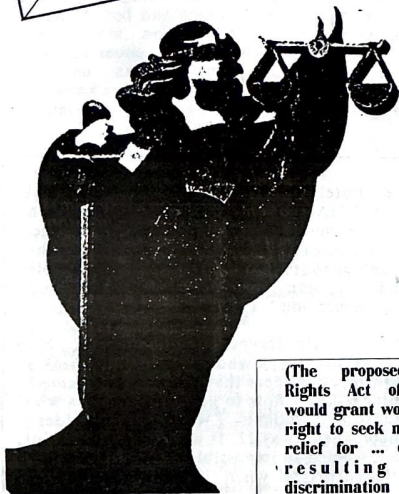


In this section:

- Role Models Offer Advice
- Eight Profiles of DMACC Women
- Nighttime at Urban Campus



Days in the Legal Lives of Women



(The proposed Civil Rights Act of 1991) would grant women the right to seek monetary relief for ... damages resulting from discrimination suffered while on the job. Women have previously been exempted from seeking the same relief afforded to victims of racial, ethnic, and age discrimination.

Editor's note: March is designated as Women's History Month. It is often celebrated by examining the past or looking toward the future. The Chronicle would like to complete its two-part coverage of this historic month by acknowledging the present.

Listed at right are only some of the actions taken by lawmakers and rulings issued by the courts during 31 days in March -- actions which have the potential of affecting the women of Iowa.

* Iowa State House - The Senate voted to lessen the severity of penalties for perpetrators of domestic abuse contained in the bill proposed by the senate subcommittee. The committee had proposed that repeat abusers could be convicted of a class D felony, resulting in up to five years in prison. The Senate lowered the penalty to an aggravated misdemeanor, resulting in the maximum sentence of two years in prison.

* Washington, D.C. - Congressional panels held hearings on the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1991. One part of the act would grant women the right to seek monetary relief for medical expenses and other damages resulting from discrimination suffered while on the job. Women have previously been exempted from seeking the same relief afforded to victims of racial, ethnic, and age discrimination.

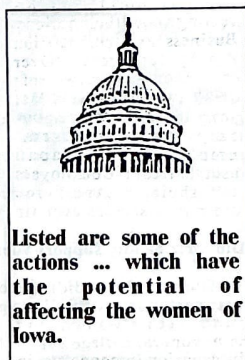
* Iowa State House - Both the House and the Senate passed a bill which expanded the definition of discriminatory practices to include those which are retaliatory in nature. Women who file complaints about sexual harassment, discrimination, etc. and are penalized by their employers as a result can now also bring discrimination charges against the employer. (This law covers all Iowans who experience retaliation.)

* Iowa State House - Two representatives announced their intentions to stop a bill giving victims of rape the option of having their identities shielded from the press and public until formal charges against their assailant(s) are filed. Their efforts failed and in April the bill is expected to pass both houses.

* Polk County - The Polk County Supervisors made public their proposed 1991-92 budget. One program to be eliminated was the "respite care" program. This program provided occasional baby-sitting services for the parents of severely mentally and/or physically handicapped children who needed around the clock care.

* Iowa State House - The Senate Resource Committee approved a bill for passage to the Senate floor which allows social workers to take custody of endangered children without telling the parents.

* Iowa State House - A bill was passed in the House which would require local governments to balance all appointments to boards and commissions by gender. The bill requires that women hold one half of the seats on appointed local government committees, boards and commissions. (Minority group members must be appointed in proportion to their share of community involvement.)



Listed are some of the actions ... which have the potential of affecting the women of Iowa.

* Iowa State House - The House passed a bill which prohibits individuals or businesses that patronize clubs which discriminate against women from taking state income tax deductions on expenses incurred at such clubs. An example might be a corporation which pays for employee memberships and related expenses in a country club with restrictions on the times women may use the facilities.

* Iowa State House - A bill was introduced into the Senate which provides access to records of adoptions made final on or before April 26, 1945.

* Supreme Court - The court agreed to hear a case challenging the federal government's restrictions upon the content of family planning counseling for agencies which receive Title X funds. Agencies receiving some of the \$145 million in funds for medical examinations, treatment, pregnancy and birth control counseling were prohibited from discussing abortion, even when a physician employed by such an agency felt that abortion was a medical necessity.

* Supreme Court - The court ruled unanimously that employers can not institute "fetal protection policies" which prohibit women of child bearing age from performing jobs which might expose unborn children to health hazards. The employer in this case had a policy which prohibited fertile women of child bearing age from holding certain "high risk" jobs. Women could work at such jobs if they agreed to sterilization.

* Iowa State House - The Senate Human Services committee voted to reject a bill that would require parental notification before a young woman under the age of 18 could obtain an abortion.

* Iowa State House - A senate committee approved a bill granting state boards the authority to suspend or revoke the occupational licenses of people who have fallen behind on their child support payments. Examples of the many professions which are licensed in Iowa are nurses, physicians, beauticians, barbers and real estate sales people.

* Iowa State House - The House Human Services Committee approved a bill which would require the posting of warning signs concerning Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in the bathrooms of establishments serving alcohol.

Iowa's Attorney General is DMACC Alumna Chronicle Interview: Bonnie Campbell

by Natalie Paris
Free-lance Contributor

Bonnie Campbell was raised on a dairy farm in the Appalachian region of upstate New York. Her political career began as a recruit on the federal government's anti-poverty program. In 1974, after several years in Washington, she moved to Iowa to serve in the state offices of U.S. Senator John Culver.

She attended DMACC and obtained undergraduate and law degrees from Drake University. Campbell practiced law in the Des Moines area and was elected chairperson of the Iowa Democratic Party in 1987. In October 1990, she was selected as that year's Humanities and Public Services DMACC Alumna honoree. In November 1990, she was elected as Attorney General for the state of Iowa. She is the first woman to hold that position.

Campbell has a number of priorities as attorney general. Among them are the "Truth-In-Sentencing" issue, continued protection of Iowa consumers -- particularly 900-number fraud, and greater cooperation among law enforcement agencies. Campbell was recently named Vice Chair of the Consumer Protection Committee of the National Association of Attorneys General.

How did you become interested in politics?

I've been really motivated since I was pretty young to be involved in public life. Specifically what got me involved, in 1963 President Kennedy was assassinated and then in the next spring, his brother Senator Robert Kennedy, ran for the New York State Senate.

I lived in the Appalachian region of up-state New York. Senator Kennedy came to our little town, which was like any Iowa town. Typically, politicians don't come there and a Kennedy, in particular, had a lot of magic because of the feelings of the American people about the tragic death of President Kennedy. He spoke in our town square and was so enthusiastic and so challenging to young people.

He said, "I have a special message for you young people. You have an obligation to go out into the world and make it a better place to live. If you're growing up and you're happy and healthy, then you need to help someone else along the way."



Bonnie Campbell

We Are the Women of Urban Campus

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

There are 1,262 of us enrolled for this term. We are 68 percent of the Urban Campus (UC) population. (The total number of UC students is 1,856.) Women on all DMACC campuses comprise 60 percent of total students. (Total student enrollment is 9,738. Total female enrollment is 5,803.)

As in our lives off campus, we are the majority.

Our average age is 29 years. The average age of UC full-time female students is 26.5 years. The average age of UC part-time female students is 31.6 years.

A total of 134 (over 10 percent) of us have identified ourselves as either African-American, American Indian, Asian or Hispanic. A few others have indicated their ethnicity as "other" or "non-resident alien".

Jann Woods, Associate Dean at UC says "Urban Campus has the most diverse population of students of any of the DMACC campuses." (The addition of 99 male students who are members of minority groups brings the Urban Campus percentage of minorities to 15 percent. The next closest is Ankeny campus, with just over 3 percent.)

While we may have a diverse population and many students who are "older", we do not have the distinction of having the greatest percentage of majority on a DMACC campus. That honor goes to the Carroll campus. The Carroll campus has women comprising 77.7 percent of its student population.

Above are the statistics which tell us a little of who we are as members of the student population. Below are some statistics telling us how some of us manage financially to remain students.

While the financial aid office was only able to provide information based upon the entire DMACC system, the data gives us a glimpse into the reality of some of our economic situations.

Of the 3,000 recipients of Pell grants for the 89-90 school year, 65 percent were women.

Ninety percent of the internal scholarships are awarded to women. The Director of Financial Aid, Lora Kelly-Benck, points out that the very high percentage awarded to women is primarily due to a lack of male applicants.

There are 154 work/study students for the 1990-91 academic year, 115 of who are women.

During the 1989-90 year, 45 percent of the Vocational Rehabilitation funding for tuition was to women.

program. (Promoting Independence and Self-sufficiency through Employment.) Ninety-nine percent of the recipients are women. This time the reasons for the lack of male recipients are more complicated and related to issues such as

We are 68 percent of the Urban Campus population ... Women on all DMACC campuses comprise 60 percent of total students.

Another area of funding for education which is dominated by women recipients is the federally-funded, state-administered PROMISE

single parenthood, divorce, custody, child support, affordable and accessible day care, and low wages for less educated women.

Campbell -- continued

Campbell Credits DMACC with Positive Influence

So I went home and told my mother that I was going to go to Washington and she thought, "Oh, sure, this will pass." But then it turned out that I got recruited in my senior year (high school) by the department of Housing and Urban Development to go to Washington. And I've been involved in government and public service ever since.

Did your family support your interest in politics?

Oh, yes. They didn't ever understand it. I was the first person in my family to graduate from high school, so my mother wanted me to go to college, and I could have gone to college certainly. But I didn't, I went to Washington instead. Then, of course, I went to college later on in my life. Once I had made up my mind, my family was very supportive.

Do you think that working for Senator Hughes's campaign inspired you to ultimately run for office?

Absolutely. I've had the great privilege to work for some very special people, and Harold Hughes was, quite obviously, one of them. I also worked for John Culver, who was an Iowa congressman and U.S. senator until 1980. They really are the people who shaped my vision of what public service ought to be. While many people, much to my great dismay, view 'politicians' viciously and perhaps negatively, I hold public service in very high regard. You are the government. I am the government. I don't think that we should be quite as skeptical as we are, and yet I understand why we are.

As a DMACC student, did you ever really consider that one day you would be in this position?

The PROMISE program was established to help parents reliant upon public assistance obtain the education and skills needed to re-enter the work force and leave the welfare rolls.

The typical student meeting the program's guidelines is a single mother. Enrollment in the program is mandatory once the public assistance recipient's youngest child reaches the age of three. While some participants in the program volunteer to enter it before their participation is required, most women wait to enter the program and begin schooling.

"Urban Campus has the most diverse population of students of any of the DMACC campuses."

-Jann Woods
Associate Dean/Urban Campus

For each of us there is a different story, a different set of circumstances which have brought us to and keep us at Urban Campus. Some of us work to pay for tuition and books. Others rely upon savings and family to cover expenses. Regardless of our differences, we know that we are all women of Urban Campus.

No, I absolutely didn't. I had a wonderful experience at DMACC. Never really having been around anyone in my family who had been to college, I was very apprehensive. Really my husband was the incentive to get me to start taking classes. Many people I had worked with, many of my friends told me, "You have to get an education." I knew it.

I just was a little nervous about doing it. My experience at DMACC was wholly positive. I think I got the best instruction there that I have ever received. People genuinely knew how to guide those of us who were non-traditional students. I was a little bit older - I started school when I was 22. It was just a wonderful experience. It seemed an impossible dream. I was more than a little surprised when it happened, it just unfolded.

What was your area of study at DMACC? Was there any particular person who inspired you?

I studied liberal arts. I didn't get a degree because I was transferring to Drake. But I studied political science. I had Tom Beck and he is one of my favorite people in all the world, even to this day. He was so encouraging, so positive. I think he was probably the best instructor that I ever had. He just cares about people and it's so obvious, so important.

A lot of women have great hope that since there is now a woman attorney general, this will impact upon the compliance of women's rights legislation. How do you feel about this?

Well, I certainly hope so. I don't have direct responsibility for enforcing those kinds of laws, but whenever I can have an input, I certainly will. I see it as a fundamental question of human rights. We need to respect all people. Certainly that includes the people that form a majority in this country, so I'm a very active advocate and I always have been and will be.

Preview to Profiles of DMACC Women

[June Cleaver and Other Stories...continued on page 6]

Strict Gender Roles Harmful to Both Sexes

by Stacy Wild
Staff Writer

Bev Drinnin, a psychology teacher at DMACC in Ankeny, has seen a lot of changes in the attitudes toward the traditional males and females in the 14 years she has taught here. "I try to address these attitudes in my classes. I believe that both males and females are healthier and better able to function if they have more choices of careers and behaviors. Both men and women lose when we adhere to strict gender roles," states Drinnin.

She grew up as the oldest of four children on a farm in a small town near Illinois. Her parents were very conservative and religious. She is trying to raise her children with some of her morals and guidelines but doesn't feel that because she is the parent her children should have no input into decisions. "I'm a relatively strict parent. I have strict expectations of how they behave. They are allowed to do things but they must behave responsibly. They make many of their own decisions, but then they must check them out with me," said Drinnin.

She feels when she was growing up, there were two groups of women. "They either married right out of high school or waited until their late 20s," said Drinnin. She didn't fall into either category, as she married at the age of 20, while in college. They went on to obtain their bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology.

She began teaching part-time at DMACC in 1977 and continued until 1983, when she accepted a full-time position. She feels that DMACC does a good job of guarding against a double standard in the pay scale. "Our faculty salary schedule guards against unequal pay for the same worth," Drinnin continues, "Most of the men I work with treat all people fairly and women don't experience a lot of overt sexism. In some departments individuals may not treat people fairly. In isolated cases, either male or female students may be treated unfairly of harassed on the basis of their sex."

The thing she finds most difficult about her Human Sexuality and Gender Roles class is "getting people in my class comfortable enough to discuss the topic of sexuality. They have good things to say once they reach that point."



Liberal arts students Amy Rasmussen and Janelle Peterson join Sherri Miller before the start of evening classes. Rasmussen and Peterson are full-time students and plan on transferring to ISU.

Thursday Evening on Urban Campus

photos by Julie Bivans



The night class she is taking this semester is the last class Jodie Dunlap needs to complete before she graduates with an A.A. in Liberal Arts. Then she is on to study elementary education at Grand View. Sharon Desmet is another part-time student who is completing the last class before receiving a certificate as a specialist in child care. Sharon has already begun to put her education to work in the Ankeny campus child care lab. Karen Saunders, a part-time liberal arts student spends a lot of time at DMACC. In addition to attending classes for her double major of Elementary Education and nursing, she is the full-time receptionist for Student Services located in Building 1 on the Ankeny campus. Her daughter is in the child development lab at DMACC and Karen says that her job at DMACC is wonderful because it allows her to take two classes per semester tuition free. They are joined by tutor Jim Leonard. Jim is a graduate from Drake in liberal arts with an emphasis in physics and is retired from the U.S. Postal Service. He tutors DMACC students in math.



Part-time accounting students Carol Fredericks, Roxie Stuit, and Carol Knutson already work in the accounting field. They are attending DMACC to further their education. This is Fredericks' fifth semester at DMACC. It is the 4th for Knutson and Stuit.



Didi Sterling is a part-time liberal arts student who hasn't decided yet to which four year school she will transfer. While she is making her decision, she is planning on taking a year off and "remembering what life is like without being a student."



"The fundamental problem in education is not an educational problem at all; it is a social one."

Maria Montessori
Founder of the Montessori method of teaching

In the past, Judy Pratt has attended DMACC on a full-time basis. This semester, she is attending part time in preparation for her transfer to either Grand View or Drake. Pratt is planning on majoring in elementary education, possibly specializing in the teaching of mathematics.

"I didn't have blazing talent or marvelous beauty...I got to where I am by hard work."

Barbara Walters
ABC newperson and former anchorperson



Clockwise from center: Marilyn Lanman is a part-time student in the Human Services Department. She works at the post office and as a florist to pay for her training as a Crisis Intervention Counselor. Also in the Human Services programs are Jackie Stanley and Richard Jackson. Jackie attends DMACC full time in the summer and part-time during the fall and spring terms. She already works in a related field as an assistant at Orchard Place and if financially able, will continue on to Drake for a BA and then her MSW. Jackson is receiving dual training at DMACC. He is in both the chemical dependency and criminal justice programs and will transfer to Grand View. Janine Plattner is a part-time liberal arts "pre-law" student. She is pursuing the legal field because she would like "to change some things, for example, human rights." Full-time student Don Quackenbush also plans on using his degree from DMACC to obtain a job as a chemical dependency counselor.

1,252 of the Urban Campus students attend on a part-time basis.

Spring 1991 Enrollment Statistics
- DMACC Research Planning and Reporting Department

Question 1:

Do women have equal opportunities as men in all aspects of life in the United States? Explain your thinking on this point.

No, but they should. All men and women are created the same, we should be treated the same.

Shane Coats

We're as equal as I feel I'd like to be. If I were doing the same job as a man, I'd expect to get paid the same. But I do not want to have to fight in a war or be the one responsible for pulling the trigger. I enjoy a man opening the door for me, wooing me and all the little things I can get away with. To me, total ERA would make this a sterile world.

Kim Scharbarth

No. I have never seen any run for president.

Pam Pressi

No. Men have sex anytime they want. Women can't because of fear of getting pregnant.

Anonymous

No. When a woman takes a car to the shop she is charged more [for the same service] than a man.

Anonymous

No. To prove my point I don't know too many female owners of giant corporations.

Anonymous

Yes!! I think so. Actually, I'm not sure about that, but women can get the same job as men and can earn [the same salary]. They have the right to do everything [like] a man. [they are] more equal than in Japan.

Tomoya Kimura

I think it is true many times in business than in our personal lives. Granted, some jobs will always be filled with women, but I think that's our fault too.

LuAnne Heemstra

No. I think if women have an executive position in a company, most people assume she slept her way there. A lot of men don't think that a woman is as capable as a man. This discourages a lot of women from standing up for themselves and taking a chance.

Anonymous

No. I think women are still treated as sex objects in many aspects of life.

Dave Schukardt

Yes. Because if they believe something can be done, they will accomplish it.

Anonymous

Yes. A lot of companies are promoting women and minorities to get more balance in the work place.

Anonymous

No. Men are paid more and are thought of as being smarter and have more leadership.

Anonymous

When men can look at at the experience, knowledge and integrity of a woman candidate for a job and not the "sex" of the person, we will finally have equal opportunity.

Sue Kenney

Yes and no. They influence men but don't fight dirty like men.

Steve Zook

We may have equal opportunities but we will always be considered at a lower intelligence level and status level than men.

Anonymous

DMACC Open Forum Results

Note: The following opinions are the result of the questionnaire circulated during Women's History month. We deciphered your handwriting to the best of our ability and apologize if we misspelled your name. Any corrections made were only for clarity and every effort was made to preserve the overall integrity of the participant's comments.
Compiled by staff

All women are snakes, the lowest creatures on earth. They are aligned with Satan. They deserve no rights.

Withheld by editor

Abortion and a woman's right to decide what [is] the best decision on for her. Who asked these political fools to make moral decisions for us anyway?

John Smith



My wife. She is my confidante, advisor, lover, occasional nurse, business partner, and my very best friend. But most importantly because I love her.

Denals Kellogg

None. I have not met any worth mentioning. You want equal opportunity then work for it, don't ask for it.

Anonymous

Question 2:

What do you think is the most important women's issue today?

Any issue that concerns a woman also concerns a man.

Anonymous

Equal pay for equal work. If you settle for less you will be thought of as less.

Dennis Kellogg

Lack of representation in politics.

Steve Zook

Dispelling the myth that women have progressed far enough.

Elisha M. O'Bannon

Abortion? I don't know, I'm a guy.

Anonymous

Child care

Tomoya Kimura

I am probably biased. I feel women need most to be respected. The large numbers of domestic abuse cases show the lack of respect society has for women. A less drastic example would be the treatment of women in the media.

Anonymous

Getting men to accept the idea that the days of male chauvinism are over and women are contenders in all aspects of life.

Larry Leanhart

Abortion. It forces a woman to be either a women's liber or go through with her moral obligation.

Anonymous

The right to work in whatever areas or fields they choose.

Jason Nevels

Abortion. It's not really a women's issue but it affects women the most.

Anonymous

Question 3:

Name one woman from history whom you most admire. Why?

My girlfriend. She is exactly like me in how we think and act.

Shane Coats

Women faculty members here at DMACC.

Anonymous

Yanna White

Student, Automotive Technology

Marilyn Monroe. She played the naive blond everyone wanted to see. However, she was really quite intelligent and she used her "act" to the best of her ability.

Anonymous

Marilyn Monroe, because of the talent she had.

Anonymous

Mary, because she had Jesus.

Anonymous

Sally Ride.

Stephanie Dolash

Eleanor Roosevelt. Prior to her [what other woman] was taken seriously?

Donald Connor

Nancy Reagan due to her time and effort in the "Just Say No" drug program.

Steve Kubera

All the women who helped conquer the frontiers.

LuAnne Heemstra

Nancy Reagan. I like the way she dresses!

Holland

Gloria Steinem. She is very liberated and she takes a stand on women's issues.

Britt Miller

Question 4:

Who is the most important contemporary woman in your world?

Margaret Thatcher, her influence and high standing in the world.

Mark Gibson

Mom. She has the hardest job I think there ever was: raising children.

Mike Garcia

Janet Jackson, being a black woman and having so many great songs and sold out concerts.

Anonymous

My aunt Sherri. She is strong-willed, intelligent, and beautiful. If she wants something, she goes after it and gets it. Very few things get her down and her family is always number one on her list.

Anonymous

All women in history played a significant role and deserve recognition.

Diana Gregson

I admire Rosa Parks the most because she was the first woman from that time to take a stand on the issues that plagued society.

Brad Dagger

Jessica Hahn. I hate television evangelists.

Darren Ruggles

Jacqueline Kennedy. She stands out as being one of the best first ladies...not overshadowed by her husband's popularity.

Kristyn Brown

Me...at age 33 I decided to shed some limiting ideas and change my lifestyle and career.

Anonymous

My aunt. Because I feel she can accomplish lots of goals. She raised a family of three and now [is] going back to work and can balance the changes: family, career and housewife. That's hard work!

Julie Wolfe

My mother. She has been divorced for a long time. She had to raise three children. She usually [has] had at least two jobs [at a time]. But she managed!

Ambra Barber

Mrs. Hedlund. She works hard to keep the students involved in both class and extra activities. She always seems to care about her students very much.

Anonymous

A friend who I can't name, who is in a somewhat militant social-political group. She is the brains and calming factor of this group, which keeps most of them out of jail.

David Rudisil

Christa McAuliffe because she was brave and interesting.

Michelle

Joyce Tremble. [She] helped [me] focus [my] goals.

Mark Williams

My wife...she works 50-60 hours per week and still makes time to spend with her family. It is somewhat like the roles are reversed and I do more of the work around the house.

Anonymous

My mother. She has taught me about equal rights and believes in equal rights [for] everyone.

Shelli Nieuwsma

June Cleaver Doesn't Live Here Anymore and Other Stories of DMACC Women

She Does More Before 9 a.m....

Terri Warren, 28, First-year Respiratory Therapy Student
As told to Suriaya Rahaman, Staff Writer

"It's been a real challenge to go back to school, and to get good grades after being out of school for almost ten years... I've been married for five years, his three children from a previous marriage live with us. The transition was fairly easy since we were friends for two years prior to our wedding.

My husband, a senior foreman for Pirelli-Armstrong, was a "hobby" farmer, but we sold the combine. We still grow our own hay, but we don't put up oats or corn anymore.

On our farm we have fifty sheep, fifteen chickens, twelve hogs, four horses, four geese, four cows, three cats and two dogs.

Due to a recent illness, I quit boarding horses and cut down on the number of sheep I raise.

My day usually starts at 5:30 a.m. I get the kids up and fed, do laundry, feed the lambs, and do chores. Then it's off to school and after that, brush and work the horses. I get to bed by about 11:30 p.m.

I got interested in Respiratory Therapy because my mom has asthma and one of my friends has emphysema.

My goals are to get good grades, and to be an independent in-home care respiratory therapist. If anything should ever happen to Craig, I want to be able to support the kids and the farm on my own."



"If anything should ever happen to Craig, I want to be able to support the kids and the farm on my own."

Terri Warren

Kieu Has a New Life in the New World

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

Kieu Duong hesitates when asked her age. She is not certain how to reply. She was born and lived in Vietnam, but her parents were Chinese nationals. Since 1987 she has lived in Des Moines.

Does she reply that she is 29 years old? That would be accurate if measuring according to Chinese traditions, which begin counting the years at time of conception. Does she answer 28? That would be in keeping with the Vietnamese custom of all ages changing with the Chinese New Year. But her actual day of birth is not until August. This means that she is only 27 when using a Western reference point.

This is a minor example of the culture shock she still experiences. A more serious problem concerns the differences in language. Classes are more difficult for her as she does not always understand the instructors. Kieu has taken English lessons, works at a job where she interacts with people every day and has attended DMACC part-time since 1988. She gets plenty of opportunity to practice, yet she still has difficulty in reading and writing in English.

Kieu -- continued on page 8.

More Stories of DMACC Women on page 7.



Ruthanne Harstad Experiences Life Differently Than Most People

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

The bear had been vandalizing campers' cars at one of the trailheads (entrances) in the Shasta-Trinity National Forests' wilderness areas. So Ruthanne Harstad, an instructor at the Ankeny campus, laid out her sleeping bag and spent the night at the trailhead in hopes that she could observe the bear. No tent. She likes sleeping with stars, not camping with a lot of "luxuries."

For many people, this might be carrying their love of the outdoors to a rather dangerous extreme. For Ruthanne it was just part of one of the many adventures she has had since age 16.

This adventure occurred during the summers of 1989 and 1990. For those summers, she worked as a Wilderness (back country) Patrol Ranger for the U.S. Forest Service. In 1989, she served as a volunteer. In 1990, she was the paid leader of the five volunteers who were responsible for patrolling 240,000 of the 500,000 acres of officially designated wilderness of the Trinity Alps in Oregon.

The primary duties connected with the job were to hike the trails, educating campers and hikers in proper use of a wilderness area, giving assistance and direction to wayward users, and picking up trash and rehabilitating areas disturbed by both nature and users. The most physical part of the job was connected with trash collection and rehabilitation.

An officially designated wilderness area is closed to all motorized transportation. You can

enter on the back of a llama or horse. Or you can enter on foot. The patrol rangers entered on foot, hiking the trails with nothing more than a back pack, a sleeping bag, a shovel and leather gloves and a two-way radio. They would exit carrying the trash they had picked up during their five days on the trails.

Sometimes, the trash bags would weigh 60 pounds. Some weeks, she would move tons of granite and brush. Usually by herself. The rangers went in solo and unless assigned to rendezvous during the week, they came out solo.

To do that requires an exceptionally strong confidence in your mental and physical abilities.

Harstad first became aware of her confidence in her mental abilities at age 16. That was when she went to live for three months with a Canadian family in the jungles of South America. They traveled via the rivers in canoes. To obtain access to a telephone, supplies or medical care, it was a three to five day journey. "This is where I learned I could adapt and survive on my own. I learned I could get along with people."

The confidence in her physical abilities occurred in 1973 when she attended the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS). To even be considered for admittance to the school she had to be an experienced back packer. But it was the extensive five-week training at NOLS which really let her know she could rely on her body.

"I had no idea how strenuous and demanding the training would be. The rest of the people taking the course were 'rock jocks', people experienced in outdoor skills like mountain climbing," she said. "I found out later that the other students had been taking bets on when I would drop out of the program. Then I felt a little foolish. I had never thought about quitting. It never occurred to me that quitting was an option."

Harstad did not quit in 1974 when she hiked the Appalachian trail alone. It took her 102 days to cover the distance. During the trek she severely injured her knee. To get to the nearest area with any hope of assistance (a state park), she leaned on a stick and hopped on one leg for a distance of four miles. Once there, she found a ride into town, got medical treatment and spent a few days recuperating. Then she hit the trail again.

She has hiked thousands of miles. She has been white water canoeing and she is a scuba diver. She got involved with hang gliding and is looking forward to the time when she is experienced enough to become certified as an expert in that sport.

Perhaps she will have time this summer. She will not be returning to the Trinity Alps this year. The U.S. Forest Service's budget does not include funding for the volunteer Wilderness Patrol Rangers. Whatever Ruthanne Harstad does with her time, it is sure to involve the outdoors, exercise and adventure.



Pam Mudd

She has a PROMISE for the Future

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

Pam Mudd, an accounting specialist major at Urban Campus, is one of the women enrolled at Urban Campus under the PROMISE program. For Pam, when she sought education and training it was mandated by the state. The intent to further her education was not.

Four years ago, she was working at Younkers in the sales audit department, supporting herself and her fourteen year old son Nate. Then her son Steven was born.

Mudd took a six week maternity leave, plus an extension. But Steven had been born with several allergies and severe asthma. He was ill constantly and Pam could not find a sitter who was both capable and willing to care for him. "Finally, the doctor told me that I needed to be home with Steven," Mudd said. So she found herself relying on public assistance.

Steven is now healthier. In August of 1990, Mudd became eligible for the program.

She is appreciative of the program but sometimes frustrated by the rules and paper work. Each month, Mudd must complete a time sheet and have it initialed by her instructors. All absences must be explained. The licensed day-care provider must also complete a monthly report. Mudd and Steven's sitter are lucky. Some recipients and sitters are required to complete paperwork on a weekly basis.

"If they (the program's administrators) ever get the program straightened out, it will be a great program." Meanwhile, Mudd attempts to complete her education as quickly as possible and get back to the work of supporting her family.

June Cleaver Doesn't Live Here Anymore

by Beth Newgaard
Editor

If any of you have seen a rerun of *Leave it to Beaver*, you may laugh at the stereotypical roles of men and women that Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver portrayed. It seems strange to many of us to think that just a little more than a generation ago this was the norm. Today, more women are exploring career opportunities that have been traditionally male-dominated. For these women it may be difficult to find female mentors. If you look around the DMACC Campus there are women who are making a difference.

Roslea Johnson, chairperson of Human Services, has taught at DMACC for 16 years. "Before I came here my whole history had been working with poor people," said Johnson. Johnson has worked in Appalachia, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, and Tennessee doing projects for different kinds of legislation needed in order for people to receive food stamps.

"At that time period, poverty crossed all groups of people. There were old people, young people, families, men, and women. We have now come to a situation in this country, in the last twenty or so years, where we have moved to the direction that poverty has become virtually a women's issue and primarily of women who have children and don't have a husband who is providing financial support."

Johnson believes that a key issue for society to be concerned about is the growing number of women and children in poverty. "There are some things that can be done quite easily that could resolve a number of problems. One would be to provide adequate day care so that when women go to work there would be someone to care for the children. The other would be a nondiscriminatory wage system that would also raise the minimum wage. If you work full time at minimum wage, you get a little over \$8,000, but it takes \$12,500 to get up to the poverty line. If you're a single parent working full time, you can't support your family. It takes two full-time wage earners at the minimum wage level to support a family. Tradition has been that if you work full time at minimum wage, it should get you somewhere around the poverty line. So there was potentiality that a single parent could support a family. Right now, there is no way a single parent is going to have enough money, even if they have child care, to support a family," says Johnson.

Although, Johnson has worked hard to earn respect in the work force, she is not a stranger to discrimination. "When I was growing up, I never thought of myself as being female. I did a lot of reading and in all of the stories, the hero was always a boy, but I always saw myself in the position of the hero of the story," says Johnson.

"It wasn't until I grew up that I found out that I was female, therefore second class. I was kind of dismayed. There were a couple of times I really became aware of this. Once was when I decided to go to college. My high school counselor told me that I might as well forget it. Even though I was the top in my class, they didn't have scholarships for girls and if I were a boy, she could have gotten me a basketball scholarship. I sort of put her down and paid attention to my mother who said that girls could go to college no matter how poor they were, so I went to college.

"After I got out of college on my first job, I was hired and told what the salary would be. Two days later, the person who hired me called me back in and said 'I'm sorry, we made a mistake. I gave you the man's salary for this job and we pay women 25 percent less, so your salary will be this.' I asked him why and he said that if I would be paid the salary that I was told the first time, I would be making more money than the men. He told me that he was afraid that none of the men would want to marry me if I made more money and that he would feel bad if that happened. I never thought of my career goal as getting married or that marriage was a goal that my career was going to get in the way of," says Johnson.

"The people who have been most influential in my life, have ended up being male mentors, people who have power who were going to treat me in a nondiscriminatory way and allow me to participate in this other world. The only way I, being female, have been able to break into nontraditional kinds of things was by coming in contact with a few men who chose to treat me as a person and let me have the opportunity to be a professional. There are some women who have been ground breakers -- who probably couldn't have made it on their own -- but they didn't have female role models that were in the professions that they went into, so it is important that they become significant women to other women in their step along the way."

Johnson believes that community colleges provide some of these opportunities. "I'm really pleased as I look around at faculty and feel that we have some outstanding women on faculty whom I think will provide the potentiality of being a true support to female students."

Her Balancing Act is Challenging

by Dorothy Stewardson
Staff Writer/
Urban Campus

At Urban Campus we have many non-traditional students. Sharon Handeland is one of them.

She is 37 years old, has three sons, and works at a cafe in the Skywalk in downtown Des Moines. Handeland is a human services major in her third semester.

"Balancing being a mother, a student, and an employee is tough. It's challenging and demanding."

Handeland grew up on the east side of Des Moines and for several years lived in Colorado. She moved back to Des Moines a year ago and started at UC the summer semester of 1990.

"Just learning how to study has been tough. I started slowly to allow myself time to develop effective study habits."

Handeland feels that while it's tough, the self confidence she is gaining is worth the struggle involved. She feels that what she is learning, both about herself and her major, is more valuable than she could have imagined.



Sharon Handeland

While in the beginning she was frightened and discouraged, Handeland said, "Hanging in there, not giving up, is the wisest thing I've done in quite some time."

Her advice to new, non-traditional students is: "DON'T GIVE UP!"

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Six prominent Des Moines area women were invited by the Urban Campus Student Action Board to speak about their experiences and their successes as part of the celebration of Women's History Month. Pictured are Twyla Winters-Woods, Louise Noun, Nancy Wolff, Eveyvin Davis, Geneva Overholser, Paulette Wiley. Executive Dean Mary Chapman is standing.

Tenacity, Self-confidence, Courage are the Keys to Their Successes

by Lauris Olson
Staff Writer/Urban Campus

Louise Noun wasn't certain that she belonged on the forum panel with the other prominent Des Moines women. She wasn't an alumna of DMACC and she pointed out that she came from a different generation. Gains made in the struggle for equality and economic parity don't happen overnight and for Noun, neither did her awakening to feminist issues.

"I am 83 years old. When I got a graduate degree in art history and I went to the head of the art department to get a job, he literally said to me 'Why don't you go home and get married.' I was really ashamed. I felt that this was a personal disgrace. And it wasn't until the women's movement came around that I realized that (the incident) wasn't personal, it was just a really sexist attitude.

"So I think that you have to look through life and see that a lot of things that have happened to you are not your own fault. They are societal attitudes."

She used to do only volunteer work until she heard a speaker talk about the exploitation of women's volunteer labor. Noun recognized herself in the topic and knew that

for her it was true. "One of the first things I did after my divorce was to go out an apply for a job where I got paid."

Noun had been collecting art for years without any focus and after exposure to the women's movement, she began collecting the works of qualified women artists.

One painting she was able to purchase for little money was done by Frida Kahll. It is now worth a million dollars and recently she donated it to the University of Iowa to finance the establishment of an archives of women's letters and memorabilia.

Noun also has been generous to the women of DMACC. A scholarship fund exists which bears her name as tribute to her support. For some DMACC women, she is an integral part of their success.

Evelyn Davis has given much to many of the students at DMACC in a different way. She is credited as being instrumental in the development of Urban Campus. She campaigned actively for its creation and she kept her Tiny Tots Child Care Center open so that

parents could both work and take classes. She gave love, care, and attention to some of the students on Urban Campus today.

It wasn't easy for Davis to start her own business. She grew up in rural Iowa and hers was the only black family in town. She felt the backlash and left school in the tenth grade.

She came to Des Moines a single mother with two small children. Davis told the students attending the forum that they had it easy now as compared to then. "You are able to get people such as Mary (Chapman, Executive Dean of Urban Campus), Twyla (Winters-Woods, Principal at Edmunds Academy in Des Moines and a 1990 Honored Alumna), and Paulette (Wiley, a small business loan officer with First Interstate Bank of Urbandale and founder of the Minority Business Club) to be your role models.

Davis reminded the women of Urban Campus to go back and examine their history. She encouraged the African-American students to find, read, and keep "black history books" so that they would know where they came from and where they were going.

Twyla Winters-Woods knows where she came from. She attended Urban Campus in the days when it was not located in the Model Cities area of Des Moines. She went to classes at the old Dowling building and then the classes were moved to the auditorium at the old Sabine School.

Winters-Woods can remember having to stop class so that they could kill the bats flying over their heads. She also remembers the dean of Urban Campus at that time soliciting students right off the streets to fill minimum enrollments in classes.

Her position as principal of Edmunds Academy is on the road to where she is going. Her advice for DMACC women is to "Remember that the road is long, but one should never give up the journey."

Paulette Wiley was named by the Des Moines Register as one of the state's "up and coming" business leaders. Her goal is to develop and recognize successful black businesses.

For minority businesses to succeed, they must have access to capital. Wiley feels that it is not necessarily the lending laws which should change. She advocates educating women and minority business people about the lending industry and its requirements so that they can approach a lender with the information the lender needs to make a decision.

Like Davis, Wiley believes that it in order to be successful, one must look at his/her history. Effort and courage are other keys to success. "You have got to be willing to give all that you have. We lack courage and visibility of the future. Don't be afraid. You need courage. If not you, then who?"

DMACC alumna Nancy Wolff asked herself that question and found the courage to say "me."

Seven years ago she came to DMACC after completing treatment for drug and alcohol addiction. She liked school, liked Urban Campus, and liked politics. She didn't like every thing that was going on with the DMACC board of directors.

In 1986, at the urging of her friends and some instructors, this single mother living on public assistance challenged an incumbent board member with labor union connections in a district heavy with labor influence.

She won. And last fall she won her bid for re-election.

Wolff now works for the Iowa Coalition for the Homeless. Her advice is the same regardless of the audience. "Believe in yourself."

Kieu -- continued from page 6.

The language difficulty only intensifies the loneliness and homesickness she experiences.

"I miss Vietnam. I miss my friends and I miss the holidays such as the Chinese New Year. I also miss the food. We can get the ingredients here, but they are usually frozen. In Vietnam every thing was prepared fresh. The food just doesn't taste the same.

When she left Vietnam with her mother, brother and three sisters, it was to follow three siblings who had escaped by boat in 1979. Those three followed a cousin who had escaped even earlier. The decision to leave was difficult. The arrangements were complicated.

The journey took them to a refugee camp in Thailand for one week's stay and then to a seven month stay at a refugee camp in the Philippines.

Kieu understands that she will probably not return. Her family is here now. There is little to which she can return. So she dreams of traveling and the future.

Geneva Overholser, editor of the Des Moines Register, would add to that advice. "We need to look at major problems as just obstacles and we need to concentrate on the potential we have."

Overholser and her husband have alternated in taking the role of leader as their career paths have developed. Overholser has lived abroad due to her husband's profession and he has had the benefit of attending classes at Harvard while she completed her fellowship there.

Her experiences have taught her that women can learn by watching the negative, unproductive behavior of others around them and then grow by doing things differently than those people.

Next in the growth process comes the realization that one's opinion may be different and that it is alright to say "that is not the way it looks to me."

Learning to express her differing views did not happen at once. She stated that it is a long process and she is not certain when she came to believe enough in herself to openly disagree.

"I think I finally grew up. I saw enough people who had the conventional opinion and clearly weren't doing a thing. I just finally grew to have confidence that how ever different was my view, it was the right view for me to hold and that it was incumbent upon me to speak it.

"I think it is simply gaining the courage of your convictions. It comes more readily for some people than for others. But we owe it to ourselves to not doubt the validity of our views, no matter how impressed or intimidated we might be by someone. Do not ever be afraid to challenge those in charge."

Best of Both Worlds

by Raquel Zortman
Staff Writer

Carolyn Hildreth feels she has the best of both worlds. She is the nurse at both the Ankeny and Urban campuses. When she leaves DMACC she goes home and starts her other job as a mother and housewife.

She likes to cook, sew, shop, and make quilts in her spare time.

Her family is very supportive of her. She told her daughter to do anything she wants when choosing a career. Hildreth said that if she were a young woman today, she would probably become a doctor.

Hildreth gave her thoughts about Women's History Month: "I think that it is nice that women are recognized for the important contributions they have made." She encourages people to "use their ability to the fullest, whether a man wants to be a cook or a woman wants to be an engineer.



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