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Banner News

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Denson's rainy day tour

Darin Longman
Banner Staff

Despite the obvious time constraints of the rigorous scheduling, and unremitting rain, on Nov. 3, Rob Denson, President of DMACC visited all six DMACC campuses as part of his “Whirlwind Tour.”

Denson had already visited the Carroll campus and had planned on making stops at every facility when he stopped by the Boone Campus at 10 a.m. Denson had joked that the tour should have been called the “Rainstorm Tour.”

Denson and his wife, Pat, began the Boone portion of the tour by boarding a van at the Boone Campus to visit the Materials Lab. Vivian Brandmeyer, Boone Campus executive dean, accompanied the group on this leg of the tour.

During the visit he met with Renee White, the Program Chair for Civil Engineering Tech/Land Surveying. White explained the dual monitors that were used on the computers in the room. Denson asked questions, a few times jotting a few notes on a piece of paper that he kept in his suit coat pocket.

“I am going to be like a sponge” he said, referring to all the information he was soaking up. He asked questions regarding everything from the full time/part time student ratio to COMPASS tests. But in his quest for knowledge, he still had time to answer questions about a midyear tuition increase, and the parking problem that has been plaguing the Boone Campus.

“I am not a big fan of a tuition increase at midyear. I will be resisting a midyear tuition increase, and the parking issue will also have to be addressed,” Pat Denson commented on how the campus was doing.

The final stop on the Boone campus was the gym. Salmon presented Denson and his wife with DMACC Bears’ jackets. “This has been a very open experience for us,” Pat Denson commented on how the tour was going. She also added that she hoped she and her husband would be able to attend the game scheduled that night.

Denson joked about the weather saying that if it stayed as cold as it was, that he and his wife would definitely be wearing their gifts.

Even though the day was dreary, Denson seemed to have a better forecast for the future at DMACC. When one student commented that the “Whirlwind Tour” should have been called the “Raining Down on DMACC Tour” Denson smiled and replied, “No, the sun always shines on DMACC.”

Denson also mentioned that she is very impressed with the set crew. “We have four women and they are all doing a very good job.”

Jessica Peel and Crystal Hansen are two of the set crew. Both are freshman from Perry. They have experience with the work that goes into a play production. Hansen has worked on sets in high school while Peel has been in plays. “We spend a couple days a week working on the set,” Peel said.

There are no men in this cast. The reason that there are no men is because none tried out.

“Having little or no guys try out is a common problem,” Mueller said.

“I don’t know if it is a natural trend or the amount of time that has to be committed. Maybe they just didn’t know or they don’t think they will get a part because it is college.”

Hansen said, “I think that many guys think that acting is a woman thing.”

Peel said, “We had problems in high school with not having guys audition. We had many plays where girls played the male parts.”

Mueller said that casting females for

‘Steel Magnolias’ opens Friday

Laura Griffin
Banner Staff

Before Julia Roberts and Dolly Parton made the movie “Steel Magnolias,” it was a play. This weekend theatre goers can enjoy it in its original form.

On Friday, Nov. 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m., “Steel Magnolias” will be performed in the Boone Campus Theatre. The entire play takes place in a beauty parlor.

The play has two acts and four scenes. In the beginning, Shelby is getting married and there is an ongoing dispute about having children. It also deals with the issues of diabetics and their risks of having children.

Kay Mueller, director of the play, said that the play is shaping up pretty well and also that the right people were cast in the right parts.

“They are all working hard. This cast has a good work ethic. I am really impressed,” Mueller said about the cast.

The cast includes: Liz Bennett, Boone; Caley Harvey, Ogden; Kami Mushel, Ames; Tammy Hartmann, Ames; Sarah Wiford, Ames; Patty Rockwell, Pilot Mound.

Mueller also mentioned that she is very...
Snow ordinance regulations

It’s not here yet, but it could be at any time.

Yeah, that’s right…snow. It’s only a matter of time before it gets here, so now is the time to get informed on parking procedures for when the snow does start to fall.

Many students choose to park on the street in front of the school. Signs are posted along that street stating it is an emergency snow route, and that parking there is prohibited after two inches of snow have accumulated. Instead, the parking lot behind the school is a better option.

Orange snow fences have been put up in the grass behind the school to prevent excessive drifting and, hopefully, to make parking in the wintertime as pain-free as possible.

Stay informed of the weather conditions, and watch the news, listen to the radio or check the internet for school closings, delays and cancellations.

A list of stations that run a list of delays and cancellations follows. You can also call the DMACC-Boone closings/cancellations phone number at (515) 432-7203 or check www.dmacc.edu.

Library instruction class transfers

What’s the difference between Library 120 at Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus and Library 160 at Iowa State University? Just the cost.

According to Shirley Petersen, a cataloger at Ankeny campus, Boone is the only campus to offer some sort of library class for credit. They have done this for over 25 years. Ankeny may offer a class next fall.

Library 120 is currently taught by librarian Polly Mumma. This is her first year teaching it. In previous years, it has been taught by Susan Jellinger and Ina Pour-el. This is also the first year the class is going to be held during the day instead of as an evening class.

“Most seem to enjoy it and are surprised at how much they learn,” says Mumma.

Students assume they already know and understand how to research, but most don’t know how to narrow it down. Library 120 helps refine the skills students already know and save them lots of time, Mumma says.

Library instruction offers an opportunity to gain basic information literacy skills. These literacy skills are the ability to locate, evaluate and utilize information regardless of its format and location.

Information literacy skills are crucial as our society becomes based around information rather than industry. “Everyone needs these skills,” Mumma emphasized.

Library 120 looks at the types of resources available and how to evaluate them, when and why some resources are better than others, and internet resources offered by both the library and freely online. The class addresses recognizing plagiarism and how to avoid it, and how to use citations and reference lists.

Mumma explains that the spring class will most likely be much like the fall class. The fall class used WebCT frequently in the form of quizzes and online discussions.

The textbook for the class is available in the Knowledge Knoock Bookstore and includes basic library skills and information literacy skills. The class final included a project in which a group of students presented what was learned in the class about research.

“Demonstrating what’s been learned teaches more than answering multiple choice questions,” added Mumma.

The spring library instruction class will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3:25 p.m., starting Jan. 12, 2004 and ending March 3. The class transfers directly to ISU’s Library 160.

Television

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Clothing

Rotaract is sponsoring a baby/kids clothing extravaganza. Bring any outgrown and gently used children’s clothing to Room 122, Jane Martino’s office, to donate. The sale date will be announced at a later date.

Extravaganza Community

On Friday, Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Scott Theibein, owner of Brushy Creek Gems and Minerals, will present a program on the 1980 eruption of Mt. Saint Helens.

Lunch will be in the Courier Center from 11-11:30 a.m. The room of the program will be announced at lunch. Program runs from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This presentation is open for those 55 and older. Registration is required by calling Nancy Moeller at 432-7203 by noon on the Thursday before the event.

Want to study in London this spring? Learn how by going to the ICN Room 117-118 at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Connections Presentation

Acoustic instrumental guitarist Doug Wood will perform from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5 in the Courier Center. The concert is sponsored by SAC. Come and enjoy!
Fall PTK conference emphasizes leadership

April Walker
Banner Staff

Kevin Ewoldsen, a member of Phi Theta Kappa’s Boone Campus Chapter, Tau Phi, said, “Knowing nothing is impossible; everything is attainable. Especially if you have motivation, drive and support of others.”

This is the feeling that he had as he left the Iowa Region of Phi Theta Kappa’s 2003 Fall Leadership Conference in Sioux City on Oct. 24.

The Boone Campus PTK Chapter, Tau Phi, took the most students of any PTK chapter at DMACC with six members, one advisor and two guests. However, all the PTK chapters at DMACC had members attending.

All DMACC campuses will have their own chapters of PTK when the DMACC West Campus finishes chartering its own chapter. Sarah Waddle, future PTK advisor at West Campus, said that she is excited for West campus to have a PTK chapter.

Krystal Hein, another Tau Phi member said the Hallmark Awards presentation by the PTK International President, Amber Davies was informative; “I felt more informed about the Hallmarks, what they are and how to achieve them for our chapter.”

The four Hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa are scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. These are honors all Phi Theta Kappans strive to earn, similar to the badges in scouts only larger and academically orientated.

Hein continued, “I feel that I learned more about PTK as a whole.”

Before attending the Fall Leadership Conference, Junyoung Chang said, “I thought PTK was only about transfer scholarships.” After the conference Chang said, “I discovered it was more. A member of PTK is not just a member. It requires more action towards the school, the community and the state.”

Rob Denson, President of DMACC, gave a speech about leadership. After Denson’s speech Chang said, “We have to know how to use our leadership skills for future activities in Tau Phi, school and the future.”

The members of Tau Phi who attended the conference said they left feeling inspired to do more as a chapter to better themselves, the school and the community.

Child care just a few ‘baby steps’ away

Wendy Goering
Banner Staff

Although the DMACC campus doesn’t offer child care services, they are just a few steps away.

The Good Foundation Day Care is located across the street from the DMACC gym.

Director of the center, Melissa Becker said, “We have been here 13 years, and even though we are located inside of the Open Bible Church we are not a religion-based facility.”

She also added, “We do say a short ‘basic’ prayer before meals, but it does not lean towards any specific religion.”

The center is open Monday thru Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nine employees at the center accept children from 18 months to 7 years old. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks are served. All of the meals are prepared daily at the facility. There are also planned outings for the children which include trips to the pool, library, and picnics at the park.

The rates vary. Part time is 25 hours of daycare or less. The rate is $55 per week. Anything over 25 hours is considered full time at which the rate is $110 per week. “We work with the DMACC students,” Becker explained. “When the campus has a semester break we hold the child’s spot at no charge.” She added, “If our facility is closed due to a holiday, we prorate the daily charge.”

The day care has advertised in a few of the local papers; however they prefer to advertise in a few feet away.

The location of the center brings a ‘basic’ prayer before meals, but it does not lean towards any specific religion.”

“Rumors,” “Murder at the Howard Johnsons,” and “Wrong Wrong Chimney.” She has performed at the Ingersoll Dinner Playhouse, Ames Community Theatre, Drama Workshop, Des Moines Playhouse, Ames Community Theatre, and Salisbury House.

“Steel Magnolias” is free for DMACC students, with their library card and a $5 fee for general admission.
Simon and Garfunkel ‘Keep the Customer Satisfied’

Laura Griffin
Banner Staff

The crowd sang “Sounds of Silence,” “I Am A Rock,” and “El Condor Pasa (If I Could),” as tears flowed freely down their faces from the amazement of hearing these legendary songs live.

Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel graced the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, with their one-of-a-kind songs on Oct. 26 and 27. Their tour ‘Old Friends’ was the song that started off an amazing night.

First the arena went black and then screens showed pictures of Simon and Garfunkel over their lifetimes. Suddenly the stage was illuminated in blue and they appeared, to the claps, hollers and tears from their fans. Simon, dressed in a burgundy t-shirt, jeans, and slightly balding, played guitar. Garfunkel, in jeans, a white, long-sleeved shirt, black vest and tie, with hair just as wild as when he was young, sang harmony.

The musicians used a piano, organ, drums and various other instruments for their unique sounds on each song. They added special rhythms and melodies to spice up songs that so many of the fans knew by heart.

The duo had separated in 1970, but they were never really apart. They unsuccessfully tried to get together and produce new recordings. They also had a few tours. One of the most publicized reunions was in 1981, when they performed in Central Park in New York City.

They performed “Sounds of Silence,” at last year’s Grammy Awards and also received a Lifetime Achievement Award at that time.

Garfunkel said during Monday’s concert, that when deciding to go on tour, they had no idea that they would be welcomed and accepted like they were.

The two had met each in sixth grade during a play in New York. They started singing as Tom and Jerry during the late 1950s. They performed a song from that time frame called “Hey Schoolgirl,” a song the two claimed to be an attempt to mimic the sound of the Everly Brothers.

Saying the Everly Brothers had always been, and always would be, their role models, they gave the stage over to Don and Phil Everly.

Above the hysterical and shocked screams, the Everly Brothers appeared and sang “Wake up Little Susie,” “Dream” and “Let It Be Me.” Simon and Garfunkel joined them back onstage and all four did a rendition of “Bye Bye Love.”

Garfunkel told about their time when the two were younger in France where they wandered around and played their songs for money, while dodging the police. Then they sang “Scarbrough Fair,” “America,” “Homeward Bound,” while showing clips from “The Graduate,” and “Mrs. Robinson.”

“Bridge Over Troubled Water,” closed of the show, but the crowd wouldn’t let go. A mix of people who had been die-hard fans when the duo was up-and-coming, and people who had grown up listening to their songs on the radio, clapped, screamed and whistled until the duo came back on stage. They sang “Cecilia” and “The Boxer,” and left the stage a second time.

The crowd still refused to let the magical night end. Simon and Garfunkel returned and sang “Leaves That Are Green,” a song that they hadn’t sung since they were 20. The night finally came to an end to the sound of the hippie-era, “The 59th Street Bridge Song (Feeling Groovy).”

As the crowd left, amazed and awed, one fan summed up what others were thinking, “How could they possibly not think that they would be accepted? They are legends!”

MXPX’s latest cd disappoints expecting fans

Darin Longman
Banner Staff

Call them Christian rock punkers or skate punk pioneers. The fact is MXPX has been around for eleven years.

Mike Herrera, Yuri Ruley and Tom Wisniewski have gone from featuring our skate punk pioneers. The fact is MXPX has been around for eleven years.

One of their recordings. They also had a few tours.

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“Play it Loud.” A song about claiming that they “...don’t need fortune and they don’t need fame,” or even “bright lights to spell their name.” It is ironic that they have signed to a major label where they will be ever closer to fortune and fame. “Be yourself, play it loud, raise your voice, shout it out.” The song comes off very silly.

The next song, “Well-Adjusted,” seems to be a bit heavy on the pop side, but the quirky lyrics about needing to be locked up because the doctors don’t know what’s wrong with him. The song has a cool break down with the drums and an excellent bridge. The song is almost silly in a way, but in a semi-charming manner.

The record continues on making grand strides towards a slower perhaps, to some, a more commercial direction that is definitely not flattering to the bands sound. What is absent throughout the entire record is the rapid paced drumming that has come to be expected on every MXPX record by drummer extraordinaire Yuri Ruley.

The slower drumming theme drags down most of the songs making the album pale in comparison to others that came before it.

There are exceptions to this rule however; the first single of the record, “Everything sucks (when you’re gone),” is actually one of the better songs the record. The lyrics of longing flow well, and rest assured it is one of the few tracks that attempt to keep the album afloat.

The low point of the entire record is the sappy ballad called “Quit your Life.” This song is a top contender for worst ballad ever. The requirement of a ballad is to invoke some kind of deep emotional feel. This manages to do nothing except for making the listener want to light his or her CD player on fire and proceed to chuck it out of a window. The song is terrible at best, a blatant attempt to write a ballad, but unfortunately one that has absolutely no substance. At best it cripples the band’s credibility.

“Before and Everything After” proves that no band is perfect. It shows that good bands can make bad music. For a better idea of what MXPX should sound like, pick up “Life In General,” “Slowly Going The Way Of The Buffalo,” or “The Ever Passing Moment.” Just make sure to pass this one up.
Upcoming area concerts

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By Holly Losh

Video Game Releases for November

November is the month for video games with over 30 games being released for PlayStation 2, Xbox, and Gamecube. These games are expected to be some of the top sellers.

Fatal Frame 2: Crimson Butterfly - PlayStation 2
This sequel has been highly anticipated by all-around gamers. However, you need not play the first game in order to understand the sequel. The premise is that two identical twin sisters need to capture the souls of ghosts by taking their pictures. This may sound lame but the scare factor, amazing graphics, and plot make this game an extreme action adventure. Unrated right now: Horror, Violence, Gore
Release Date: November 18

Mario Kart: Double Dash - Gamecube
This remake of Mario Kart for N64 is going to blow fans away. Each player can choose two characters to play in this racing game. One character mans the wheel, while the other character deploys the booby traps (banana peels, turtle shells, etc.) for your opponent. These characters can switch positions throughout the race also. This game also features up to eight people playing at one time. However, this can only be accomplished with two game systems and a connector.
Suitable for all ages: Racing, Mild cartoon violence
Release Date: November 17

True Crime: Streets of L.A. - PlayStation 2, Gamecube, Xbox
This game will give Grand Theft Auto a run for the money. True Crime encompasses all of the elements of GTA, and then some. Nick Kang is an ex-operators member who takes on the responsibility of wiping out the Chinese and Russian syndicates in the great city of Los Angeles. This game will be a driving, shooting, fighting, and mission based game. It also boasts slow motion driving, using two different weapons at the same time, and building skill levels at different places in the game i.e. driving course.
Rated mature for ages 17 and up: Violence, Action Adventure
Release Date: November 3

Horoscopes

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Money discussions may be unusually difficult over the next four days. Just stick it out. Finance: Good | Romance: Fair | Lucky Numbers: 4,12,20

Pisces (February 19 -March20) If you're willing to do the work, virtually anything is possible. Just keep that in mind. Finance: Good | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 1,16,18

Aries (March 21-April 19) You always seem to spend more than you make. Find a few hours for yourself. Finance: Fair | Romance: Poor | Lucky Numbers: 4,17,19

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Stop telling others about your problems and start taking care of your matters. Finance: Fair | Romance: Fair | Lucky Numbers: 3,12,17

Gemini (May 21-June 20) New romantic ties can be made, however, you must make sure that your motives are not selfish before you make your move. Finance: Good | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 7,11,18

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Consider the source before you believe what you hear. Don't let your personal problems interfere with your professional responsibilities. Finance: Good | Romance: Fair | Lucky Numbers: 7,13,15

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Do not make rash decisions about your personal life. You may have a problem holding on to your cash. Finance: Fair | Romance: Poor | Lucky Numbers: 4,14,22

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You need to get out and challenge yourself. Find new and fun things to do with you free time. Finance: Good | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 6,19,25

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Stress and pressure at home may have worn you ragged but your mind will be on pleasure not business. Finance: Poor | Romance: Poor | Lucky Numbers: 2,17,18

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Choose carefully to whom you confide in. If someone steps on your toes, it could affect your creative output. Finance: Fair | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 4,16,19

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You'll need to get a quick impression of a situation and then move on. You won't have much time for reflection. You may be forced to guess. Finance: Fair | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 8,15,20

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You're not ready to focus on the humdrum details of daily life, you need to spread your wings or your mind. Finance: Fair | Romance: Good | Lucky Numbers: 3,12,18

Holly Losh
Banner Staff
Racial tension divides U.S.

James Joy
Banner Staff

The push for racial equality in America is a great and necessary thing, but the efforts by some to use it for personal gain is very destructive. People like Howard Dean, Al Sharpton, Jessie Jackson and Wesley Clark are using the push for racial equality in America to their benefit, instead of turning it into a constructive statement to further the political aspirations of these candidates so they can reside in the White House. They were tripping over each other to get in front of the camera to call for the firing of Rush Limbaugh and to label him a "racist."

Chicago Cubs manager Dusty Baker made very disparaging remarks this past summer and it was not even a news story that can ever more than once. Holding people accountable for their words and actions should occur regardless of who they are.

"We were brought over here for the heat. Isn’t that history? Your skin color is more conducive to heat than it is to the lighter-skinned people. I don’t see brothers running around burnt, Baker said in an interview about his reasoning for picking a non-white player for the all-star game.

Comments similar to these have gotten analysts fired in the past, just look at Jimmy “the Greek.” If accountability was necessary in that instant, why was Dusty not held to the same standards?

I am saddened that we must still discuss and argue statements about race, but today everyone is fair game when it comes to politics. We all must learn to not label based on race or party affiliation, but on the moral makeup one possesses. Until all Americans stand up together and fight all forms of personal attacks based on politics and race there will never be a true “United States.”

Full ride scholarships for writers? Why not!

Josh Hutt
Banner Staff

Why is it that athletes are offered scholarships and not one of the Banner journalists is offered a single scholarship? What is the difference between school athletes and school journalists? These are both school activities. Their work is seen by other people. I guess you may have to look at the major differences to tell these two activities apart.

The athletes at DMACC are active in their sports 3-5 months out of the year. The Banner puts out issues 8 months out of the year. Athletes are given scholarships. Journalists have money problems. Money is the big problem for all students in college, unless they are offered scholarships. But in order to get a full ride you either have to have some skill as an athlete or be an academic genius.

Unfortunately, I am neither. So, like many students, I pay my way through college by working at a job in order to pay for the rising tuition rates that cause the staff to work a lot of hours with hardly any time to work on assignments.

Time is the biggest problem when it comes to writing an article because most of the staff have jobs. This often hinders getting a story together because lining up appointments to get interviews often interferes with work schedules. It would be nice to get as much financial support as other students do.

I know the athletes put in hours of practice, which makes it hard for them to accomplish assignments and attend class. But imagine writing and laying out a paper, going to class and work.

There is a better chance for the writers on the Banner to become professionals in their field than the athletes at DMACC going pro. Isn’t college about teaching the student how to work in the real world? The Banner may have a greater readership then attendance of games.
Successful season comes to halt

Jack Simonson
Banner Staff

(Fort Dodge) - The season ended too soon for the DMACC volleyball team.

When the Bears went to Fort Dodge last weekend for regionals, as the tournament number two seed. A championship match-up appeared likely against rival Kirkwood. The Bears match-up came one round too early, and Kirkwood showed why they were conference champions during the regular season, ending DMACC's season.

This marked another winning year for Bear volleyball and a successful first season for head coach Lisa Mathes. DMACC will lose six sophomores to graduation, returning just three letter winners.

"All six sophomores could go on to play somewhere," stated Mathes. Out of the six, Courtney Thomas will go on to play for William Penn University, while four of the other five will also continue to play on at four year schools.

The Bears will return just three freshmen, including Alexis Gustafson, Mollie Richert, and A.J. Lewis. Coach Mathes believes that Lewis will be looked to for leadership in the off-season heading into next season.

So while the season is over for the volleyball team, it has left a memorable impression on Mathes about her first season.

"It was a fun first season, and the girls did a really nice job," said Mathes whose new look Bears team will take the court next September.

Whether or not the Bears will be able to advance to nationals next year will depend on recruiting and other intangibles, but if the Bears can match the last two years of success in the program, you won't hear too many complaints on the DMACC campus.

Women win season opener

Jack Simonson
Banner Staff

Although it was tough for second year head coach Ben Conrad to take many positives out of a game which was never in doubt, he managed to make one point about the game.

"Last year at this time that team may have beaten us," Conrad said of the William Penn J.V., the team the Bears pounded 86-42 on Monday night.

From the score, it appeared that there wasn't too much to complain about for Bears' fans, but Coach Conrad wasn't fooled.

"We broke down way too many times," said Conrad The Bears are now 1-0 in their 2003-04 campaign.

Conrad was impressed by the rebounding of 5'9" freshman Latasha Pendleton, who hit the glass hard for 12 rebounds, despite not being the tallest woman on the court. She was joined by freshman Anna Seibert, who also had 12 boards.

The Bears used a very balanced scoring attack against William Penn, getting nine players in the scoring column. Freshman Michelle Smith led the Bears with 19, followed by freshman Morgan Nelson's 13 and Seibert's 11. Sophomore Jenny Harle and freshman Tracie Harris also hit double figures for the Bears with 10 apiece.

Although there was no doubt who was the better team on the court on Monday night in The Den, Conrad won't let the lopsided win get to his players heads, as the competition will get much tougher from here on out for his team.

Fans were given a reason to be optimistic on Monday night though as one big question was answered. Can these newcomers play? Yes. And that's a good thing, as only four sophomores are on the Bears' current roster.
Bears breeze through first game

Jack Simonson
Banner Staff

When DMACC and William Penn's J.V. took the floor for warm-ups on Monday night, you could see that what you were about to watch could get really ugly.

And it did. Really fast.

The Bears used their size and athleticism to outmuscle the Statesmen for loose balls and rebounds all night long, controlling the fast break tempo, and getting second chance after second chance on the boards.

William Penn simply had no answer for sophomores Frashon McGee and Shaun Williams in the paint, and the pressure from point guard Euvon Turner and wings Bryan Harrod and Naim Benjamin was just too much for the Statemen's guards to handle.

While Coach Orv Salmon was not too surprised or thrilled at the 97-51 outcome of the game, he did manage to cite a couple of positives. "It was nice to evaluate the players in game situations, and to kind of get an idea on some of the things we need to work on," said Salmon, whose Bears are now 1-0 on the season.

Coach Salmon pointed out ball movement in the offense, rebounding, and needing to tighten up the defense as things the Bears needed to improve on to have a successful season.

Stats were unavailable at press time, and it's hard to tell who the go-to guys are going to be during crunch time when your team wins a game that easy, but McGee and Williams look as though they will give teams fits underneath all season, and Turner, Harrod, and Benjamin will provide athleticism and leadership in the Bears' backcourt.

Also expect to see contributions from sophomores Tony Bell and freshman Tremone Thomas, as well as some electrifying dunks from sophomore Steve Clayton.

With one game down, and a whole season to go, the Bears team and its fate remain about as much of a mystery as was before the first game, but expect to see a lot of athleticism on the court when you come to The Den, as well as an up-tempo offense, and many exciting games when the competition toughens up.