

February 27, 1997

# DIAMOND

TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA SPECIAL ISSUE

## Stealing the Spotlight: The 17th annual Talent Extravaganza



Neil Graves



Janeen Wassink



Janeen Wassink



Neil Graves



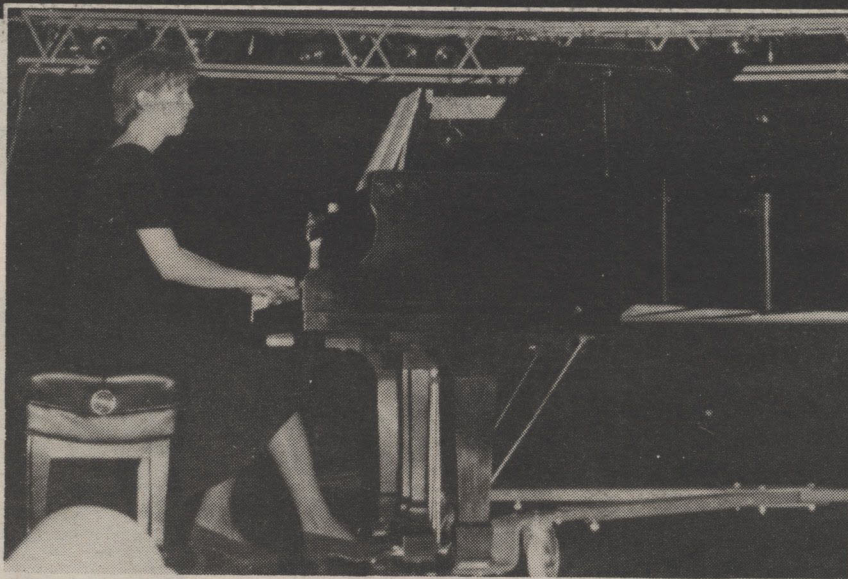
Janeen Wassink

**INSIDE:**  
Everything you wanted to know about the Talent Extravaganza but were afraid to ask.

## FIRST PLACE

### "Were You There?"

Pam Brinks chose an arrangement of "Were You There?" by Marilyn Ham. She thought the themes of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection fit the approaching season. Pam originally auditioned without the overhead screen, but then found several verses dealing with the crucifixion and resurrection and asked Kevin Soodsma to help with the technical details. Pam plans to give 10% of the \$100 to God, 20% to Kevin, and she says the rest will probably trickle back to Dordt in tuition.



Janeen Wassink

## SECOND PLACE

### "Fresh Jive"

This group of twelve hit the stage with a wide array of platforms, wigs, and the music of "Stayin' Alive". "Fresh Jive" members include Tricia Rozenboom, Leann Aukema, Kelly Kuipers, Sarah Ribb, Koerner, Jason Pausma, Kelli Vink, Tim Huizenga, Mark Van Donge, Jamin Ver Velde, and Jennifer Van Mersbergen. They practiced 1-2 hours a couple times a week, and prepared by



Janeen Wassink

Saturday  
Fever.  
weren't  
to find  
the gu  
from th  
Arts de  
and im  
girls ra  
Drost's  
The g  
probab  
their  
the \$  
money  
their c

## Star Wars, pink bunnies and a Emcees attempt

by Paula Treick  
Features Editor

and variety.  
During the week of the show  
practice every night.

'Twas the night before the 17th Annual Talent Extravaganza and...well, the emcees didn't exactly have visions of sugarplums dancing through their heads. Amanda Haney admits she couldn't sleep at all, she just kept running through the program in her mind. Aaron Lynch dreamt that only three people showed up, hated the talent show, and left. Not to worry.

Haney admits she was nervous  
emcees in recent talent show hi  
on a stage before. "My biggest

This year's emcees, the sophomore duo of Lynch and Haney, together with the "Booming Voice from Above" (Chris Lopez in the sound booth), worked hard to impress the much-larger-than-expected audience. Lynch and Haney came up with the act on their own, although they both admit they couldn't have done it without the help of Lopez and Joel VerVelde.

First they attended the tryouts, where they had some say about which acts were chosen. Then, together with the student activities committee, they decided what order the acts would go in, based on type



Neil Graves

Aaron Lynch learns that everything is bigger in Texas.

MOST ORIGINAL  
ACT

THIRD PLACE

"PURR-CUSS-SEAN"

Sean Voogt drummed up (sorry, I couldn't resist) his percussion act last semester when he wasn't paying attention in class, and gradually put together the final project during the week of the talent show. Although he didn't get a drum set until he was 14, Sean has been drumming since the tender age of 3, when his victims were kitchen pots and pans. He would like to thank Bob Taylor for the generous use of his set at Dordt. Sean's \$50 will go towards a musical instrument, either drums or guitar, although he says he probably broke \$50 worth of drumsticks practicing his act.



Janeen Wassink



Janeen Wassink

"The Great Piano  
Concerto: No.  
5,742.733332 in C  
Major"

Sean Trowbridge's original act was just that—a piece he composed himself in about five minutes of inspiration. Although he no longer takes piano lessons,

Trowbridge has been playing the piano since the third grade, and is now considering a music major at Dordt. Pockets bulging with a tape measurer and a clock, Trowbridge kept the audience enthralled. He says he plans to conserve the \$25.

polyester,  
included  
pens, Seth  
ander Ley,  
gen. They  
watching  
ay Night  
Costumes  
that hard  
most of  
ys rented  
e Theatre  
partment,  
ost of the  
ided Yodi  
closet.  
tays will  
ly use  
chunk of  
75 prize  
to pay for  
ostumes.

Booming Voice from above:  
pt to bare all

hand, "is that no one is going to get what we're talking about. No one is going to laugh."

Lynch had similar fears: first, that his voice would crack, and second, that he would forget to put on his costume and come out in his boxers. "Maybe I should have done that," Lynch said. "It would have gotten a lot of laughs!"

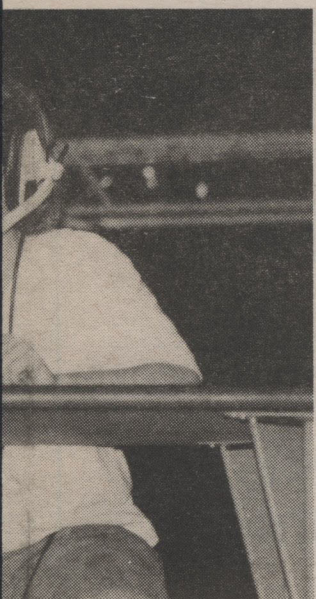
But the duo didn't need to worry. The Talent Extravaganza went off—almost—without a hitch. The act "Fireworks," composed of Grant Elgersma, Joel Zuidhof, Jared Schiltz, and Josh Meendering, experienced a blown fuse but kept the audience entertained as power was being restored. "I didn't think there would be as much improv as there was. We ended up doing a lot more than we thought," Lynch admitted.

This year's program began with the theme from Star Wars and featured Haney as "Princess Amanda" and Lynch as "Aaron SkyLyncher." In other introductions a shameless Lynch attempted to moon the audience and Haney modeled a pink bunny costume, complete with carrot. Lopez shocked the technical crew with his suggestion that the audience dance on the stage while the judges made their decision.

All agree that the Talent Extravaganza was a lot of work, but also fun and rewarding. Hopefully, everyone involved will now sleep a little easier.

Left: The emcees report live on the action.

Right: Amanda Haney impresses Aaron Lynch by capturing the three-headed beast.



Neil Graves

# DIAMOND

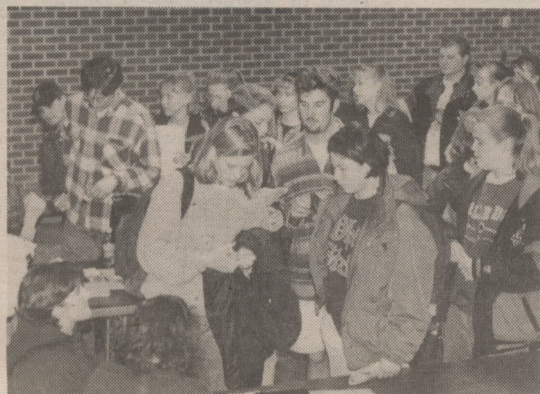
## TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA SPECIAL ISSUE

### The Hottest Seats in Town

by **Nikki Thomas**  
Production Editor

Before the lights, the sounds and the action must come the tickets. Every year distribution of tickets seems to change. Never fear, the Student Activities Committee is trying to make things as easy as possible for all involved.

The committee sold the tickets at



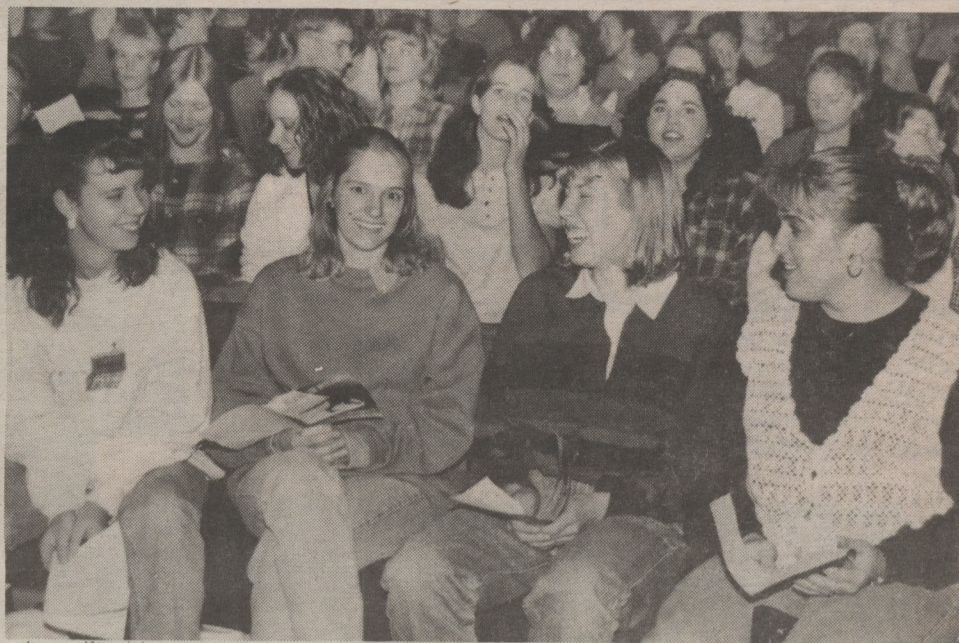
Neil Graves

It's either this or thirty dollars for a concert in Florida.

night so that the sale wouldn't cut into students' class schedules. But no matter what time of day it was, students lined up extra early in hopes of getting good seats. Many started standing in line shortly after 6 p.m. and the tickets didn't go on sale until 9 p.m.

Was the three hours of standing in line worth it? "It wasn't that bad since I didn't have anything else to do, but I was a little upset about standing in line twice," said sophomore Lisa Bekius. Bekius is referring to Saturday night's wait in front of the BJ Haan auditorium to get good seats in her particular row. "Why don't they put seat numbers on the tickets as well as row numbers?" Bekius suggested. "That way you would only have to stand in line once."

This year, Talent Extravaganza-goers had to shell out a hard-earned \$2 from their work-study checks. Ron Rynders commented, "We must realize that this is a unique event. There are so many



Janeen Wassink

Sleeping overnight in West Commons really paid off for these dedicated fans.

things that Student Activities offers that are free. If you were to try to go to a concert in Florida it would cost over \$30." Rynders said, "[The money] goes towards the prize money for the winners."

"I look at it this way: I could either pay two bucks for something that I know will be fun, or go to Sioux Falls and pay six bucks for a movie I may not even like," said Bekius about the price.

### Five selected to judge talent

by **Jonathan Frump**  
Staff Reporter

The Talent Extravaganza is, of course, known for its variety of acts. But it wouldn't be half as fun without the judges.

Judges are selected and notified at the end of January. The position only requires the judges to show up the evening of the performance. Judge Sheryl Sheeres Taylor replied, "I thought it would be fun. Plus I thought I'd make a lot of money in bribes."

The judges were selected at random with the hopes of representing each area of the college in the judging process. They were chosen on the basis of their musical knowledge and sense of humor. This year the panel consisted of Taylor, Dordt librarian; Nathaniel Zylstra, Student Forum member; Brian Vander

Stoep, maintenance department; Jim Calkhoven, owner of Carrie Foods; and Shirley Matheis, Theatre Arts department.

The judging process for the Talent Extravaganza is relatively straightforward. The acts are divided into original and non-original and scored on a one-to-ten scale based on quality of performance, stage presence and audience response.

Taylor commented that the first two criteria are most important because the audience response is almost the same for all the acts.

The committee in charge of the Talent Extravaganza made a slight change in the scoring process. The panel scores each half of the performance separately. By splitting the show into two pieces and scoring them before the show ends, the final scores can be tabulated faster and the audience doesn't have to wait so long for the results.

**The judges were selected at random with the hopes of representing each area of the college in the judging process.**

## The Pizza Ranch



**Celebrating 15 years:**  
**15% OFF any pizza!**

Good on all sizes except mini's.  
Not valid with any other coupon.

1 coupon per customer

### DIAMOND special issue staff

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
Kate Dekker

**Assistant Editor:**  
Heather Gregg

**Features Editor:**  
Paula Treick

**Photo Editors:**  
Neil Graves  
Janeen Wassink

**Layout Editor:**  
Laryn Bakker

**Copy Editor:**  
Robb Vanderstoel

**Production Editors:**  
Jon Postma  
Nikki Thomas  
Tami Van Kooten

**Reporter:**  
Jonathan Frump

**Advertising:**  
Kostya Kekhaev  
Marie Vander Stelt