Valree Blewett-Dickson, 59, of Ames died at her home on Tues., March 18. She was a full-time nursing instructor at the DMACC Boone Campus since 1992.

The Banner News would like to publish a special memorial page in the next issue of the newspaper (April 9) dedicated to Val. We invite readers to submit their thoughts and memories about Professor Blewett-Dickson to us at bannernews@dmacc.edu by Wednesday, April 2, at 5 p.m. Or drop off your submissions to Room 115. Photos are also welcome.

According to her obituary, Val enjoyed being involved in the teaching and clinical side of nursing. She worked in ICU/CCU at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines from 1986-1991. She then started her career as a nursing instructor at DMACC in 1992 while concurrently working as a PRN at Mary Greeley Medical Center. She resigned at Mary Greeley Medical Center in 2012 to devote more time to her pursuit of a Doctorate of Nursing Practice at Allen College while continuing to educate the next generation of nurses at the DMACC Boone Campus.

Val is survived by her husband Jim, their children Mackenzie Joy and Nolan Lloyd Dickson all of Ames, sisters Vivian (Stam) Brandmeyer of Versailles, MO, and Brenda Westvold of Clive, IA, and nephews Mike Brandmeyer and his family, Brent Brandmeyer and his family, Nic Westvold and his family, and Jason Westvold and his family. She was preceded in death by her parents.

WRITE RIGHT

Center offers free help with assignments

By Lester K. Mwirichia
Staff Writer

Inside DMACC’s Writing Center, located in Room 170, any student seeking writing assistance will find it.

“The Writing Center provides the opportunity to work with experienced instructors on one paper assignment, or on one career-oriented document like a resume,” said English Professor Bret Ross, who helps staff the writing centers at Boone and Ames when he’s not teaching classes.

Writing Center Coordinator Krystal Hering, who has a master’s degree in creative writing, advises students to try to come to the Writing Center as soon as possible after an assignment is given.

“The students who wait until the last minute to begin typing tend to not perform very well.”

Writing is not as easy as some may think, said Writing Center consultant Angie Mallory. “A lot of students struggle with it.”

Mallory, who has experience in the writing field, encourages students to come in to the Writing Center before they even begin to write. Mallory finds it important to “talk about writing” in general, before a student begins to put words on paper. She uses this exercise to process and filter writing information. “It helps boil down the many ideas students have to get the ones they want to write about,” she said.

Located inside the entrance to the L.W. Courtier Center by the north parking lot, the Writing Center is a place to gather in a writing environment and simply exercise to process and filter writing information. “It’s important to ‘talk about writing’ in general,” before a student begins to put words on paper. She uses this exercise to process and filter writing information. “It helps boil down the many ideas students have to get the ones they want to write about,” she said.

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Students on All-Iowa Academic Team

Twelve Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) students named to the 2014 All-Iowa Academic Team, were honored at a recent recognition banquet held in Des Moines. The DMACC team, receiving congratulations from DMACC President Rob Oden, includes Loren Church (front row, left to right) of Chariton, Alysia Bedford of Urbandale, Connie Welcher of Des Moines, President Rob Denson, Caion Leods of Stratford, Kyle Hamilton of Altoona, Tiffany Allison of Des Moines, Shawna Babcock (back row, left to right) of Des Moines, Jon Galleley of Lake City, Curtis Kling of Des Moines, Shannon Pierson of Boone, Traci Rosenau of Carroll and Lauren Rush of Kellogg. In addition, Allison was named one of the Coca-Cola Gold Scholars.

In My Boots 5K set for April 19

DMACC Boone Campus is hosting their first “In My Boots” 5K, run, walk or ruck-march on Saturday, April 19 starting at 9 a.m. in McHose Park in Boone.

Register prior to April 7 and pay an entry fee of $25. The entry fee is $30 per person until the day of the event. An entry fee for a four person ruck team is $80. This option is only for military personnel and veterans. This event is open to all ages and abilities. Parking and shuttle services to and from the event will be available at the Boone Campus.

Prizes will be given out for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in various categories for the 5K run or walk and one team will win from the ruck-march. These prizes include: T-shirts for those who register by April 7, goodie bags, awards for overall male and female winners, medals for winners in age categories.

State-wide bragging rights and an award will go to the first four person ruck-march team to cross the finish line. Each ruck will be packed with non-perishable food items and clothing to be donated to the local homeless shelters in Iowa.

“Our goal was to be able to offer one small way for members of the DMACC community to show their support for the women and men who serve so courageously and unselfishly in the U.S. military,” said Julie Roosa, Professor of Journalism, Law and Honors at DMACC Boone Campus. “Many of our students are members of the military, and DMACC has many support services available.”

The “In My Boots” 5K, run, walk or ruck-march will celebrate military veterans and raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project. To register, visit http://go.dmacc.edu/boone/inmyboots5K/Pages/welcome.aspx, or to donate to the Wounded Warrior project, visit http://www.charityengine.net/individual-fundraising/DMACC. For information, contact Julie Roosa at (515) 433-5033 or jkroosa@dmacc.edu; or Orv Salmon at (515) 433-5050 or osalmon@dmacc.edu.

DMACC Boone Campus

http://go.dmacc.edu/boone/Pages/welcome.aspx

--Trevor Gutknecht

Bear Briefs

Pong Pong contest

The Boone Student Activities Council is hosting a Ping Pong contest on Thursday, March 27th 10:30-noon at the DMACC Boone Campus Lobby of Gymnasium. Divison winners get a free t-shirt.

· Male student
· Female student
· Faculty/staff

· Participate in 4 intramural activities and get a free t-shirt.

Discover engineering

DMACC and Iowa State University are cosponsoring a Discover Engineering Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wed., April 2 at the FFA Enrichment Center located on the DMACC Ankeny Campus.

High school students considering a possible career in engineering and their parents are invited to attend this free, three-hour interactive learning experience that will allow students to experience activities performed by professional engineers. At Discover Engineering Day, students will have the opportunity to do the following:

· Learn about many engineering career options.
· Take part in hands-on interactive engineering activities and competitions.
· Meet engineering professionals and college students.

A lunch will be provided to students and their parents. Students can register for Discover Engineering Day at www.dmacc.edu/programs/idxp. The deadline to register is March 28.

The ISU Engineering Career Services reports the average beginning salary for ISU Engineering graduates is $60,712.

For more information, contact Dave Kissinger at (515) 965-1157.

Health Insurance info

DMACC Daily -- Attend a free information session (non-commercial, non-political) on Health Insurance on Wed., March 26th in Room 145 on the DMACC Boone Campus.

The information session times are:

· 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.
· 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.
· 1:30 to 2 p.m.

Free pizza will be served for information session attendees. This opportunity will help you understand key health insurance concepts and terms, understand key provisions of the Affordable Care Act, use Iowa’s new Health Insurance Marketplace and understand tax credits and financial assistance available to many consumers.

If you have questions, contact DMACC’s Erin Neumann at (515) 433-5037 or Barb Wol- lan, Family Finance Program Specialist at bwollan@iastate.edu or (515) 832-9597.

Childcare and Transportation help

A program called Iowa New Choices offers assistance with childcare and transportation for qualifying single parents and displaced homemakers (separated, divorced, widowed or spouse disabled.) For information, contact, Erin Neumann, Room 124, eaneumann@dmacc.edu. Or call 515-433-5037.

Earth Week photo contest

The 2014 Earth Week Photo contest is now open. New Categories for 2014 include Mammals Only, Birds Only, and The Year of the Pollinator.

Also new for 2014: cash prizes. Submissions are due by May 1, Monday, at noon. The winners will be announced on Earth Day, Tues., April 22nd. Check out all the rules & updates at: https://go.dmacc.edu/earthday/Pages/photocontest.aspx

London Study Abroad

There will be two upcoming meetings on DMACC’s London Study Abroad program.

March 28th at 1:30 p.m. and April 16th at 3 p.m.

Ankeny Campus, Bldg. #6, Rm. 8

Boone Campus, Rm. #117, broadcast from Ankeny

Carroll Campus, Rm. #144, broadcast from Ankeny

Newton Campus, Rm. #128, broadcast from Ankeny

Urban Campus, Bldg. #1, Rm. 213, broadcast from Ankeny

Literary Arts Festival

DMACC’s 12th annual Celebration of the Literary Arts will be held April 7-9 with classroom visits to all six DMACC campuses by area writers and literary instructors.

Author Laura van den Berg and Fiction Writer Alan Heath- cox will read from their works on the DMACC Boone Campus from 11 a.m. to noon, Mon., April 7.

Van den Berg’s debut story collection, What the World Will Look Like When All the Water Leaves Us, was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, a finalist for ForeWordMagazine’s Book of the Year award, long-listed for The Story Prize and short-listed for the Frank O’Connor International Award. Her second collection of stories, The Isle of Youth, was just released. Heath- cox’s fiction has been published in many journals, including Zee- trope - All-Story, Kenyon Review, Social Stares, The Harvard Review, and have been selected for inclusion in The Best American Mystery Stories anthol-

HSET replaces GED

Since 1949 GED has been the test of choice to determine whether a student has acquired the equivalency of a high school diploma. Starting January 2014, Iowa, along with other states, will be offering a new test in place of the GED test. It will be similar to the GED with Reading, Social Stares, Writing, and Math tests.

The next session of classes will be March 3 through April 24. A summer session will be offered also. For information please stop by the AAC or call 515-433-5095.

Honors seeks applicants

DMACC is seeking highly motivated students to join the Honors program this summer and fall. If you have completed one college-level English and one college-level math class or are currently enrolled in them, will have completed a minimum of nine (9) college credits and fewer than fifty (50) credits at the end of spring with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, you are eligible to become a DMACC. To read more about Honors, go to www.dmacc.edu/honors and get started on your way to a rewarding, chal- lenging educational opportunity.
Jasper find what he's looking for? Or will he be stuck... somewhere in a series of odd events that make him gain new perspective of his life. Will he find love around him. But no matter what he decides, fate pulls him into a sequel. Jasper must try and balance his love life (or lack thereof), his work and one man's path to balance those in his life. The show is an appropriate for children, said Director Kay Mueller. $5 at the door for all non-DMACC students.

Show dates are Friday, April 4, and Saturday, April 5. Tickets are $5 at the door for all non-DMACC students. The play contains adult language and adult situations. It is not appropriate for children, said Director Kay Mueller.

“Even though the show is a comedy, it is a departure from the fluffy farce we did last fall. It deals with issues of insecurity, love, and work and one man’s path to balance those in his life. The show is an entertaining and yet thought provoking look at life.”

Mueller also said the show starts in an interesting way, which affects those who plan to attend.

“Late arriving audience members will have to wait until after the prologue is finished to be admitted and seated in the theatre,” she said. “So I recommend the audience be on time.”

The plot surrounds a man named Jasper, a naïve, indecisive and inexperienced man who wants to find love and has overall niche in life. Jasper must try and balance his love life (or lack thereof), his work and one man’s path to balance those in his life. Will Jasper find what he’s looking for? Or will he be stuck... somewhere in between?

The spring play “Somewhere In Between” has found its place at Boone DMACC. The plot surrounds a man named Jasper, a naïve, indecisive and inexperienced man who wants to find love and has overall niche in life. Jasper must try and balance his love life (or lack thereof), his work and one man’s path to balance those in his life. Will Jasper find what he’s looking for? Or will he be stuck... somewhere in between?

Join the staff of Banner News for Summer or Fall 2014.

For information, contact Julie Roosa, faculty adviser, jkroosa@dmacc.edu.
A Boone campus student group called “Differances United” hosted a film presentation on Wednesday, March 12, in Room 204. According to publicity for the presentation, the film “Two Spirits” is a documentary following the tragic loss of a young Navajo boy, Fred Martinez, who was murdered because he was transgendered. Fred’s story is told by friends, family, and people who stood by him before his passing. The film also talks about a time when most Native American tribes would have revered someone like Fred because of the history of sexuality and gender roles in their culture. About 20 people attended the event. Differences United, a LBGTQ & Straight Alliance, is looking for additional members to grow its network on campus. For more information, contact Krystal Hering, faculty advisor, klhering@dmacc.edu.

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**Club hosts movie**

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AA/EQE

Post-offer, pre-employment exam/background check
Players focus on season

FIELD, from page 1

said Lee. "We would like to thank the DMACC Board of Directors, President Rob Denson, Executive Vice-President Kim Linduska and the generous donors for their continued support of our students and our campus.”

Ligouri said the new field will have an outstanding playing surface, irrigation system, "The dugouts will be great and the batting cage and bullpens first-class," said Ligouri. "It will be great for recruiting. We can show potential student athletes a superior venue and DMACC's commitment to providing all student-athletes with a quality experience.”

DMACC players say they’re focused on this season, but look forward to the new facility in the future. "When we are able to play on our own field, it will be a new home for us,” said DMACC freshman pitcher and utility player Cailey Schlenker of Bondurant. “We can start new traditions and make memories. There is no place I would rather be a part of. We are like a family on and off the field.”

The DMACC softball team is 7-3 this spring and ranked 13th in the nation. The Bears kickoff Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) play March 23 at Ellsworth. The home conference opener is March 26 against Kirkwood. DMACC returns four starters and eight letter-winners from a team that finished last season ranked #6.

DMACC softball team has been ranked nationally during each of the three seasons since reinstituting softball and has produced four All-Americans, 20 All-Region players and 14 Academic All-Region student athletes.

Basketball season ends

DMACC -- The DMACC men’s basketball team saw its season come to a close following a 68-53 loss to Wayne County Community College (WCCC) March 20 in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II National Championship.

The loss was DMACC’s second in the tournament and eliminated the Bears from further competition.

The game was close throughout the first half with DMACC holding a 30-29 advantage at intermission. The Bears had a 42-38 lead five minutes into the second half when WCCC took control of the game behind a 24-3 run that resulted in a 62-45 deficit that the Bears could not overcome.

Cold shooting hurt DMACC in the second half when the Bears made just eight of 25 field goal attempts, including 1-of-11 from three-point range. WCCC, meanwhile, made 15 of 28 shots from the field in the second half.

Sophomore Brandon Nazone of Howell, Mich., led DMACC with 13 points. Freshman James Hurdle of Milwaukee, Wis., was the only other DMACC player in double figures with 12 points. WCCC had a 35-25 advantage on the boards with Hurdle and freshman Jon Fuqua of Maywood, Ill., grabbing six rebounds apiece to pace the Bears.

DMACC closed the season with a 30-7 record and took a No. 7 national ranking into the tournament.

Baseball team splits 4

DMACC -- The DMACC baseball team opened Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) play with a four-game set against Iowa Central Community College (ICC) on March 21st and 23rd and the two teams split the four games.

DMACC took the opener on March 21st, 13-3, and then dropped the second game, 9-4. ICCC won the first game on March 23rd, 8-0, and DMACC won the second game, 14-3. The ICCC split gives DMACC an 11-9 overall record and a 2-2 mark in the ICCAC.

Freshman Anthony Mraila of Coon Rapids, Minn., had three hits and drove in four runs to spark the Bears in their 13-3 win on March 21st. Sophomore Charlie Coglin of Colorado Springs, Colo., also had three hits in the game and drove in two runs for DMACC. Sophomores Patrick Fiala of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Blake Moltor of Plymouth, Minn., had two hits and two RBIs apiece and sophomore Tyler Wolfe of Maple Plain, Minn., drove in a pair of runs for the Bears. DMACC put the game out of reach with nine runs in the third inning.

Freshman Nick Belzer of Ankeny went the distance to improve to 3-2 for the season. He allowed three runs on five hits, struck out five and walked three. Only one of the runs scored against Belzer was earned.

Moltor had three hits and one RBI in DMACC’s loss in the second game on March 21st. Sophomore Roman Collins of Maple Grove, Minn., and freshman Chris Kelly of Boone homered in the game.

DMACC Athletics

For updated race information, bookmark woundedwarriorproject.org

Sponsored by:

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Editor's note: Bo Shen wrote this opinion piece as part of a class assignment. An adapted version appears here with permission.

Bo Shen  Contributing Writer

On the day after the Winter Olympics, another significant gold medal competition took place. This one is not athletic. That “gold medal” was the Oscars, which is almost the highest prize in the movie world.

Jennifer Lawrence was nominated for her third Academy Award for American Hustle and her first in the Best Supporting Actress category. But I want to go a little farther back in Lawrence’s career. In 2010, Lawrence was shortlisted for Debra Granik’s Winter’s Bone (2010) and won for David O. Russell’s Silver Linings Playbook (2012). I watched Winter’s Bone because of my English class. I had never heard about this movie before.

There is no doubt Winter’s Bone is one of the top 10 movies of 2010. Unlike major blockbuster movies, Winter’s Bone is an independent, low-budget film. Filmmakers shoot low-budget films for two reasons. One is many young or first time filmmakers want to use this first low-budget movie to prove their talent before bigger films. The director and actors want to use his/her first low-budget movie to show the cabin, yard, and woods. There are always gunshot sounds throughout the entire film. It made me think that there are only two roles for anyone in the forest, hunt or be hunted. It is the law of the jungle. Ree is hunting her father while trying not to be hunted by others. After seeking help from her friend Gail, Ree starts her journey to find her father. The first scene from the cabin makes Teardrop look dominating but you should to learn the personality of characters. The third time we find out what the spirit of a “backshot” to describe the shot that I think illustrates the fear Ree has. “Backshot” means a tracking shot or medium shot which is shot from the character’s back and then character looks back because of sounds in fear. We know that people look behind when they scared. It is instinct. There are four “backshots” in this film. The first one appears in the scene of finding little Arthur. She finds a donkey when she thought no one is there, and she got scared by Thump Milton’s granddaughter. The second backshot is when Ree is cutting wood in the shed. She got scared by Teardrop who turns from dancing to threat. The director uses over-the-shoulder shots to show the conversation between Ree and Teardrop. Over-the-shoulder shots can draw the viewer in by creating a sense of close distance between two people. It lets the viewer feel the change of emotion of two people. The director wants to use this shot to make Teardrop become friendlier at that time, because last time he was so rascallion when Rhee asked him for help. This shot greatly quick look on character’s change of Teardrop’s personality. The third time we can see a backshot is when Ree gets in her neighbor’s truck. This rough neighbor didn’t tell her where they were going. On the way to her father’s “lab”, she looks back again. She was so fearful so she knows that she needs to seize every opportunity to find her father and keeps the house. The last “backshot” is when Ree arrives at the lake. Ree is still afraid of Merab and that her sisters will beat or kill her in the wild. Every time she looks behind, viewers can see helplessness in her face. We know that look back is useless when you are going to an unknown, dangerous place. The director wants to use the “backshot” to show the fear and powerlessness of Ree. She has to step forward and keep her spirit to strangers. Before that step she looks behind to seek help by instinct although no one will help her.

Other shot techniques are low-angle camera angles and tilt shots. There is not necessarily a connection between high-angle camera and tilt shot. But one of my favorite scenes in this film is when Teardrop appears in front of everyone, the Dolly family already knows it is him. Most of them show the fear before the door opens. The camera is positioned very low to show the character’s upturn. The tilt shot shows the person bit by bit. The effects of a low-angle camera makes Teardrop look dominating and extremely powerful. With the shot or camera’s position changing at the same time, the people’s status also changed. A viewer’s first impression of the scene might be that Teardrop is a fearless hero. Then the director used a subjective shot of Teardrop to shoot the Dolly family members. All of them show some expressive movement. Ree got saved.

Another example of a low-angle camera is used in the scene when Ree and Merab have found Ree’s father. The low-angle camera is used to show what Merab in this scene and it becomes clear that she is the bravest woman in this movie. The shot makes her look beautiful and grateful. No matter what she has done, before she is braver than anyone at that moment.

Both of these scenes successfully use camera technique. I loved this movie because of the dramatic change in the character’s personality and plot. In this movie we can learn how the director uses shot technique to change the status of people and plot. James Cameron’s Avatar is a “backshot” but there is no such thing as an easy shot.” A director’s design and editing of shots is the same as a poet choosing words in his poetry. Some of the shot techniques are very basic and others are more advanced, but you should to learn the meaning of the shot if you want to know what the spirit of a movie is. The movie perfectly uses these two techniques about 100 minutes. It took six weeks to shoot, and the budget was $2 million. Honestly, it was a “cheap” movie at this time. But you can’t say cheap means inferior. The art is made by little parts of the whole. All of the performances of actors, the shots of director, the soundtracks, the settings, and the plot twists made this movie become a masterpiece.

We watch a movie to see through the window into another life, a peek into another lifestyle, another culture, another world that is not our own.

In Winter’s Bone, we don’t know what’s going to happen after that winter. But we know one thing: you need to fight for yourself or your family in your life’s “winter.”

You can’t solve your own problems, but you can find people like you in the movie. It’s like a mirror that you can find yourself in. You are what you see in it. Movie critic Roger Ebert once said “Movies do not change, but their viewers do.” Watch this movie and find the change in yourself.

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FAFSA Fridays

It’s time to file the 2014-15 FAFSA!

Stop in during a upcoming FAFSA Friday to get free assistance with completing and submitting your FAFSA. (No appointment necessary.)

February 20 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
March 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
March 20 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
April 3 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: DMACC Boone Campus Room 141

Questions? Contact Erin Neumann: 515-433-5037 or eaneumann@dmacc.edu

Total enrollment: 8,624 • Average class size: 28 students • Classes taught by faculty: 100%

FAFSA Fridays are open to all current, former, and prospective DMACC students as well as anyone looking assistance with the FAFSA, regardless of what college or university they will attend in 2014-15.

DMACC is proud to be a partner in the College Access Network (CAN) and its focus on pre-FAFSA completion.

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Tri-state Initiative

Out of State... Not Out of Reach.
Editor's note: This opinion piece was written as part of an Honors Capstone course.

By Cassey Dirks
Guest Columnist

As part of one of my DMACC honors projects this year, I interviewed two United States Army veterans. These two men saw the horrors of war firsthand, and although the wars they served in are separated by decades, there was an eerie com-
monality among the descriptions of their war experiences and the after-

This project was completed as part of my mental health nursing class. The purpose of the project was to compare and contrast how the assessment for post-traumatic stress disorder in
military veterans and their access to treatment has changed over the last fifty years. I also talked with the veterans about the dif-
ferent symptoms of PTSD they experienced and the attitudes others had toward them following their diagnosis.

Often times, soldiers are viewed, by themselves and oth-
ers, as battle-hardened, rough and tumble individuals. As a re-

result, these soldiers may believe they will be pegged as weak by their peers and commanding officers.

In this case, Vietnam veteran interviewed for my project stated that his peers and commanding officers were very

supportive and knowledgeable about PTSD. He also stated that because of increased awareness about the issue, he did not feel ashamed about seeking help.

The Vietnam vet interviewed for this project stated that upon his return from Vietnam, he ap-

proached others in the military regarding what he should do related to the disturbing thoughts he was having. “I was told to go home and deal with it on my own,” he said.

As a result, this Vietnam veteran became a multiple substance abuser who did not receive the necessary help for his mental health problems until recent years. In 2006, he stated “I used drugs and alcohol to escape until I was recently diagnosed with PTSD.”

Presently, soldiers returning home from war are more specifically screened for mental health problems. There are 1,700 Veterans Affairs hospitals in the United States, most of which offer some level of mental health services. The Iraq/Afghanistan

veteran interviewed for my project stated that his peers and commanding officers were very supportive

and knowledgeable about PTSD. He also stated that because of increased awareness about the issue, he did not feel ashamed about seeking help.

The diagnosis of PTSD didn’t scare me as much as not knowing what was going on in my head or why,” was his response when asked about the stigma associ-

ated with having a mental health disorder.

There have been major developments in all areas of the mental healthcare system in recent years. However, there is always room for improvement. According to a study conducted by the Rand Corporation, 14 percent of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are believed to have PTSD, but only half of these soldiers with the symp-
toms of PTSD will seek mental health treatment. This fact alone makes it evident that we need to continue to improve on the mental health screening of soldiers returning home from combat. The Iraq/Afghanistan veteran interviewed in this case had a positive experience in terms of seeking and receiving mental health treatment; how-
never, the statistics show this is not always the case.

Both men found it benefi-
tial just to be able to talk with someone who was going to listen. However, they also stated that talking with other veterans has been the most valuable in terms of managing their symptoms. In the words of the Iraq/Afghani-

stian veteran: “Nobody else gets it like someone who has been there and done what you’ve done or seen what you’ve seen.

Setting up support groups for military veterans to talk with one another should be one of our main focuses. I also believe we should continue to screen these veterans, not just upon their ini-
tial return home, but months and years down the road. The military needs to make sure they are thor-
oughly debriefing their soldiers on what signs and symptoms to recognize in themselves that are indicative of PTSD. By teaching these men and women that they are not alone in what they are experiencing, hopefully more of them will seek treatment.

Tell us what you think! Submit a letter to the editor or your artwork to bannernews@dmacc.edu

-OPINION

Publish your own opinion column in the Banner News.

Column submissions must be:

-DMACC student or locally related
-Well informed (facts stated must be cited)
-Approximately 500-700 words in length

Please email us or stop by room 115.
Movie review: ‘Veronica Mars’

This review appeared in the Iowa State Daily on March 17. It is reprinted in the Banner News with permission.

By Nick Hamden
Guest Movie Critic


This is the moment a lot of you may have been waiting for. “Veronica Mars” has finally been given a movie.

For those who weren’t blessed with experiencing one of the better TV shows of the mid-2000’s, “Veronica Mars” ran for three seasons before getting canceled. It was one of those shows that was critically acclaimed, but suffered with ratings. It also didn’t help that the third season was a lot different from the first two (college), with several minor arcs instead of a big one. It also unfortunately ended on an awkward unfinished cliff hanger. Not as awkward as the series finale of “My Name Is Earl,” but awkward nonetheless.

But that isn’t the only thing crazy about this movie! No, it was funded by Kickstarter. Warner Bros. wouldn’t green light the film, so the cast raised money. They wanted $2 million to make the movie. In ten hours, the $2 million was raised, a record for the website. In the month time frame over $5 million ended up being raised. Needless to say there was a lot of hype around it. Because of the Kickstarter, not only was the film released theatrically, it was also released same day Video on Demand, and the movie being sent out to all who backed it at the same time. Wow.

I will admit some bias. As a fanboy of the TV show (and as a Season 3 apologist), there is a good chance I like this no matter what.

Guess what! It is time for Neptune, California’s favorite female high school class to have their ten year reunion. Turns out after the third season of the show, Veronica (Kristen Bell) switched out of town to Stanford. Yeah. She got real far away. She went to law school and now she is about to get a high paying lawyer job at NBC. But just when she thought she was out, they pulled her back in.

That’s right. Logan Echolls (Jason Dohring) is being charged with murder. He was dating another former Nuptunian, don’t worry about her, she had two episodes in the series. She eventually became a pretty famous pop star, and now she was found electrocuted in her own bath tub. Logan says he is innocent and for whatever reason, Veronica believes him.

So she is back in town. Her dad (Enrico Colan- toni), still a P.I., the police force still inept and her ex-boyfriend (and current number one boyfriends) Scott (Michael C. Hall) is still around the room… the more, the merrier. You discover an underlying truth. Friends provide answers.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) – Today is a 7 – Make a shrewd move. Keep an eye on that bank account, before a big push. Discuss the minutia. Define your focus. A little surprise would be nice.

In Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) – Today is a 7 – Someone’s feeling generous. Good news comes from far away. In Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) – Today is a 6 – Use brains over brawn. Protect your reputation. Confirm your insights with facts.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) – Today is a 6 – Someone’s feeling generous. Good news comes from far away. Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) – Today is a 7 – Someone’s feeling generous. Good news comes from far away.


Taurus (April 20-May 20) – Today is a 6 – Use brains over brawn. Protect your reputation. Confirm your insights with facts.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) – Today is a 6 – Accept encouragement on your latest adventure. Make repairs and keep gear in working order. Invest in new technology. Look for excellent suggestions, and keep you balanced. Inspiration comes in the strangest places! Write up the idea immediately.

Your horoscope for this week

Aries (March 21-April 19) – Today is a 6 – Your wishes will be granted. A Clever communicators. Remember to check in before it is too late. Support could come from your partner. Start the inner mechanisms. Travel virtually instead of actually. Confirm your insights with facts.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) – Today is an 8 – You can go shopping now, without touching savings. Pay back a favor. Work out a misunderstanding, and avoid a correction.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Today is an 8 – Let your imagination wander freely. You can solve the puzzle. Do what it takes. Share the load with partners who have the necessary expertise. Check out an interesting suggestion. Make a loving pact. Words come easily.


Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) – Today is a 6 – Accept encouragement on your latest adventure. Make repairs and keep gear in working order. Invest in new technology. Look for excellent suggestions, and keep you balanced. Inspiration comes in the strangest places! Write up the idea immediately.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – Today is an 8 – Get help building your dream. Cooperate with your team, and share information. Curiosity leads to questions. Keep asking interesting questions. Use what you’re learning. Discover a fringe benefit. Try for a while, and really get profitable.

Movie review: ‘Veronica Mars’

Kristen Bell, who stars in “Veronica Mars,” arrives at the 86th annual Academy Awards on March 2 at the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood.

Gaby Hoffmann

Going into this movie — despite my fanboy-ism — I was still a bit skeptical. I used to be a part of the plot taking 22 episodes to solve, not one in less than two hours. I thought the plot might feel rushed or forced and I wouldn’t get enough cool clues along the way.

Well, after seeing it, I think the story really does work. It has twists and turns, and there are multiple plots, and they did a few things I definitely would never have seen coming.

At the same time, this film might actually be accessible to those who haven’t seen the TV show. I wouldn’t suggest seeing the movie first still, because the show is phenomenal but everything you need to know gets explained in the plot. You won’t get every character reference or throwback joke, but you can still get by.

Still, this film only seemed to arouse my ap- petite without bedazzling it down. What I — and everyone — really wants now is new seasons to continue the story onward. From what I can tell, there is absolutely nothing in the works but a small web series and that is all we are getting.

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