

## Des Moines Area Community College Open SPACE @ DMACC

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Banner News

Student Work

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3-31-2004

# Banner News

Josh Hutt

James Joy

Alisha Benson

Laura Griffin

Laura Soder

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Josh Hutt, James Joy, Alisha Benson, Laura Griffin, Laura Soder, Brandon Kleinke, Jess Baldus, and Gabi Butler

## Boone Campus sophomore named 'best poet'

2004 DMACC Creative Writing  
Winners

**Winner of the scholarship  
and best overall writer,**  
by Amy Lamm, of Ogden.

**Winner of the half-time scholar-  
ship and runner-up best writer**

Diana L. Edwards, of Adel,

**Winner of best story**

"Incomplete," By Bennett Jenkins,  
of Des Moines.

**Runner-up, best story**

"Domestic," By P. J. McRae, of Des  
Moines.

**Winner of best poem**

"New Kid in School," By Laura  
Griffin, of Boone.

**Runner-up, best poem**

"Secrets," by Jennifer Piatt, of Des  
Moines

**Honorable Mention:**

Josh Beck, for "The Best Poem You  
Ever Read."

Matt Gilmore, for "Adrift at Sea."

Josh Hutt

Banner Staff

Laura Griffin, Boone campus sopho-  
more was the winner of the best poem in  
the DMACC creative writing contest for  
her poem, "New Kid in School."

"I was shocked. I jumped up and down  
and said 'wahoo,'" Griffin commented on  
her achievement.



Laura Griffin

Originally from Angleton, Texas, she  
based her poem on her experience when  
her family moved from Texas to Iowa.  
"My inspiration was Boone, Iowa."

Griffin is a member of Phi Theta  
Kappa, the choir, and was the former edi-  
tor in chief of the Banner.

Griffin was awarded \$100, while run-  
ner up poet, Jennifer Piatt, received \$50.

The results of the DMACC creative  
writing contest were announced on March  
2. The contest received entries from all  
DMACC campuses.

The 26 students who entered the contest  
submitted over 100 pieces of work. Cash  
prizes, or scholarships, were awarded to  
the winners and runner ups.

Amy Lamm of Ogden received best  
overall writer and was given a \$900 schol-  
arship. Runner up, Diana L. Edwards, of  
Adel, was given \$450. Bennett Jenkins  
won best story and received \$100. The  
runner up, P.J. McRae of Des Moines,  
received \$50.

The judges also recognized the two  
honorable mentions, Josh Beck and Matt  
Gilmore.

The awards were given at a luncheon  
on Tuesday, March 30 on the Ankeny  
Campus.

**New Kid In  
School**

by Laura Griffin

Standing alone  
At the entrance  
Pine petrified.  
A breeze blows  
Yet keeps me standing.  
Mocking birds,  
Answering calls of others,  
Pay me no heed.  
They walk with noses  
in the air.  
Long abundant snake grass  
Snickers behind me.  
The sun,  
Warm and smiling  
when I arrived,  
Now hides behind  
a paper mountain  
On an oak desk.  
A stream  
Whispers to me,  
In a language  
I can't comprehend.  
I step  
Into the shaded room,  
All goes silent.

## A campus divided, 'under God' sparks debate

James Joy  
Banner Staff

Leaning back in his chair pondering  
lesson plans, Bruce Kelly studies the com-  
puter screen of notes from his upcoming  
class. However, Kelly is always ready to  
discuss politics.

The issue in front of the Supreme Court  
is whether the pledge of allegiance with  
the words "under God" should be banned.  
It is a debate that seems to be as old as  
the pledge itself. Does the pledge serve  
as an oath to our patriotism to the United  
States or a form of prayer that is violating  
student's rights across the country?

Kelly, a political science and history  
instructor, pointed out the fact the words  
"under God" were put into the pledge in  
1954, in a response to the growing threat  
of communism. "I think it should be taken  
out because it was put in for very religious  
reasons," said Kelly. Kelly's views mir-  
ror many faculty comments; however, a  
majority of the students feel the opposite.

"The separation of church and state is a  
good thing," said Kelly. "We do not have  
the religious conflicts and wars like other  
countries because the government does  
not promote any religion," said Kelly.  
He believes that religious practices are a  
private matter and do not belong in any  
dealings with the federal government.

Last year, Michael Newdow sued the  
Sacramento County, California, school  
district his daughter attended. He claimed  
that reciting the pledge in public by stu-  
dents violates his 10-year-old child's  
rights to religious freedom. Newdow has  
said that it becomes unconstitutional when  
nonparticipating students are forced to  
hear the pledge recited. He says that the  
pledge is approved by the federal govern-  
ment because it is teacher-led. Newdow  
told the justices that it violates the separa-  
tion of church and state.

Tammy Foltz, a Boone adjunct instruc-  
tor, believes that the intentions of some to  
change the pledge are unnecessary. "God  
is referred to in a way that makes it an  
ambiguous term," said Foltz.

Some of the arguments from the jus-  
tices followed the same ideology. They  
questioned if "under God" was a doorway  
to the government indoctrinating people  
to a particular religion. "God is generic in  
this context as to be a neutral expression  
of belief," said Supreme Court Justice  
Stephen Breyer.

Some of the students on the Boone  
campus are against the removal of "under  
God" in the pledge. "This country was  
founded on what was right and wrong and  
pure," said Ron Schmidtke, a DMACC

Continued on page 4

## Summer classes offer variety

Alisha Benson  
Banner Staff

Students should look for changes this  
summer.

Several class-  
es previously  
unavailable in  
the summer  
semester will  
be offered this  
year, an Urban  
instructor will  
be teaching at  
the Boone cam-  
pus, and stu-  
dents will have  
the option of  
selecting  
classes from an  
eight-week time  
frame.

Danielle  
Wirth, who cur-  
rently teaches at  
the Urban cam-  
pus, will be coming to the Boone campus  
to teach BIOL 172 this summer. Rita  
Davenport, educational adviser, said, "I  
think students who need an elective and  
like being outdoors will have a great  
time."

Summer classes will be available in  
three different time frames this summer. A  
student may choose to take a class for two,  
eight, or ten weeks. This is the first sum-

mer that DMACC  
will offer eight-  
week classes.

Two-week  
interim classes  
take place before  
the regular sum-  
mer semester  
begins. George  
Silberhorn, asso-  
ciate provost,  
said, "They are  
very time consum-  
ing and require  
a very dedicated  
student."

The campus  
has decided to  
try the eight-  
week classes for  
the first time this

summer and see how students and teach-  
ers feel about them. Silberhorn mentioned  
that teachers have displayed concern  
about getting all the material in within  
eight weeks. However, these teachers will  
receive an extra two

### New Summer classes

Classes offered for the first time in the sum-  
mer semester will include  
BIOL 172: Restoration of Native Plant  
Communities  
EDCR 165: Education of Exceptional  
Learners  
GEOG 147: Developed World  
PHYE 155: Theory of Coaching  
PLSC 121: World Politics  
PLSC 122: Comparative Political Systems  
JNAD 121: Basic Reporting Principles

Interim classes being offered this summer  
include

COMS 181: Intro to Computer Literacy  
SPCH 117: Interpersonal Speech  
PSCH 101: Intro to Psychology



# Literary Arts Festival showcases award winning talent

**Laura Griffin**  
Banner Staff

Live music, literary readings and the announcement of the winners of the local creative writing contest will all happen on Monday, April 12 at the Boone Campus for the second annual Celebration of the Literary Arts Festival.

Director of the festival, Rick Christman, said, "Any of our students and community members interested in writing and literature will benefit from hearing these writers read and discuss their works."

Judy Hauser, English instructor, said, "The local contest generated 12 entries consisting of short stories and poetry."

Students submitted one to five entries being either poems or fictional short stories. Cash awards of-\$100, awarded to

best short story and best poem and \$50 to second place and \$25 to third place will be given by the DMACC Boone Foundation.

Judges for the local contest Jim Kastner, a DMACC English instructor from Newton; Joan Morlan, an educational advisor on the Carroll Campus; and Joa LaVille, librarian at the Marshalltown Public Library.

"The judges have an April 7 deadline, but the winner will be announced at the Literary Arts Festival on April 12," Hauser said.

Rob Lumbarde will provide music from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. in the Courter Center for the festival.

Lumbarde, from Des Moines, and is a songwriter, guitarist, and singer. He has received an Emmy for one of his projects. Lumbarde is a member of the Central Iowa Blues Society, and participates in the Blues in the Schools program. He has opened for acts such as Lyle Lovett, The Band, Jerry Jeff Walker.

In the auditorium, Sharon Oard Warner and Kevin Stein will be reading from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Warner lives in Albuquerque and

authored the novel "Deep in the Heart," and "Learning to Dance and Other Stories," a short-story collection. She is the director of creative writing at the University of New Mexico and founding director of UNM's Taos Summer Writers' Conference. She is the editor of "The Way We Write Now: Short Stories from the AIDS Crisis," an anthology.

Stein holds the position of Illinois' Poet Laureate since December 2003 and is a professor of English and director for the creative writing program at Bradley University. He has collections such as "Chance Ransom," "Bruised Paradise," and "A Circus of Want." He has written two books, "Private Poets" and "Worldly Acts." Stein has many honors, such as poetry's Frederick Bock Prize, 1998 "Indiana Review" poetry prize, and three Illinois Arts Council Literary Awards. He is a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Fellowship.

Christman chooses the writers who are going to be reading and discussing their works.

## PBL State Leadership Conference

**WAVERLY**—Members of the Omicron Zeta Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (DMACC's professional business organization) sent 12 delegates to the 58th annual Iowa Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference, held on March 12 and 13 at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.

Members from the Des Moines Area Community College, Boone Chapter, joined over 100 business students from across Iowa in competition for the chance to represent the state at the National Leadership Conference in Denver in July. College membership in Phi Beta Lambda includes over 200 students statewide.

There were chapter, team, and individual events held at this Leadership Conference. The Boone chapter was awarded as the second largest PBL chapter in Iowa. Several students attending from the Boone Campus placed in the top five in their events. Students who placed first and second in their events can travel to Denver to compete nationally.

The 11 colleges that participated in the conference included DMACC-Ankeny, DMACC-Boone, DMACC-Des Moines, Franciscan University, Hamilton College-Cedar Rapids, Hamilton College-Des Moines, Simpson College, University of Iowa, Upper Iowa University, Wartburg College, and the Virtual chapter.

All students would appreciate any sponsorship individuals, groups, or businesses would like to give them to help in this effort. Contact Linda Plueger at 515-433-5080 for information on how to do this.

**AWARD WINNERS**

### First Place

Tricia Fogarty  
**Business Communications**

Anthony Morris  
**Payroll Accounting**

### Second Place

Kathleen Crouse  
**Multimedia Presentation**

Kathleen Crouse  
**Word Processing**

Cynthia Gaunt  
**Business Communications**

Kristi Hanson  
**Accounting for Professionals**

Kristi Hanson  
**Economics**

Lori Johnson  
**Multimedia Presentation**

Anthony Morris  
**Marketing**

Karen Shepard  
**Multimedia Presentation**

Megan Runge  
**Salesmanship Presentation**

**Third Place Winners**

Sandy Anderson  
**Job Interview**

Tricia Fogarty  
**Desktop Publishing**

Cynthia Gaunt  
**Word Processing Fundamentals**

Donna Jackson  
**Business Law**

Anthony Morris  
**Impromptu Speaking**

Megan Runge  
**Word Processing**

Trudy Seidel  
**Desktop Publishing**

**Chapter Winner**

Largest Chapter  
**Second Largest Chapter in Iowa**

## In DMACC News

### Phi Beta Lambda to sponsor egg hunt

Phi Beta Lambda is getting ready for an Easter egg hunt on Wednesday, April 7. If you get to campus early enough to find an Easter egg, keep the number inside because this lets Phi Beta Lambda members know what prize you have won.

Tables will be set up in the Courter Center from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to allow students to claim their prizes. An assortment of prizes match the number found in the eggs.

### DMACC doubles scholarship amount in Rising STAR program

Scores of Iowa high school graduating seniors will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the Des Moines Area Community College Foundation to attend any of the six DMACC campuses for the 2004-05 academic year.

It's all part of DMACC's Rising STAR (Students striving Toward Achievement and Responsibility) program, which was unveiled last year. The DMACC Foundation will be providing a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior from every school district in DMACC's 11-county area. Last year, the DMACC Foundation offered a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from every school district in DMACC's district.

The scholarship is not necessarily for those students with the most outstanding academic records, but for students who have not yet made a commitment to attend college because of concerns over cost factors.

"We want to support students who would be willing to work hard for a two-year college degree, if only they had some initial financial help getting started and continual assistance in working through financial aid issues," said DMACC President Robert Denson.

Once admitted and on the road to success, these "Rising Stars" would receive any assistance needed from DMACC's staff in seeking other forms of financial aid to support their studies.

The principal at each high school in DMACC's district, can nominate one graduating senior for this award. The DMACC Foundation will confirm the awarding of the scholarship for the upcoming fall semester during the month of May.

For more information, contact DMACC Foundation Executive Director Joe Rippetoe at (515) 964-6447.

Entries now being taken for intramural volleyball and flag football. Contact Lisa Mathes at ext. 5051 or email at ldmathes@dmacc.edu.

## Banner

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### Editorial policy

Boone Banner welcomes letters in an attempt to provide a forum for the many diverse views of the campus. The views expressed in Boone Banner are not necessarily the views or endorsements of Des Moines Area Community College or the Boone Banner editorial board. Letters should be no longer than 250 words, signed and brought to the editorial offices of Boone Banner or can be e-mailed to jrlaville@dmacc.edu or mailed in care of the college. Boone Banner reserves the right to edit as necessary for libelous content, profanity, copy-fitting, grammatical and spelling errors or clarity.

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# Outdoor class to offer rare look at Iowa's native plant communities



photo by Alisha Benson

**Danielle Wirth, instructor for the five-week summer class called Restoration of Native Plant Communities.**

**Alisha Benson**  
*Banner Staff*

A new class, Restoration of Native Plant Communities (BIOL 172) will be offered this summer.

Danielle Wirth, Urban campus instructor will be teaching the class. Wirth developed this class because she "likes to play outside." The class will be outdoors most of the time, with some lectures and reading as well.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the DNR have partnered with DMACC to make the class possible.

Bill Johnson, wildlife biologist with the DNR will be working with Wirth through the duration of the class. Johnson's main focus is on restoring grassland habitat. "This class is a great introduction to the outdoors and why things are the way they are," said Johnson.

Charlene Jensen, project forester with the Corps of Engineers will be working with Wirth as well. Jensen's main focus is on savannah. "The class will give students a great history lesson about Iowa," said Jensen.

The DNR and Corps of Engineers will be supplying their expertise along with some tools such as lopping shears and axes.

Wirth taught this class as an independent study two years ago at Urban, and she said it was very successful. She proposed teaching this class to the different DMACC campuses. Boone campus was the first to support the program, and she said it had the strongest supporters.

BIOL 172 is a five-week intensive class that will meet June 1 to July 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is an elective course worth three credits. Prerequisites for this class are an environmental science class or instructor's permission. Wirth limited the class size to 15 students. She has three or four students coming from the Urban campus to take the class.

Wirth said that Iowa is the most biologically altered state in the nation, and this is the best place for restoration ecology: the science of restoring the landscape. Johnson said, "Eighty percent of Iowa used to be prairie; very few Iowans have seen a true prairie."

The class will be outdoors most of the time, with some lectures and reading involved as well.

Wirth plans to start the course with action and then go into theory. She believes education is a cycle that can be started anywhere. "We will go out and do the restoration, then go talk about it," said

Wirth.

Students will learn about topics such as environmental ethics, botany, soil science, water management, and technology. They will be able to experience things first hand.

A prairie and a savannah are located only 11 minutes from campus south of Camp Mitigwa on the Des Moines River. Students will have the opportunity to do management to enhance and restore these areas. "Students will see the effects in several days," mentioned Wirth.

Three of the four books the class will read were written by Iowa authors. The class will get the opportunity to meet two of the authors.

Wirth has worked for the Corps of Engineers and the DNR in the past. She was once a park ranger as well. She has been teaching biology since she got her doctorate. Wirth currently teaches field biology, environmental science and lab, and ecology of Iowa at the Urban campus, as well as environmental ethics at Iowa State. She is also a recruiter for the Iowa Farmers Union.

Wirth's goal for the future is to have as many college campuses restoring central Iowa as possible.

## Summer classes give new opportunity

Continued from page 1

week break in August, since classes will end earlier. "I'm interested to see how it pans out," said Silberhorn.

At the bottom of the class listing in the summer course schedule it will say if it is an eight-week class.

Ten-week classes last the traditional amount of time for summer classes. They will meet at the days and times sched-

uled.

Students can register for summer classes now up until the first week of classes. "Classes fill up fast, so for students to get the classes they want, they should register as early as possible," said Nancy Moeller, office assistant.

When registering for classes students need to check the ending dates to find out if the classes are eight- or ten-week.

## 60 years of Elizabeth Taylor poster presentation



photo by James Joy

Kendall Natvig, Spanish teacher, collects Elizabeth Taylor movie posters. He buys them from all over the world and owns all but four of Taylor's movie posters. He presented a portion of his collection to the Community Connections meeting on March 30.

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## DMACC benefits from grant

Laura Soder  
Banner Staff

Starting with the 2004-2005 school year, students will benefit from Title III Grant that was recently issued to DMACC.

The Title III Strengthening Developing Institutions Grant is expected to help students labeled at-risk and under-prepared become more equal to successful students. According to Eden Pearson, the Activity Director for the project and an English instructor on Ankeny Campus, this will be done by offering new programs to help students with their education and then getting feedback from them on whether or not the new plans have worked.

The first year of the program will start with an emphasis on improving students' English skills. This will include tutoring and new computer programs. Year two will focus on the same things, but in the area of math. Year three will concentrate on student's understanding of information literacy and critical thinking courses. After that the program will be maintained.

Students will start to be involved in the Grant's offerings in several ways. More advising is planned to be incorporated into orientation classes, more tutoring will be available, and some changes to classes are in the works.

"To me, as an English teacher, the number one success characteristic of students is motivation," said Pearson.

With the Title III Grant, DMACC will help students become motivated by finding at-risk students. Unfortunately, Pearson says there is no one variable that jumps out and identifies an at-risk student. Usually, a student will start to be unsuccessful after a bad midterm grade report. Under the Grant, students will be assigned to an advisor at this point to help them pick better suited classes and be in touch with tutors to help with current classes.

## 'Under God' debate

Continued from page 1

student from Jewel. "I don't think that it should be removed from the pledge."

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said there are so many references to God in public affairs, noting "In God We Trust" was on U.S. currency and coins. She also said the Supreme Court opens all its public sessions with the words, "God save the United States and this honorable Court."

The First Amendment bans government establishment of religion, but the Supreme Court twice previously has declared the pledge constitutional.

A ruling in the case is expected by early July.

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# Conis: off the beat, into the classroom

**Josh Hutt**  
Banner Staff

Walking with a blue coffee cup in hand and a brief case in the other, Pete Conis strides to criminology class at a fast pace.

After sharing gruesome crime scene photos with the class, Conis asks his students if they are ready for lunch.

Conis, born and raised in Ames, was told by a guidance counselor in high school that he would not get through a four-year college. "People make their own way," Conis said. He spent some time at Iowa State before realizing at that time he wasn't ready for college.

He pursued a career in law enforcement. Having friends in law enforcement and being a confessed adrenaline junky were reasons enough to become an officer. Conis pinned on a badge in 1973 and worked at the Ames Police Department. "The



photo by James Joy

**Pete Conis discusses violence in his morning criminology class.**

job was 10 percent sheer excitement," he said.

During Conis' tenure as an officer, he

went back to college part-time and earned degrees at Iowa State, which included an AA in Criminal Justice, Bachelors in Sociology and a Masters in Social Industrial Relations. He would go on to earn a Ph.D. in sociology with majors in criminal deviance and social organization. He began teaching in 1996 for the Law Enforcement Academy.

Injured on the job, Conis ended his job in law enforcement as a corporal. He began teaching at DMACC in the fall of 2000. Conis teaches intro to sociology, courtship, marriage and the family, juvenile delinquency, criminology, and intro to criminal justice. He also teaches a class at Iowa State during the spring semester.

He said without hesitating that he would rather teach smaller classes at DMACC than the larger classes at Iowa State.

To get an additional adrenaline fix, Conis has competed in the rodeo. Riding

horses since the sixth grade, he competed in calf roping, steer wrestling and bronco bare back riding. He was also ranked 20th in the nation in overall power weight lifting class in the 148 pound class. His wife, who he has been married to for 30 years in July, competed alongside Conis in power weight lifting.

Now a days, Conis gets his rush making pictures. He says people sometimes confuse making pictures from taking pictures. "You are not taking anything away from the scene."

He also spends time with his five grandchildren.

With his many endeavors, Conis has reached his goals. One thing that he wishes students to take with them in their endeavors is his philosophy of "never stop trying."

# Five DMACC baseball players sign letters of intent

**Brandon Kleinke**  
Banner Staff

Five DMACC baseball players already have signed their letters of intent to continue playing collegiate baseball at four-year schools. Jason Schutt of Jamestown, N.D., Luis Magdaleno of Venezuela, Nabil Sagbini Salebe of Columbia, South America, Isaac Walton of Albert Lea, Minn., and Steve Lawler of Columbia Heights, Minn., all have returned from seeing their first action this season during their Oklahoma spring baseball trip.

Jason Schutt, a sophomore pitcher for the Bears, will be headed to Central Missouri State. The NCAA Division II coaches' poll from Collegiate Baseball had the Mules ranked number one in the nation. They are the Division II defending champions. "I don't know what to expect," Schutt said when asked about the pressure of playing for the defending champs. "I just want to be able to keep improving off of last year." Schutt was discovered by Central Missouri State at a Junior College all-star game in Centerville. "It was right after the all-star game that I was called about it," said Schutt.

Steve Lawler, wearing number 16 for the Bears, will be off to the University of Louisiana at Monroe, La. He was discov-

ered by a Louisiana at Monroe scout while wearing a Bears uniform. Besides pitching, Lawler also gets time in the infield. "I think we got a good team", Lawler said about the upcoming season, "We just gotta start pulling everything together."

Another pitcher, Isaac Walton, is soon to commit to the Division II college of



photo by Brandon Kleinke

**Nabil Sagbini Salebe, Jason Schutt, Isaac Walton, Steve Lawler, Luis Magdaleno(from left to right) have recently signed letters of intent to continue playing baseball at four year college.**

Southern Arkansas. Walton is originally from Albert Lea, Minnesota and was recognized while pitching this spring during the DMACC spring break trip. Walton is excited for this year's team and pitching staff. "I think we have a better team than

last year", Walton said. "Our pitching staff is looking good, so we're hoping to go the distance. We gotta keep our heads out of our butts."

Nabil Sagbini Salebe will be joining up with the Division I Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona, Florida. The Wildcats, under head coach Mervyl

before being discovered. Last year he hit 13 home-runs and 12 doubles. His batting average was the team high at .393.

Luis Magdaleno will also be joining the Division I Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona, Florida, like Salebe. Wearing number 13 for DMACC, Magdaleno brings his fiery and upbeat personality to the Bears program. His closing ability has already become apparent this season as he recorded some saves during the spring trip.

Coach Smith seemed quite confident with all five of these players. "They are all good players", Smith added with a smile. "They've got a really good chance at succeeding at the next level." While all five are excited about the next level, they realize the focus is on the team and pulling together this season.

Melendez, have been champions of their Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference every year since 1999. Salebe was referred to DMACC by an international scout from the San Diego Padres. He represented Columbia in an international tournament

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# Bears Break Records

Season ends  
27-6  
Home Wins  
17-1  
Ranked #9 in  
the country  
with four  
players mak-  
ing All Region  
Teams



photo by James Joy

Jenny Harle drops a three against Kirkwood defender.



photo by Brandon Kleinke

Michelle Smith goes up strong to score.



photo by James Joy

Ashley Austin looks for open teammate.



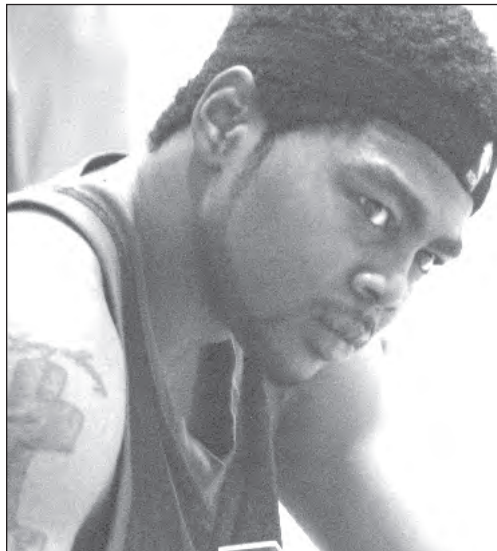
photo by James Joy

Anna Seibert fights for position in the lane.

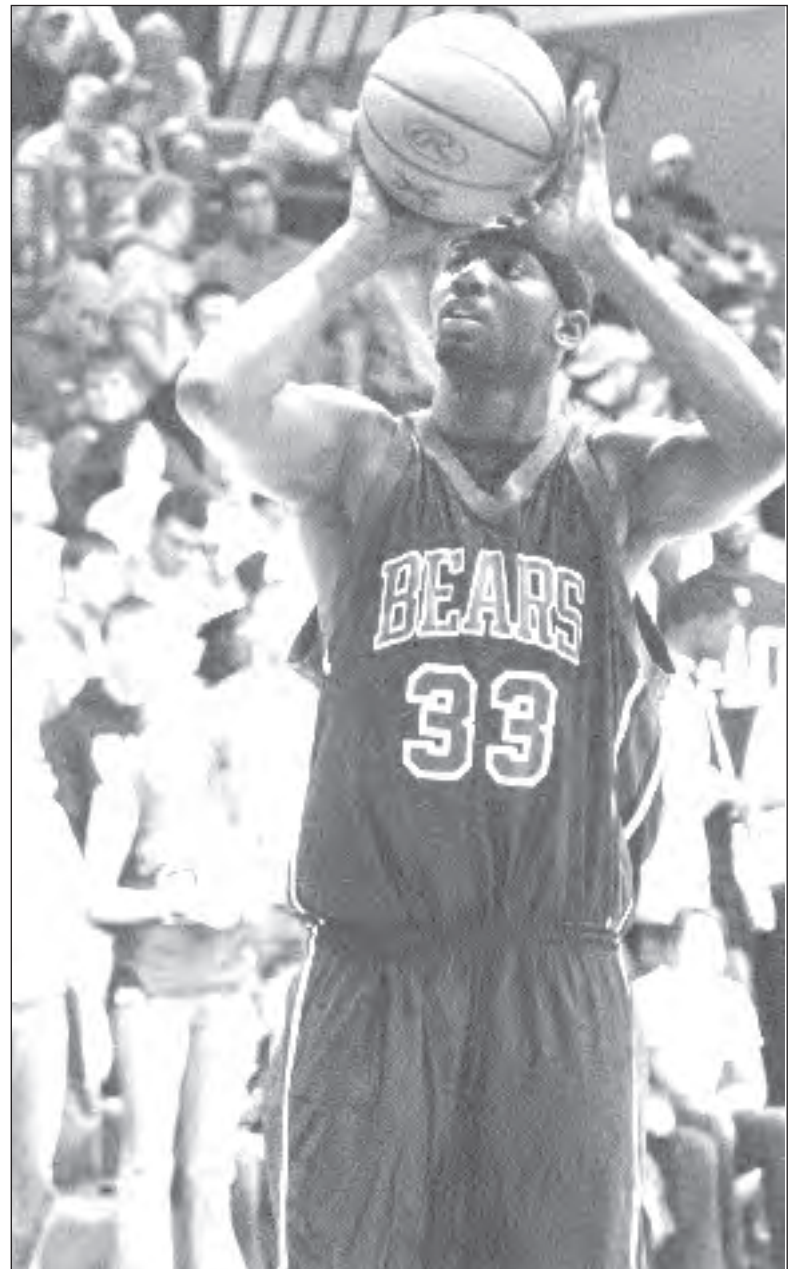




April Love cheers during the Regional Finals.



*Sheer Focus* - Shaun Williams makes All Tournament and First Team All League.



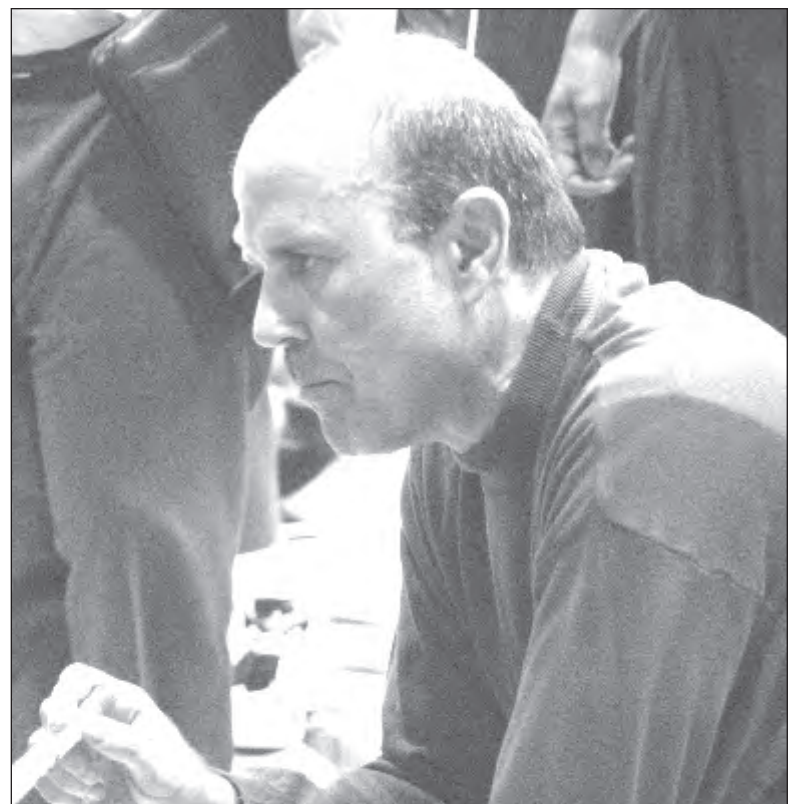
*Smooth as silk* - Frashon McGee makes First Team All League.

## Men take 2nd in conference

Season ends with Bears being ranked 4th in the nation. Two make First Team All League, one Second Team All League, and two All Tournament Team-Regional Tournament.



*Court Vision* - Naim Benjamin makes away with a clean steal. Benjamin received Honorable Mention.



*Listen Up* - Coach Orv Salmon racks up his 100th win.

photos by Brandon Kleinke

# Upcoming area events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>31</b> <b>Rent</b> <b>Des Moines</b> <b>Civic Center</b> <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>1</b> Central at DMACC 2 p.m.	<b>2</b> <b>Fashion Show</b> Fisher Theater 7:30	<b>3</b> <b>Rockapella</b> <b>Stephens</b> <b>Auditorium</b> <b>7:30 p.m.</b>
			<b>4</b> Committee Against Violence: Take back the night Memorial Union ISU 6:30 p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Grandview at DMACC 2 p.m.	<b>7</b> <b>ISU Jazz</b> <b>Ensemble II</b> <b>Martha Ellen</b> <b>Recital Hall</b> <b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Easily Amused</b> Courter Center 10:45 a.m.	If you know of any area events, or if you would like your band on the calendar, email Jess Baldus at <a href="mailto:jabaldus@dmacc.edu">jabaldus@dmacc.edu</a>			

## On a date with Jess: *Bad dates become routine*

**Jess Baldus**  
Banner Staff

I am sure I am not the only one that has been on a bad date a time or two. Lately the bad date is every date.

If you read the last article of "On a date with Jess," you would have known that I met a guy. It is too bad that he turned out not as nice as I would have liked. So this bad experience made me think of all the other bad dates that I have been on. The one that sticks out the most is a dinner and a movie with an old high school friend.

I was waiting in my living room for my date to come and pick me up when I noticed a car pull up across the street. I didn't know what kind of car my date drove so I waited until someone came to the door. Besides, on the first date the guy should always come to the door, not honk the horn as he waits outside. Anyway, my date finally came to the door after a few minutes of waiting and says, "Are you

ready?" as soon as I opened the door.

When I got to the car, my date unlocked his door, got in, turned the car on, and got situated while I stood outside in the cold. I am not saying that the guy should always open the woman's door first, but before you turn on the car let her in.

On the way to Ames he asks me where I want to eat. At the time I didn't think I cared until he suggested Village Inn. I don't really think that Village Inn is a good first date so I suggested Applebee's. I thought that Applebee's has a variety of food at a reasonable price. It is a little more upscale than Village Inn but it isn't a high priced fancy restaurant either.

When we arrived at the restaurant that I chose he walked a head of me through the parking lot. I thought he was going to get the door for me when he reached it first until he walked in and let the door shut right in front of me. He could have at least held it until I got to the door. Most people hold the door for strangers and this

guy didn't even hold it for a date.

Throughout dinner he spoke mostly of his older brother that was in jail. He then talked about the drinking, drunk driving car accidents, and his drug of choice. I don't do any of the above, except an occasional drink or two. I had absolutely nothing to contribute to that part of the conversation. I then switched the conversation to work. We still talked about him, but it wasn't about illegal activities as we sat in a public place.

The highlight of dinner was that my chicken strip basket was great. I took advantage of the free refills on the pop since I needed a lot of caffeine to make it through the date. The bad part was watching him eat a huge cheeseburger with his mouth slightly open.

Next we went to a scary movie. I love action and horror movies so I thought it couldn't be that bad, I was wrong again. I tried to concentrate on sitting far enough away from my date so he would quit hold-

ing my hand or rubbing my leg. I am sure the movie was good but I think he was more scared than I was. The seats at Movies 12 are really comfortable and normally give me lots of room, unless you are on a bad date then there is never enough space.

After the movie we walked back to his car where I waited, yet again, to be let in. Once I was in the car he asked what I wanted to do. I played the "I'm tired" card and said that I needed to go home and go to bed. As we pulled in my driveway I quickly said thank you as I jumped out of the car and ran for the house. That was the end of our date.

Most of you have probably had worse dates than this one, but all of his mistakes, were what I thought, basic use of manners. I am determined that for the next issue on April 14 I will have something better to write about.

## A little more revealed at Britney Spears concert

**Jess Baldus**  
Banner Staff

My eyes were wide open on March 18 at the Britney Spears concert in Moline, Illinois. My idea of a concert is when the performer actually sings, therefore, I can't really say I went to a concert, it was more of a theatrical show than anything.

Britney was a great performer and the

show was amazing, but a little shocking. The costumes barely covered any of the dancers making the show a little provocative. I could have seen about the same thing going to Big Earls instead of paying the \$78 to watch Britney dance.

Britney went through seven costumes changes including her famous nude outfit with rhinestones strategically placed on it. Another outfit worn was a hot pink bra

and underwear set with fish net hose and high heels. The six other dancers were also in their underwear dancing around the stage, men dancing seductively with other men and women with women. When wearing this outfit, the set was set up with two beds placed next to each other. A male dancer was placed on his stomach on one bed while a female dancer was on her back on the other bed. As the song went

on some sex simulation was shown. My jaw actually dropped at this point when I noticed the small children surrounding me; they were just now learning about sexual activity. This set was very explicit

**Continued on next page**



# Horoscopes

By Lasha Seniuk  
Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

**Aries** (March 21-April 20). Long-term romance, daily obligations and shared duties are accented. Remain attentive; family disputes are best resolved with patience and understanding. After Friday, social interest and bold flirtation are on the rise. Respond honestly to romantic introductions; your reactions will be closely studied.

**Taurus** (April 21-May 20). Personal questions and subtle romantic comments may be ongoing themes over the next three days. Loved ones will respond positively to bold statements of loyalty and affection.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21). This week is an excellent time to search for reliable answers from loved ones. At present, deep fears or past social doubts may strain romantic or family relationships. Refuse to be dissuaded by negative attitudes. Before the end of next week, friends, lovers and close relatives will follow your lead.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22). Romantic optimism is returning. Over the next few days, let new attractions and light social encounters develop naturally. Newly begun relationships will greatly expand in the coming months. Watch for steady emotional gains and renewed sensuality.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22). Late Tuesday, expect a mood of inner reflection and calm acceptance to arrive. Areas affected are past romantic or family decisions, social ethics or lost time in key relationships. After Friday, passionate invitations may be difficult to resist. Avoid emotional risk.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Early this week, workplace negotiations will require added dedication. Thursday through Saturday, loved ones may ask for extra private time. Wait for close friends or romantic partners to announce vital decisions.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Act as workplace mediator, if possible. Over the next few days, colleagues or new officials may dispute trusted policies. Avoid the

brooding, silent types and all will be well. Change and group discussions are needed. Friday through Sunday, romantic invitations may arrive without warning. Remain open and wait for clear signals.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22). Friends or lovers may deny their past actions, words or decisions. Before midweek, respond honestly to draining social triangles and allow loved ones added time for contemplation. New romantic and social rules will be put to the test over the next few weeks. Expect revised promises.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21). Watch close relatives or loved ones for delightful signs of affection and long-term support. Enjoy private moments with friends or lovers. This is a strong time for rekindled trust and shared family goals. After Thursday, unattached Sagittarians may experience fast romantic introductions. If so, expect new relationships to be brief, fascinating and highly sensual. Pace yourself and wait for emotional clarity.

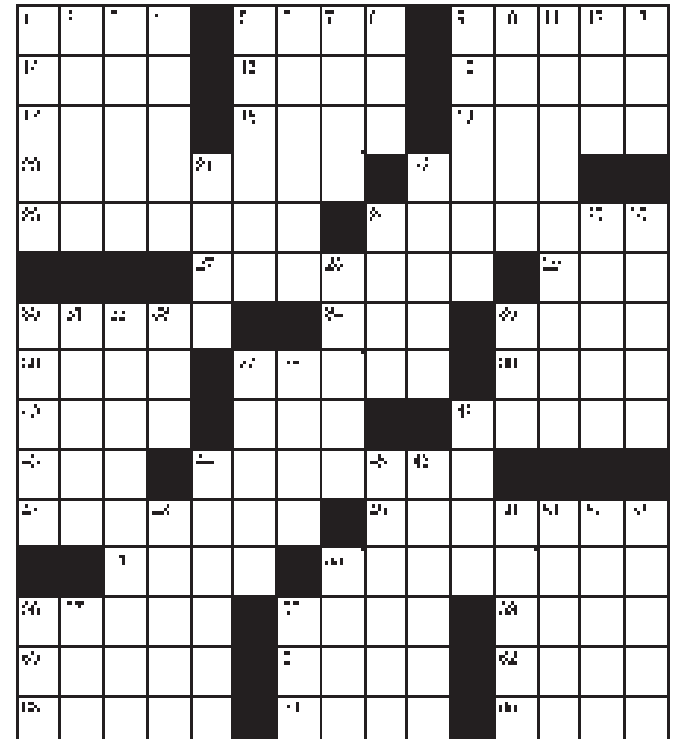
**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Colleagues may pose unusual questions or request detailed descriptions of past projects. Avoid disclosing key facts, figures or amounts, however. Over the next six days, practical information may be easily misinterpreted. Go slowly and remain true to original values.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Social relations or family triangles will be complicated by new group plans. Use this time to settle longstanding disputes, introduce fresh activities and clearly outline future goals. Loved ones may need extra time to adjust to workplace changes, new debts or revised job expectations.

**Pisces** (Feb. 20-March 20). Honesty between loved ones will encourage emotional commitment. Before Wednesday, expect close friends or lovers to reveal their past history or offer a rare glimpse into their private world. Friday through Sunday, insightful dreams are accented. Remain alert to subtle but meaningful romantic impressions.

# Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Key
  - 5 Self-satisfied
  - 8 One of HOMER's
  - 14 Long stone
  - 15 Steel dancer
  - 16 One who's a counterpart
  - 17 Chilled
  - 18 Dinosauric
  - 19 Insects
  - 20 State of supreme happiness
  - 22 August's theme
  - 23 8 items discussed
  - 24 Most musicians
  - 27 Gap removers
  - 28 Bags
  - 32 European pipe
  - 34 Near's small
  - 38 Middle of the month
  - 39 Round table
  - 40 dies
  - 47 Waterfall
  - 48 Toronto's airport
  - 49 One of a flight
  - 41 Handful
  - 42 Smoking of the sea
  - 43 Greek loan
  - 44 React to business?
  - 47 Singing drums
  - 48 Apollon
  - 54 Old Wilentz
  - 56 Recessed
  - 58 Lines and money
  - 59 Out of
  - 58 Kelly or Aubrey
  - 63 Scope
  - 61 Fish's tent
  - 62 my party
  - 63 America Ave
  - 64 Chicago pipe
  - 65 Access Clin



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- DOWN**
- 1 Old losses
  - 2 Helmgrown
  - 3 "Canner" or "kenna"
  - 4 Fruit part
  - 5 Seated actor
  - 6 Chilled beverage
  - 7 Precursor
  - 8 French noun
  - 9 Framer
  - 10 Join together
  - 11 One's to actual
  - 12 Lyrics poet
  - 13 Durable or tough
  - 21 Fossil
  - 22 Symbols
  - 24 Lahn or Parke
  - 25 Happening
  - 26 Disgusting
  - 29 Quality group established
  - 30 Useful quality
  - 31 Same again
  - 32 Fantasy work
  - 33 Oil source
  - 38 "Silver" author
  - 37 Point the finger at
  - 39 Number requirement
  - 42 Tuesday
  - 44 Go count II
  - 45 Imperturbable peace

## Solutions

V	H	E	T		B	A	P	S		N	E	O	J	V
A	O	I	V		J	M	V	O		O	N	V	U	
E	H	E	O		S	O	R	E		S	R	V	E	E
L		L	J		M	S	I	J		J	U	I		
F		V	H		O	H		F		M	S	I	A	O
					H		O	A		E	M		V	L
A		T	V			S	V	T		F	T	I	S	
J	N	E	B		S	L	V	O		S	R	I	S	
S					A	I	V			I		I	V	
V	A	O			E	H		R		E	A			
H		M	J		F	U		S		M	S	I	V	I
		E			V	A		O		E	I	O	V	B
C	E	I			S	O				C	E	O		
T	O	N	V		V	H	O			T	J	O		
H	O	S	N		H			E		E	C	T	A	

- 46 Wales leaver
- 40 Touch of color
- 46 Knight
- 51 Rugged
- 52 Mar-lee
- 53 Botanical swelling
- 54 Lurching way
- 48 Horn part
- 57 Corn seedling
- 56 Broadcast

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## Review of Britney Spears

Continued from previous page

with the fondling, kissing, and basically groping of one another and themselves. The whole show was not portrayed this way, a majority, but not all. A calmer song had more of a ballet feel to it. Britney sat on a swing in a beautiful blue dress. She was then lifted up and two of her dancers hung from ropes coming off of the swing. From the ropes the dancers performed amazing tricks of wrapping themselves up in the rope and then letting themselves unravel. The dancers were not attached by anything making every move critical so they wouldn't drop to the stage. On the stage were the other dancers, all in nude tight outfits, dancing across the stage. This song was performed beautifully and very wholesomely. The concert, or theatrical show, was very well done. Britney hurt her knee three songs before the end and could no longer finish the show. Some say that we didn't get all of what we paid for, but for me it was enough. The show was a gift to me and I am very glad that I didn't spend the money on the tickets.

# Selling sex to small children

**Laura Griffin**  
Banner Staff

Recently a friend went to a concert of one of today's leading pop singers. I was not all that surprised to find that the concert wasn't that good but was shocked at her reasons.

The singer came out dressed in little to no clothes or clothes that insinuated nakedness, and throughout the whole concert danced in ways that would make a lot of grandmothers blush. I suddenly remembered that children went to this concert, some as young as three years old.

When this artist first became known, she was instantly a role model to young girls, as well as high schoolers and adults. She dressed somewhat suggestively in her little school uniform, but as she has matured, donned rhinestones outfits. All of a sudden she didn't want to be a role model to little girls. She

can't expect that if she appealed to them when she first came out, that they will suddenly not idolize her anymore because she wants be a "role model" to an older, more mature audience.

That got me thinking. Everything nowadays promotes sex, and more and more to a younger audience.

Everyone was appalled when Janet Jackson's breast was put on display during the halftime show of the Super Bowl

**"When I was that age, if I had asked for a pair, my mother would have sharply asked me if I knew what kind of girls wear those."**

because...gasp... children were watching. There was little attention paid to the fact that a lot of television programs, as well as commercials, are about, or involve, sex.

Everyone is talking about how teenage

pregnancy is on the rise, as well as STDs, but if they stopped and thought for a minute, maybe they would realize that sex is being advertised everywhere.

Walking through a local department store, I walked past a rack full of sparkly, skimpy underwear. I paused to look and was shocked when I realized that I was standing in the children's department.

When I was that age, if I had asked for a pair my mother would have sharply asked me if I knew what kind of girls wear those. I certainly wouldn't want my child wearing underwear that is made of less material than a napkin. Who cares if it is shimmery and sparkly?

I don't know what the world is coming to, but I certainly don't like the look of it. Maybe next time you are out and about and notice young girls looking or acting a little too provocative for their age, you can blame it on the media because today sex sells, even to little girls.

## Unborn children given rights

**James Joy**  
Banner Staff

The United States Senate approved legislation that would protect pregnant women by enabling federal prosecutors to charge people with additional crimes after they assault a pregnant woman and injure or kill their unborn child.

The Unborn Victims of Violence Act received support of twelve senate democrats and passed with a 61-38 vote. The bill recognizes unborn babies as separate victims in acts of violence against pregnant women.

In a statement after the senate vote, President George W. Bush said, "Pregnant women, who have been harmed by violence, and their families, know that there are two victims, the mother and the unborn child."

"Both victims should be protected by federal law and I look forward to signing this important legislation into law," said Bush.

John Kerry, making only his second appearance this year on the senate floor, traveled back to Washington from the campaign trail to vote against the bill that will hopefully be a protector of all women and their unborn child.

Many violent people have had the

**"Three people in Arkansas were in prison for ... killing a child ... hired by the boyfriend who didn't want to pay child support."**

**-Senator Lyndsey Graham**

chance to shun their responsibility as fathers and attack their wives or girlfriends in an attempt to kill the baby. Senator Lyndsey Graham, Republican from South Carolina, said that three people in Arkansas were in prison "for the

purpose of killing a child because they were hired by the boyfriend who didn't want to pay child support."

Many senators were against this bill saying that it was an attempt to undermine Roe vs. Wade, which gives women the right to choose if they want to have an abortion. This bill gave specific guidelines and protected a women's right to choose by putting in exemptions for abortions. Any vote against this bill is puzzling and wrong.

A recent Newsweek poll found that nearly 84 percent of people surveyed believe that when both mother and child die, the attacker should be charged with two murders instead of one.

It is about time that President Bush promoted a law that is beneficial to everyone and this bill should receive the support of all people regardless of political ideology.

## Behind the Desk

**Gabi Butler**  
Banner Staff

**Curfews. House rules. Lectures. Chores.- Privileges**

Many of the things we endured as children to our parents or guardians throughout school to teach us discipline, respect, responsibility and the reality of life.-

It may have sucked and you may have whined, begged, yelled "I hate you!" on the top of your lungs and skillfully sneaked in and out of the house many times, but in the end I'm glad such rules were put upon me.

As the oldest child, I was the "guinea pig" for any new rules applied and any activities I was allowed to do.- My younger sister, of course, could get away with just about anything.-

As many times as I tried to protest against this, I- got shot down.- I was successful to get a 1:30 a.m. curfew on the weekends by my senior year IF someone else was driving me.- By that time most of my friends like a 2:30 or no curfew.-

After a while, though, it really didn't bother me because I quickly discovered that the only thing you should really be doing past 2 a.m. is sleeping and since I was normally going to work or dance class every weekend morning, it probably saved me some sleep.-

By the time I graduated from high school, I didn't have a curfew, so once again, I really couldn't argue. My parents were never super strict on me, just to the point that I would have to listen and learn.- Not too liberal either.-

Unfortunately I didn't get away with quite that much.- They were simply just doing what was best for me and however they did it, it sure kept me out of jail, pregnancy and rehab.-

Looking back at how they raised me, I'm glad they did what they did.- Thank you Mom and Dad for letting me be me and supporting all of my decisions in life.-

Oh yeah- thanks for giving me a curfew.

To the students of DMACC,  
We have only three opinion articles on this page. If you haven't noticed, they are written by the Banner staff. Your opinion counts too. Please send your opinion of any subject which you have strong feelings towards to [jljoy@dmacc.edu](mailto:jljoy@dmacc.edu).



# Bear's spring break trip lacks Southern comfort

**Brandon Kleinke**  
Banner Staff

With only three outdoor practices under their belts, the DMACC baseball team headed off for a grueling 11-game spring trip, while other students over spring break tried to remember to use sunscreen.

March 13 had the first stop beginning in Lee Summit, Mo. There the team played a doubleheader, winning both games by scores of 7-4 and 5-0. Three players had home runs and Jason Schutt got the win. Luis Magdaleno was given the save.

After the games, the team headed to Miami, Okla. where they arrived a little after 8 p.m.

The team waited for a half hour until someone finally unlocked the doors and let them in to the

dorms.

"These dorms were no Hilton Hotels or anything," said Sam Lucier, a sophomore on the team, who admitted to the uncomfortable stay. "Rumor has it they were condemned. I didn't know what might come out of the holes in the walls."

The next doubleheader was to be the next day, March 14. Northeast Oklahoma A&M scored a combined 23 runs in the two games winning both. Nabil Sagbini Salebe and Jim Strain each homered in

both games. The weather appeared to be the only thing getting better on this day.

March 15 started with biscuits and gravy and an early morning practice. The team left for Neosho, Missouri for a double-

ble-header against Crowder Community College.

Rain caused quite a delay and continued to come down throughout play. The Bears split the games as Chris

Richardson hit his second grand-slam of the trip. DMACC 1, Crowder 8. DMACC 11, Crowder 5.

The team headed to Warner, Okla. the following day for another doubleheader against Connors College. The first game was a one-hitter for the Bears, with Salebe

crushing a solo home-run. They lost 11-1.

"We almost got in a fight in the first inning of this game as both benches cleared due to Chris Richardson running over their shortstop that got in his way of the base," said Sean Zaborowski of the game.

Chris's defense, he could not help it."

March 17 started

with the usual breakfast and early morning practice.

The team then

left for Crowder College again. Both games appeared to be sloppy play on the

part of DMACC. "We just need to hit spots," sophomore pitcher Jason Schutt said about the DMACC's pitching performances.

"Our first couple games were good, but basically we just need to get outside and play. You can tell we've been in the gym all winter." DMACC lost 7-3 and 8-7.

NEO A&M would be the last game the Bears would play. They played one nine-inning game as sophomore Steve Lawler was given the start for the Bears. They lost 13-5. "It was not a pretty week of baseball," said Zaborowski, a sophomore from Winona, Minn.

The Bears would come back with an unimpressive 3-8 record to start the season. Wins may have been nice to bring back, but they may have gotten something more important on the trip...a chance to play outside.

Nabil Sagbini Salebe had four home-runs over the trip and Chris Richardson had two grand-slams. With the weather improving, the Bears will be gaining more outdoor experience they need to bring into the season. There shouldn't be anymore scary dorm rooms to sleep in the rest of the year.

*This story is based on daily journals kept by DMACC baseball players:*

*"These dorms were no Hilton Hotels. I didn't know what might come out of the holes in the walls." - Sam Lucier*

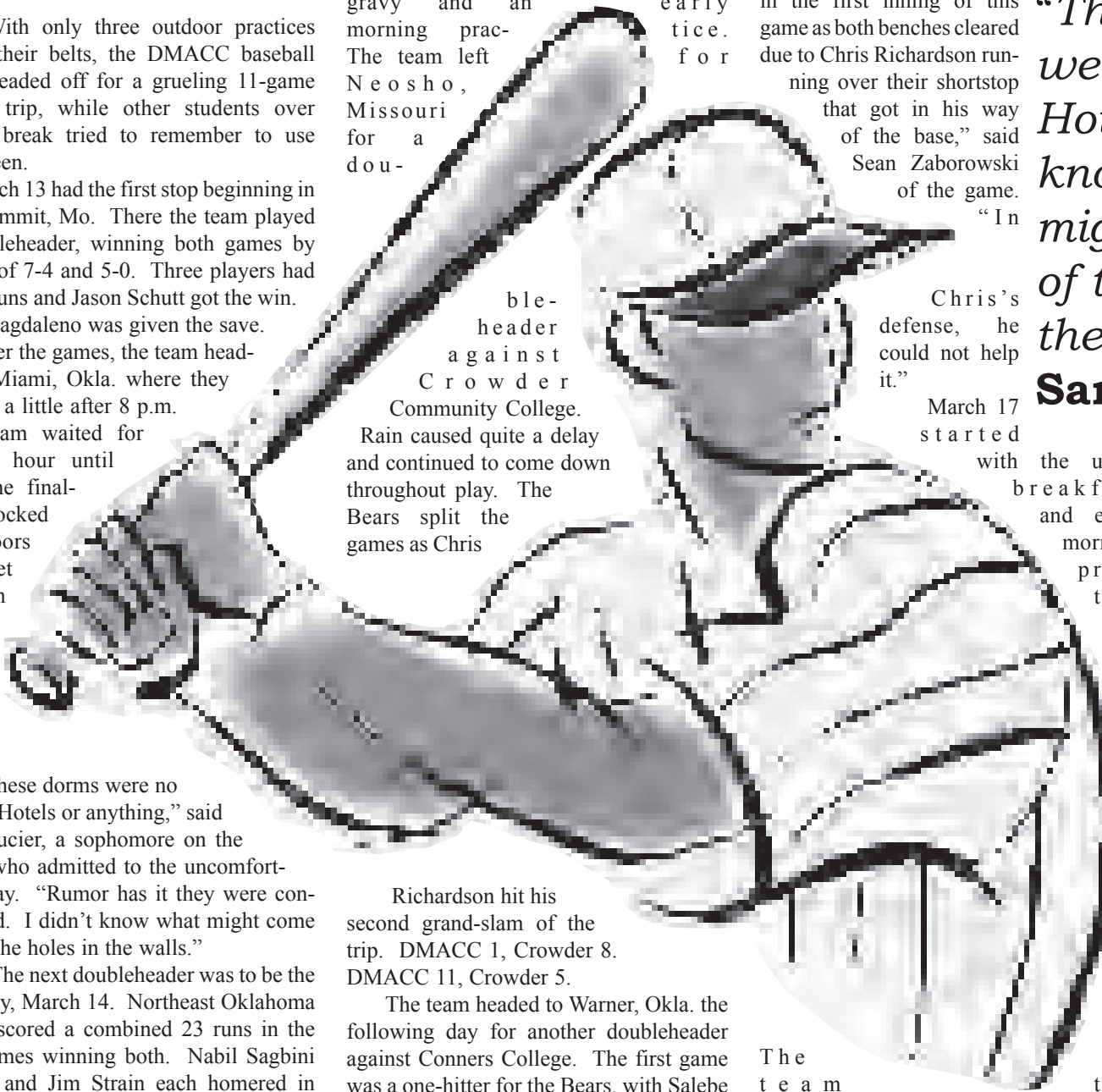


photo by Brandon Kleinke

Concentration - Jason Schutt takes batting practice.



photo by Brandon Kleinke

Running Bases - Sam Lucier pivots and is off to second base. DMACC finally practices on the field due to warm weather.

## April Home Games

4/1 Central 2pm

4/6 Grandview 2pm

4/8 Iowa Central 1pm

4/10 Marshalltown 1pm

4/13 Kirkwood 3pm

4/22 Ellsworth 2pm

4/23 Simpson 2pm

4/24 Iowa Western  
12pm

4/25 Iowa Western  
12pm



The Other Side of the Courter by Josh Hutt and James Joy

“What do you sing in the shower?”



**Grace Mugo**  
Kenya, Africa  
“Amazing Grace” in Swahili



**Jason Loveless**  
Waterloo  
“Nasty Girl” by Beyonce



**Katie Reihan**  
Marengo  
“I don’t sing in the shower”



**Robert Sproule**  
Tucson, Ariz.  
“Light My Fire” The Doors

News from the 7th Campus: Studying abroad in London

Dear family, friends, and colleagues,

Life in London seems to have a pace all its own. Since we have been here a while, I have been feeling good about picking up my walking pace a bit to match the Londoners as they buzz along. However, one evening as I was striding towards the Russell Square [tube] Station, I was passed by a wizened old man, hunched over and labouring with a bulky satchel. He could have been the poster guy for osteoporosis and he darted past me. Before I could be too surprised by this and pick up the pace even more, both of us were passed by three women wearing shoes with impossibly high, spiked heels.

So much for my speed walking.

The group has been very busy. We have toured Parliament, well, at least the House of Lords, since the House of Commons was in session. The last time I toured Parliament (in 2001), we were only able to visit the House of Commons because the House of Lords was in session. It has taken me two tries, but I have finally seen both houses. We have also toured the Globe Theatre and had an actor/director talk to us about playgoing in Shakespeare’s time. He managed to bring Elizabethan theatre to life in a way that really connected with students. I’m going to steal his approach and incorporate it into my own classes.

After the Globe Theatre presentation, I took the students on a tour de Southwark. I showed them the Clink (an old prison), Southwark Cathedral, and the most filmed exterior location in London. Among other things, it was used in the first Bridget Jones movie and Guy Ritchie (Madonna’s husband) uses the area in his films (Cocked, Locked, and Two Smoking Barrels, for example). Our tour ended at the George Inn, the oldest pub in London. Since it is located south of the Thames, it wasn’t destroyed in the great London fire of 1666. It is a good example of an old carriage inn and people used to congregate at places like the George Inn to assemble as group for pilgrimages to

Canterbury. (It was safer to go in a group.) It was a great place to have lunch, by the way.

Later, I went with some of my students to Leicester Square to watch the celebrities attend the London premier of Starsky and Hutch. (Not a film I’m going to rush out and see—I remember the old TV show.) After my premier experience in Madrid, I wanted a comparison. We actually saw the stars. David Allen Soul from the ‘70s TV show walked by and didn’t interact with the crowd at all, but Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson smiled, waved, shook hands, and signed autographs as they walked up the red carpet to the Odeon Theatre. Two of my students were able to get both Ben’s and Owen’s autographs and I was standing right behind my students taking pictures. I was taller than both of them (Ben and Owen, that is). The car from the movie was there, too. Whoo Hoo.

Natalie and I left on Friday (March 12) on the Megabus for Cardiff, Wales. The Megabus is a new company that advertises itself as “the EasyJet of bus lines.” It cost us £6 each for a round trip. The Megabus dropped us off near the city centre, which was fine, except we discovered that our hostel was two miles from the city centre—talk about convenient. We had a crash course on how the Cardiff city bus system worked. Location aside, this was one of the best hostels I have ever stayed in. It was clean, efficiently run, and served a great breakfast (more or less a traditional English breakfast: sausage, bacon, eggs, hashbrowns, baked beans and mushrooms). We were having a great time at breakfast, conversing with a guy from New York, until the entire Princeton University Women’s Rugby team showed up en masse, and proceeded to mow through the breakfast offerings like a plague of locusts that talked like Valley Girls. We ate and ran.

We took the bus to St. Fagans, a village four miles west of Cardiff. There they have

the Museum of Welsh Life, much like the Living History Farms in Iowa. To create it they salvaged homes and buildings from all over Wales. The biggest difference between the Welsh museum and Living History Farms was the time period frame of reference. The Welsh started with a Celtic village, representing life from about 2,000 years ago. They moved forward in history, focusing on farming (especially sheep production), ironworker’s cottages from Merthyr Tydfil circa 1800, and finally showing a post WWII metal home made from surplus RAF airplane scrap. Like Living History Farms, they had a period school, a church, a tannery and a host of village stores.

We were so engaged with the Museum of Welsh Life that we didn’t even make it to the harbour or to the castle. After a nice meal (far cheaper than London), and a pint of Brains (a Welsh Ale) we headed back to the hostel on the city bus, only to have it stop and pick up the rugby team. They swarmed aboard, took every available seat, all talking loudly while one did chin-ups on the overhead handrail. Poor Natalie had to spend the night with them—she was the only non-team member in her dormitory. I was lucky...I just had to deal with three guys who snored.

Once back in London, some of the students and I saw a West End production of Samuel Beckett’s play, Endgame at the

Albery Theatre. It was delightfully depressing, but that’s Beckett. The four-person cast was superb, the spare set appropriately bleak and Clov, the handicapped servant character, was wickedly funny.

There was a huge crowd recently in the Gallery, a student café in ULU. They filled the place and even spilled over into the hallway—it was the fifth game of the India & Pakistan Cricket championship series. The teams were tied at two games each and this was it—the big finish. I have never heard so much hollering and cheering concentrated in one area, and I was two-floors up in the faculty offices. Some former members of the British Empire take their Cricket quite seriously—they put Nebraska football fans to shame. India won. People poured out of the Union, screaming and celebrating. I just thought you’d want to know.

We are continuing to roam around, discover new places, and try new things. I love to see students gain confidence and broaden their horizons. After hearing me talk about the ballet, I had four students attend a performance the next day. Three of them had never been to the ballet before and they all loved it. That’s what makes doing this so rewarding.

Cheers,

*Alan*

**Alan Hutchison, DMACC Instructor  
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