
 65 Vamoose!  
 66 Kennedy and Williams  
 67 Engaged in

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- DOWN**  
 1 Wound covering  
 2 Healthy  
 3 Inactive  
 4 Former French currency unit  
 5 Q's Scrabble value

- Solutions**
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 10 Out of order  
 11 Calf-length skirt  
 12 Ball-shaped hammerhead  
 13 Hosiery mishap  
 21 Nose follower?  
 22 Mockery  
 24 Ford of films  
 26 Baffin Island's neighbor  
 27 Essential acid  
 28 Chopped into small cubes  
 30 Peruses  
 31 Slanted surface  
 32 Stage whisper  
 33 Fancy cravat  
 35 Regular or high-test  
 37 Veto  
 39 Actress Cruz  
 42 Molar mender  
 43 Old salts  
 46 Bothers  
 48 Principle of faith  
 50 Public square  
 51 Monotonous routines  
 52 Historical novel  
 53 "Damn Yankees" vamp  
 54 Blyton or Bagnold  
 56 Excited  
 57 Ditty  
 58 Pay attention to  
 61 Oath



# FEATURES

## Silicon Corner

# Shut down your computer with one click

By Jim Johnson  
Banner Correspondent

Does it annoy you that Windows makes you open the start menu to do something as simple as shut down your computer? Well, maybe not very annoying to casual users, but to Über-geeks like me, it is. You open the Start menu, click Shutdown, then click Shutdown again (as if the computer thinks you clicked on that button accidentally the first time, although I'm not sure how you could mistake Shutdown for something like Open Program, etc.) After all of this, the computer finally shuts down. Okay, enough ranting, let's move on. Long-winded power-downs, be gone, for I have some Windows "hacks" that will make your system shut off with a simple double-click of the mouse button.

All of these tricks involve creating a new shortcut icon on your Windows desktop. You do this by right-clicking anywhere on the screen, and in the menu that appears, select New, then from another sub-menu select Shortcut. You will be prompted to enter a location path for the shortcut to run from. From here, things will vary depending on what version of Windows you're running. For Windows 98 users, enter the following location exactly as it is written here: C:\Windows\rundll.exe user.exe, exitwindows. If your hard drive is a different letter than C, just replace it with whatever your hard drive's letter is. Once you have entered the location, click Next, enter a name for the shortcut and click Finish. You now have a shortcut icon on your desktop that will shut off your computer with a click of the mouse.



The instructions for Windows XP are slightly different. Not only do you have a simpler command path to enter, but you can also further customize how the computer shuts down. Like in the previous instructions, first create a new shortcut, then when you are prompted to enter a location path, enter one of the following switch commands listed below. This depends on how you would like the computer to shut down. Again, once you have entered the desired command, click Next, name the shortcut and click Finish.

For a basic shutdown type: shutdown -s  
For a timed shutdown type: shutdown -t X  
Replace X with a numerical value from 1 to 60, and when you shutdown, the computer will countdown from that number before actually shutting down.

For a personalized shutdown type: shutdown -c X

Replace X with your own personal message that you want the computer to say on shutdown. This message can be anything you want. For example, if you enter something like shutdown -c, I am shutting off, a message saying I am shutting off will be displayed before the computer powers down.

For a brute-force shutdown type: shutdown -f

This command switch forces your computer to shutdown regardless of what programs you have open, so if you use this switch, always remember to save your work beforehand.

While the following commands do not shut your computer down, they can be used for security purposes. Enter them as you would any of the other commands.

To logout with a single click type: shutdown -l

To lockdown your computer type: rundll32.exe user32.dll,LockWorkStation

To use this command, you must have a password protected XP user account. This command keeps you logged in but locks the desktop to keep others from using the system.

To get back in, simply click your user icon and enter your password.

Questions or comments? Did I make a mistake in a certain article? E-mail me at jrjohnson86@gmail.com.

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# ENTERTAINMENT



**Gabe-**  
I love your earring!  
-Anonymous

**Jan-**  
You can edit my stuff any day. You rule.  
-Ben

**Jamesy-**  
Happy Valentine's Day Sweetie! I love you very much! Love you! 567  
Love always,  
JoJo

**Joanna-**  
I love you!  
-JB

**Jane Martino-**  
You make birth fun!  
-Andrew

**Michele-**  
I saw you. I like you.  
-Ryan

**B-RAD G-**  
Baller, you rock my world, Dawg—Keep it real 'cause I love you!  
-Jules

**Tracey K.-**  
You are the Best of the Best.  
-Travis H.

**Ben-**  
The more we hang out, the more I like you. Remember when you hit yourself in the face with a tennis racket? Your swollen lip is hott  
-Liz

**Liz-**  
You kill me. Seriously, I'm living dangerously, here, and peril never felt so good.  
-Ben

**Jessica-**  
You have expanded the breath and range of my mind—I have since listened to Maroon5. Thank you.  
-Anonymous

**Porkchop & Kelli,**  
To the two coolest cats in the world. You ain't been missin'. You been hangin' with them pimpens!  
Love ya,  
B-RAD & Jules

**Mickie-**  
I miss you! It's been a long time. I love you!  
-Smelly Cat (from B10154)

**Quentin Kocher,**  
Just wanted to say Happy Valentine's Day, honey. Ten years together, and I love you just as much if not more as our first day together.  
Love always,  
Sonja XX00

## 'Cause Celeb' a good read-through

By Megan Shadle  
Banner Staff

Helen Fielding's first book, *Cause Celeb*, is a hilarious, serious story about a single woman trying to escape her hectic life in London and ex-boyfriend, to run a refugee camp in Africa. *Cause Celeb* is loosely based on her own life and first years as a publicist in London in the 1980s.

Literary publicist, Rosie Richardson, is fed up with her London lifestyle, her boyfriend and her friends, so she decides to manage a refugee camp in Africa; she knows nothing about how to run one or what she plans to do.

All she knows is she has to get away from it all.

Rosie Richardson dreams of dating Oliver, a hot-shot TV presenter, but when they finally meet and date, she sees a side of him that she doesn't like, a woman who

bases her life around a man.

She tells her boss, her friends and Oliver of her plans in Africa. She persists with her plans despite their disapproval.

While in Africa, the other volunteers run into a huge problem: a massive famine hits hard and disease starts to set in on the refugees.

She has to find food fast, so she uses her publicist skills to convince a few top celebrities to help raise money to help the starving refugees in Africa.

The book jumps around quite a bit, but it's an easy read, because she has so many exciting things happening to her - one right after another.

It is a real page turner.

I personally recommend this book for those who like comedy, romance and of course the heart ache of a break up.

## Will Smith talks of his comic return to romance

By Annette John-Hall  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

He's fought off aliens, drug lords, the CIA and - ay! - robots. Heck, he even brought George Foreman to his knees. Now, in "Hitch," his first romantic comedy since he burst onto the small screen as the Fresh Prince, Will Smith finds himself in



Smith

the battle of the sexes.

Smith, the quintessential ladies' man \_ who's resplendent with his actress wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, on the cover of this month's *Esence* \_ plays "date doctor" Alex Hitchens, creating situations to help ordinary guys snag the girls of their dreams.

"No matter what, no matter when, no matter who, any man has a chance to sweep any woman off her feet," Hitch observes. "He just needs the right broom."

A smooth operator, funny and debonair, Smith demonstrates in "Hitch," which opens Friday, that he's just as proficient at wooing the sultry Sara (Eva Mendes) as he is at beating back three-headed monsters.

Which doesn't exactly come as a rev-

elation. Even during his days as the fun-loving, slightly goofy Fresh Prince, Smith had "leading man" written all over him. But it has taken Smith, 36, more than a decade to make his way back to romance.

"I'm much more at home in the romantic comedy genre," he says by telephone from Honolulu, where he was promoting the film.

"Anybody who loved the Fresh Prince will love Hitch."



# 2005 BLUE CREW



PHOTO: BRANDON KLEINKE / BOONE BANNER

The 2005 Blue Crew. DMACC's only women's dance team posed for a picture before their first performance at the Kirkwood men's basketball game.  
Front row: Jaime Nissen, Sarah Litwiller, Spring Tomkins, Jessica Peel, Sarah Clemons, Michelle Anderson  
Middle row: Crystal Hansen, Heather Lee, Christina Bear, Kelly Whitmore, Christie Fitzgerald  
Back row: Katie Nugent, Tasha Riddle, Jessica Millward, Gennypher Robinson

## Dancing their way through halftime

*Bear Crew wows crowds during halftime shows*

By Sarah Vasquez  
Banner Staff Writer

The Blue Crew, a DMACC student dance team, has been a popular addition to the halftime routine of the men's and women's basketball games since last semester.

The Crew has expanded considerably since last semester, and now is comprised of approximately 15 student dancers. The squad first performed this year at the Kirkwood game, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The dance routines performed by the Crew are choreographed by members of the squad; Spring Tomkins choreographed the first routine, and Jessica Peel arranged the second.

The squad practices every Tuesday and Sunday for approximately two hours each day, learning dance routines. No official tryouts were held, and dancers have joined the team throughout the semester.

"There weren't any tryouts," said Shelby Hildreth, the advisor and



PHOTO: BRANDON KLEINKE / BOONE BANNER

Kelly Whitmore, freshman at DMACC from Webster City, during the Bear Crew's first half-time performance at the Kirkwood basketball game.

organizer for the team. "The girls just have to be able to perform."

The squad is holding a "Kids Camp" for children in third-sixth grades at the Boone and Ogden elementary schools. The children are able to learn a dance routine with the Crew. The dance will be performed with the children at the

halftime show of the women's basketball game, on Feb. 28.

Dancers interested in joining the squad are still able to do so, and should contact Hildreth.



PHOTO: BRANDON KLEINKE / BOONE BANNER

Spring Tomkins, sophomore in accounting and captain of the Bear Crew team, during the its first half-time performance at the Kirkwood basketball game.