

## The End of an Era

### NIACC President Buettner Says Good-Bye After 20 Years

Dr. David L. Buettner has said good-bye to North Iowa Area Community College after 20 years as President of the College. He has been named President at Fox Valley Technical College with campuses in Appleton and Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Dr. Michael C. Morrison, NIACC Vice President for Academic Affairs since 1989, has been appointed Interim President.

**“North Iowa Area Community College has been privileged to have had an extraordinary president in David Buettner, a man of pragmatic vision with an exceptional work ethic undergirded by utmost integrity.”**

friends here, we raised our boys here, and we have put down considerable roots.”

“This is a significant opportunity for me and constitutes a logical progression in my career path. NIACC’s reputation and the collective

continued on page 2



MCJC-NIACC  
Presidents  
1918 to 2001  
Collage created by  
Dr. Michael Morrison.

[www.niacc.com](http://www.niacc.com)

*for alumni  
and friends  
of North  
Iowa Area  
Community  
College*

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**WINTER 2002**



**We ♥ NIACC!**

### Student Writes –

NIACC Student Senate members display copies of some of the letters written to state legislators. The Student Senate kept track of student letters with a thermometer measurement. An extensive NIACC student letter writing campaign sent strong messages of community college support to state representatives.

(See page 5 for Iowa Community College facts and a higher education comparison.)



*for alumni  
and friends  
of North  
Iowa Area  
Community  
College*

## NIACC Dedicates Pappajohn Business Center

North Iowa Area Community College dedicated its new Pappajohn Business Center during a special ceremony and open house on October 15, 2001.

The 15,000-square-foot facility, located west of McAllister Hall on the NIACC campus, is the new home for the staff and activities of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, whose goal is to spark new business development and support new business ventures in North Iowa and across the state.

The new headquarters for NIACC's Business Division, the Center also houses technology-based seminar rooms and classrooms for the College's Information Systems Technology (IST), E-Commerce, Web Design and Development, and Senior

Network Administration programs. The building opened with the start of fall semester.

"Bricks and mortar are the bones, but it's the interactions inside that are the heart and soul of what we're trying to do with this initiative," said Doug Morse, director of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center. **continued on page 4**

**"Bricks and mortar are the bones,  
but it's the interactions inside  
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**A New Look** – The new Pappajohn Business Center houses entrepreneurial and information technology programs.



**Grand Opening** – David Buettner holds the ribbon for John Pappajohn to cut at the Pappajohn Business Center dedication ceremony, while Doug Morse (left), Colin Robinson (right) and Pappajohn family members look on.

## NIACC-ISU Announce Information Technology Partnership

NIACC students in the Information Systems Technology (IST) program can now reap long-term benefits through a new partnership between NIACC and Iowa State University. The articulation between the two institutions will permit graduates of NIACC's IST Program to transfer with junior standing into any of the eight majors in Iowa State's College of Business and graduate with a bachelor's degree by completing as few as 72 semester hours at the Ames campus.

The announcement was made

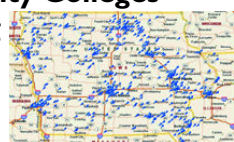
during the dedication of the new Pappajohn Business Center which houses the NIACC Business Division, including the IST program.

"This is a huge breakthrough," said Dr. Michael Morrison, NIACC Interim President. "Our IST graduates can now have the best of both worlds by developing vital information technology skills and marrying them with excellent instruction in all areas of business. Iowa State obviously recognizes the quality of our program and students and the value of the ASB degree."

"The community college is a great link between the high school and the four-year degree," said Dr. Labh Hira, Interim Dean of the ISU College of Business. "In these days of budget cuts, cooperation is not only necessary, but prudent."

**Iowa Community Colleges  
are Developing  
Entrepreneurs**

**See page 5  
for details**



for alumni  
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College

## The End of an Era continued from front cover

accomplishments of our board,staff,and faculty played a key role in my successful pursuit of this opportunity,” Buettner said.

Kevin Kolbet, President of the NIACC Board of Directors, said Buettner has provided “exemplary service to the North Iowa region” in his role as President of the College. “Dave has provided leadership in budgetary matters and economic development issues,and he has certainly advanced the role of community colleges in Iowa and the Midwest,” said Kolbet. “The College Board has had nothing but excellent relations with him and acknowledges that he has had opportunities throughout the years to further his professional development. We wish him all the best in his new position.”

It is clear that Buettner will be missed.“North Iowa Area Community College has been privileged to have had an extraordinary president in David Buettner, a man of pragmatic vision with an exceptional work ethic under-girded by utmost integrity,” said Joyce Hanes,who served on the NIACC Board of Directors from 1975 to 1993.“David has brought honor to himself,the College he served,and the whole state of Iowa with the quality of his leader-ship.All of North Iowa and I, personally, will miss him and his wife, Pam,greatly.”



Dr. Michael Morrison is NIACC's Interim President.

Linda See, NIACC Assistant to the President,agrees.“Working with Dave Buettner for 20 years has been the experience of a lifetime. He has been an exemplary ‘servant leader’ and role model for the College and the community,” she said.“It has been rewarding to watch the new friendships and relationships that have been formed with students, the community, business

and industry leaders,and many others.We have learned so much from him, and he has brought the College to a new level of performance and achievement, even in the face of budgeting obstacles.”

According to Kolbet,the NIACC Board is planning its selection process carefully.“We believe that NIACC's reputation and track record will attract highly qualified candidates internally and nationally,” said Kolbet.“We're confident that the College will continue to be a key asset in this region.”

The leadership at NIACC (and predecessor Mason City Junior College) has changed hands relatively few times despite the school's nearly 85-year history.Though their titles have changed from Dean to Superintendent to President, the chief administrators have included:

**James Rae**  
(beginning in 1918)

**Jay B. MacGregor**  
(1925-26 and 1928-29)

**R.R. Fahrney**  
(1926-27)

**S. L.Rugland**  
(1929-1943)

**Luelda F. Carlton**  
(1943-1947)

**Clifford H.Beem**  
(1947-1966)

**William F. Berner**  
(1966-1970)

**David R.Pierce**  
(1970-1981)

**David L.Buettner**  
(1981-2001)

*How can you not admire a guy who can handle a college like he handles a 700 horsepower drag racer?...competitive, great sportsman, humorist, futurist, encourager, eye on the finish line... Dave brings out the best in everyone, including the competition.*

**Dr. Rob Denson,President**  
**Northeast Iowa Community College**

*NIACC has progressed immeasurably during Dave Buettner's tenure as president. He has provided leadership on a variety of state and national issues and been a tireless advocate for NIACC and all the Community Colleges of Iowa.*

**Dr. Gene Gardner,Executive Director**  
**Iowa Association of Community College Trustees**

*Dave is a man possessed with remarkable powers of persuasion.*

**Charles H.MacNider,Asst.VP-Investments**  
**U.S.Bancorp Piper Jaffray**

*Dave Buettner has done a great job of linking the College to the business community. His practical approach to education has established a culture of life-long learners with transferable skills. These qualities are important to the success of individuals, businesses and communities.*

**Robin Anderson,Executive Director**  
**Mason City Chamber of Commerce**

*Dave has always been the president who caused us to consider all aspects of our decisions and was often the calming influence among us. His leadership and influence will be sorely missed.*

**Dr. Norm Nielsen,President**  
**Kirkwood Community College**

*Dave has that special ability of bringing people together to create a vision and then focusing on accomplishing the work so the vision becomes reality.*

**Keith Sersland,Superintendent of Schools**  
**Mason City Community School District**

*When you talk to Dave, he listens. You are the most important person at that time.*

**Jim Benjegerdes,Former NIACC Board President**

*Dave was NIACC to me! He built a wonderful institution that I am certain will continue to grow and prosper.*

**John Pappajohn,Venture Capitalist**

*Not only did David bring NIACC to full value of its mission, he showed a continuing interest in post-secondary education in Iowa. He freely offered suggestions that allowed me to find programming improvements here at UNI that have been reproduced across Iowa.*

**Dr. Robert Koob, President**  
**University of Northern Iowa**

*Dr. Buettner has been a builder of bridges with spans of cooperation, communication and coalitions. He has been instrumental in economic growth, creating partnerships where none had existed before. He has been a dynamic positive force through quiet strength and leadership.*

**Ruth Miller, Community Activist**

*Known for his advances in technology, Dave has helped NIACC become a leader in using technology to enhance student learning and to meet the needs of business and industry. His work along with others has made Iowa one of the leading community college systems in the country.*

**Dr. Larry Ebberts,Professor, Higher Education**  
**Educational Leadership and Policy Studies**  
**Iowa State University**

*Schools in AEA 2 have a state reputation for being top notch, and NIACC is in the same tier because of the outstanding leadership skills of Dr. Buettner.*

**Bruce Burton,Superintendent of Schools**  
**North Central Community School District**

*Many people hope to have made a difference during their lifetime. Dave has already done so. His influence and his contribution to the quality of life in North Iowa will be felt for years.*

**Tom Schaefer, President**  
**Henkel Construction**

**Ticket sales** for the November 20th North Iowa Concert Band performance generated over \$2,300 for music scholarships through the NIACC Foundation.

**NIACC Trojan football** coach Dick Ramsey enjoyed his 100th career win at NIACC on Oct.7 with a 34-6 victory over the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire JV. Ramsey's teams have made seven bowl appearances in the past 12 seasons, with wins in 1990,1993 and 1998. This year's team finished 9-2

overall,including an appearance in the Pepsi Cola/Sigler Printing Bowl.

**For the second** successive year, NIACC hosted a World War II History Roundtable, including several World War II veterans from the North Iowa area.The veterans,including individuals who participated in the European and Pacific theaters of action like the D-Day invasion and the Guadalcanal and Okinawa campaigns,spoke to NIACC's American History classes about the conflict, which engulfed the world from 1939 to 1945. Gene Pfeifer,

a retired Mason City High School teacher and World War II veteran, and John Schmaltz,a NIACC social science instructor, coordinated the informative event.

**Instructor Paul Peterson** was honored with the 2001 Distinguished Newspaper Adviser Award for two-year colleges from College Media Advisers (CMA). Peterson is the adviser for LOGOS,NIACC's student newspaper, and is also a communication skills and journalism instructor.

**NIACC earned** two Medallion Awards during the District V Conference of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR). NCMPR is the largest affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges. The NIACC Performing Arts and Leadership Series brochure won a silver award, and the Workforce Development Partnership's Business Services brochure won a gold award.



## Leadership Series

### Nobel Peace Prize Winner Visits Campus

A week following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, North Iowa Area Community College had the honor of hosting Nobel Peace Prize winner and former South African President F.W. de Klerk as part of this year's NIACC Leadership Series.



**Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** – Area high school students (L to R) Angela Ott, Tricia Miller, Mary DeBartolo, Eric Bagley, Daniel Sherrick, Charity Edgar, Jack Courtney and Teal Anderson were chosen to dine with President de Klerk and his wife through an essay contest sponsored by NIACC, the Globe-Gazette and the Principal Financial Group.



**A Time For Change** – Nearly 800 North Iowans listened to F.W. de Klerk's message, "The Challenge of Change," in the North Iowa Community Auditorium at NIACC. His talk was timely and thought-provoking.

for alumni  
and friends  
of North  
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### North Iowans Pass Instructional Equipment Referendum

The people of North Iowa demonstrated their confidence in NIACC by supporting the Instructional Equipment Referendum in the September school election. The levy is expected to contribute approximately \$273,000 annually toward the purchase of instructional equipment. Thanks for investing in North Iowa's future!



a great place to  
make that connection

Job Fair 2002 will be held Wednesday, March 27, 2002 from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium on the NIACC campus. This annual event attracts an average of 80 businesses from around Iowa and the Midwest. In addition, many companies take advantage of the Virtual Job Fair that will be online at [www.niacc.com](http://www.niacc.com) from March 4 - April 12, 2002. Whether you are seeking employees or seeking employment, Job Fair 2002 is a great place to make that connection.

Job Fair 2002 is organized by the North Iowa Career Center on the NIACC campus and is sponsored by the Workforce Development Partnership, a joint venture of Iowa Workforce Development, North Iowa Area Community College, and the Iowa Department of Human Services. Participation is free of charge and open to the general public.



**Football Post-Season Play** – The NIACC football team competed in the Pepsi Cola/Sigler Printing Bowl at the UNI-Dome on November 18 against Joliet Junior College. The Trojans lost in a heated battle 14-7. They finished with a winning season at 9-2 and were ranked fifth in the nation. NIACC finished first in the ICCAC conference with seven players receiving all-region honors and ten players receiving honorable mention. Photo provided by Logos student newspaper.



**Follow the Ball** – NIACC soccer player Mike Becker (above right) advances the ball up the field during the inaugural game on the NIACC campus, while (below right) NIACC players Kendra Knopf (with the ball), Abby Inglis (left) and Sarah Griffiths take control of the ball. The new soccer teams have quickly become a new source of pride at NIACC! Top photo provided by Logos student newspaper, and bottom photo provided by the Globe Gazette.



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## ER Nurses Choose NIACC First

Out of 30 Emergency Room and Air Life nurses at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa, 22 are NIACC graduates, making the school first when it comes to providing qualified people to work in the local trauma center.

Juli (Wold) Thackery, a graduate of NIACC's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program, said when she completed the program in 1979 almost

**"To have so many  
NIACC ADN graduates  
working in a Level 2  
trauma center speaks  
well for NIACC."**

every person she graduated with was hired at Mercy. She credited the extensive clinical work she did at the hospital, while attending NIACC, with preparing her for the work she would do after graduation.

"To work in the ER, you've got to have skills, training, and basic knowledge," she said. "We got that from NIACC."

Students in NIACC's Practical Nursing program are required to complete seven clinical rotations during the year, while students in the Associate Degree Nursing program are required to complete eleven. The clinical rotations allow students to work in many different departments at Mercy, which gives them a wide range of hands-on experience.

Shelly Lair, who received her Practical Nursing degree from NIACC in 1993 and her ADN in 1997, said the great variety of clinical work she completed as a student helped her cope with the variety of cases she sees in the ER.

"We did all sorts of clinical work at

the hospital," Lair said. "Down here you get it all. We see pediatrics to geriatrics and sore throats to trauma."

The ER at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa is a Level 2 trauma center, which means it is certified by the state

Besides the great hands-on experience nursing students receive, the location of both the College and the hospital make attending NIACC and then working at Mercy a good combination for people like Jill Tarr



**Have Mercy** – Most of the nurses working in the Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa Emergency Room graduated from NIACC, putting their education to work right here in North Iowa. Photo provided by Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa.

**"It's nice there's a  
local community college  
that allows students to  
get the education they  
want and stay right here."**

to deal with extensive trauma.

The fact that such a large proportion of the nurses working in the ER are NIACC graduates is impressive, said Matt Werner, a 1995 graduate of the Associate Degree Nursing program.

"To have so many NIACC ADN graduates working in a Level 2 trauma center speaks well for NIACC," he said.

(LPN 1978; RN 1980), who said she knew she wanted to live in North Iowa.

"It's nice there's a local community college that allows students to get the education they want and stay right here," Tarr said. Having the College and hospital in the same area is convenient because "you don't have to relocate to practice what you've learned."

The nurses said they enjoy reminiscing about their experiences as NIACC students with each other. They agreed that coming from the same educational background has helped them become a close-knit group.

"It's like a little family down here," said Lair.

## Pappajohn Business Center Continued from page 1

Morse said more than 1,600 Iowans have received entrepreneurial training in the past four years, producing well over 200 new businesses in all corners of the state.

Nathan Tobey, of Sumner, and Aaron Sweery, of Belmond, are two students currently receiving entrepreneurial education



**Let the Learning Begin** – NIACC information technology program chair and instructor Mary Mosiman leads her class in one of the new classrooms at the Pappajohn Business Center.

at the Pappajohn Center. They plan to start a production company for music and comic books. Morse said Tobey remarked to him while putting together his business plan as part of a class assignment, "Doug, I'm not just writing a paper for a class. I'm writing my future."

The Pappajohn Business Center was made possible through a \$1.1 million gift from John and Mary Pappajohn. The gift financed building construction, as well as the continued operation and growth of the entrepreneurial programs.

"NIACC contributed a great deal to my success," said John Pappajohn, a graduate of Mason City Junior College, NIACC's predecessor. "This is a way to pay back for the quality education I received. We're getting a lot of results for the money."

During the dedication, David Buettner also thanked the Elizabeth Muse Norris Charitable Fund, the Iowa Department of Economic Development and the NIACC Foundation for supporting the new Pappajohn Business Center. "It's an intricate network of partnerships that this building represents," he said.

### CONGRATULATIONS NURSING GRADUATES!

100 percent of NIACC's  
Associate Degree Nursing  
graduates from the Class  
of 2001 passed the  
National Council Licensure  
Examination (NCLEX)  
required to become a  
Registered Nurse. The  
NIACC ADN Program is  
accredited by the National  
League for Nursing.

# We Love NIACC!

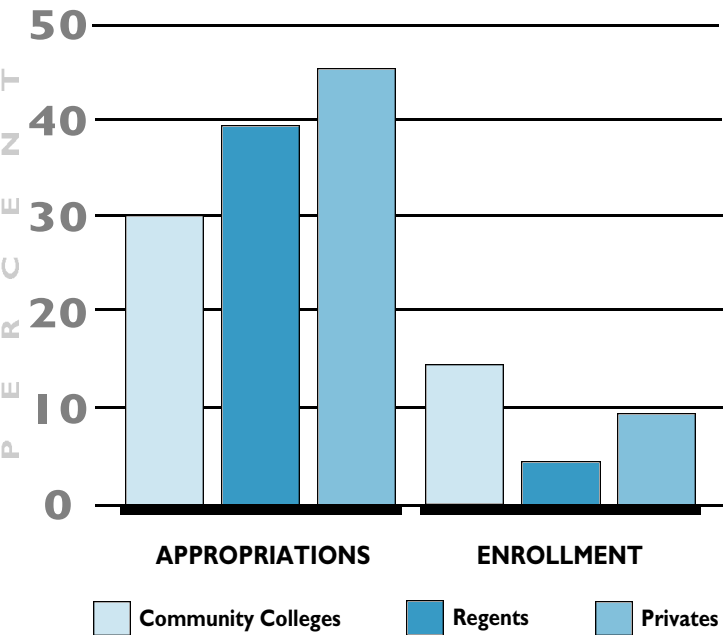
Friends of NIACC and the Community Colleges of Iowa are coming together to ask state legislators to treat community colleges fairly and equitably with regard to higher education appropriations.

The NIACC Board of Directors and administrators are implementing several strategies in order to deal with major reductions in the College's general operating fund due to state funding cuts.

NIACC hosted nine town meetings throughout North Iowa during November to ask constituents about their expectations of the College and to explain budget balancing strategies.NIACC has received copies of literally thousands of letters people have written to their legislators, describing NIACC's importance to the region.

Legislators are expecting to deal with further state budget reductions in the approaching legislative session.Legislative contact information is available at [www.niacc.com](http://www.niacc.com).

## Iowa Higher Education Comparison Ten Year Change



## DID YOU KNOW?

### The Community Colleges of Iowa...

The Community Colleges of Iowa enroll 61,722 Iowans;the Regents (U of I,ISU, UNI) universities enroll 50,766 Iowans;private schools enroll 28,920 Iowans.

Including non-credit students,more than 400,000 Iowans are served annually by the Community Colleges of Iowa.

63% of Iowans entering their freshman year of college in the state enroll at an Iowa Community College. More new freshmen attend the Community Colleges of Iowa than the Regents and private schools combined.

Data collected by the state universities shows that Iowa Community College graduates transferring to the 4-year schools do as well as or better than students who began there and have comparable graduation rates.

Approximately 90% of Community College graduates live and work in Iowa after they graduate as compared to 40% of Regents graduates and 50% of private college graduates.

Community Colleges,on average, receive about \$2,500 in state aid per Iowa student,while the Regents schools receive about \$11,000 and private schools receive over \$3,000.

Tuition at the state universities is 85% of the national average. Iowa Community College tuition is 150% of the national average.

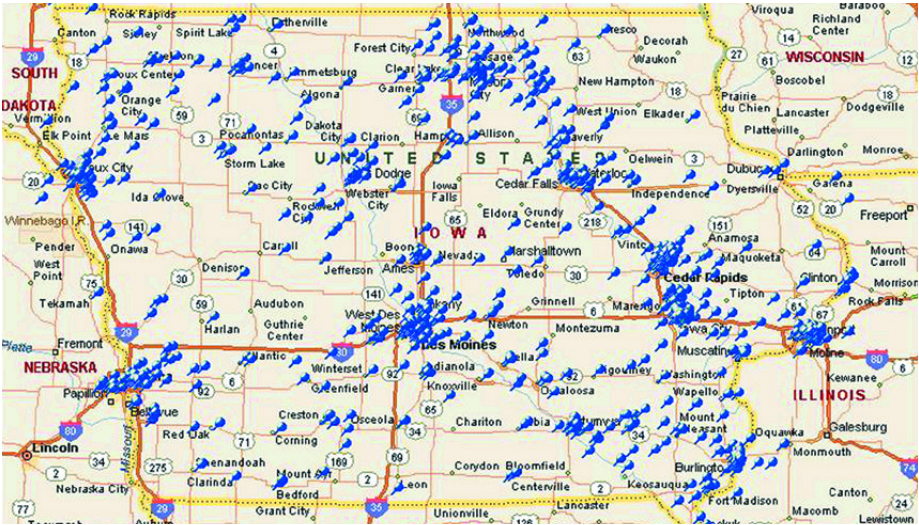
Iowa has the greatest salary disparity between four-year and two-year public institutions in the nation.

(Sources of information include the Legislative Fiscal Bureau,Digest of Education Statistics,Chronicle of Higher Education,University of Iowa's Dallam Report, College Student Aid Commission,Iowa State Education Association,and the Department of Education.)

## Community Colleges Play a Major Role in Rural and Urban Entrepreneur Development and Support in Iowa

Entrepreneur development is rural Iowa's powerful secret weapon,and the Community Colleges of Iowa have played a significant role in developing and supporting entrepreneurs statewide. Investing in new business start-ups helps communities capitalize on assets,attract and retain talent,and prepare for the new economy.

- The Iowa Entrepreneurial Consortium (IEC) is a collaborative initiative of the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers at the University of Iowa and NIACC, the University of Northern Iowa, and the Community Colleges of Iowa.
- FastTrac entrepreneurial education courses are offered in every community college district in the state, providing every Iowan with access to the tools and support necessary to launch a new business venture in Iowa.
- Over 1,600 Iowans have learned how to start a business or grow an existing business since fall 1997.



People across Iowa are learning how to start new business ventures.

- Surveys indicate over 40% of FastTrac participants start a new business within one year of participation.
- The IEC works closely with Iowa Small Business Development Centers and offers a sophisticated cadre of experts to support entrepreneurs during the planning and business startup process.
- The IEC has demonstrated results through new business starts across the state, with well over 200 new businesses identified in 85 different Iowa communities.

for alumni  
and friends  
of North  
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## NIACC Performing Arts and Leadership Series Offers More Great Performances

Many from around the North Iowa area have already visited the North Iowa Community Auditorium for some of the outstanding events in the 2001-2002 Performing Arts and Leadership Series. If you haven't been to an event yet this year, you're in luck, the great line-up continues!

Performances still to come are: Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story, January 30; Romeo & Juliet, February 12; Winter Blues featuring Bernard Allison and The Lamont Cranton Band, February 16; Our Sinatra: A Big Band Musical, February 27; Lou Rawls, March 13; Titanic, March 21; and Freedom Train, April 2.

The Leadership Series will feature Dr. James Crupi on April 4.

All events will be held at the North Iowa Community Auditorium on the NIACC campus. Sponsors for the 2001-2002 series include NIACC, the Elizabeth Muse Norris Charitable Fund, the Globe-Gazette, First Citizens National Bank, Hanford Inn, Henkel, Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa, OmniTel Communications, Pepsi Cola Bottlers, Principal Financial Group and Target.

**FOR TICKETS, CALL THE NIACC BOX OFFICE AT 422-4188 OR 1-888-GO NIACC, EXT. 4188.**

**Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story**  
January 30

**Romeo & Juliet**  
February 12

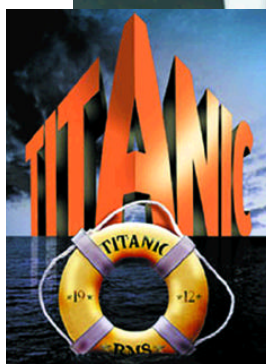


**Winter Blues**  
featuring **Bernard Allison** and **The Lamont Cranton Band**  
February 16

**Our Sinatra: A Big Band Musical**  
February 27



**Lou Rawls**  
March 13



**Titanic**  
March 21



**Freedom Train**  
April 2

## Get it On(line)

With online classes, convenience is the name of the game. And by offering over 30 credit courses through the Internet, NIACC is making learning more convenient than ever. Convenience, in fact, is what makes some students rave about the online courses they have taken at NIACC.

"You can work at your own pace," explained sophomore Bobbi Engleman, who took Macroeconomics online.

**"It's really about offering more options to the student."**

"I can work it into my schedule instead of working my schedule around a certain class time."

NIACC graduate Katie Wymore agreed that online classes are more flexible, especially for people who lead busy lives. "You don't have a set time you have to go to class," she said. "You can work on it when it's convenient for you to do it."

Wymore took an online class last summer to pick up some extra credit hours while working full-time. "For people who have hectic schedules, I think it's better."

Flexibility and variation are not only

key for students taking online classes, but for the instructors teaching them as well. "As for a teacher," said Brent Hamilton, who taught Career Math online during the fall 2001 semester, "an online course has many different variables involved and has implications as to how to administer and teach the course. It's really about offering more options to the student."

The fall of 1997 marked the beginning of online classes at NIACC. The College began with Communications Skills and Geography of the Non-Western World, but now classes have expanded to include everything from Intro to Entrepreneurship to Public Speaking to Personal Finance. In addition, it is becoming more common for face-to-face NIACC classes to feature online components.

The number of students taking online classes has grown significantly, with 270 NIACC students taking at least one online class last semester.

NIACC became the first Iowa Community College to offer an Associate of Arts (AA) Degree online in the spring of 2000. The degree, made possible through a partnership with other Iowa Community Colleges, requires 60 hours of online credit.

Don Kamps, Evening Dean at

NIACC, said offering the AA Degree online helps strengthen enrollment and "serve all of the people of our area with quality courses."

While Wymore and Engleman said they would recommend online classes to other NIACC students, both cautioned that to reap scholastic success through the Internet, one must have motivation and a strong work ethic.

"You've got to be very self-directed to get things done," warned Engleman.

An admitted procrastinator, Wymore's online class taught her about

**"I can work it into my schedule instead of working my schedule around a certain class time."**

more than just General Psychology. "I've learned not to put stuff off until the end," she said. "You have to have the dedication to do it on your own, and as long as you keep a schedule, you should be okay."

For information about online NIACC classes, go to [www.niacc.com/online](http://www.niacc.com/online).

**Don't Forget – Second Round Scholarship Deadline April 1**

Thinking of attending NIACC in the fall of 2002? Apply for NIACC Foundation Scholarships now online at [www.niacc.com](http://www.niacc.com)! Applications are also available from local high school counselors and the NIACC Financial Aid Office. The deadline for the second round of scholarships is April 1, 2002.



## ASE Master Certified Automotive Program Earns National Recognition

The Automotive Industry Planning Council (AIPC) National Selection Committee has named North Iowa Area Community College the 2001 National Runner Up for the prestigious ASE Automotive Award of Excellence. NIACC's Automotive Service Technology Program was also named the winner for the State of Iowa.

NIACC received the special award from ASE and was recognized at the

Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Convention in December. The state

and national prizes include a \$5,000 certificate from Snap-On Tools and \$6,000 for student scholarships.

The ASE Automotive Award of Excellence requires a rigorous application process and is very competitive. Candidates are judged on the quality of their automotive program, recruitment methods, entrance requirements, assessment methods, and courses.

NIACC's Automotive Service Technology Program is ASE Master Certified and is led by ASE Certified instructors Greg Arrowood, Rob Heimbuch and Mark Poppe. The program has experienced a 100 percent placement rate for eight of the last 10 years.



**Award-Winning Program** – NIACC's Automotive Service Technology Program won the 2001 National Runner Up for the prestigious ASE Automotive Award of Excellence. The award-winning program provides students with a hands-on learning environment.

*for alumni  
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## NIACC Faces

The following people are new to NIACC or have new roles at the College.

### **Matt Egger**

Assistant Baseball Coach

### **Richard Grossen**

Tool and Die Instructor

### **Teresa McNiel**

Custodian

### **Sethanne Peterson**

Community Relations Coordinator

### **Jayson Ryner**

Vocal Music Director

### **Norb Thomes**

E-Commerce, Web Design and Development Instructor

### **Cheryl West**

Student Housing Custodial Coordinator

## TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE SERIES

Some North Iowans have already been on a visual trip to the Nile in Egypt or the Far East this fall and look forward to their next exciting and beautiful excursion without having to leave the state. These individuals are taking advantage of the fourth annual Travel and Adventure Series sponsored by North Iowa Area Community College and the Mason City Noon Kiwanis. There are still some presentations to come if you want to embark on a new experience.

Each film is presented in the North Iowa Community Auditorium on the NIACC campus starting at 7:00 p.m. by world travelers and lecturers. It runs approximately 90 minutes in length with a 15-minute intermission during which time door prizes are given away.

Tickets can be purchased individually at the door for \$5 (adults) or \$3 (students) from NIACC or any Mason City Noon Kiwanis member.

### STILL TO COME

#### **Royal Netherlands: The Dutch**

February 21, 2002

**Ireland**  
March 6, 2002

**The Faces of Italy**  
April 10, 2002

## NIACC's Ski and Snowboard Club Swooshes into Action

NIACC's newly rejuvenated Ski and Snowboard Club already boasts 27 members and a lot of excitement. Now they just need some snow!

Club activities range from skiing trips around the Midwest to club fundraising events. The Club is planning a trip to Colorado over Spring Break in March. Also, a Ski Swap fundraiser was held for the Ski and Snowboard Club in October at Wayne's Ski and Cycle in Mason City. Participants earned cash for used equipment and could buy new or used equipment. Events such as this make it possible for the Ski and Snowboard Club to travel to desired skiing destinations.

For more information, contact club advisers John Brietzke, NIACC economics instructor, and Bruce McKee, NIACC instructional technology coordinator.

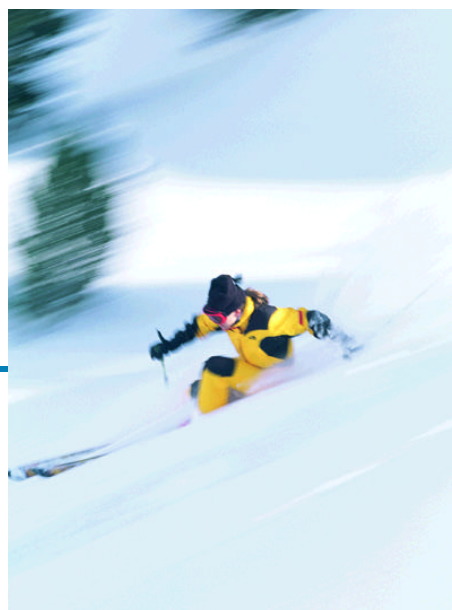
### **Snow Sensations –**

NIACC's Ski and Snowboard

Club offers students the

chance to share in skiing

and snowboarding fun!





for alumni  
and friends  
of North  
Iowa Area  
Community  
College

## Hospital Administrator to Speak at Pathways to Success

Ann Madden Rice, Interim CEO for University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, will be the honored guest and speaker for this year's Pathways to Success luncheon on April 10, 2002.

The NIACC Alumni Association hosts this annual event to honor a select group of students for their scholarship, leadership and character. An accomplished NIACC graduate is invited back each year to share his or her "pathway to success" with the students and audience.

The daughter of Tom and Eleanor Madden of Mason City, Ann Madden Rice is a 1977 graduate of North Iowa Area Community

College. She also has a bachelor's degree in industrial administration from Iowa State University and a master of arts in accounting from the University of Iowa.

She is a wife, mother, CPA, Fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, and board-certified Healthcare Executive. She has led the financial management at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Des Moines, Central Vermont Medical Center, and UI Hospitals and Clinics.

In November, she assumed her new responsibilities as interim CEO in Iowa City.

Pathways luncheon tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at the NIACC Business Office, 422-4214 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4214.



## CHECK IT OUT!

*Some of the Latest Educational Opportunities at NIACC*

**KEEP YOUR DAY JOB AND PARTICIPATE** in some advanced technology training in the evenings! Each class (Network Routing, Network Remote Access, Multi-Layer Switching and Network Support) runs just eight weeks and is completed one at a time. Before you know it, you'll be a Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)! Call Mary at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4149 for more information.

**MASTER YOUR SOFTWARE!** NIACC offers classes for college credit that will make you proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and Outlook. For your convenience, classes are arranged and/or online. You can even earn a Microsoft Office User Specialist (MOUS) certification! Call Kacy at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4236 for more information.

**COMBINE YOUR AGRICULTURE INTERESTS** with electronic commerce! The E-Agribusiness program is a "hybrid," if you will, of business and agriculture and includes a combination of classes in agriculture, e-commerce, entrepreneurship and more. If you already have an ag degree, just come for the e-commerce side of it! Call Larry at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4225 for more information.

## Over 400 Area High School Students Attend Career Academy

North Iowa Area Community College hosted the Agriculture-Business-Entrepreneurship-Industrial Career Academy in November.

Over 400 juniors and seniors from 24 area high schools attending the event received hands-on exposure to agricultural, business, entrepreneurial and industrial careers. The day was filled with a variety of sessions in which students could explore a number of career possibilities.

This event was sponsored by the Area Two Career Readiness Council, Northern Trails Area Education Agency, NIACC and North Iowa businesses.



**Future Positioning** – NIACC agriculture instructor Laura Schurtz explains to area high school students the procedure of using a global positioning receiver for agriculture applications.

## First Alumni Softball Game

North Iowa Area Community College alumni dusted off their softball gloves and put their cleats back on for an alumni game.

The NIACC Alumni Softball Game was held at the NIACC softball

complex during Homecoming weekend, in conjunction with the NIACC Athletic Kickoff Banquet. Ten former NIACC softball players participated, including Lori Cooley, Jill Gerdes, Tara Hemann, Jenny Kiselewski, Rachel McGuire, Erin

Pleggenkuhle, Carol Thayer, Amanda Theilen, Brooke Werneberg and Laura Werstein.

The alumni gave the 2002 NIACC softball team a run for their money, resulting in a tied final score of 4-4.



A L U M N I A L M A N A C

1960s and 1970s

**Nancy (Evenson) Irwin ‘67** of Winter Springs,FL,is the officer manager for a landscape architectural firm and the wedding consultant for her church.She and her husband,Jim,have 6 children and 8 grandchildren.

**Michael Peck ‘67** of Scottsdale,AZ, is executive manager of purchasing and materials management with Blood Systems, Inc.,the second largest supplier of blood and blood products in the U.S.

**Karen McKenzy ‘68** taught special education in the Twin Cities for 24 years and has returned to Mason City, IA, where she is substitute teaching.

**Kurt Morud ‘71** of Mason City, IA, retired from the Mason City Fire Department after 28 years.He and his wife, Gloria,have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

**David W. Manthey ‘72** is the coordinator of adult programs for ISD 197 (West St.Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan school district) in Minnesota.

**Denise Passehl ‘74** of Latimer, IA, works at Dudley’s Restaurant and coordinates the Franklin County NIKS Food Coop, a food club for organic foods.

**Richard Miltenberger ‘76** has been named product training manager at Winnebago Industries,Inc. of Forest City, IA. Prior to the promotion,he served as a future concept analyst for the company.

**Terry L. Farghum ‘76** is manager of hydroprocesses at Equilon Technology in Houston,TX.

1980s

**Erin Gallagher ‘84** completed law school in 1999 and is an attorney in Iowa City, IA, dealing with public policy related to children with disabilities.

**Donielle (Gohlke) Mayer ‘84** of College Station,TX, is business operations manager at a DOD research and development and engineering services company.

**Joseph Powers ‘85** is a senior software engineer for Nexterna in Omaha, NE.

**Lisa (Stittsworth) Rothgeb ‘89** travels nationally and internationally as a product manager/technical designer with The Mark Group in Boca Raton,FL.

**Jeffrey Becker ‘89** is a drug counselor for National Specialty Clinics in Cincinnati, OH.

**Carrie (Deshler) Brown ‘89** is an emergency room nurse at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa in Mason City, IA, and teaches CPR classes through the Regional Health Education Center.

**Dave Wempen ‘89** has been named principal at Hampton-Dumont Middle School in Hampton, IA. He was previously a middle school principal in the Ames Community School District.

1990s and 2000s

**Tom Meyer ‘90** has a private law office in Mason City, IA, and is a part-time assistant county attorney for Worth County. He and his wife, **Cindy (Greiman) Meyer ‘90**, have 4 daughters.

**Luke Marzen ‘92** teaches geography at Auburn University.

**Nicole Acosta ‘93** of Orlando, FL, earned her master’s degree in Library Studies from Florida State University and is a librarian for the Orange County Library System.

**Mason Harms ‘94** is the controller/ senior accountant at Waldorf College in Forest City, IA.

**Julie Reindl ‘96** has joined Rye Realty of Mason City, IA. She is also a placement specialist at the North Iowa Vocational Center.

**Jay Beringer ‘97** is attending the University of South Dakota and works at Davis Pharmacy in Vermillion,South Dakota.

**Matthew Upmeyer ‘97** works in Mexico City, Mexico, as a grain merchandiser in the oils division at Archer Daniels Midland.

**Craig Malone ‘00** is a client service associate for the Principal Financial Group in Des Moines,IA.

IN MEMORY

Alumni (by class)

- 1992 Gail Bailey, 45** of Rowan June 10,2001
- 1983 Larry LaGue, Jr., 38** of Forest City July 9, 2001
- 1968 Berlina Martin,87** of Mason City September 21, 2001
- 1955 Donna Worley, 67** of Mason City October 29, 2001

Former Staff/ Board Members and Other College Friends

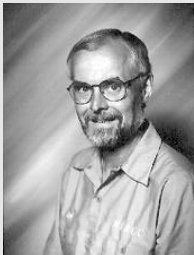
- Bernard Buckland, 71** of Mason City July 25, 2001
- Virginia Steneker, 88** of Mason City November 19, 2001

for alumni and friends of North Iowa Area Community College

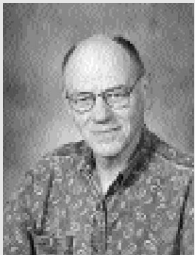
Giving Back

Thanks to Dr. Richard Snyder for his recent visit to NIACC! A biometeorologist at the University of California-Davis,Dr. Snyder took time to speak to science and agriculture classes during a return trip to North Iowa.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Recent Retirees! We will Miss You.



**Joe Borger**  
Building Maintenance  
14 years



**Harold Kuppinger**  
Electronics Technology  
Instructor  
22 years



**Melvin Brady**  
Custodian  
11 years