DCCC Engineering Club to build 15-foot-tall campus birdfeeder

By Kerry Hansen
Staff Writer

The DCCC Engineering Club has been hired to design and construct a 15-foot-tall birdfeeder to attract songbirds so Biology students can study them. The birdfeeder will be installed in the outdoor café area where the students can view it from inside the classrooms. The birdfeeder is expected to be completed in June in the beginning of the 2010 Summer I semester.

The birdfeeder design team includes Engineering Club President Kyle Contino, Engineering Club Vice-President Kesla Duka, Luan Shou, and Hixon Chan. Alex Nash, who joined the club last semester, is the technical lead and design contributor. The Engineering Club has been working on the birdfeeder design since last September. Alex Contino stated that “meeting attendance is about [20 people]” every second and fourth Tuesday to discuss the planning and design of the birdfeeder.

The idea for the birdfeeder was conceived by Biology Professor Steve Aquilani who first started this project overseas with students in Greece. “It started with Aquilani,” Contino stated. This is a new program Professor Aquilani is trying. He taught this in Europe, in Greece. “It is all about observing.” Duka stated. The Engineering Club is the first to design and build a campus birdfeeder.

“Professor Aquilani’s objective is that there’s something wrong this semester with the design to come up with something better next semester, so this is like our project. We are like the first.” Duka said. “We are the ground-breakers,” Contino stated.

The Engineering concepts that were used to create the birdfeeder included physics, mechanics, and structure statics.

The birdfeeder will allow students to study “the different kinds of songbirds that come according to the elevation” Duka stated. “The highest perch is about fifteen feet high.” Nash stated.

The design of the birdfeeder had many constraints and specifications when it came to the design of the birdfeeder. “There needed to be a mechanism in there so that it could be raised and lowered so that it could be filled (with birdseed).” Nash stated.

Four trays are located along the trunk of the birdfeeder to feed birds at different heights along the feeder. The lowest perch is at ground level. “One is going to be right on the ground.” Nash stated.

The birdfeeder needed to be portable, and designed for the Biology students to put together themselves. “It needed to be collapsible. The birdfeeder needed to be portable, and designed for the Biology students to put together themselves.” Nash stated.

Continued on page 2

R&B and soul artist Rudy Currence brings his voice and rhythm to DCCC

By Jennifer Malfara
Staff Writer

Rudy Currence, 24, a talented singer and songwriter from North Carolina, began introducing himself to the students and informed them he signed a recording contract with Ludacris’ record label, Disturbing Tha Peace (DTP) Records. He also explained that he is on a 40-college tour that started in mid-January and will run through May this year. Currence never missed a beat on the keyboard, flowing from each song with maturity and grace. His vocals have a unique R&B and gospel flair to them. He also impressed his audience with his sense of humor and smile. Being nervous is not a prior concern. His vocals have a unique R&B and gospel flair to them. He also impressed his audience with his sense of humor and smile. Being nervous is not a prior concern. His vocals have a unique R&B and gospel flair to them.

Continued on page 2

Students visit UN Headquarters and Times Square in New York

By Lucas Rodgers
Senior Staff Writer

Huge skyscrapers, incessant street vendors, historic art, diverse commerce, intercultural collaboration: these are just a few of the things students witnessed on a trip to New York City. Students and faculty of Delaware County Community College visited the United Nations Headquarters and Times Square, March 2, on a campus life-sponsored trip. The trip included a tour of the UN buildings, a briefing on the UN Global Compact, and an opportunity to explore the streets of Manhattan.

Perhaps the highlight of the trip for many students was the city itself. It’s a massive city with constant activity; the towering buildings and expansive streets may seem overwhelming but offer many new experiences.

Students were free to walk around in groups and go where they pleased, but were given a map of Manhattan with recommendations for popular sights, tours, museums, theatres, shopping, and restaurants.

Students participated in a walking tour of the UN Secretariat, learning the history of the UN and observing meeting rooms and displays of UN relief supplies as well as gifts contributed from member countries.

A briefing on the UN Global Compact, a body designated for collaboration with businesses, was included in the visit. Sean Cruise, a staff member of the UN Global Compact, gave a presentation on the organization’s tasks and goals, and allowed students to join in with questions or comments.

“The UN was very interesting, a lot of knowledgeable people, [and] a cool tour,” said Bryan Clyde, 21, a business management major. "But I really liked just walking around seeing people and different things."

The bus arrived in Manhattan and dropped off students and faculty in front of the UN Headquarters at 10:30 a.m. After, they had to go through a security check before beginning the tour. The tour guide started off by quizzing students on their knowledge of the UN. There were some good guesses, but she eventually revealed information about the UN’s founding and current status. She explained that the UN was formed Oct. 24, 1945 with 51 original member states, and now has 192 member states.

Several gifts from member states of the UN were on display, such as an ornate wood carving of a ship from Japan, a finely detailed, white marble sculpture of a hillside from China, and a Norman Rockwell painting depicting the golden rule. A scale model of the entire UN Headquarters, along with miniature flags of each member state, was also on display.

Students also visited a large UN meeting hall and learned about veto power within the UN, how seating order for representatives is determined, and the six official languages of the UN: English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.

Then, students learned about UN peacekeeping operations. The UN has no standing army but...
The Engineering Club builds giant birdfeeder

From page 1

The Engineering Club was responsible for creating the birdfeeder. They built it using AutoCAD software to design and assemble it as a group. Nash stated, “We are gonna build it ourselves. It needed to be collapsible if need be, and stored if need be, it needed to be modular.” Nash continued, “It needed to be movable if need be, it needed to be together themselves.” Nash also mentioned, “We are gonna build it... and hand it to the Biology students and say assemble the birdfeeder as a group. "We are gonna build it..." Nash stated.

Daka is working on a 3-D drawing plan. Nash drew the 2-D plans for the birdfeeder using the program AutoCAD. Nash said, “I’ve had 10-plus years experience in building and construction. I can take the concept and make it real.” Nash has worked with PVC and swimming pools for many years. Nash’s experience with PVC and swimming pools was influential in the design and choosing to use PVC materials for the birdfeeder. “I think we’re pretty confident in this design at this point. This is going to be made out of PVC mostly, and we’re probably going to be using swimming pool technicians. We feel that our theories are pretty well established.” Nash added, “Engineering project management came in a lot coordinating everyone’s efforts to make one idea so that people can speak up individually to reflect the best of what we have worked on.”

Contact Rosalind N. Seth at Communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Cafeteria becomes impromptu church for gospel singer

From page 1

Christian singer, Christian Brown, 20, performed at the DCCC cafeteria. He sang various songs and interacted with the audience. “I grew up in a church because my dad was a preacher down in North Carolina.” He then began to sing “Oh Lord.”

He also sang “Sweetest Sacrifice” from his first Independent album, “More Than You’ll Ever Know,” which was released in 2010. Brown said he still enjoyed playing at DCCC. “I love him,” she said. “He was awesome.”

Dalisha Flipper won the President’s basket. Dorthea won a Coca-Cola lawn chair. V. Terinoni won an I-Pod Nano. Mayu Ouishi and Kait Nigro both won DCCC sweatshirts. Trine Tinnin won free tuition for a three-credit course. W. Terinoni won an I-Pod Nano. Barb Sigel won a multi-cultural food basket. Daliah, Flipper won the President’s parking spot. Dorkas won a Coca-Cola lawn chair. Maya quishoi and Katrina McBride both won DCCC sweatshirts. Jane Scharman won a Fusion Salon gift card. The goal was $1,000, but DCCC collected $800. The shortfall could be due to the fact that not all students knew about the fundraising activities.

Contact Saundra Maddox at: communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Clubs raise money to help Haiti

By Saundra Maddox

Delaware County Community College students and staff members have not forgotten the earthquake that struck Haiti on Jan. 12, leaving hundreds of thousands homeless, injured, or dead. The quake led to a worldwide call for help, and people all around the world responded by making donations made to help Haiti rebuild their country. Last month, for example, DCCC’s History Club members raised $500 to donate to Haiti. Since then, DCCC has made more efforts to help the country. Collection boxes for change were placed in the cafeteria and hallways for donations of soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and similar items. All donations have since been collected and sent out to Haiti.

The DCCC Campus Life office and student clubs such as ISU, Phi Theta Kappa and the Business Society held a raffle from March 4 until additional money to send to Haiti. The raffle tickets sold for $1 each or $5 for five, with all proceeds going to Haiti. Tickets were issued for free tuition for a three-credit course, and $50 for 30 credits of tuition and books. Here are the winners of the raffle and their prizes.

- Cara Ayala won a Philips microwave for the April 30 game against the rival New York Mets.

Contact Jennifer Maliffra at Communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Trine Tinnin won free tuition for a three-credit course.

- W. Terinoni won an I-Pod Nano.

- Barb Sigel won a multi-cultural food basket.

- Dalisha Flipper won the President’s basket.

- Dorthea won a Coca-Cola lawn chair.

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- The goal was $1,000, but DCCC collected $800.

- The shortfall could be due to the fact that not all students knew about the fundraising activities.

- When a Communitarian reporter conducted an informal poll about student awareness of the raffle and collections, Christian Brown, 20, a liberal arts major, said, “I was aware that there were collections going around the campus for Haiti, but that she just simply did not get the chance to contribute. “I have two Haitian friends that were sad because they were trying to get in touch with their sister who was in Haiti,” she added. DCCC has made a great effort towards helping the country of Haiti. The story of Haiti and its devastation has touched us all in some way.

A Swedish proverb says, “The best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your own arm.” If you have not already donated to help Haiti, there is still time.

Contact Saundra Maddox at: communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
By Kerry Hansen and Rosalind Seth
Staff Writers

DCCC landscaping to be completed by mid-May
That pile of dirt outside the new STEM Building won’t be there for long. A DCCC grounds crew including Jimmy Creuz, Kevin Diggins and Chris Sim has been working on a new garden design that will transform the bare soil into a garden that will be ready by May 14.

“On and off we are doing the finishing grade and then we will put topsoil in,” said Sim, the Grounds Supervisor, who has worked for DCCC for more than 25 years. He explained that the garden plan is uncertain due to contact with the grower and the types of seeds that are ordered. “There is a basic plan, but it is not exact,” he said.

“At first we will put in annuals and then we will plant perennials. The pansies will go in first,” added Diggins. “They die in the winter and are replanted again.”

“It will be great,” said Creuz, Diggins, a DCCC employee for over 20 years, is in the midst of many projects for the school grounds, such as maintenance issues related to this harsh winter season. Diggins is a little worried that the garden may suffer because of the habit that many students have of littering instead of using designated trash cans.

“It would be nice if they just left the flowers but they leave the cigarettes or trash there,” Diggins said.

Contact Kerry Hansen and Rosalind Seth at Communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

A flower garden containing pansies and other annuals as well as some perennials will soon fill the brownspots beside the STEM building in the center of campus.
Students visit U.N. Headquarters and Times Square

From page 1

The United Nations Building was one of the New York landmarks visited by a DCCC tour group on March 2, 2010.

The briefing outlined the concept of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility), and how the UN and corporations can meet on common grounds.

While businesses are mainly focused on profit and growth, and the UN centers around peace development and human rights, they do share some goals. Building markets, good governance and security, environmental issues, global health and social inclusion were examples Cruse gave that deepen interdependencies between the UN and businesses.

The 10 principles of the UN Global Compact fall into the four categories of human rights, labor standards, environment and anti-corruption.

“The UN was really different,” said Ashleyann Petillo, 20, a restaurant management major. “It was fun to see everything; I took a lot of pictures.”

After the UN Global Compact briefing, the bus dropped off students and faculty at Times Square at 2:30p.m. so they could walk around Manhattan. Some points of interest in the city included Rockefeller Center, St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Central Park, and the Empire State Building.

New York is a busy city that contains numerous sights to see and activities to engage in. Other recommended locations included the BMW Gallery, the Museum of Modern Art, Bloomingdale’s, the Trump Tower and restaurants like the Zen Palace and Le Parker Meridian Burger Joint.

Of course, it’s impossible to see everything Manhattan has to offer in such a small amount of time, but students still had the opportunity to take part in many experiences unique to that location.

At 5:30p.m., the bus picked up students and faculty, at the corner of 45th Street and Broadway, to return to DCCC, thus ending the trip to New York.

“I thought I’d see some boring museums and stuff, but it actually was really interesting,” said Timothy Nolan, 22, a nursing major. “When we had time on our own, we got to go out on an adventure of our own.”

Contact Lucas Rodgers at Communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

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Acting teacher Michael Kay mentored by and assistant to the late International teacher Sidney Kay trained and educated at the Neighborhood Playhouse and the Actor’s Studio of New York and RADA, London England. Michael is now accepting students for his ongoing beginner’s “Method” workshop on Thursday evenings from 7pm-10pm at the Tango 411 Gallery Studio located in Media, PA. Adults and teens are welcomed!

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Student/teacher affairs are flirting with trouble

By Joseph Giordano
Co-managing Editor

One of the biggest scandals to ever hit Phoenixville High School was the affair between teacher and wrestling coach, Adam Hawke Staton, who was 29 at the time, and a 16-year-old female student of the school.

Sources say the girl reported the relationship to school officials out of spite after finding bikini photos of another female student in Staton’s desk at school.

When authorities were notified, Staton was arrested and charged with multiple counts of corrupting a minor. Although the prison time and fines would eventually be behind him, his reputation would be forever tarnished.

There were severe consequences for the girl as well. She had to drop out of high school, where she was an honor student, and be homeschooled. She was also harassed online and lost many former friends.

But in college, such an affair is no big deal because feasiably students are adults and not minors. Or is it?

The DCCC student handbook clearly states that such a relationship is, “unprofessional and unacceptable. Whether the relationship is consensual is irrelevant.”

A power relationship like this is also considered sexual harassment because, “such conduct has the effect of interfering with work performance or educational experience, or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work/educational environment,” as stated in the handbook under sexual harassment.

If an accusation like this is reported there will be an investigation. All allegations are confidential because they could be false, which is part of the reason for investigation and confidentiality. False reports could be extremely damaging to a professional’s career.

Although such occurrences are very rarely an issue, it is not unheard of. And just because these situations are kept confidential does not mean damage won’t be inflicted upon the accused individual’s career. It certainly won’t help.

The handbook advises students or staff to report knowledge of such a relationship to the Associate Dean of Student Success, Betty Brown, in the Assessment Center so that an investigation can be conducted.

There is no specific course of disciplinary action that would result since each case has unique dynamics and each instance would be dealt with appropriately according to the situation.

Student to student relationships are obviously allowed but student to faculty/staff is not permitted.

All DCCC employees receive sexual harassment training.

Contact Leslie McDonnell at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Is race still an issue?

By Joseph Giordano
Co-managing Editor

Tastycakes, fruit punch, and cookies line the table while students choose from the variety of snacks before returning to their seats. The students place their desks in a circle and talk amongst themselves while munching on their treats. The students are preparing to discuss a rather difficult question, if race and ethnicity are still big issues in the United States.

Hosted by the Delaware County Community College’s Black and Women’s History Committee, this informal debate was presided over by Dr. Joe Myers.

Myers began the discussion by relating a story he heard over the radio about how Michael Jackson tried to change his race, but was never successful.

Another point raised was that even though younger children are exposed to a greater racial variety on television and other cultures, it doesn’t mean they will usually assume otherwise just because of how one dresses or their appearance.

An international student from Liberia brought up an interesting point of how while she was in class, a professor asked her what her favorite food was. After responding that it was spaghetti, the teacher made a remark that they were surprised it wasn’t roasted lion or antelope. It’s as if your background automatically defines what your cultural preferences are.

A member of the faculty who was in the audience, Pat Peterson, an adjunct professor who teaches personal career development, remarked “I was a child of segregation and saw changes when Kennedy and Johnson became presidents,” she said. “I blame the American health issue.”

An international student from Liberia brought up an interesting point of how while she was in class, a professor asked her what her favorite food was. After responding that it was spaghetti, the teacher made a remark that they were surprised it wasn’t roasted lion or antelope. It’s as if your background automatically defines what your cultural preferences are.

A member of the faculty who was in the audience, Pat Peterson, an adjunct professor who teaches personal career development, remarked “I was a child of segregation and saw changes when Kennedy and Johnson became presidents,” she said. “I blame the American health issue.”

Another point raised was that even though younger children are exposed to a greater racial variety on television and other cultures, race is always going to be that subject that no one will want to discuss.

Contact Joseph Giordano at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
“Arcadia accepted all of our credits.”

“Arcadia made it easy to transfer—and made sure we had the courses to apply for assured admission to the Physical Therapy program.” Ashley Eisennagel (left)

“We went on Italy Preview! For $495 we got airfare, hotel accommodations, and 2 credits, too! We learned so much and had a great time.” Jennifer Eisennagel (right)

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Facebook co-founder to launch nonprofit to help connection people with causes

By Jessica Guynn
Los Angeles Times

Chris Hughes, a Facebook co-founder who helped launch the social networking phenomenon and then the tour-de-force online organizing campaign for Barack Obama's presidential bid, on Thursday unveiled his latest endeavor: A Web site to connect individuals and organizations striving to help the world.

The site is called Jumo, which means “together in concert” in Yoruba, a West African language. It will officially open for business in September or October. He announced the new project on his blog and on Twitter.

Hughes, 26, who now lives in New York, wants to use the experience and knowledge he gained at Facebook and on the Obama campaign to “have maximum impact on the world.”

In an interview, Hughes said he arrived at the decision to form a nonprofit “by playing an active part of the Internet to connect people and causes after a post-campaign year of traveling in Africa, Asia and Latin America and work as an entrepreneur-in-residence at a venture capital firm and at his old stomping grounds, Facebook.

“You learn pretty fast that there is no magic solution to poverty. There are not even a single set of solutions that are going to be the answer to all of these challenges,” he said. “Instead you have to support all the individuals and organizations working on the ground doing good, valuable work.”

The most effective way to give that support is to create a site that can match people, their skills and interests with the organizations who need them, Hughes said.

While working on Facebook and the Obama campaign, Hughes said he learned that if you make it easy for people to get involved, they will. The Obama campaign made political history by enlisting voters in droves on the Web.

“You can get a lot of people to give money if you show them a photo of a malnourished African child. That’s pretty similar to what we saw in the world of politics. Before the Obama campaign the standard was to assume that people had short attention spans and that the message had to be that urgent action is needed,” Hughes said. “What we did with Obama is we took the hope of faith that people have longer attention spans, and that if you really build a relationship with them and help them understand what the campaign is about, what the values are and why it is important for them to get involved, they will not only contribute once but over the long term.”

Hughes is banking that will be true when it comes to philanthropy. “I really want to move away from the old model in which you have to rely on people giving $10 after a humanitarian crisis to a newer model where people give money but also allow them to use their skills, whatever they have, to the causes that are personally meaningful to them well before the crisis moment presents itself,” he said.

Visitors to the Jumo site are asked to answer a list of 450 artists who collectively are owed about $250,000. The vast majority don’t know about the money they are owed, so it will be up to SoundExchange to look for them by attending their shows or camping out at the registration desks.

If they are like Lexi Street, lead singer for the Lexi Street Band in Atlanta, they will be highly skeptical.

“Someone tracking you down and giving you money? It just doesn’t exist,” Street said, describing how she reacted when SoundExchange called her in April. “I was like, ‘What do I need to do? Give them my soul?’ As an independent artist, you get so many pitches that try to nickel-and-dime you for one gimmick or another.

Street was eventually convinced by the voice at the other end of the line. She registered her songs with SoundExchange and received two checks totaling just over $300. She used the money toward the cost of recording her second album, “Champagne Promises.”

Not everyone signs up. Some even flatly refuse to take the money, believing it to be a con, SoundExchange’s Simon said.

Joyce Moore, the wife and manager of Sam Moore, a Gram- my-Award-winning soul singer, said she routinely encounters skeptical artists, even after she tells the story of how her husband’s first check was enough to cover six months’ worth of property taxes on their Scottsdale, Ariz., home, with some left over for “a couple of nice dinners.”

“A lot of legacy artists don’t understand what it is, and they think the money isn’t real,” Moore said. “I tell them it isn’t charity. It isn’t funky. It isn’t a scam. It’s the real deal.”

By Alex Pham
Los Angeles Times

When John Boydston got an e-mail from SoundExchange saying he had several thousand dollars in unclaimed royalties, he did what most sensible people would do. He ignored it.

To the rock musician from Atlanta, “money for nothing” meant a song by Dire Straits, not a stranger contacting him out of the blue promising to cut him big checks.

But then he got the message again six months later. Curious, he called SoundExchange.

“Sure enough, they had a sizable amount of money for me,” said Boydston, 51, whose band Daddy a Go Go includes his two teenage sons. “It was several thousand dollars. That’s not a ton of money. But for a guy who makes CDs in his basement, it was enough to finance my next album.”

Boydston’s money came from royalties that SoundExchange has squirreled away on his behalf since 2001, when Congress mandated that online music services have been required by law since 2001 to send royalty payments to SoundExchange for the songs they stream on Internet, satellite radio and cable television. So far, the group has distributed about $360 million to more than 35,000 artists and copyright holders.

But at any given time, about 25 percent of the money SoundExchange gets from online music services such as Pandora, XM, and Internet isn’t distributed because the artists can’t be tracked down. Currently, that amounts to about $50 million. And with the rising popularity of Internet radio, the cash pile has been growing, said John Simon, SoundExchange’s executive director.

The problem stems from what Simon calls “bad data.”

Music services have been required by law since 2001 to send royalty payments to SoundExchange for the songs they stream online. But they often provide scant details. Stations routinely get promotional discs in the mail that aren’t properly labeled, so the performers often go uncredited. Other times, music services keep sloppy records of the songs they play. Some tunes, for example, are titled “Unknown” and performed by “Various Artists.”

“We have this inside joke that if you want to make millions in the music business, just form a record label called Unknown and a band called Various Artists, and before you’ve even recorded a track, you can collect millions of dollars,” Simon said.

The problem primarily hits niche artists and older performers whose works are less widely recognized. Boydston, for instance, has self-published six children’s rock albums over the last decade. He estimates that he’s sold 30,000 discs in total.

“I’m a niche within a niche,” he said. “People like me fall off the radar.”

The “dirty data” phenomenon hampers the collection of royalties by other groups as well.

“This affects everyone,” said Patrick Sullivan, chief of RightsFlow, which helps track a separate set of royalties. “Without proper data, we can’t get the money out to the license holders. We have to do it better, because ultimately if we don’t get paid, no one gets paid.”

To fill in the blanks, SoundExchange has a grass-roots campaign to scour social networks such as Facebook and MySpace Music, to work with companies that provide independent artists with services such as CD Baby and ReverbNation and to hit music festivals and events.

This week at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin, four or five SoundExchange employees will fan out, armed with a list of 450 artists who collectively are owed about $250,000. The vast majority don’t know about the money they are owed, so it will be up to SoundExchange to look for them by attending their shows or camping out at the registration desks.

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North America dominated the 2010 Winter Olympic Games

The 2010 Winter Games came to a close in Vancouver, British Columbia, on the night of Feb. 28, ending 17 days filled with tragedy and triumph. North America dominated the medals table and the two hockey teams, Canada and the United States, won the 22 gold medals, 22 silver and 18 bronze. The United States came home with 37 medals in hand - the most by any country in Winter Games history. Canada, the host country, won 14 gold medals, the most by any country in the Winter Games - breaking the record of 13 originally held by Norway in 1952.

Tragedy struck early in the Games when just hours before the opening ceremony, 21-year-old Nodar Kumaritashvili, the Georgian luger, was involved in a fatal crash during a training run Feb. 12. During his run, Kumaritashvili, said by observers to be going at least 90 mph, lost control of his sled and went over the wall and crushed into one of the metal support beams.

It didn’t end there. The mother of Canadian figure skater Joannie Rochette died of a heart attack hours after arriving in Vancouver four days before, and her brother, also a figure skater, was separated shoulder or a pulled groin, and it’ll just become an injury to the head. Some symptoms are immediately obvious, such as loss of consciousness, but a few days up to a week after the incident to appear.

According to the American Academy of Neurology, symptoms can range from confusion, dizziness, headaches and clumsiness to nausea, blurred vision, difficulty concentrating and loss of equilibrium. Concussions are categorized as Grades 1 through 3, with 1 being the mildest and 3 being severe. In a Grade 3 concussion, the person loses consciousness for a few seconds or a few minutes, sometimes longer.

Repeated concussions can cause serious damage to the brain that may require surgery or lead to long-lasting problems with movement, learning or speaking, experts say.

The NHL has had more than 30 players suffer concussions or concussion-like symptoms as a result from hard hits to the head since the start of the 2009-10 season. All of these hits were determined to be either legal or illegal by the referees. If a referee feels the hit is illegal, he can assess the player with a charging, boarding, elbowing or interference penalty.

The NHL rulebook for 2009-10 states that if one of these illegal hits is a penalty and results in an injury to the face or head, the player is given a game misconduct, which involves the player being sent to the locker room for the rest of the game. If a player is hit with an automatic fine of $200 and the case is reported to the NHL Commissioner, who will review the incident and determine if more disciplinary action should be taken in the form of a fine or suspension.

On the other hand, if the hit is deemed legal by a referee, then no penalty is called, even if the player on the receiving end is injured.

The question of what should be done to eliminate head shots and reduce concussions is a controversial one among players, coaches and general managers throughout the league.

In an NHL Players’ Association meeting near the end of the 2008-09 season, the players agreed that they wanted to see the league create a rule that would penalize intentional hits to the head.

Likewise, when the general managers (GM) of all the clubs convened in Toronto on Nov. 11 and 12 to discuss ways to improve the game, one of the issues raised was the question of how to deal with head shots.

After the two days, the GMs formed a small committee to review the hits that took place this season in preparation for the next meeting March 9 and 10 in Boca Raton, Florida.

The second of the GM meetings ended with a proposal in hand for a rule change: “A lateral, back pressure or blind-side hit to an opponent where the head is targeted and/or the principal point of contact is not permitted. A violation of the above will result in a minor or major penalty and shall be reviewed for possible supplemental discipline.”

The proposal will have to be approved by the Competition Committee later this spring, and from there it will be forwarded to the Board of Governors. If it passes, it will be instituted into the rulebook for the 2010-11 season.

The new rule will not take away all hits to the head, but the general managers agree that it is a step in the right direction. “You can still hit this guy, you just can’t target his head,” Toronto Maple Leafs GM Cliff Fletcher told NHL.com. “It’s in our game – it’s part of the fabric of our game. It’s what’s distinctive about hockey in North America. Anywhere else on the planet you go, there’s not too much hits to the head in our game. We want to keep that, we want to preserve that.

But we want to take out a dangerous hit where a guy targets a guy’s head. He can still reff the guy, he just can’t target his head.”

After his fourth concussion, Primeau played two more games last season before retiring, claiming he couldn’t sit out the rest of the season. On Sep. 14, 2006, Keith Primeau hung up his skates and retired. “I just wanted to go out a bit better, but I’ll always know I damaged my brain,” he said. “I still get head pressure whenever I get sick or my immunity goes down. It goes right to my head. When I exercise and elevate my heart rate, I get light-headed and disoriented.”

Primeau believes that the players have lost respect for each other. Players nowadays have no fear, he said, because of the lack of retributions and repercussions for their actions which allows them to take too many liberties.

According to Primeau, the biggest solution would be a league mandated rule that any direct hit to the head, whether intentional or unintentional, will result in a penalty.

“We have to make sure we continue the awareness,” Primeau said. “My biggest fear is that head trauma [and] post-concussion is going to become like a MCL, an ACL, a separated shoulder or a pulled groin, and it’ll just become an accepted part of the occupation. It’s more important than that. It needs to be treated as a life situation as opposed to a hockey situation.”

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DCCC’s co-ed tennis team springs back on the courts

Tim Riday

DCCC’s co-ed tennis team is back into the swing of things after beginning practices on March 3.

The first signs of spring were seen during that first practice. It was sunny and 60 degrees outside. As the snow and the cold continue to melt and fade away, the tennis courts are beginning to heat up.

“We had a great turnout the first day,” said Andrew Johnson, Director of Wellness, Athletics, and Recreation at DCCC. “This is an all new team.”

Johnson was happy with the amount of students that showed up for the first practice. “The first couple of days are slow,” Johnson said. “We had 12 or so players.”

However, many students at DCCC aren’t aware about all of the sports teams. “I thought we only had a basketball team,” said Kyle Hall, 21, a communications major at DCCC. “Tennis is a fun sport to watch to though.”

“I know we had sport teams at DCCC,” said Chelsea Darczuk, 19, an education major at DCCC. “I just didn’t know which sports.”

Johnson is excited to see a new tennis match season this year. Five games will be played at DCCC’s main campus tennis courts. Practice is scheduled for every Monday from 3 to 5 p.m., aside from holidays.

All games will be free to attend. Students are encouraged to come out and support all DCCC athletic teams. The tennis schedule can be found online at DCCC’s website and outside of the wellness, recreation, and athletics office (room 2507, near the cafeteria).

DCCC’s website and outside of the wellness, recreation, and athletics office (room 2507, near the cafeteria).
For the Phillies, a new decade with new expectations

By Shawn Koten
Senior Staff Writer

It seems the new decade which descended upon the Philadelphia area brought with it something we’ve never seen before.

No, it’s not a fat-free cheese steak. Nope, it’s not the seven-plus feet of “Snowmageddon” that blanketed the region this winter-and lord knows it’s not a Super bowl victory.

Do you give up?

It’s a spoiled Phillies fan.

Even after the heartbreaking loss to the New York Yankees in game six of the 2009 World Series, the newly minted optimistic fans still expect and demand success from this group of proven winners.

That proof of greatness is in their 2008 World Series victory in five games over the not quite ready for primetime Tampa Bay Rays.

That year it seemed that everything fell into place for the “Phighting” Phils, in the regular season and the playoffs. Brad Lidge failed to blow a save (all year), Jamie Moyer defied Father Time, the usual suspects of Ryan Howard, Chase Utley and Jimmy Rollins had typically great seasons and Cole Hamels looked like Bob Gibson during the playoffs.

The result was a parade down Broad Street that a few people might have worried was “one-hit wonder.”

The team, determined to silence the naysayers, had a little momentum and three assistants.

The start of the 2009 season brought about higher expectations than normal, but there were a few skeptics that labeled the Phils as “one-hit wonders.”

The second biggest is head case/primadonna Cole Hamels. Will we get the Hamels from the 2009 postseason? Or the Hamels from the 2008 postseason? Or the Hamels from the 2007 postseason? There’s no way to tell.

This is the most maddening situation on the Phils plate for 2010. Cole Hamels has all the talent in the world to be an ace in the Major Leagues, plus he’s adding a “cutter” to his pitching repertoire.

The problem with Hamels has always been his desire. Does he have the heart to carry the Phils to third straight World Series? I believe the addition of Halladay is the proof that the Phils management doesn’t think so. We shall see.

All things considered, the pieces of the puzzle are laid out on the table.

The Ryan Howard, Chase Utley and J-Roll pieces have built a solid foundation to work with, while the Jayson Werth, Shane Victorino and Raul Ibanez pieces have increased in importance since last year. There are still a few pieces that are questionable in value and the newest, Roy Halladay, might actually become the most important of them all.

No matter what shape the puzzle takes, one thing is guaranteed for the 2010 season. Phils fans are going to have a great time watching all the pieces come together.

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Philadelphia area boasts 10 Olympic champions

By Candice Mohallon
Staff Writer

The United States proudly sent 214 athletes to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, British Columbia. The Philadelphia area supplied 10 athletes to compete, and out of the 37 medals won by the United States, five were won by our own Philadelphia area.

Here’s a look at the athletes and how they finished in their events:

Eric Bernotas, a native of Avondale, Pa., competed in the men’s skeleton. He posted a track time of 53.23, just 0.19 seconds behind first, and giving him a 14th place finish. Allison Baver, of Reading, Pa., a short track speed skater, took part in three competitions. She won a bronze medal in the 3,000 meter relay, came in at No. 15 in the 1,500 meter, and was disqualified in the 1,000 meter. Ben Agosto and Tanith Belbin, the ice dancing pair, train and live in Aston, Pa. They scored a 103.33 in a combined score of compulsory dance and original dance, and then a 99.74 in the free dance. They finished with a 203.07, giving them fourth place. Johnny Weir, of Cudsetsueville, Pa., competed in the men’s figure skating. He scored an 82.10 in the short program and a 156.77 in free skating, giving him a final score of 238.87 and sixth place. Bobby Ryan, native of Cherry Hill, N.J. and hockey player for the NFL’s Anaheim Ducks, was part of the U.S. men’s ice hockey team. Ryan posted a goal and an assist and had a plus-3 rating in the tournament and helped to take the U.S. team to the gold medal game and skated away with a silver medal.

Four Philadelphia Flyers were sent to the Olympics to represent their countries. Defenceman Oskars Bultsars, of Latvia, came in 12th place. Defenceman Kimmo Timonen, of Finland, had five asstcis and two assists in the gold medal game. Defenceman Chris Pronger, of Canada, had five asstcis on the way to capturing the gold medal along with teammate and Flyers captain, Mike Richards, who had two goals and three assists.

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