

Has the Gulf War
Spurred Prejudice?

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Urban Campus' Perspectives
on Budget Cuts

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Fish-Watching Reduces Stress

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THE CHRONICLE

Des Moines
Area
Community
College

Vol. 15 No. 18

February 28, 1991

Former DMACC Activist Calls for Student Action During Black History Month

photo by Julie Bivans



UC/SAB President James Lewis warmly welcomes community activist Kalonji Saadiq during his recent appearance at Urban Campus.

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

Kalonji Saadiq, a former DMACC Urban Campus student and activist in the black community, ended a seven-year public speaking hiatus to call upon current DMACC students to "make a choice, take a stand in order to make a difference, and to become involved."

Saadiq spoke to students on February 14 during a program held on Urban Campus in recognition of Black History Month. The program was sponsored by the Urban Campus Student Action Board (SAB).

"Let us not be content to study history, but to make history."

-Kalonji Saadiq
former DMACC student and black activist

James Lewis, president of the Urban Campus SAB, introduced Saadiq as "a man known to speak out against injustice, an advocate and a civil rights leader." Lewis identified him as the person who led the marches and protests at the Ankeny campus until finally the administration agreed to construct the Urban Campus building. Both stated that there would not be an Urban Campus but for the activism of Saadiq.

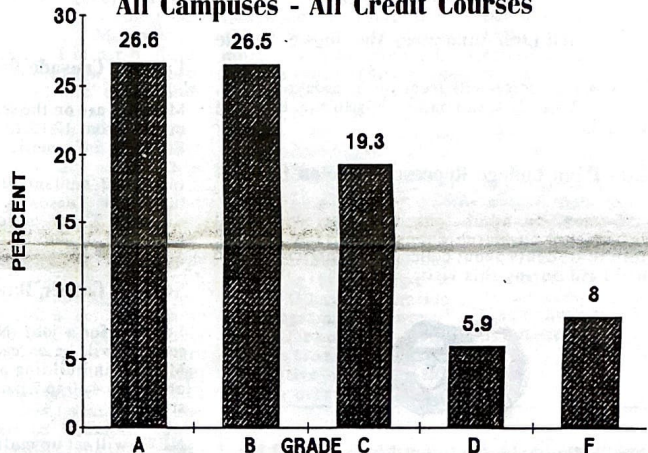
As an active participant during the 70s in the making of Des Moines and DMACC history, Saadiq had a message to deliver about history and the black community.

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Concern Toward Grade Distribution

Grade Distribution at DMACC (Fall 1989)

All Campuses - All Credit Courses



Administrative Perspective

by Beth Newgaard
Editor

What do you value more about your education at DMACC? Do you care more about learning or getting good grades? There has been some discussion about the distribution of grades given at this institution.

"You would hope that normally in a grading system that most of the grades would be C's. The B's and D's would be lower and the A's and F's would be even lower," says Burgess Shriver, dean of sciences and humanities.

The bell-shaped curve theory, which Shriver refers to, suggests that among an average group of people's grades, the majority would fall in the C range; the next group would be the people who score just above or below the average (B and D range), and the last group of people would score

either an A or an F. When these points are plotted on a graph they form a bell shape.

"What I had done during last fall was to dig out some information from the computer that showed the grades that were given during the fall from the year before. My concern was that there weren't as many C's as I had expected," comments Shriver.

If grade inflation was the cause for so many A's and B's given at the institution, Shriver suggests there could be the potential that the credibility of DMACC would be questioned.

"I'm not asking for perfection, I'm only thinking we should set a standard that we would have the bell-shaped curve. There is one tenth of a

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Faculty Perspective

by Bill Langebartels
Assistant Editor

DMACC instructors are taking a wait-and-see attitude toward the recent grade inflation report released by the college. The report says that A's and B's are the most common grades given at the four DMACC campuses (see chart).

Lloyd Miller, an anthropology and Spanish instructor, says that a further breakdown of the statistics is needed before a possible recommendations can be made. The present report includes all courses at all four campuses. "More accurate statistics could be obtained if we broke this down by specific courses," says Miller. Beverly Drinnin, a psychology instructor, says that in some cases, higher grade curves really ought to be expected. "When you're talking about an introductory course to the

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DATELINE

ISU Early Registration for Transfer Students

If you are transferring to Iowa State University for the summer or fall semester 1991, the dates below are important:

College of Agriculture -- April 15 & 19
 College of Business -- April 15, 19, & 26
 College of Design -- April 19 & 26
 College of Education -- April 19
 College of Engineering -- April 15, 19, & 26
 College of Family and
 Consumer Sciences -- April 15 & 19
 College of Liberal Arts
 and Sciences -- April 15, 19, 24, & 26

Transfer students who have been admitted will receive a letter of invitation to these programs in early March. Please apply so you can take advantage of this program.

Early Registration/Orientation is also held in October and November for students entering spring semester. You will be notified of those dates when they are scheduled.

If you have questions, please call Iowa State at 1-800-262-3810 and ask for Greg Miller, assistant director/Office of Admissions or Ardy's Ulrichson, coordinator of orientation and retention programs.

DMACC French Club Announces Meetings Schedule

La Liaison Francaise will meet on Tuesdays 12 p.m. Building 2, Room 25A and on Fridays 10 a.m. Building 7, Cafeteria.

William Penn College Representative on Campus

Joan Norman, an admissions counselor, will be at Ankeny campus on March 4 from 10 to 12:30 p.m. She will talk to students about college life, curriculum and financial aid during this visit.



Orville Redenbacher Scholarship

Eligible students must be 30 years or older at the time of application. The recipients may enroll in either an associate, bachelor, or graduate degree program at an accredited college or university and can be either full- or part-time students.

Twelve \$1,000 scholarships are available to qualifying students for the 1991-1992 school year.

Applications will be accepted from March 1 to May 1, 1991. Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing by August 15, 1991.

All applications will be screened by an independent judging panel, which includes administrators in the field of financial assistance and continuing education. The checks will be made out jointly in the name of the student and the college. The grant will be then credited to the student's account upon endorsement by both parties.

Applications are available in the Financial Aid offices at each campus.

Rotary Scholarships

Applications are available for undergraduates between the ages of 18-24. Applications are available for vocational students between the ages of 21-30. Contact Katie Roth at 244-4494. All applications must be filed by April 30, 1991.

Alaska Summer Employment

Students wishing to defray tuition costs may want to check out the opportunities in Alaska's salmon cannery industry. There are positions available for men and women.

Students must travel to Seattle by their own means and the company will fly them to the processing plant and to Seattle again at the end of the summer for no additional cost.

Hiring is done from January through April. Inquiries may be forwarded directly to the Alaska Job Resource Line: 175 San Jose Ave. Pacifica, CA, 94044 (415) 738-1385.

Stop Smoking Clinic

A Stop Smoking Clinic orientation meeting will be held on Monday March 4, 1991 at Iowa Lutheran Hospital, University at Penn at 6:30 p.m. The clinic consists of a series of meetings where smokers prepare to quit, quit together, and support each other for several weeks after "quit day." The orientation meeting is free with no obligation. The cost for the total program is \$50 per person.

To pre-register, call the American Lung Association of Iowa at (515) 224-0800 or 1-800-362-1643.

Campus Crusade for Christ

Meetings are on the second and fourth Wednesday each month from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., Building 5, Room 22. For more information call Linda Jacobae at 265-4134.

Interested students, staff and faculty can meet over lunch on Tuesdays, 12:30 to 1:30, Lakeview Inn, Building 7. For more information call Ken Discher, Ext. 6235, or Bob Mann, Ext. 6413.

Student Career Day -- March 4

Looking for a job? NEWS, a computerized job listing service, will be on campus in the student lounge area March 4 in Building 5, during the hours of 10 to 3 p.m. and from 4:30 to 7 p.m. for the convenience of evening students.

NEWS will set up multiple systems that student can use to find current job openings and information about the companies that match their qualifications and interests. NEWS representatives will be available to answer any questions that you may have.

NEWS will collect and forward resumes at students' request to the companies they have selected. There will be no cost to the students for this service.

NEWS has more than 300 companies nationwide that advertise on their computer system.

Bring copies of your resume with you.

Free Eye Examinations to Qualified Individuals

If you are a low income, uninsured person and do not qualify for any public assistance, free eye examinations may be available for you.

This event is part of Save Your Vision '91 Week. Qualification for the free exam will be determined and appointments may be made by calling 278-1697 by Friday, March 1, 1991.

Doctors of optometry are scheduling patients who need eye examinations, who are working at least part-time, but who do not have the health care benefits or extra dollars to pay for this service.

If a patient is in need of glasses, the Iowa Optometric Association has contacted optical companies to provide the help in filling eye-wear prescriptions. Single vision lenses and frames will be provided at no cost, bifocals and trifocals will be provided at a reduced rate or in some cases at no cost to the patient.

Relating College Majors To Real-Life Jobs

by Ken Clark
 Counselor, Ankeny Campus

The third of a six-part series.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES. The study of living organisms from the level of molecules to that of total populations. A bachelor's degree is adequate preparation for some beginning jobs, but a career in the biological sciences often requires an advanced degree in either a life science specialty or a related discipline.

Biology majors find jobs in industry, government agencies, technical writing, editing or illustrating, science reporting, secondary school teaching, and research and laboratory analysis and testing.

ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES. Engineering is one of the few professional fields in which a bachelor's degree is sufficient career preparation. Many engineers, however, do continue their education in order to move into management. A Ph.D. is generally necessary for teaching positions in colleges and universities.

Industry, research labs, and government agencies where technology plays a key role, such as in manufacturing, electronics, construction, communications, transportation, and utilities, hire engineering as well as engineering technology and science technology graduates.

PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND MATH. Physical sciences involve the study of the laws and structures of physical matter. Mathematics is the science of numbers and the abstract formulation of their operations. A bachelor's degree is adequate preparation for some beginning jobs, but for career advancement to high-level positions a graduate degree is necessary in either a physical science specialty or a related discipline within the fields of biological sciences, engineering, health and medicine, or social sciences. The quantitative skills acquired through the study of science and mathematics are especially useful for computer-related careers.

Career possibilities include positions in industry (manufacturing and processing companies, electronics firms, defense contractors, consulting firms); government agencies (defense, environmental protection, law enforcement); scientific/technical teaching; research and laboratory analysis and testing; statistical analysis; computer programming; systems analysis; surveying and mapping; weather forecasting; and technical sales.

NATURAL RESOURCES. A major in a natural resource field prepares students for work in a variety of areas. Jobs are available in industry (food, energy, natural resources, and pulp and paper companies), consulting firms, state and federal government agencies (primarily the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior) and public and private conservation agencies. Also see the Agricultural and Biological Sciences sections cited earlier.

Course work in natural resources provides a good background for further training in biological sciences, environmental education, environmental or natural resource engineering, and resources management.

Some typical majors within this area are: Conservation, Ecology, Fish and Game Management, Forestry, Soil Conservation, and Wood Sciences.

"The Self-Directed Search" is a career counselor's tool to assist college students to select a major and is available to DMACC students free of charge. Contact me in the Counseling Center, Building 5, Room 27, or call 964-6468.

continued from page 1

Grades -- Administration

percent more A's and B's at this college and because of this the president's list can be a lot longer than the dean's list. If we went by the bell-shaped curve, it would be impossible for this to happen. So this is worth discussing among the faculty and administration," says Shriver.

Lynn Albrecht, dean of student records and services, agrees that the president's list shouldn't be longer than the dean's list, but that implementing the bell-shaped curve would not benefit the school.

"This theory is thought to people who teach arts and science classes, vocational technical educators don't count on this plan. They tend to think of their students as passing or not passing. In other words, if you're in automotive, either you can fix a carburetor or you can't. They aren't as comfortable with grades because they aren't given a lot of written tests. A lot of the grade is dependent on the skill of the student in the class. If the student can pass, then the instructor will give them an A or a B -- if not they will receive a D or an F.

So you are going to end up with a skewed distribution," says Albrecht.

Albrecht believes that by raising the standard for the President's list to 3.94, it would be deemed more of an honor to be on it.

"If you say that you want to lower our grading practices for the goals and objectives of the institution so that we can have fewer people on the president's list, I think that really only penalizes the students," commented Curt Vandivier, vice president of the Ankeny

campus.

Vandivier doesn't believe that there is a problem with the current grading standards. "The only thing a grade tells me is how you did at a particular time, in a particular class with a particular teacher against a particular group of people," says Vandivier.

Although there are many opinions on grading, there is one thing Shriver, Albrecht and Vandivier agree on, grading is an instructor's prerogative.

Ken Clark, counselor,

adds that while the GPA of a transfer student may initially drop the first semester, it generally goes back to where it was by the second semester. "This is commonly called 'transfer shock.' This is usually due to adjusting to a totally different environment."

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Grades -- Faculty

discipline, often you get a lower average grade. But if you have a collection of third or fourth semester students in your class, then grade distribution really ought to be higher."

Larry Anderson, an accounting instructor thinks the numbers should be broken down by program area. "Those courses that we teach (accounting/economics) are transferable, so if our students don't perform at Iowa or Iowa State, I think we would probably hear about it." Anderson doesn't think that the statistics from the report hold true in the accounting/economics department at DMACC or with other community colleges based on his conversations with other instructors.

Scott Ocken, an auto mechanics instructor, doesn't see a need to be alarmed about the statistics from this initial report. "We've seen higher grades in our area, but I think that's mainly due to our course outlines and the way we grade. When a student walks into my class on the first day, they get their syllabus and a course outline so they exactly what they have to do to get the grade they want." Ocken says that departmental grading is based upon auto industry standards for technicians.

Miller would also like to see a break down of the

statistics based on full- and part-time instructors. Miller doesn't doubt the integrity of the part-time instructors, but says that they don't have the protection that full-time instructors have to back up their grading system.

"Let's say you have a student who's very outspoken and really puts up a fight to have a grade changed. This is a very stressful situation, when you're trying to uphold academic standards. If you're only getting paid \$1,000 per course, approximately one-third to a fourth of what a contracted instructor gets paid you might be tempted to say, 'I don't want to go through this hassle, I don't give them a C and they'll go away.' Miller concedes that this is purely a hypothetical scenario, but questions the ethics behind paying part-time instructors so little while expecting them to maintain department standards.

Drinnin agrees with Miller's speculation. "I'd like to see a grade distribution of part-time versus full-time instructors before I necessarily believed that part-timers give higher grades. There's at least a possibility that situation could exist, given our huge amount of part-time employment."

Miller believes that a better instructor

evaluation system should be put into place. "The administration does not, nor has it ever had, an adequate way of assessing the real quality of classroom instruction. The present system consists of student evaluations of part-time and probationary full-time instructors. Miller says that improved communication between the academic deans and the campus (administrative) deans might help alleviate the problem. "For years at this college we've had committees sit down, work over evaluation systems and come up with some really good solutions. Unfortunately, the reports are made and nothing ever comes of them. The ones who have the power to put them into place have never done so." Miller says that reorganization over the last few years has so separated campus and academic deans that it has become difficult to get reports to the administration. "There are really two different statuses -- campus deans meet with the president and academic deans meet with (vice-president) Curt Vandivier."

Age might also play a role in grade inflation, since DMACC students are usually older than traditional college students. "We even have some students who have bachelor's degrees taking courses here for a

particular reason or goal," says Drinnin. "It seems to me that if a class has all A's and thirty students, I would wonder what the profile looks like to explain that. I would be skeptical, yes, but I wouldn't disallow it entirely." Anderson and Ocken agree saying that older students tend to be more "grade-oriented" because they usually have a well-defined purpose for going back to school. "People like displaced homemakers are here for a reason," says Anderson.

Instructors feel confident, however, that DMACC's reputation will not be seriously harmed by this initial report. "DMACC has a reputation for programs that work," says Ocken. "Our reputation for the automotive program, the nursing program -- people

go out and get jobs and do really well. If I told everyone in this program 'You all get A's and then kick them out into the field without the proper training, the program would fall apart in no time.' Drinnin thinks the present data does have the potential to do damage to the good transfer relationship with state universities, but would like to see more complete data on the subject. Anderson, however, thinks that the grade statistics from the regents institutions already speak well of DMACC. "I know that students who transfer from DMACC to the University of Iowa compare favorably with 'home-grown' students. I don't think this hurts our reputation."

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Gulf War Activates Sisterly Pact for Ankeny Woman

by Janine Vaudt
Staff Writer

Less than two miles from the DMACC Ankeny campus a piece of history is being written.

A pact that began between two sisters years ago may be activated because of Operation Desert Storm.

Cathy Gerdes, 34, Ankeny, and her sister Pam Best, 31, San Bernardino, California, have always said to each other that if something happened to one, the other would take care of her children. A quick phone call last November from Pam to Cathy solidified the sisterly pact. Cathy agreed to take responsibility for Pam's children, Nichole, 3, and Michail, 3 months, in the event that Pam and her husband, Lance Best, both civilian Air Force reservists, are called to serve.

"Back in November," Cathy said, "we didn't think anything would come of it." Now there is a very real possibility there will be two small additions to the Gerdes household.

Cathy and her husband, Allen, live with their two children Phaedra, 15, and Tony, 12, in a modest home on

Ankeny's south side. The family is planning for the arrival of the younger children by enlarging their existing living space. A workshop in the basement has been converted to a bedroom for Tony, thus freeing his room on the main floor.

Following her maternity leave from the Air Force Guard, Pam was put on unofficial alert in early January for her possible deployment to Saudi Arabia. Pam's specialty is maintenance of electronic instrument panels on small fighter jets. For the past five years she has worked as a civilian on Norton Air Base in San Bernardino, Calif.

Lance maintains electronic instrument panels on larger planes at March Air Base in Ontario, Calif. Even though he has been a civilian four years, he has been rotating in and out of England one week a month since the Gulf crisis began in August. His deployment to England is imminent also.

With the pending service obligations of Pam and Lance, the financial impact will be felt by both families.

Since Cathy is employed as an senior systems analyst at Greyhound, securing day care for her niece and nephew would be necessary. She laughed

and said, "It's been a long time since I've done that." Cathy indicated most day care agencies won't take infants until they are walking or can feed themselves. One alternative would be to find a privately-licensed day care provider who would take an infant as well as a three year old.

When Pam and Lance are called to active reserve duty, they will lose their civilian pay. Their reservist salary will represent a drastic cut in their income. Cathy anticipates her sister and brother-in-law would need all their income for their own household expenses since they are in the process of buying a house in California. The couple may take advantage of a reduced mortgage program offered by the government.

An ironic factor of Cathy's story is that a war half a world away may bring to fruition a sisterly pact made so long ago. The lives of everyone involved will be dramatically affected. Cathy, who visited California in November when Michail was born, is preparing to fulfill her

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Cathy Gerdes, who made a pact with her sister, is shown here with her family: son, Tony; husband, Allen; daughter, Phaedra.



The Gerdes Family

The Gerdes' household anticipated arrivals: Nichole (3) and Michail (3 months).

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Four Past Midnight

Book Review
by Cory Nyberg
Free-lance Contributor



Four Past Midnight
Stephen King
Viking Penguin, 1990 \$22.95

Let's take a walk through Stephen King's world. It's a world much different than ours. It's a world where one can find a place where no one exists except those asleep on the airplane. This is the first story called "The Langoliers."

It is also a world where a writer can be confronted by a manifestation of his own guilt. In "Secret Window Secret Garden," a man who does not exist claims that the novel the author hasn't published yet was stolen from him.

We continue on our journey to a library run by a long-dead murderous librarian. When a man loses a book he must face the wrath of the librarian and her library policemen.

The last stop on our little jaunt is a place King fans have been before, the town of Castle Rock. In "The Sundogs" a boy gets a camera for his birthday that will only take pictures of a dog. Every time he takes a photo the dog appears closer and snarling.

All the stories are classic King -- not true horror -- but more science fiction with a dash of terror. King's talent is not in constructing rich plots, or developing realistic characters. His real skill lies in sheer story-telling ability. He knows what scares you and what is going to glue you to the chair. After all he grew up reading and what better experience for a writer.

Five Minutes to Midnight

Five Minutes to Midnight
U.S. Senator Tom Harkin with C.E. Thomas
Birch Lane Press, 1990 \$18.95



Patience lines of bookstore patrons lined up at Borders Book Shop in West Des Moines earlier this month to purchase autographed copies of Senator Tom Harkin's new book. Above: Senator Harkin inscribes a book with a special message for a young boy. Several children gave the senator red construction paper valentines in exchange for a book whose jacket depicted a red mushroom cloud of nuclear destruction.

No doubt it's just an eerie coincidence in the publishing world, but Stephen King (see review above) and U.S. Senator Tom Harkin seem to have been on a similar wavelength -- at least if the titles of their recent books are any indication.

Senator Harkin believes the United States and Soviet Union are poised at an "epoch-making" moment in history. He views the shattering of Cold War principles as a precious window of opportunity to develop a deterrence-only policy, or what he calls a "sane nuclear alternative" -- as if anything about nuclear arsenals is sane.

Senator Harkin explains this new strategy requires a number of reciprocal U.S. -- Soviet actions including stoppage of new weapon development and testing, and incremental steps toward reduction in the numbers of nuclear weapons. Eventually, Harkin envisions superpowers having only "a few hundred" weapons apiece, a stark contrast to the reputed 50,000 total warheads Harkin reports are currently part of the arsenals of the U.S. and Soviet Union.

Laden with technical detail (glossary provided) on weapon types and complete with a review of nuclear arms policy development since World War II, this volume is a challenging read. The book, co-authored by C.E. Thomas, Senator Harkin's Special Assistant on Arms Control, includes portions which were updated to reflect the impact of the Gulf War on nuclear arms policy.

"Lack of energy could be the trigger that ignites World War III," Harkin sounds this alarmist warning in a discussion of the implications of energy shortages and nuclear proliferation.

Though there are elements of partisan diatribe in the work -- especially when Harkin claims Bush may not be capable of the visionary leadership required to escape a Cold War mentality -- the book ends on an optimistic note with detailed advice on how ordinary citizen groups can impact government leaders to adopt a new nuclear arms policy.

Take Advantage of Student Benefits

Did you know the Student Activities Office (Building 5) offers discount tickets to movie theaters, the Civic Center, Worlds of Fun, Adventureland, University White Water Park, Iowa Cubs games, Iowa State Fair admission and various other events? If you're like most students you may not be aware of the benefits you are entitled to. Other services available include: a central lost & found, free notary service, postage stamps for sale and use of jumper cables.

A portion of your enrollment fee finances Student Activities. The Student Action Board (SAB) is responsible for scheduling educational lectures and entertainment on campus.

You may be interested in one of the departmental, pre-professional or special interest clubs such as DECA/retail marketing or the Spanish club.



Maybe sports and recreation is more your bag. Recreation/Wellness is also located in Building 5. Aziz Haffar, the assistant director of rec/wellness services says, "I can't believe people don't know we have a gym here." The facilities include a running track, basketball/volleyball court, exercise bikes, chinning bars and mats, Hydragym weight lifting equipment and free weights. Fitness classes are free to students and locker rooms are available. Towels and padlocks may be rented.



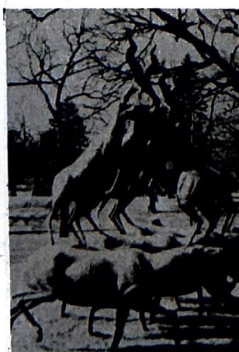
Haffar is responsible for coordinating intramural events. Last fall he offered the following tournaments: mud volleyball, golf, badminton, and flag football etc. Spring offerings include: basketball, volleyball, wrestling, soccer and tennis. If you're more cerebral than athletic, maybe a cribbage, chess or backgammon tournament would appeal to you. Maybe you're neither athletic nor cerebral, but still enjoy the thrill of competition. You can still be accommodated with a foosball, pool or table tennis tournament.

The recreation department also rents board games (checkers, monopoly, yahtzee, trivial pursuit, risk, dominoes, backgammon, scrabble and chess) camping, (tents, stoves, cooler, and cookset) sports equipment (volleyball set, softball set, soccer ball, basketball, football, frisbee, croquet set, tennis racquet and bicycle carrier for car) and outdoor equipment (cross country skis, toboggan, canoes, sailboats).

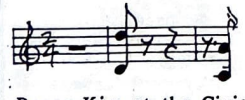
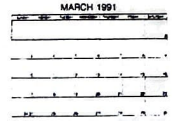
The Wellness Department provides Lunch & Learn, a healthy lunch and presentation by a guest speaker -- \$2.00 for wellness club members and \$4.00 for non-members. Also provided are wellness workshops featuring a variety of topics.

"Animal Pyramid"

by Bruce Nauman



This controversial sculpture of flayed (skinned) animals is located in the northwest corner of the Des Moines Art Center grounds.



Benny Kim at the Civic Center. The violinist will be performing *The Enchanted Lake*, Opus 62 by Liadov, *Violin Concerto*, Opus 82 by Glazunov and *Symphony No.2*, Opus 27. \$3.00 for student if you purchase your ticket 1/2 hour before the performance.

FREE at the Drake Hall of Performing Arts:

Guy Wuelner, piano faculty recital 8 p.m. Mar 2.

Drake Concert Band/Wind Ensemble, 3:30 p.m. Mar 3.

Drake Choir 8 p.m. Mar 5.

FREE at Monroe Recital Hall Drake.

Carol lei Post, fortepiano 8 p.m. Mar 10.

FREE at Simpson College. Anne Larsen mezzo soprano, and Carol Stuart, soprano, in joint recital with Robert Larsen at piano. Mar 18 p.m. at the Great Hall at Simpson College.



The Cocktail Hour, playwright returns home seeking permission to produce play about his parents. Mar 1-17 at the Des Moines Playhouse. Discount tickets half price day of performance.

Nunsense play full of convent comedy at the Des Moines Civic Center. At 8 p.m. Mar 7-10 & 14-17, 2 p.m. Mar 17. Tickets \$10.00.

Distant Thunder, film at the Des Moines Art Center. Indian couple lives change dramatically with the advent of World War II. Mar 7.



Celebrating Women in the Visual Arts Exhibition at the Art Gallery Mar 10 - Apr 2.

Watercolor painting and quilts by Bruce Bobick at Farnham Galleries, Simpson College.

[EDITORIALS]

We STILL Hold These Rights To Be Self-Evident...

by Jay Des Dyson
Co-editor of Editorials

"The perfect inoculation against nationalism is patriotism."

-- Eric Blair [AKA - George Orwell]

"What offends you most about this war?" my girlfriend asked me. I pondered in silence for a moment, weighing my response. I reflected back to the day of the outbreak of hostilities, recalling how I -- resolute in the understanding that any military "solution" is only temporary at best -- found the overt aggression by both sides of the conflict equally loathsome.

In short order, I gave my reply.

"I detest what Iraq has done to *both* Kuwait and our nation," I answered.

Alexandra's quizzical expression pressed me to elaborate. ...and so I did, just as I will now.

Iraq has brought out the worst of what the United States has to offer. In stating this, I refer not to the overwhelming destructive power of the United States military, but to the devastating anti-American groundswell that has been sired by this war; an uprising that seeks to revoke that which is most precious and fundamental to the United States of America. And just who is at the heart of this anti-American uprising? The answer is simple:

It is **NOT** the peace protesters.

It **IS** the Conservative/Nationalists.

I shall state now that I do not level my accusations lightly. I have more than sufficient grounds with which to support my charges against the overwhelming number of Conservatives here in our nation who [apparently] confuse patriotism with being a "yes-man" for whomever is in the White House. The individuals who forward this philosophy are more than adamant in their demands for blind faith in both the President of the United States and whatever designs the President may propose, support or instigate with the United States military.

The aforementioned attitude is anti-American to the very core. I am personally amazed that the Conservatives of our nation [the alleged Americana Experts they portray themselves to be] consistently fail to note that this nation was created because our Founding Fathers *abhorred* blind loyalty to the powers-that-be. Our nation's founders not only advocated but **DEMANDED** freedom of dissent, freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Still, while I am indeed shocked by the Conservative's collective ignorance of history with regards to the genesis of our liberties, it comes as little surprise to me that these Nationalists of the Nineties loathe each and every one of our Inalienable Rights when they do not conveniently suit their political ends.

My fellow citizens: The above example illustrates anti-Americanism at its worst. Not only does this antagonistic attitude toward our **RIGHT** to dissent demonstrate itself as *unpatriotic*, it also comes perilously close to being nationalistic, *even fascist*.

As a result of this conflict, I am confronted with nationalism on a daily basis. That's right, *not* patriotism...**NATIONALISM**. There is no patriotism in blindly swallowing the party line of the President of the United States; that is the product of a "*Das Fatherland*" mindset which accepts as gospel anything "*Der Fuehrer*" says. How many times I've heard someone say that I have to support the President and the military, as if I would not be a "Good American" if I didn't. It is with great irony, yet little humor, that I recall such a "philosophy" being well-entrenched in the minds of many a citizen of Nazi Germany: They too were convinced that their nation was the "moral leader" of the world. Did that make them right? Not by a long shot.

...And the same holds true with us today.

All the same, because of Iraq's patently unethical conduct, many in our nation have adopted the belief

continued on page 9



The Necessity of Tolerance...

Dear Editor,

I feel compelled to respond to a recent opinion article by staff writer Jim Hibbs ("A Piece of My Mind for the Peace Protestors"). I take great exception to Mr. Hibbs' position regarding the function of protest in our society. It seems that he views protest as a vehicle designed only to "create disarray" and "undermine this country." Whatever happened to tolerance for divergent opinions? Whatever happened to free exchange of ideas and information in order to form a well-balanced and informed opinion? I see very little of the latter evident in Mr. Hibbs' article. Sanctions or open warfare; *both* hurt innocents severely. It's interesting that the fact that Hussein has bullied, terrorized, tortured and killed innocents for years, even when we were supporting him against Iran, never brought forth this degree of concern [until now]. Turning of heads in denial has often been an overused diplomacy technique [in the United States].

Mark Twain said "Irreverence is the champion of democracy and its only sure defense." Without a good dose of skepticism, open questioning and fact-seeking -- irreverence -- we all [run the risk of becoming] blindly obedient, intolerant and extremely gullible. Thank goodness for the right to (and hopefully the tolerance of) ALL opinions, freely expressed, ideally without inflammatory labels attached to those offering them.

Kyle Ann Campos
Faculty member

I'm Tired of the Rhetoric Too!

Dear Editor,

This letter is in regards to the editorial by Jim Hibbs, "A Piece of My Mind for the Peace Protestors." [Chronicle/February 14]

Mr. Hibbs, you know what I'm tired of....

I'm tired of the pro-war faction, such as yourself, suggesting that those who voice their opinions or attend peace rallies against this war are undermining the government. If I do not agree with the policies of my government, I have not only the right to speak out, but the duty and responsibility as a citizen of a democracy to voice my opposition. If we do not actively participate in our democracy, we then no longer have a democracy. Obviously, you are not aware of this democratic concept.

You say this so called peace rhetoric pulls the rug from under our government. I say dissent and active opposition keeps the rug firmly where it belongs -- in the hands of the American people. Not to mention it prevents this country from becoming a blatant oligarchy.

I'm tired of people, like you, implying that I'm not patriotic, because I perpetuate anti-war sentiments. I love my country beyond measure. One reason why I love this country so much is because when I read writings that call for the blind subordination of the populace, I can freely display my disgust and contempt.

I'm tired of hearing that war was the only option in this situation. This is simply not true. On July 25th, one week before Iraq invaded, Saddam Hussein explicitly questioned the Ambassador to Iraq about the United States position concerning the border dispute between Iraq and Kuwait. The Ambassador stated that the United States had no opinion the inter-Arab relations and no policy concerning Kuwait. This was confirmed by Secretary of State James Baker.

I guess over 400,000 troops and billions of dollars is the action of a country with no opinion.

Don't get me wrong, Jim. I don't believe in peace. Nobody in there right mind should voice anti-war sentiments. After all, peace is the last resort that should be taken after the courses of war have been taken. Those courses are in process.

I suppose sarcasm also undermines the government!!!!

Kelly Wingfield
Secondary Education



Des Moines Area
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"What Are You?"

by Suriaya Rahaman
Free-lance contributor

"Who are you?", said the Caterpillar. This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation. Alice replied rather shyly, "I hardly know, sir, just at present, at least I knew who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then."

Lewis Carroll
Alice's Adventures In Wonderland

As in this story, Alice stayed the same but the perceptions of the people around her (and her perceptions of herself) changed to suit the situation.

On Wednesday, February 21, 1991, Syed Rafi Ahmed, a Pakistani man studying at Grinnell was mistaken for an Iraqi citizen and assaulted; his second assault in two months.

This could have been me. All of my life I have been mistaken for every ethnicity except my own. I am an American of African, Indian and Trinidadian descent. My ancestors came to Trinidad on the same slave ships as my African-American compatriots. My Indian ancestors were indentured servants who saw an opportunity for betterment. I know the humiliation of being called "nigger," and of being told, "Why don't you go back where you belong?" Where, pray tell, would that be?

Both African-Americans and Caucasians have asked why I proudly acknowledge my African heritage when I could easily "pass." The best answer is that I have never known what it means to be accepted as part of an ethnic group.

When my family came to St. Louis in 1970, "Black Pride" was big, yet I was not included with the African-American children. In fact, they made it clear that I was not one of them. It hurt. A lot. I was seven and had already learned the meaning of hate.

We began attending a Muslim church, where almost everyone looked like me. But because my family embraced both Catholic and Muslim teachings (we celebrated Christmas and had wine with dinner) and we spoke neither Arabic or Urdu, I was an outsider. Now the equation consisted of hate plus shame.

Until 1988, I was an immigrant, not yet a citizen (even though I had lived here for 18 years). Hate plus shame was increased to the nth power when people made horrible "alien" remarks in my presence. They were also referring to me, even though I was here legally.

I have had people comment on how well I speak the English language, not realizing their insult; Trinidad was a British colony until 1962, and I have never spoken another language. But because I look "foreign," they assume it is a second language for me. For the record I have never responded with "Hey Buddy, I learned to speak the Queens' English but I'm talking American for your benefit!" no matter how great the temptation.

The news reports about the Grenada invasion came from neighboring Trinidad, yet many people ask me if it is close to India. The phenomenal ignorance that exists even in the Information Age where the world is referred to as a "global village" astounds me.

My son faces all of the humiliation and shame I faced. His looks belie his African and Indian heritage. All of his life people will ask him "What are you?" (just as they did to me) frustrated that we have no pigeonhole to fit neatly into.

Ethnic pride is wonderful; ethnocentricity to the point of xenophobia is not. If we are truly seekers of higher learning, we need to educate ourselves fully and learn not based on preconceived ideas and miscellaneous facts, but with empathy and an open mind.

[EDITORIALS]

AMERICA: WALK YOUR TALK

by Jay Des Dyson and Alexandra Worcester
Co-editor of Editorials Free-lance contributor

Help the homeless!
Feed the hungry!
Save the dolphins!
Stop drug abuse!
Help stamp out AIDS!
Recycle America's resources!

We, as Americans, seem to be in the midst of an Awareness trend. Everywhere we turn in this suddenly "socially-conscious America" of ours, someone is trying to persuade us to rally for some cause and/or donate our money to help put an end to some horrible happening. Indeed, it's become fashionable to be aware of the problems of others and be concerned about the fate of our planet and all its inhabitants: And it's very fashionable to let everyone know you care about a certain issue as well.

So awareness is in. Great. What good is it doing us? Who is doing the footwork that will help the citizens of this world break free from the apparently deepening quagmire that can only lead to unparalleled national (and possibly global) economic and ecological disaster? Granted, recognition and awareness of these pressing issues is paramount to the beginning of their resolution, but awareness is never enough. Any trend, no matter how noble, eventually becomes an "old hat"; quickly abandoned as the American public trots off on the trail of something new.

Unfortunately, unlike hula-hoops and yo-yo's, human suffering and pressing environmental issues won't wait in a closet until we feel like playing with them again: They exist and will persist until definitive action is taken. If we wish to survive these crises, we -- as a people -- are going to have to make this now-fashionable awareness and caring an integral part of our everyday lives...

...And the time to act is NOW.

"Can one person really make any difference? How can I, one individual, go about making the changes necessary?" one may ask. The answer to both questions respectively is "Yes," and "The possibilities are limited only by your creativity." Contrary to popular opinion, making a difference isn't really such a difficult task. While a change for the better in any situation certainly cannot be fostered with money alone [as the "conventional wisdom" would lead us to believe], it can be accomplished with a consistent philosophy of caring and taking part. If we, as a people, take a real interest in what is going on -- not only in the global community, but in the local community and in one's own neighborhood -- a change for the better in any circumstance can only be inevitable.

We should let neither apathy nor fear prevent us from contributing what resources we have available to those in need. Any contribution, however small, can and will make a difference. Lending a hand to an elderly neighbor, taking time to talk with a shut-in, offering a smile and a kind word to someone, giving your seat to a young mother and her children; all of these are small contributions that can yield immeasurably positive results in the long run. As a result of doing such simple things, you may make a new friend; you may brighten an erstwhile bleak day for another; you might even rejuvenate a spark of hope in someone who could be teetering on the brink of despondency. The possibilities are limited only by one's compassion. As a consequence of doing these small things, one will undoubtedly discover a greater sense of purpose, well-being and belongingness within society.

Granted, this approach may seem quite simplistic when one considers the complexities of today's world; yet one of the great paradoxes of life is that the "simple things in life" are quite often the most fulfilling. While we may take these simple things for granted [or not take them at all], their worth is valid nonetheless. It is no secret that it takes a great deal more than donating money to "good causes" to make this world of ours a better place. Though it is true that money donated to such causes does have an ultimately positive effect, such is not the panacea for our problem[s].

We leave you with this thought: If we, as a people, cannot even extend our compassion to our neighbor across the street, what hope have we of offering anything of value to a nation across the seas?

Take care...and take action.

MIKE'S CORNER

by Mike Milik
Chronicle Columnist

DEAL WITH THE SMOKE

I would like to welcome you all to the smoking section. Those of you who happen to be non-smokers should stop reading right now because I'm going to say some things that will just upset you. As far as I'm concerned, people who don't smoke are already uptight enough, so why make it worse? (See, I told you you'd get upset.)

As a group, smokers are much more relaxed and easy-going than those who never light up. I worked in a restaurant for years, so I know from experience that this is not a slanderous lie but a simple truth. Based on what I observed, something like 95 percent of all food or service complaints came from the non-smoking half of the restaurant -- plus, smokers tip better.

Now don't get me wrong. Some of my best friends are non-smokers. No, I take that back. All of my closest friends are smokers. I do know some non-smokers I would consider friends. At least I think I do. But not very many.

All of you non-smokers who are still reading (even though I did warn you to stop) are out there whining, "But why should we be subjected to the evil second-hand smoke?" Newsflash! Sit in non-smoking and deal. Sure, it isn't the perfect solution, but since when is the world required to be a perfect place? In a perfect world, Wilson Phillips wouldn't sell millions of albums.

One of the things that bothers me is overweight people who insist on wearing those neon colored spandex biking shorts. Of course we can't ban them from the malls or restaurants. It is their right to publicly embarrass themselves by wearing what they like, just like it is someone else's right to smoke or not to smoke.

Every time I smoke a cigarette it supposedly takes twelve minutes off the end of my life. Darn, I'll be missing some of those quality Depends undergarment years. Just to put this into perspective, let me say that when I see a 250-pound woman in hot pink stretch pants bending over to pick up an M&M, it takes something like two and a half months off my life. Maybe there should be biking shorts and non-biking shorts sections everywhere.

For those of you non-smokers who still think smoking is a big deal, I would like you to consider a few things before you write that letter to the editor saying I should be shot. There is war going on in the Middle East. There is world-wide starvation. There are millions of homeless here in the United States. Plus, people are still buying Wilson Phillips cassette. (Probably non-smokers.) So just take a look at the mess the rest of the world is in and, well, shut up.

In the immortal words of the great Chinese philosopher Confucius, "Smoke 'em if you got 'em."

"If given the choice between two evils, I'll pick the one that's the most fun."

— Mae West

Editorial: Urban Campus SAB Coverage

Urban Campus Gets Reporters. Is the Attention Welcomed?

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

"We pay \$1,800 for the paper and it's not just so that copies of the paper get delivered to Urban Campus. If (someone) buys an ad in the paper for \$50, (they) get so much space. Our \$1,800 should get us so much space in the paper, so much news on Urban Campus."

So said James Lewis, president of Urban Campus Student Action Board (SAB). In fact, over his three terms as president of Urban SAB, Lewis has made the remark several times. It has been made to other SAB board members. It has been made to the newspaper's faculty adviser, and on February 19 it was made to me.

Is there some validity in Lewis' statement? Yes. And there are some problems to overcome before all three of the outlying campuses will get full coverage.

The above statement would have more validity if the coverage of the people, boards, events and decisions at Urban Campus were really the heart of the issue with Lewis. However, they are not.

Controversy is news. Especially when prominent students or governing entities are involved.

For two years, he has demanded the Chronicle cover Urban Campus. This semester, he has coverage. Based on two conversations with him, I think it is not what he expected or wanted.

I don't believe that Lewis really wants coverage of newsworthy happenings at Urban Campus. It appears that he doesn't want a serious student of journalism to attend meetings and ask too many probing questions. It seems Lewis wants a public relations department in exchange for the \$1,800 in student fees allocated to the Chronicle budget.

Lewis asked me why I was attending the SAB meetings. He wanted to know if I was really just there to cover him because the paper's adviser thought he was "controversial."

Controversy is news. Especially when prominent students or governing entities are involved. However, given the absence of any coverage in the past, it may be a fair question.

On most college campuses, the meetings and activities of student governing boards, administrators and boards of directors are covered extensively by the student newspaper. DMACC leaders have not had to operate with the scrutiny of the press. Except for Urban Campus SAB, the leaders are still spending money, allocating resources, and making decisions in relative obscurity. That is the Chronicle's fault.

I was not assigned to "get" James Lewis or anyone else. I was not even assigned to cover the SAB. I was assigned as a staff writer for Urban Campus and told to find the news. The SAB was a logical place to start. The members make decisions affecting student life and they control the student activity budget. (Urban Campus SAB currently has a bank balance of over \$30,000.)

If factual, in-depth reporting of SAB activity makes Lewis or anyone else on the board uncomfortable, then all of us better be asking why.

What has prompted Lewis' concern? Lewis has said that everyone focuses too much on the "bad" things and not enough on the "good" things he has accomplished as president of the SAB.

He has cited as an example the 1990 Christmas party, "the best Christmas party in DMACC history with 750 in attendance." Lewis has said that under his leadership, the number of clubs and membership in existing clubs has grown. The SAB now has a professional development committee and a laser printer was purchased for student use.

He is right that balanced press coverage is important. But positive, popular actions by leaders do not excuse or erase the negative, controversial actions. They just mitigate the damages.

Lewis' Style

James Lewis is a very bright man. By his own admission, he has used SAB contacts, lobbying efforts, student voter apathy and knowledge of the SAB bylaws to obtain and hold his position.

He has become adept at lobbying and orchestrating board meetings to put forth his agenda and achieve his goals. He is a power broker and he is effective. He is proud of that fact.

"As president of the board, I have no vote. It is my job to be up on the issues and to use parliamentary procedure and the board's rules to work within the system. Each SAB board member is given the rules of parliamentary procedure when they join the board. I studied them. I learned how to use them. It is each board member's individual responsibility to also learn to use them."

He is right. If he has controlled the board, it is because the board allowed him to do so. If the amount of influence he has is excessive, it is because students have not become knowledgeable and involved.

The board's new secretary, treasurer, and assistant secretary are all appointed by Lewis. Appointments are allowed. Lewis will graduate this spring. Preparing for his departure by leaving others with leadership skills already positioned for re-election is the mark of a good manager. There should be nothing controversial about that.

Becoming mouthpieces for Lewis' personal agenda and rubber-stamping any designs he may forward would indeed be controversial. And it would certainly be newsworthy.

Lewis is open about the fact that he lobbies for votes supporting his positions outside of the meeting. He is also aware that some view his style as "dictatorial." He recently reminded board members in a meeting that explaining an issue and seeking support should be done outside of the meeting.

While this does shorten the time needed for discussion and debate, too much outside lobbying violates the spirit of the open meetings law. It makes it difficult for neutral third parties to fully understand both an issue before the board and the action the board may subsequently take. This practice can also generate the very criticism and controversy that Lewis wishes to avoid.

The Actions of Lewis and the SAB

At the February 5 meeting, the board approved a \$50 reimbursement to Lewis for travel expenses he incurred on a trip to Iowa City to "scout out talent" for Black History Month. Members of student boards and committees often travel to interview speakers or audition performers.

However, usual procedure is to get the trip approved by the board first. The board only knew of his trip after the fact.

Another more expensive and pertinent example of his political savvy concerns the proposals from the Campus Life committee of the SAB to purchase a new copier for student use and to purchase the Lexis/Nexis information access system.

* The copier has enhanced features. It can make enlargements and also includes a dollar bill changer to eliminate the need to feed a coin through the machine for each copy. The cost of the copier is \$5,685.

* The Lexis/Nexis system is an electronic information search system for student use. It serves as a combined periodical guide, card catalog, and reference materials source. The cost of the system and the first year of operation is \$2,320.

Both proposals were introduced at the meeting of February 5. Lewis immediately called for a motion to table based upon the fact that the treasury only contained an estimated \$8,000 in funds.

The motion passed because parliamentary procedure did not allow discussion. When the board members wanted to vote on Lexis/Nexis, they couldn't. Lewis had called for a motion to table both issues and in the rush and confusion, everyone agreed. Most of the board members believed they had voted for only a tabling of the motion regarding the copier.

Lewis told me the day after the meeting that he had made an error in calling for the motion. He said it was a simple human mistake which caused him to link both of them together. He says "I added the cost of the two, came up with an amount in excess of the amount he believed was in the treasury and called for the motion."

He said that he supported the purchase of the Lexis/Nexis system and that the mistake would be rectified at the meeting of February 19.

At the February 19 meeting, Lewis temporarily surrendered his chair to the vice president so that he could participate in the debates and then vote on the

copier and Lexis/Nexis proposals. Lewis was adamantly opposed to both proposals.

Lewis had some valid concerns, but once again I don't believe they were really that important to him. I believe control of the board was the real issue in this matter. Lewis didn't want these purchases made, yet the majority of the board did.

As I review the board meeting and the events preceding it, I have to wonder if Lewis would use any tool or any argument he could to have things his way.

Remember the laser printer previously identified by Lewis as an example of his "good" deeds? On February 19, he suddenly believed that it had become a mistake to purchase it because it was too complicated to use. He feared the new copier and the Lexis/Nexis system would also be too hard for the students to run.

"Our \$1,800 should get us so much space for the paper, so much news on Urban Campus."

- James Lewis
President/Urban SAB

Remember the balance in the board's checking account? It is now \$32,127 with \$20,811 of that amount carry-over from the last fiscal year. Lewis was concerned that the board had never spent \$6,000 dollars at one time before. Yet records indicate the board allocated \$6,000 for the Peer Tutoring Program at the beginning of the school year.

This time, the board voted contrary to his position. Both the copier and the Lexis/Nexis system should soon be available for student use.

Remember Lewis' statement that SAB money should buy positive press? The conversation in which it occurred happened only fifteen minutes before the start of that meeting.

I can't help but wonder if the presence of the press and his memory of our previous conversation made him nervous. It is much easier to deflect examination of your actions and evade justifying your motives when there are only a few asking questions.

Be careful what you ask for -- you may get it.

EDITORIAL: Rights as Self-Evident

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that we are some kind of Knight-In-Shining-Armor which we, in fact, are not. In reality, our nation's sword is as wrongfully bloodied as Iraq's. Simply because our prior military adventures [specifically, Grenada and Panama] served our national purposes does not mean that we served [or even considered] the best interests of the world. Make no mistake: Our prior invasions of lesser nations are just as unethical as Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Simply because our invasions suited our own nationalistic ends does NOT make them right. If we are to believe that such a justification is valid, then we ought to be consistent and allow any other nation such a narrow-minded view with which to rationalize its own barbaric conduct. Hopefully this turning-of-the-tables will demonstrate just how insipid AND insidious the aforementioned justification truly is.

Coupled with this creeping Conservative/Nationalist wartime trend, there has arisen yet another treacherous threat to the American Way Of Life: In our nation there now exists an air of open contempt toward those who exercise their RIGHTS as defined and granted by the Constitution of the United States of America. At present, the primary "Inalienable Rights" that are apparently on the Conservative/Nationalist "hit-list" are as follows: [1] The Right To Freedom Of Speech, [2] The Right To Peaceable Assembly, and [3] The Right To Petition The Government For The Redress Of Grievances. Both the overt and covert contemptuous assault by the Conservative/Nationalist camp on the validity of each of our necessary liberties is evidenced by every bitter platitude they forward whenever someone dares to disagree with the "vision" of President George Bush. I am constantly reminded that the multitudes of Conservatives -- with their stern admonitions -- believe that there is something patently "un-American" about speaking one's mind when one disagrees with the President of the United States.

Pardon me, but need I remind these people that the leaders of this nation were NOT elected unanimously and thus have no right to expect unanimous support? Need I remind them that our nation is based on plurality? Need I remind them of the entirety of the U.S. Bill of Rights? Need I remind them that this is the United States of America, not the FASCIST States of America?

Fellow Americans, if all that is needed to invalidate our *INALIENABLE RIGHTS* is a military conflict with another aggressor nation, how can we honestly proffer ourselves as vanguards for democracy, liberty and freedom? The conservatives of our nation may be able to swallow this hypocrisy, but I cannot. My sense of ethical and patriotic duty will not afford me this "luxury."

In closing, I wish to state that I will continue speaking out against this Conservative/Nationalist travesty that is presently poisoning America. All the same, I will continue as I always have and [to quote my girlfriend, Alexandra] "support the troops, not the war machine." If nothing else, I would like to impart to the members of the Conservative/Nationalist camp a statement that they will [hopefully] find of great import:

It takes an individual of weak convictions to loathe another who voices dissent.

Sisterly Pact --

continued from page 4

promise to her sister. "I want to see the children again, but this isn't the way I wanted to do it,"

Reporter's Note:

A compounding aspect of this story is the fact that Cathy's and Pam's brother and sister-in-law, Tom and Tally Hanson, are presently active in the Air Force. The couple has been stationed in Miami, Florida since January.

Tom is a computer technician with top security clearance and works only on SAC bases. Tally is a sergeant on "flight line" which means she directs planes in to land, does refueling and completes a check of the planes before they fly out again.

War's Impact Hits Home

Tally has two daughters, Jessica, 7, and Sondra, 9. Tom and Tally's are expecting a child in May which will exempt Tally from combat duty for six weeks following the birth of the baby.

There is a strong possibility Tom and Tally will each be called to Saudi Arabia as well. Cathy talked about care for those three children, grinned and said, "Of course I would keep them," but Cathy anticipates they would probably be cared for by one of Tally's five sisters.

Update: Last week NBC Nightly News reported that approximately 1,200 couples nationwide have been called jointly to serve in Operation Desert Storm. In addition, NBC reported about 16,000 single-parent families have been affected by the Gulf war.

Who Will Bring Me Flowers?

by Rob Wright
Health Columnist

Reporter's Note: This article follows the life of Charles Thassreau who died of AIDS in Los Angeles, California on January 1, 1991. He was my friend. This is the third letter in a five-part series that tells from beginning to end the hardships that he faced and the reaction of his family.

--Dedicated to Chuckie-- Part Three

September 7, 1990

Dear Rob:

Sorry I haven't written sooner. I started my chemotherapy and it makes me feel like crap. I don't feel like doing much of anything, just sleep. You should see me, my hair is falling out, I'm pasty white and I look like a junkie. My arms are so full of holes, they are having trouble finding a clean spot to take blood. If I ever get out of this alive, I'm seeing a plastic surgeon. Despite all that, I'm doing alright.

I have met some interesting people here. One person in particular is Jim. By what he has stated, something went wrong during an operation he had a few years back, and he had to have an emergency blood transfusion. He said, the doctor even verified it was a 99% possibility it was the blood transfusion that gave him AIDS. His wife doesn't believe them, she thinks they're both lying. Yeah right, the doctor is going to lie about something like this. Jesus, she needs to get a firm grip on life.

He has two little girls and has shown me pictures of them. They are ages eight and ten, with coal black hair and big blue eyes. One is named Cassie and the other is Jessica. They are adorable. He misses them a lot, and talks about them all the time. When he calls home his wife won't let him talk to them. She is being too cruel to this man, you can just imagine what colorful words come to mind when I think about how she is treating him. Every now and then I find him, in some obscure little corner, looking at his pictures -- crying. God, what a way to treat someone.

I know how he feels, not being able to see or talk to the ones you love the most. Come on, those are his children and they mean a great deal to him, she could at least let him talk to them on the phone. I feel so sorry for him. When are people going to wake up and quit treating us like some type of deprived individuals? We are still human, with needs and wants. Is it too hard for his wife, as well as others to understand that?

When I talking with him and the others here, I realize how much alone we all are. Hell, we're outcasts of our society. I'm lucky, I have contact with someone who cares whether I live or die. It's sad to think that those who don't are going to possibly die alone.

Here I go again, I'm talking about the negative side of things. I did make you a promise I was going to keep a positive attitude. And you're right, it does work. I want to be a part of life, instead of standing in a corner feeling sorry for myself and waiting to die. I find myself noticing how beautiful the sunsets are. I see various hues of purple, red, gold, and yellow -- even an artist can't duplicate what I see. I never noticed them to be so beautiful.

I have some good news for you. The treatment is going well, despite the holes in my arms, the doctor seems to think the advancement of the cancer has slowed down. Let's hope and pray it will be killed completely. Even if it doesn't, I'm not afraid of dying. I know at first I really freaked out. Wouldn't you? I'm 27 years old, I'm satisfied with my life and I don't have any regrets.

That's funny, isn't it?

Well, I have to go, it's getting late and the sun rises early. Take care and write soon.

Keep praying for me.

Chuckie

There will be a choral concert on March 8, Building 5, at "The Hub" from 11:30 a.m. until? This concert is dedicated to the DMACC students who are now in the Gulf. Show up and give your support to our troops.

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Black History Celebration

continued from page 1

Saadiq reminded the crowd of approximately 60 students that African Americans had long been influential in the making of history, yet are recognized little for their contributions.

"Black people ignited the world. The uprising at Tiananmen Square was modeled on the anti-war protesters of the 60s, who learned their tactics from black students in the south during the civil rights movement," he said. "Because of the African Americans' demand for civil rights, others have civil rights. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights ignored the black man and the Indian. African Americans made United States citizens the freest in the world because they fought for civil rights."

Saadiq cited handicap access and low income/minority loan programs as examples of benefits American citizens of all races have enjoyed as a result of the black community's willingness to take a stand.

He attributed the fact that contributions by blacks were not recognized more as due to the white community's efforts to commit "selective genocide."

"Any black men with vision, our black leaders have been assassinated. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X were both shot. Marcus Garvey was hounded by the IRS, resulting in character assassination. Louis Farrakhan was censured unanimously by the U.S. Senate."

As a result, Saadiq emphasized the need for black students "to understand black history if our future history is to be better than our past history. Let us not be content to study history, but to make history."

He ended by challenging the Urban Campus students to push for an auditorium on campus so that future programs could be held with a lack of competition from student traffic and lunch room activity.

"Because of the African Americans' demand for civil rights, others have civil rights."

- Kalonji Saadiq
former DMACC student and black activist

Students wandering around the area combined with the poor acoustics made it difficult to hear portions of the interpretive readings of poetry performed by Toni Jones and the Langston Hughes players.

The readings preceded Saadiq's speech and offered selections of poetry written by black women about the black woman's heritage. The poetry explored experiences and emotions as diverse as a slave woman's reaction to the master's new "yella wench," a reflection on the symbolism of bones as a black woman is tarred and feathered, and a black woman's pride in proclaiming the many powerful connections with both nature and humankind throughout the ages. The final reading celebrated the survival of the black woman against atrocities and oppression and affirmed the need for the continued survival of both the black woman and the black man.

Plan Ahead for Smooth Transfers

by Patti Elliott, Staff Writer

DMACC is serving a growing number of transfer students who continue their education at a four-year college or university. If you are planning to transfer, plan early.

Start the minute you apply at DMACC. If you are going to transfer to the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, Grandview, or Drake University, you can obtain articulation information at the Counseling Office in Building 5. If you're not going to transfer to one these Iowa colleges, find a counselor to help you plan your schedule, or write to the college where you want to transfer and send them a DMACC catalog. They can tell you what classes will transfer for the program you want to enter.

Remember, only classes where you receive a 2.0 GPA will transfer and schools will only accept official transcripts. For assistance with transfers, see advisers in the Counseling Office/Building 5.

UC Dean Strives to Implement Budget Cuts

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

Urban Campus Dean Mary Chapman sees her main purpose and the primary purpose of DMACC as being one in the same -- to serve the student population. In her position as chief administrator at Urban Campus, this means that she is ultimately responsible for distributing available resources to get the best mix of quality and quantity of services for the students.

On February 13, that part of her job became more challenging.

That was the day that DMACC's board of directors met to discuss enacting budget cuts as a result of actual cuts in funding for the rest of fiscal year 1991 and cuts in expected funding for fiscal year 1992. The day before, DMACC President Joseph Borgen announced that the college's budget would be reduced by \$250,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year 1991 which ends June 30. The budget for fiscal year 1992 will be cut by 1.5 million dollars below the projected state funding formula.

Dr. Borgen's announcement identified several areas targeted for reductions. However, not all were applicable to Urban Campus.

The major areas which Dean Chapman and her staff will need to address concern faculty and staff assignments, elimination of liberal arts advanced classes, evaluating efficiency and resources in the maintenance area and reductions in supplies, materials and other budget categories.

"The goal becomes serving the student with increasingly limited resources."

-Mary Chapman
Dean/Urban Campus

Chapman finds it ironic that such drastic cuts must be undertaken at a time when UC is experiencing a marked increase in enrollment. "Last year, there were approximately 2,000 students enrolled at Urban Campus, including those attending classes in West Des Moines. This spring there are over 2,000 students enrolled and West Des Moines is not included." (Figures obtained by the Chronicle

indicate that the Fall 1990 enrollment was 2,006 students. Fall 1988 enrollment was at 1,617 students and Fall 1989 was at 2,079.)

Chapman said that Urban Campus was not asked to bear a large portion of the cuts. In fact, while Borgen announced that 55 employees will be terminated and another 17 reassigned, Chapman says that Urban Campus did not lose even one full-time position. She is doing looking at possible reductions in the casual

"We are not looking at the elimination of any core classes, only those which can be taken once the student transfers to a four year institution"

-Mary Chapman
Dean/Urban Campus

(part-time) employee positions. She will also have to take a look at rescheduling and reorganizing the workload of both staff and faculty.

"The goal becomes serving the students with increasingly limited resources. I am trying to protect student life as much as possible and to make the changes which will not disrupt the student to a great degree. To do that, you have to become creative until it gets so bad that you cannot do it anymore." She said, "It is always more comfortable to have all that you need." However, she believes that the reductions and cuts can be accomplished without a serious effect on the quality of education Urban Campus offers students.

"Even with the elimination of some advanced classes not necessary for a degree at DMACC, transferring liberal arts students should not miss out on any knowledge. We are not looking at the elimination of any core classes, only those which can be taken once the student transfers to a four-year institution."

Chapman is still uncertain about all of the logistics involved with teacher reassignment. Some faculty may be reassigned beginning in the summer and the majority will begin with their new assignments next fall.

She states that for many faculty, reassignment of the workload will not be any different than usual. "At the beginning of each term teachers take on different loads. If enrollment is heavy, some instructors must take on additional classes. If enrollment is lighter, adjustments are made accordingly." Chapman is trying to look at each situation to determine when the timing is right for a change to occur.

Some instructors believe the budget restrictions would result in a greater reliance on adjunct and part-time faculty. Chapman indicated that it was too early to know if such a shift would occur. She explained that some part-time and adjunct faculty teach during the day, while some full-time faculty teach night classes. In addition, some full-time faculty teach classes at more than one campus.

"In the long run, bringing on full-time faculty to teach classes is probably better. However, with some exceptions, using part-time faculty would probably save money." (Full-time faculty work under a contract and have benefits such as health insurance and pension funds. Part-time and adjunct faculty have a lower pay scale and no benefits.)

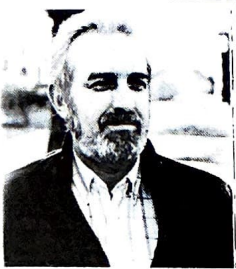
Chapman wants to make certain that the benefits unique to Urban Campus are still available to UC students. "Urban Campus is close to the business district and close to many of the people who need to return to school to brush up on current skills and learn new ones. For some of the students, obtaining transportation to other campuses or schools is difficult. Our location makes us very accessible."

Tough Times Ahead for DMACC?

The Chronicle will bring updates on the effects of the budget cuts when new information is made available.



AQUARIUM THERAPY



Dan Yerington

*Member-at-Large
Greater Iowa
Aquarium Center*

"Dedicated to the education of people through a hobby which preserves the ecology of the underwater world."

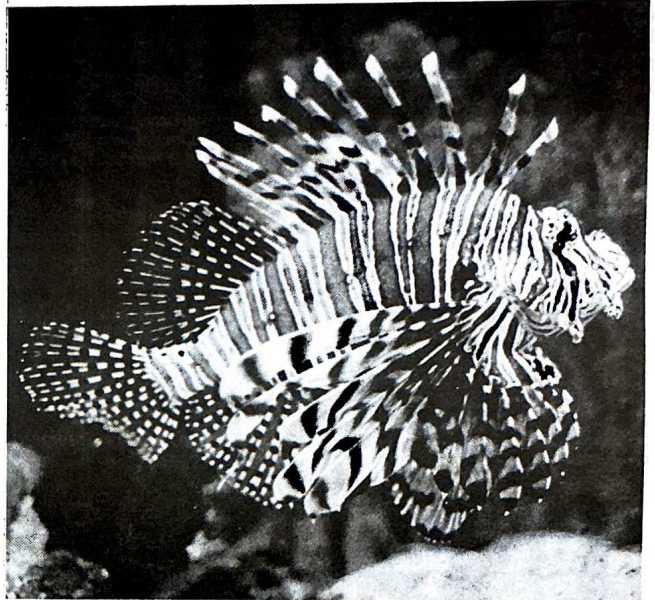
Visit the Fish

Just when it's getting a little hectic with midterms coming up soon, it's nice to know of a place where you can go and relax. Aquariums are great stress relievers. Besides beautiful colors, the flowing motion of the fish can tame any study-sickened soul.

The Greater Iowa Aquarium Center, located on the west side of the Fairgrounds near the Grand Avenue gate, opened in August 1979. The center displays over 300 varieties of tropical and salt water species. This facility is the only club-built, owned, and operated center of its kind in the world. The center receives no outside funding.

Plans for expansion are in the works and funds are currently being set aside for this project. The club's goal is to turn the aquarium center into a world-class public facility within the next seven to eight years.

The center conducts up to 200 tours annually. If you are interested in visiting the center, it is open 7 days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The price for admission is: \$1 for persons 10 and older. Children ages 5 to 9 are 50 cents. Children 5 and under are admitted free as long as they are accompanied by an adult. Senior citizens are also admitted free of charge.



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MWSC is an equal opportunity institution

At DMACC March 6 at 11a.m.,
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Jazz Pianist George Maurer



Evening Cherry Pie Social



Thursday, February 28

7 p.m. until gone

Building 5 Foyer

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In Celebration of Womens History Month, the SAB presents:

The Naked Truth

Advertising's Image of Women

by Dr. Jean Kilbourne

Advertising is an over \$100 billion a year industry. We are each exposed to over 2000 ads a day! The ads sell a great deal more than products. With expert knowledge, insight, humor and commitment, she brings brings her audiences to see that although ads may seem harmless and silly, they add up to a powerful form of cultural conditioning.



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