

# clarke college COURIER

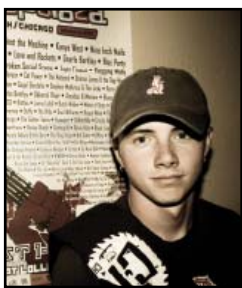
Sept. 18, 2008

dubuque, iowa

Vol. LXXXI

Issue No. One

## campus life



Spencer Tylin spent his summer at Lollapalooza.

## arts etc.



Summer movies at a glance.

## sports



Clarke's new golf coach is Rick Arrington.

## weather



High 75°  
Low 57°

# Burrows opposes drinking age change

**lacey reynolds**  
opinion editor

Recently, about 100 college presidents joined together to discuss the problem of binge drinking in colleges and universities. They issued a public statement to address the fact that the problem of irresponsible drinking still continues despite changing the legal drinking age from 18 to 21 in 1984.

These college presidents, some of whom are from the most prestigious schools in the nation including Duke, Dartmouth and Ohio State, have dubbed this movement the Amethyst Initiative. "Amethyst" is derived from the ancient Greek words "not intoxicated." The purple gemstone amethyst was used in drinking vessels and jewelry to ward off drunkenness and to promote moderation. The promoters of the Amethyst Initiative aim to do just that.

Despite recent talk of the Amethyst Initiative being a document that requests that government officials to lower the drinking age back down to 18, the actual document only asks only that officials "sup-

port an informed and dispassionate public debate on the effects of the 21-year-old drinking age and invite new ideas about the best ways to prepare young adults to make responsible decisions about alcohol."

Our very own Clarke College president, Joanne Burrows, OSF, received an invitation to sign the Amethyst Initiative three weeks before the fall semester began. Burrows said she doesn't plan on signing the initiative at this time.

"Drinking is absolutely a problem in our society," she says. "I think we need to talk about drinking problems as a nation, but changing the law is not the way to solve those problems."

The Amethyst Initiative argues that adults under 21 are allowed to vote, sign legally-binding contracts, serve on juries and enlist in the army, but are not considered mature enough to have



The Amethyst initiative suggests considering lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18. Only 129 of 4,216 U.S. colleges have signed the initiative.

a drink. Burrows believes this is a valid point, but that it is not reason enough to ask our officials to change the law.

"My biggest objection to the petition is that if I have to pick up my phone to call the federal government at all," says Burrows, "it should be about raising the amount of money given out for college loans and financial aid or about finding more interest for our nursing program, not about lowering the drinking age. Lowering the drinking age is not my highest priority."

Opposers of the Amethyst Initiative have accused college presidents who support the initiative of taking the easy way out. They believe that colleges have decided if the students won't obey the law, the law should be changed.

Burrows does not agree because she feels most presidents of colleges and universities are educated and kind people who are only trying to help their students. However, she adds, "Lowering the drinking age will most likely cause more

Continued on page 5

# Breathe easy with new smoking policy

**emily ludovissy**  
staff writer

Going Green has been the new fad all around the world and especially at Clarke; from the trayless lunch rooms to saving paper with the new online Blackboard system. It doesn't stop there; on July 1 last summer the Smoke Free Air Act which regulates smoking in public places became a law. In addition to the act,

Clarke has also decided to go tobacco free, which means the use of any tobacco products is prohibited in college-owned buildings and on college property. Clarke College takes on the responsibility for providing a safe and healthy environment to the community, along with the Iowa Smoke Free Air Act, the tobacco free policy at Clarke is designed to expose the hazards of tobacco

use, make a healthy environment for everyone on the campus, and to model respect to human dignity, personal wellness and stewardship for the environment.

Clarke's buildings are smoke free but the law extends these areas to the whole campus. There is much debate about the new law but it is being accepted and there are many



positive attitudes at Clarke. "These are changes that we feel positively impact the health of our campus community," said Mike Cyze, executive director of communication at Clarke. "I've heard from

a number of students, faculty and staff members who feel this is a welcome change not only for Clarke, but for the entire state of Iowa."

Smoking is not allowed on the grounds of the campus, which includes buildings, parking lots and

sidewalks. Even with the huge restrictions there have been no cases reported of violations to the security department. If anyone is found in violation of the new act or the tobacco free policy there would be a \$100 fine.

The new act works in many ways, by prohibiting smoking but also giving people more of an incentive to stop smoking, because now a

reason to quit," said Dominick Jackson, a junior history and education major. "Now with the new law, it is a great incentive for me to do so because it was now illegal for me to smoke anywhere on campus, to me, a cigarette was just not worth the tickets that they hand out".

Anyone who would like help quitting visit [www.iowasmokefreeair](http://www.iowasmokefreeair).

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the friends and family of the University of Dubuque students Cory Alsip and Grant Vogt who were involved in a plane crash while piloting a UD plane on Sept. 4. Our deepest sympathies go to the family of Grant Vogt who passed away on September 9. We wish Cory Alsip a speedy recovery. Alsip is currently at the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison. Anyone interested in donating gifts to the families can send their gifts to Friends of Grant and Cory, c/o Dubuque Bank and Trust, 1398 Central Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52001.



September, 18 2008

## 'By the people'?

# Electoral College has power to overrule popular vote

**lacey reynolds**  
opinion editor

Who are you voting for when you step into the voting booth in November? If you are thinking Barack Obama or John McCain, you are not exactly right. Unfortunately, it's just not that simple.

By choosing Obama or McCain as your choice for president, you are actually choosing an elector for your state's Electoral College. That elector is then responsible for voting for your chosen candidate. So technically, you will be voting for a nameless representative.

The Electoral College was first formed because the government believed that the United States consisted of illiterate and uneducated people. The general belief was that people were not informed about political issues and therefore could not form an educated decision on which candidate they wanted for president.

This is clearly not the case now, though. We all have access to television, the Internet, radio and newspapers that inform us about political issues so there is no reason for the

government to believe that we are any less informed about our government than the electors we vote for.

However, the Electoral College is still functioning today. It is extremely important that all citizens understand how the electors are chosen and how this affects the outcome of the election.

Each state receives the same amount of electors as it has representatives in the House of Representatives and Congress. For example, Iowa has five representatives in the House and two in the Senate to equal seven electoral votes.

Political parties nominate electors at their state party conventions, or the party's central committee votes for the electors. The U.S. Constitution states that "no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office or Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector." Now, I'm not trying to assume anything here, but I think that qualifies most of the students here at Clarke. However, electors are often party leaders, elected officials or someone who has



an affiliation with the candidate, whether it be personal or political.

The next step is yours. Whether the electors' names appear on the ballot below their corresponding candidate or not, your vote is not a direct vote for a presidential candidate; it is instead a vote for a person who is *supposed to* vote for your choice of presidential candidate.

What do I mean "*supposed to*" you ask? Electors pledge to vote for a certain candidate, but theoretically, they are allowed to vote for whomever they choose. In fact, this problem, which has come to be known

as the "faithless elector," has been a consistent problem in the U.S. for years. Overall, there have been 157 faithless electoral votes. Seventy-one of those votes were changed because the candidate died before the voting day. However, the remaining 82 votes were changed on the personal prerogative of the electors.

The Supreme Court allows states to require that their electors do indeed vote for the candidate of their designated party. But surprisingly, 21 states, including Iowa, Illinois and Minnesota, still do not require their electors to be 100 percent faithful. The remaining 29 states, including Wisconsin and Michigan, that do enforce faithfulness have very small punishments such as \$1,000 fines and misdemeanors to deter their electors from straying from their pledge. And despite the existence of those punishments, they are very rarely enforced.

Continued on page 8

## Getting an absentee ballot is easy: Here's how

**kim brooks**  
editor

Many political sources, such as CNN and VoteSmart.com, have been quoted as saying that in this year's presidential election, the biggest age group to make or break the votes are college-aged students and young adults. But, is this age group really going to vote?

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, people all over the country will go out and vote at their precincts. They can do this easily being as they live in those areas. College students are at a bit of a disadvantage. Going home during the day on a Tuesday is hard to do with a full class schedule and homework, not to mention gas prices.

One method to get young people to vote that's growing in popularity is absentee ballots. If people aren't present in their home town on Election Day, they can apply for an absentee ballot. Many ser-

vice people who are serving their country overseas vote absentee.

Now that you know you qualify for an absentee ballot, there are a few steps to take to actually get one sent to you. An easy way is to go to [www.rockthevote.com](http://www.rockthevote.com) or [www.declareyourself.com](http://www.declareyourself.com). You can also get a ballot by writing, faxing or

Sign Up for a Ballot at these Web Sites  
[www.rockthevote.com](http://www.rockthevote.com)  
[www.declareyourself.com](http://www.declareyourself.com)

calling your county auditor at your county courthouse. If you are unable to apply in person, a direct family member can apply for you instead. You must apply for an ab-

sentee ballot no later than noon the day before the election.

One important thing to remember when filling out your absentee ballot request is to include the address where you want your ballot sent. For college students, the address to request is your campus address.

Ballots are usually mailed up to three weeks before the day of the election. Ballots have to be post-marked before the date of the election to be counted. For those who live far away from their states, it might take mail a few days to reach its destination. In this case, the absentee ballot must be received by noon the Monday after the election.

You can also take your absentee ballot into the auditor's office in person. This needs to be done prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

Should you chose not to use your

absentee ballot and decide to go home instead and vote (because let's be honest, it's fun to be able to push those buttons), your absentee ballot still needs to be returned to your county auditor for official government purposes.

"Due to a heavy class schedule, I plan on voting by absentee ballot," said senior, history major Kristine Mullen. "There's no point in doing a change of residence just to vote here in Dubuque County being as this is my last year here."

### From the Editors...

Kim Brooks and Courtney Townsend



Hello Clarke students, faculty and staff! Welcome back to another semester at Clarke. The Courier is a student-produced newspaper for the Clarke community. We will be here keeping you updated on the latest happenings and news on campus, in Dubuque and nationwide. Our paper is your paper, so please, if you have any suggestions or opinions, let us know. We would love to hear from you. Send your letters to the editors to [kim.brooks@clarke.edu](mailto:kim.brooks@clarke.edu) or [courtney.townsend@clarke.edu](mailto:courtney.townsend@clarke.edu).

clarke courier

## clarke college COURIER

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The Courier is a student-produced newspaper for the Clarke community. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions for the faculty, staff or administration of the college. The Courier welcomes input from members of the Clarke Community. Please send comments to MS 1801, Clarke College. Letters must be signed and may be edited for content and length.

Sept. 18, 2008

## Clarke student rocks out at Lollapalooza

ali herbst  
staff writer

When you think of a summer job, do you think loud music, free merchandise and watching Kanye West play ping pong? Clarke senior communication major Spencer Tylin experienced all these things while getting paid to do so. He spent two weeks of his summer devoted to “Lollapalooza,” a three-day music festival held yearly in Chicago.

This year over 90 musical artists performed in Grant Park to celebrate the 45th year of “Lollapalooza.” The concerts took place August 1-3 and highlighted bands such as Radiohead, Nine Inch Nails, Dierks Bentley and many more.

Spencer was invited to work this event for the second time by Kevin Cray, a senior at the University of Dubuque who has been one of

Spencer’s good friends since high school. They were hired through Rob Cray, Inc., which is owned by Cray’s uncle. The Naperville, Ill. company is hired by a corporation in Texas to ensure the proper set up and tear down for “Lollapalooza” each year.

As one of about twenty members on the site operations crew, Spencer was making a cool \$15 an hour. He began work one week before the festival kicked off. His responsibilities were to set up and maintain the tables, tents, trailers, signs, fences and more. He was required to be at the festival from 8 a.m. until midnight on the days the bands played. He also worked from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. for five days following the conclusion of the event.

Spencer was one of the few to set up artists’ trailers such as those for



photo by ali herbst

Senior Spencer Tylin shows off the skateboard he received while working at Lollapalooza this summer.

Kanye West and Rage Against the Machine. As if setting up the trailers wasn’t enough, Spencer also got to meet Perry Farrell, the front man for Jane’s Addiction and the creator of “Lollapalooza.”

“I helped set up his trailer,” Spencer said. “He would complain a lot about the set-up and change his mind about how he wanted it. We had to move things around about three or four times. It was extremely annoying.”

On the crew’s downtime, they were allowed to enjoy the live bands.

“One major perk of working this event was the all-access passes that each of us were given,” said Spencer. “I watched Brand New and Flogging Molly from backstage. It was a once in a lifetime experience to be able to watch great bands

from backstage while getting paid to do so.”

On top of the free range passes, the Lolla crew also received catered meals and free merchandise such as shirts, skateboards and hats.

There were drawbacks. “My days were very long,” Spencer said. “We were working 12-16 hours a day and I had to commute an hour each way.”

“Also, after the event, some homeless people slept in some of the trailers that were accidentally left unlocked. Unfortunately for us, the plumbing had already been shut off and the next day we had to manually flush out the toilets.”

“As much fun as it was, I don’t think I would do it again,” said Spencer. “It was a great college experience, but made me realize how glad I am to be earning a degree.”

## Clarke prof has tale of courage

dave tucker  
& e editor

It takes a lot of courage to stand up in front of an auditorium full of people. Luckily, courage happened to be the topic of Assistant Professor of Education Michele Vosberg’s speech. And wouldn’t you know it, from the moment she rose from her seat, she carefully arranged a pair of ruby red shoes on the podium and then stood faced her audience confidently.

Vosberg was keynote speaker Wednesday Sept. 10 at Clarke College’s Convocation ceremony, an event held at the beginning of every fall semester in hopes of welcoming and usher-

ing in the new freshmen students. This, the 166th academic year, was celebrated with a tree planting held afterwards, as well as a college-wide picnic.

But before all that, the event was kicked off by Vosberg who proudly stated that this was her 27th year as an educator and her 13th year at Clarke, jokingly admitting that she “entered school at four years old and haven’t stopped going since.”

Enthusiastic about learning from

a young age, Vosberg described herself as a “bookworm,” with multiple college degrees to back it up. However, she explained that as a child, people in her world didn’t place a whole lot of importance on education. “It was never an expectation for me to go to college,” she recalled, “but I desperately wanted to go.”

And while Vosberg would never describe herself as courageous, as illustrated by a failed attempt on the high-dive during her youth, she understood even then that sending in her college application took guts.

While her mother pushed her to go to a technical school to become a nurse, Vosberg remembered thinking that she was interested in Hemingway and Shakespeare, not nursing. It was around this time that she understood the meaning of what she called, “True courage,” which was, “doing whatever it takes to become the person you’re meant to be.”

To follow her dream, Vosberg had to travel somewhere new and different. “Somewhere over the rainbow,” she said, and then all at once the ruby slippers on the podium made sense.

Arriving at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, she felt a bit like Dorothy from “The Wizard of Oz.” “No longer in Kansas,” she was surprised to see that there were more people living in her dorm than the entire population of her home town. Still, she realized that despite her fears of this strange new world, if she was interested in learning, she “had to go where the books were.”

Much like the traditional hero in the literary works she loved,

Vosberg faced her share of trials and tests, complete with many dangers and helpers along the way. Despite all that she faced however, she came out victorious.

“College is more than preparation for a job; it’s preparation for life.” And despite spending most of her schooling tired and broke, it was her courage and her persistence for knowledge that helped her push through to arrive where she is today.

Vosberg ended with a proposal to the students in the audience, each and every one of them on a quest of their own. “Be the hero of your own life,” she said. “And while ultimately the choice is yours, in the words of Virgil the poet, ‘Fortune favors the brave.’”



photo by Clarke Marketing and Communication

Michele Vosberg, assistant professor of education and teacher of the year, was the feature speaker at Convocation on Sept. 10.



photo by kim brooks

### Clarke’s Constitution Day

Aaron Ciaburri, senior history major; Devon Cowans, senior history and sociology major and TJ Kirsch, junior history and philosophy major took part in a public forum on a Supreme Court case-- the District of Columbia vs. Heller--at Clarke’s “Constitutional Crossfire.” The event, which took place on Sept. 15 and coincided with Constitution Day.

Sept. 18, 2008  
Giving the gift of learning

## Education students find their calling in Ecuador

heidi rhinehart  
campus life editor

This last summer, the education department had the rare opportunity. Shelia O'Brien, BVM, associate professor of language and literature asked them to come down to The Working Boys Center in Quito, Ecuador to help the teachers at the school to better reach the students. O'Brien was on leave from Clarke for the past two years helping out at the school. The education department is the first education group to visit The Working Boys Center and the result was truly memorable.

From May 12 - 21, 11 educa-

tion students and three faculty went down to The Working Boys Center. There, they began their work. The students and faculty worked with the faculty of the school to teach them new teaching methods that would help them better connect with the students. They brought down packets of materials for them and helped them learn

how to use the information that the Clarke Education Department provided them.

"These teachers needed our help," said Michele Vosberg, associate professor of education and coordinator of the trip.

"Our education department knew more about how to teach than the teachers there since these teachers are college educated but have no training in teaching methods. The teachers thought that some of the

students and staff at the Working Boys School do not speak English. Though they had to work through the language barrier, they found a way to get through to the teachers.

"At first, the language barrier seemed like a big deal, but by the end of the week, the students were conversing with the teachers and finding ways to communicate with them," said Larry Bice, education department chair.

About 100 Clarke education students worked together to prepare the materials for their trip. This included photocopying, laminating, translating,

and gathering materials, as well as raising money. Teachers for Tomorrow (the education club on campus) wrapped presents at the mall during Christmas time to raise money.

While in Quito, besides working at the school, the education students and faculty toured the barrios, or impoverished areas, of Quito and

“When you see plastic for a roof, cardboard for walls, five feet tall houses, you appreciate what you have, even if it’s a dorm room.”

students were unteachable, but in 15 minutes, we had the students engaged. Some of the children have special needs and just needed a different approach.”

One of the hardest parts of the trip for the visitors was the language barrier that they faced. Only three of the people from Clarke know Spanish and the



Clarke education majors Nichole Hoeflich and Dominick Jackson work with students in Ecuador this summer.

the marketplaces. These barrios left a lasting impression on those who went on the trip.

The homes were “houses smaller than my office, dirt floors, four to five people to a house,” said Bice.

Junior secondary education and history major Dominick Jackson added, “When you see plastic for a roof, cardboard for walls, five feet tall houses, you appreciate what you have, even if it’s a dorm room.”

This trip solidified the calling to

teach for many people involved.

“When we were down there, we got thrown into teaching and we just did it,” said Dominick. “It proved to us that we were meant to be teachers, even with the language barriers.”

Bice said, “Many students want to return to the school for a long term commitment.”

Dominick said, “We did so much for that school in a week, I want to see what I could do in a year.”

## Choir members trace BVM history in Ireland

heidi rhinehart  
campus life editor



From left to right: Emily Nelson, Bridget Kelley, Brandee Huston, and Regina Neenan dancing an Irish jig on the Clarke choir's trip to Ireland this summer.

This summer 29 students from the Clarke Collegiate and Cantabile Singers took off from O'Hare Airport to begin their Irish experience on a 10-day concert tour.

Starting in Dublin on May 14, the two choirs, led by Francis Vogt, Clarke assistant professor of music and LaDonna Manternach, BVM, music department chair, traveled from city to city performing

total of five concerts across Ireland.

“The tour gave the students an opportunity to refine their skills, connect with people and experience the trip of a lifetime,” said Manternach.

Vogt said, “The students recognized the value in the trip. For some of them it was their first trip overseas and it was a good introduction to international experiences with people of similar, but

different cultures.”

The choir had the opportunity to see many famous sights in Ireland. One of their most memorable destinations was to St. Michan's Catholic Church, the same church that Mary Frances Clarke, the founder of the BVM order,

worshiped at while living in Ireland. The choirs were so moved by the experience that they gave an impromptu performance.

“It was surreal to go to a place of worship where the founder of our college was from,” said Jessica Lange, junior nursing student. “You could just feel the presence as soon as you stepped into the church.”

Another rare experience the choir had was taking a trip to the Lord Mayor of Dublin's mansion house. They had tea and cookies with the Deputy Lord Mayor and performed a concert there as well.

While at the Lord Mayor's mansion, the choirs presented him

with gifts from Clarke, including two books about Clarke, a recording from the music department and an icon of Mary Frances Clarke prepared by Louise Kames, art department chair.

“I am one of the few people that can say I met and had tea with the Lord Mayor of Dublin,” said Jessica. “Performing for him was an honor.”

“It was surreal to go to a place of worship where the founder of our college was from. You could just feel the presence as soon as you stepped into the church.”

Manternach said, “It was a real privilege to perform there because most people do not see the inside of the mansion. They do not do tours.”

The choirs also had the opportunity to perform at the Rose Concert, an AIDS benefit concert sponsored by the St. Mary's Parish in Lucan, Ireland. The proceeds for the concert went towards The Rose Project, an organization dedicated to fighting the AIDS epidemic in

Africa. Clarke's choirs, along with St. Mary's Parish, St. Mary's Youth Choir and an instrumental group, sang the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” together.

“Being able to sing for a great cause was rewarding,” said Jessica. “We were able to use our talent to help benefit others in a way that words or donations may not have affected them.”

The trip was a success and the students agreed it was a great experience.

“Ireland was a trip of a lifetime,” Jessica said. “I am glad and thankful that Clarke gave me the opportunity to travel and see different parts of the world, as well as different cultures. I feel blessed to have been a part of a wonderful experience that led to me making new friends across the world, friends I will never forget about.”

Sept. 18, 2008

## Clarke to host Animal Planet's Jeff Corwin



**justin curry**  
staff writer

The roaring of the audience might not be the only roar you hear at Jeff Corwin's Oct. 5 lecture at Clarke. Corwin will be using eight different animals in his presentation.

Jeff Corwin is not only an Emmy-winning wildlife expert, he is an infamous jack of all trades, an author of many books, and an executive producer of two shows on Animal Planet, including one

which he hosts, "The Jeff Corwin Experience."

Corwin will be our visiting lecturer for the 11th annual Mackin-Mailander Lecture Series at the Kehl Center. This lecture will not only educate Clarke students, but will be an event for the whole Dubuque community.

Jamie Specht, director of marketing at Clarke, said that ticket sales on and off campus have clearly ri-

valed last year's Mackin-Mailander Lecture with film star Danny Glover. This year's homecoming theme is "The World is our Responsibility" and the lecture will be the finale to our homecoming weekend. Corwin has been working on the protection of endangered species and ecosystems around the world since he was a teenager, so this lecture is sure to be filled with unique and phenomenal experiences.

"I have been watching his show before I even went to Clarke, I am very excited to see him in person," said junior Lee Roe.

Every Clarke student can receive a free ticket at the front desk of the Atrium, and an additional ticket will cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for students and children.

### Did you know...?

If you keep a goldfish in the dark room, it will eventually turn white!

<http://www.redbrick.dcu.ie/~me/facts.html>

## 2008 Clarke Homecoming Events

### Sun., Sept. 28: Pageant Day

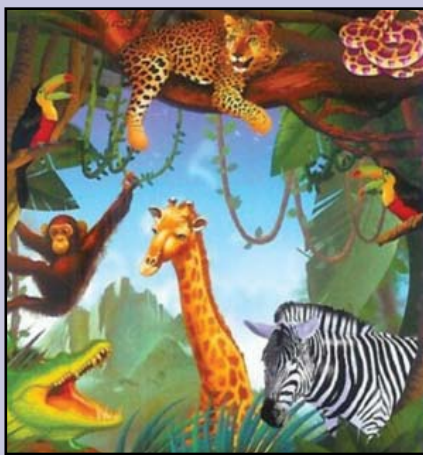
• Mr. Clarke Guy Pageant in Student Activities Center, 7 p.m.

the soccer field, 6 p.m.

• Glow in the Dark Flag Football in the area above the soccer field, 8 p.m.

### Mon., Sept. 29: PJ Day

• Bean Bag Tournament & Ice Cream Social on front lawn of MJH, 6 p.m.



### Thurs., Oct. 2: Blue & Gold Day

• Pep Rally in the Kehl Center, 7 p.m.

### Fri., Oct., 3: Movie Star Day

• Drive in Movie in the Atrium front lawn at dusk

### Sat., Oct. 4: Gold Out Day

- COPST Fun Run in front of the Kehl Center, 9 a.m.
- BBQ on the hill, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Homecoming Dance at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

### Tues., Sept. 30: Twin Day

• Texas Hold'em Tournament in Student Activities Center, 6:30 p.m.

### Wed., Oct. 1: Sports Day

• Powder Puff Football in the area above



### Drinking age, continued from page 1

problems for colleges because of the destructive behavior that occurs because of drinking. There will be more destruction to deal with because everyone will legally be allowed to drink."

Burrows does not believe that there is any reason to worry about the law being changed any time soon. Of the total 4,216 colleges and universities in the United States, only 129 have signed the

Amethyst Initiative at this point.

Clarke College is not taking a stand on the issue at this time because Burrows believes this is not an issue to be decided on in haste. So far, she has received nothing but positive feedback about her stance from members of the Dubuque community as well as members of the faculty at Clarke College.

## Media Watch

**aaron rhomberg**  
sports editor

	What CD are you listening to right now?	What book is on your nightstand?	What is the last movie you saw?	What is your favorite TV show?
<b>Eric Boldger-- Sophomore Communications Major</b>	Match Box 20 "Mad Season"	"Wizards First Rule"	"The Dark Knight"	"Supernatural"
<b>Hannah Rhomberg-- Freshman Nursing Major</b>	Nightwish "Once"	"Lovely Bones"	"Remember the Titans"	"Family Guy"
<b>Pamela Steffensmeier--Freshman Business Major</b>	Sara Evans "Greatest Hits"	"Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants"	"High School Musical"	"Greek"
<b>Molly McCormick-- Sophomore Communications Major</b>	Lil Wayne "Tha Carter III"	"Gossip Girls"	"Cruel Intentions"	"The Hills"



[www.disney-clipart.com](http://www.disney-clipart.com), [www.thehollywoodnews.com](http://www.thehollywoodnews.com),  
[www.tvguide.com](http://www.tvguide.com), [www.therundown.tv](http://www.therundown.tv)

Sept. 18, 2008

# What you should have been watching:

ben jacobson  
staff writer

A review of this summer's biggest blockbuster movies



The days are getting shorter, the nights are getting colder and my nose is getting runnier. This can only mean summer is coming to an end. While many would see the freedom of summer months as an opportunity to do productive things like pick up a few extra credits or participate in healthy athletic events, I chose to spend my time off eating Sour Patch Kids and watching movies. While my vacation habits won't better prepare me for graduation or do anything to improve my physical well-being, they have qualified me to fill you more ambitious individuals in on what you might have missed.

We'll start out with the 800-pound gorilla of the summer, "The Dark Knight." TDK is the most commercially successful film of the season as well as being one of the most

critically acclaimed. This is all for good reason as TDK is the film equivalent of Taco Bell's Grilled Stuff Burrito. Extremely satisfying, surprisingly filling for such a low price, and it may even constipate you a little. The big surprise of the movie was Heath Ledger's performance as the Joker, which more than lived up to the hype and may earn him a posthumous academy award. And the scene with the Joker's "pencil trick" will go down as one of the most memorable moments in movie history, right up there with that part from Joe Dirt where David Spade gets covered in feces.

"Iron Man" was the premier movie for Marvel Comics in house production company. The thrilling superhero origin movie was made much more entertaining by Robert Downey Jr. who does a good job of making a womanizing, alcoholic arms monger seem likeable. The actions scenes, in my opinion, were too few and far between, but that can be expected in an origin tale, as much of the film must be devoted to exposition.

"Wall-E" proved to be another success for Pixar, even though the movie is about a mute robot that plays with garbage all day. While the futuristic parable about man's laziness and slobishness may have a nice message and an admittedly cute protagonist, I'm of the firm belief that children's movies should be 90 percent fart jokes and 10 percent crazy action sequences. But the majority of the population must disagree as Wall-E became the best reviewed movie of the summer according to rottentomatoes.com.

George Lucas revamped another of his classic series with "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." It turned out to be pretty enjoyable, despite the fact that Harrison Ford is 66 and is not especially

believable as an action hero. The film also stars Shia Leouf, who is normally quite likeable but is rather irritating here as Indy's "rebellious," greaser son who is inexplicably adept at sword fighting and swings on vines, monkey-style. While the extraterrestrial aspects of the film irked some, I found it quite fitting with the supernatural themes of past movies. The freaking Ark of the Covenant melts Nazis in the first movie. Why are aliens so unbelievable?

"Tropic Thunder" surprised me as it didn't completely suck. Who would have thought that the product of a collaboration between Ben Stiller, Jack Black and Tom Cruise would be anything more than an unwatchable mess? Maybe it was Robert Downey Jr. in another excellent performance as a white Australian method actor who has his skin darkened to play a black soldier that made the movie so enjoyable. My brother and I have gotten into the annoying habit of quoting him at every possible opportunity. Any time anybody mentions farming, we are both forced by our lameness to say that we are "lead farmers" and then follow up that proclomation with a rather severe expletive. Tom Cruise is getting a lot of credit for his portrayal of a foul-mouthed, overweight film producer, but the only remarkable aspect of his performance was that it was not the sort of character he usually plays. That doesn't make it special. It just makes Cruise slightly less annoying.

Audiences finally proved that they are tired of Jason Friedberg's and Aaron Seltzer's annual insult to American intelligence. The dimly received "Disaster Movie" will hopefully be the final nail in the coffin of what I refer to as the "Abomination Movie" series that also includes "Date Movie", "Epic

Movie" and "Meet the Spartans." I didn't see "Disaster Movie," but after suffering irreparable brain damage from viewing "Meet the Spartans," I just couldn't risk it. I feel the previews speak for themselves. If you pay to see this movie, you are doing your country a great injustice.

Unfortunately, I don't have the space to cover the other big movies of the summer, such as the mediocre "Incredible Hulk," the excellent "Pineapple Express," the surprisingly entertaining "Wanted," and the awful "Clone Wars". Fortunately, many of these movies are still in theaters, so if you feel so inclined, check them out for yourself.



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**THE OFFICE** Season Four- The funniest sitcom on TV hit shelves this month. Despite being cut short by the writer's strike, the show more than makes up for it with its usual brand of humor, not to mention several hour-long episodes and deleted scenes that are actually worth your time.

**"DEXTER"** The Second Season- Blood-spatter analyst by day and serial killer by night, Dexter Morgan (Michael C. Hall) is the star of Showtime's ever popular drama as he tries to juggle a normal life with the homicidal urges that plague his consciousness.

**"HEROES"** Season Two- Another series that was unfortunately

cut short due to the strike. Season two had a hard time living up to the critical hype generated by the first season. Still, if you're a fan of the show, it's a must-see, not to mention the fact that the third season, focusing primarily on the villains, is due to premier September 22.

**"BABY MAMA"**- Saturday Night Live alums Tina Fey and Amy Poehler star in this comedy about a woman trying desperately to get pregnant (Fey), and the surrogate mother (Poehler) who agrees to bear her child. I've heard a lot of good things about it, but as someone who despises "30 Rock" and can't stand Amy Poehler, I'll probably skip this one.

**"THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM"**- Jackie Chan and Jet Li team up to... well, kick stuff and do a bunch of insane stunts. For kung-fu fans, this is like ambrosia, for everyone else... what else is on?

**"88 MINUTES"**- Al Pacino continues his acting style that just so happens to look and sound like someone doing a bad Al Pacino impersonation. Like previous films before it, (most notably "High Noon") the movie creates suspense by making the action take place in real time. Pacino receives a death threat and he must track down and confront the person responsible, all within, you guessed it, 88 minutes.

**"SPEED RACER"**- From the

## Now on DVD...

dave tucker  
a & e editor

gripping and erotic heist film "Bound," to the fantastic "Matrix" trilogy, to the brilliantly produced "V For Vendetta"... to "Speed Racer". The Wachowski Brothers blow a pretty flawless film streak with this silly, live-action adaptation of the popular cartoon. If you were a fan of the show as a kid, I'm sure you'll want to check it out. I, on the other hand, was not, and will not.

**"IRON MAN"** (Sept 30)- The only superhero film of the summer worthy of stacking up alongside "The Dark Knight." Robert Downey Jr. is pitch perfect as Tony Stark, the billionaire industrialist who develops a conscience as well as a high tech, fully armed suit of armor. More fun than "Dark Knight," and definitely the best Marvel comic adaptation yet.

**"FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL"** (Sept 30)- The latest from the folks who brought us

"Knocked Up" and "Superbad," Judd Apatow and his crew are quickly becoming the best comedy team we've seen in years. Expect the usual crude humor and filthy dialogue, paired with the appropriate amount of heart-warming morality.



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clarke courier

Sept. 18, 2008

## Golf and women's volleyball fall sports preview

aaron rhomberg  
sports editor

### Golf

This fall sports season, Clarke College will no longer have a tennis team. Athletic Director Curt Long explained that there are a few reasons why the tennis team was disbanded.

"In general, the decline of the number of members for the team was one of the main reasons," said

Long. "This particular reason is a common one with most sports. If interest begins to decline, then it becomes harder for college sports to remain relevant."

A result of this tough decision is that tennis coach Rick Arrington is now the head coach for the golf team. "He is able to transfer his skills from tennis to golf; it's great to have him there," Long said.

### Women's Volleyball

Chris Miron, coach of the women's volleyball team, is looking forward to another great season for his team. He has a large number of returning players who will be at their peak performance.

"They were coming off one of the best years in Clarke history," said Miron.

He feels that both the returning and incoming athletes will have an important role in helping achieve

goals that he has in store for the season.

While there are several goals Miron hopes the team will accomplish, he has three main goals that he feels his team will be able to meet.

"I want to beat the season winning percentage and match goals total, upsetting a nationally ranked team, and finally finish either first or second during the regular season conference play," said Miron. To most, these would seem like difficult tasks, but Miron



The Women's Volleyball Team: Brittany Batteram, Hannah Grow, Heather Jansen, Kylee Miller, Abby Nauman, Raychel Nicks, Shelly Reittinger, Erin Scheiber, Rachel Scully, Ashley Shields, Carissa Vietmeier, Keri West and Tina Zielinski. Coaches are Chris Miron and Joe Collier.

believes his team has the tools to achieve greatness.

However, before the goals are met there are a few things that the team needs to work on during training.

"One of our biggest focuses in practice right now is ball control,"

said Miron. "We are constantly working on putting the first ball into target." Offensively he feels that they are strong and are able to take control of the game early on. "If the

team members have control over the practice and fix what needs to be corrected, then the women's team appears to be unstoppable," he said.



Rick Arrington  
Head golf coach

## Fall sports schedule: volleyball, soccer, cross country & golf

### Women's Volleyball

- Sept. 19: Clarke Tournament, Home, 4 p.m.
- Sept. 19: Clarke Tournament, Home, 8 p.m.
- Sept. 20: Saturday Clarke Tournament, Home, 10 a.m.
- Sept. 20: Clarke Tournament, Home, 2 p.m.
- Sept. 24: Waldorf College, Away, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27: Finlandia University, Away 1 p.m.
- Sept. 27: Edgewood College, Away, 3 p.m.
- Sept. 30: William Penn University, Home, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3: Calumet at Ashford Tournament, Away, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 3: Avila at Ashford Tournament, Away, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 4: Robert Morris at Ashford Tournament, Away, 11 a.m.
- Oct. 4: Graceland at Ashford Tournament, Away, 3 p.m.
- Oct. 8: Mt. Mercy College, Away, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14: Grand View College, Home, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15: St. Ambrose University, Home, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Loras College, Away, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Macalester College, Away, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 18: College of St. Catherine, Away, noon
- Oct. 18: University of Dubuque, Away, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 21: Beloit College, Away, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 24: Clarke Tournament, Home, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 24: Clarke Tournament, Home, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 25: Clarke Tournament, Home, 10 a.m.
- Oct. 25: Clarke Tournament, Home, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 28: St. Ambrose University, Home, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 3: Ashford University, Away, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 6: MCC Play-in, TBA, 7 p.m.

- Nov. 8: MCC Quarterfinals, TBA, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 12: MCC Semifinals, TBA, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15: MCC Championship, TBA, 7 p.m.

### Men's Golf

- Sept. 22: Briar Cliff Invite at Dakota Dunes CC, 11 a.m.
- Sept. 23: Briar Cliff Invite at Green Valley GC, TBA
- Sept. 28: Clarke Oktoberfest at Thunder Hills CC, 11 a.m.
- Sept. 29: Clarke Oktoberfest at Thunder Hills CC, 9 a.m.
- Oct. 5: Viterbo Invite at La Crosse CC, TBA
- Oct. 6: Viterbo Invite at La Crosse CC, TBA
- Oct. 13: MCC Tournament at Finkbine GC, 9 a.m.
- Oct. 14: MCC Tournament at Finkbine GC, 9 a.m.

### Women's Golf

- Sept. 20: St. Ambrose Fall Classic at Eldridge, 10 a.m.
- Sept. 21: St. Ambrose Fall Classic at Davenport, 10:30 a.m.
- Sept. 22: Clarke Invitational at Peosta, 10 a.m.
- Oct. 11: Practice Round at Thunder Hills CC, after noon
- Oct. 12: MCC Tournament - Round 1 at Thunder Hills, 11:30 a.m.
- Oct. 13: MCC Tournament - Round 2 at Thunder Hills, 9 a.m.

### Men's Soccer

- Sept. 20: Waldorf College, Away, 3 p.m.
- Sept. 27: William Penn University, Away, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1: Viterbo, Away, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 4: St. Ambrose, Home, 3 p.m.

- Oct. 7: Mount Mercy College, Home, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 11: Grand View College, Home, 3 p.m.
- Oct. 15: Iowa Wesleyan College, Home, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Macalester College, Away, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 18: Augsburg College, Away, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21: UW - Oshkosh, Away, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 25: Ashford University, Away, 3 p.m.

### Women's Soccer

- Sept. 20: Waldorf College, Away, 1 p.m.
- Sept. 27: William Penn University, Away, 5 p.m.
- Oct. 1: Viterbo, Away, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 4: St. Ambrose, Home, 1 p.m.
- Oct. 7: Mount Mercy College, Home, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 11: Grand View College, Home, 1 p.m.
- Oct. 15: Iowa Wesleyan College, Home, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 17: University of St. Thomas, Away, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 19: Augsburg College, Away, noon p.m.
- Oct. 21: UW - Oshkosh, Away, 5 p.m.
- Oct. 25: Ashford University, Away, 1 p.m.

### Men and Women's Cross Country

- Oct. 3: Grand View Viking Invite in Des Moines, 5 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Loras in Dubuque, 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 25: Graceland Invite in Lamoni, 10 a.m.
- Nov. 8: MCC Championships in Des Moines, 10 a.m.
- Nov. 22: NAIA Championships in Kenosha, Wis., 10:30 a.m.

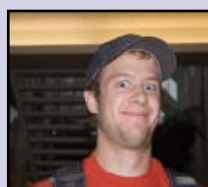
## On the Streets

kristina nestby  
staff writer

What were your favorite and least favorite Olympic events?



Chris Kruse--Senior computer science major: My favorite event was soccer. It's like playing a game of chess: The players move and interact on the field to achieve a combined success instead of individual. My least favorite event was wrestling because I'm not interested in it.



Nate Smith--Junior graphic design major: The marathon was my favorite event because I like to watch running events. Of the events I saw, my least favorite was diving. I didn't know anything about it.



Alex Honigsblum--Sophomore spanish major: Swimming was probably my favorite because there was a lot of competition. Although I am fond of baseball, I thought that the diamond built for the 2008 Olympics was very ugly. From the point of the view of the camera, it was garishly bright and hard on the eyes if you looked at it for too long.



Allison Padley--Senior theater drama/speech major: The marathon was my favorite event because I like to watch running events. Of the events I saw, my least favorite was diving. I didn't know anything about it.

Sept. 18, 2008

## On Other Campuses

**courtney townsend**  
editor



### A&M helps NASA

Texas A & M students worked with NASA to develop a sensor that will hopefully help detect minute particles in space. A group of students from A & M submitted a proposal to NASA in October of 2007. The students, who are part of a group called the Space Engineering Institute (SEI) Materials Team at A & M, flew in a zero gravity chamber at NASA to test if their sensor would work in space.

### Goodbye ACT, SAT

Wake Forest University in North Carolina recently decided to make ACT or SAT scores optional for applying students. Because Wake Forest is one of the top 30 universities in the nation, it's unprecedented to allow students with average or below average test scores the chance to attend. Although submitting test scores will still be optional, the university will base students' acceptance on personal interviews and high school grades.

### Wits free-for-all

The University of Southern California hosted its fourth annual capture the flag game: humanities against science. Students majoring in humanities and in science, about 75 total, participate. The annual game is used as a test of wits between the liberal arts students and the science students.

## On This Day...

**Justin Curry**  
Staff Writer

### Birthday

- 1895 John Diefenbaker, Canadian Prime Minister
- 1971 Jada Pinkett, actress
- 1971 Lance Armstrong, cyclist
- 1973 James Marsden, actor

### Events

- 1837 - Tiffany and Co. is founded, known as a "stationery and fancy goods emporium"
- 1895 - Daniel David Palmer gives the first chiropractic adjustment.
- 1970 - Jimi Hendrix dies after choking on his own vomit.
- 1975 - Patty Hearst is arrested after a year on the FBI Most Wanted List.
- 1984 - Joe Kittinger completes first solo balloon crossing of the Atlantic.
- 2001 - First mailing of anthrax letters from Trenton, New Jersey in the 2001 anthrax attacks.
- 2007 - Buddhist monks join anti-government protesters in Myanmar starting what some call the Saffron Revolution

## Electoral College, continued from page 2

But do those unfaithful electors really make a difference when it comes to the big picture? History says yes. There have been four memorable elections so far that prove that electoral votes do have an impact on the outcome of elections.

In 1824, Andrew Jackson received more than 38,000 votes more than John Quincy Adams, but neither won a majority of the Electoral College. In the end, Adams walked into the White House after the House of Representatives took control of the election.

In 1876, Samuel Tilden won the popular vote by 264,000 votes, but Rutherford Hayes was awarded the presidency by a one vote margin of the Electoral College.

In 1888, Grover Cleveland won the popular vote by 95,713 votes, but Benjamin Harrison won the Electoral College by 65 votes, winning himself the election. However, most of Cleveland's support was from six states alone. In this case, the Electoral College worked as it was made to because it stopped one populated area of the nation from determining the entire election.

And then there was the 2000 election in which George W. Bush received 50,455,156 popular votes and Al Gore received 50,992,335 popular votes. In the end, Bush won Florida which accelerated his electoral votes to 271, beating Gore's 266 votes.

Many believe the Electoral College should be abolished so that the president is in fact a direct reflection of our votes as citizens of the United States. There is no longer a valid reason for the Electoral College to exist. With the way our voting system is set up now, there is no way to guarantee that our chosen candidate will be the one that our elector votes for in the end. Our votes that our ancestors have worked so hard to allow us to have the freedom to use, do not hold the merit they were meant to hold with the Electoral College system. The electors have the freedom to manipulate our choices. When it comes to presidential elections, our government is not truly formed "by the people" as we have been taught to believe.

## An Incoherent Mess

**dave tucker**  
a & e editor



clarke courier

## Math Mysteries

A man spent three-fourths of his money and then lost three-fourths of the remainder. He has \$6 left. How much money did he start with?



Courtesy of Clarke Math Club

Answer: \$96