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Order Up!

by Kamron Klitgaard
by Mrs. Jill Harris

When it comes to food, people are particular - very particular! In this quick succession of quirky customers, the Order Up! restaurant

takes on everything from a controlling mother and weird food allergies (Elisa Angeles Espinoza & Layne Guindon) to fanatical health inspectors (Taylor Morenz), from the fear of eating (Gabby Fink) to someone wanting to hide in the restroom while doing the potty dance (Brianna Gerlach), and on, and on, and on! Yet, the employees do not always believe the customer is always right (Teresa Rodriguez Ortiz) and some are concerned with hiring new employees (Nyomi Mahrt).

"It's all here!" is the slogan from all the employees at the Order Up! restaurant! Even if a customer comes in who simply cannot decide what to order (Lizbeth Guzman Zaragoza) and the employees who give their lives—almost— (Jocelyn Manzano) and those who just want to

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L. to R. Jay Peppel, Mitchell area SD DOT engineer, Abby Davis, Kenzie Davis, Carter Davis, Cordell Davis and Bill Metzger in front of "Blizzard Wizard", the recently named snow plow

South Dakota can be very harsh in the winter, especially if you are driving on one of its many highways, with the sometimes blinding snows causing "white outs" and treacherous, nail-biting conditions.

Blowing snow across the roadway was the inspiration for Cordell Davis, one of only 12 winners in the first ever "Name the Snow Plow" contest, sponsored by the South Dakota Department of Transportation this past mid-January.

The Davis family was enroute home to Plankinton after a jaunt to Sioux Falls, and the snow was blowing across the road surface. Cordell's wife Melissa mentioned the contest and 4th grade daughter Kenzie was reading the mystical and magical Harry Potter books. "Wouldn't it be nice if we could just wave a wand and make the snow disappear?," thought Cordell. And the name "Blizzard Wizard" presented itself from his imagination!

"The contest was designed to engage people across the state with the SDDOT in a fun and unique way," says Interim Transportation Secretary Joel Jundt. "Safety on our roadways is our number one priority, and winter driving and snowplow safety awareness is vital to keeping people safe each and every day."

When the contest ended on Jan. 31, 2021, over 800 entries had been submitted by individuals, families, elementary classrooms, senior living centers, and businesses across the entire state. SDDOT staff then voted on the submissions.

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PHS All School Play Cast members are ready to serve up some one of a kind entertainment. l. to r. Kirbie Payne, T.J. Harris, Rylan Bush, Jasmyn Lessman, Meredith Konechne, Olivia Meier, Jocelyn Monzano, Teresa Rodriguez- Ortiz and Shyla Tobin. Center, In tears, Kyndle Timberlake has Meredith Konechne and Shyla Tobin wondering what is going on? Bottom right, It's time for some quick medical response, T.J. Harris, Kirbie Payne assists Jaya Koch administering to LizBeth Guzman Zaragoza

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The Long Journey to All American



Marcus Urban (far right) takes his place on the winners' podium to receive his seventh place medal and All-American honor plaque



Many years of hard work, endurance and dedication to his sport has led Dakota Wesleyan Senior and 2017 PHS graduate Marcus Urban to the culmination of his goal to being named an All American Wrestler, an honor which he received recently with a 7th place finish at the NAIA National Wrestling Tournament in Wichita, Kansas.

Marcus' journey began as a five year old, when he followed in his older brothers', Ryan's and Tyler's, footsteps into the wrestling world, first as an AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) youth wrestler, which was a club sport at Plankinton Grade School. He placed several times at the AAU State Tournament during his youth wrestling career.

Working his way up through the ranks, Marcus continued wrestling into high school and achieved

Marcus Urban Places 7th at NAIA National Tournament



Marcus takes on #1 seed Kyle Caldwell in his first match of the NAIA National Tournament



(Far left) Marcus starts his illustrious wrestling career as an AAU Youth grappler; (center) Marcus as a 4-year letterman at DWU; (above) Marcus faces down GPAC opponent Chris Paulson in his third match at Nationals

his 100 career win mark as a Sophomore, picking up his 200th career mat victory in his Senior year. He had a 6th place and two 5th place finishes at the South Dakota State High School Wrestling Tournaments, and finished his high school career with a 215-60 record.

Having been recruited to wrestle at Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) in Mitchell, SD, Marcus competed in both the 157 lbs. and 165 lbs. weight classes over his four year tenure. He placed at the GPAC (Great Plains Athletic Conference) three years in a row, picking up a 3rd place finish as a Sophomore; 2nd place as a Junior; and 4th place in his final year of eligibility, as a Senior in 2021.

Marcus also earned GPAC All-Conference 2nd Team honors all three years. He qualified for the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) National Tournament in both his Junior and Senior years, and had been named "Tiger Athlete of the Week" at DWU seven times during his time there.

During his senior year, Marcus was

(Continued on next page)

All-American

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ranked nationally all season and qualified for the NAIA National Tournament through a wild card spot. The tournament was held on March 5th & 6th, 2021 in Park City, Kansas. On Friday, Marcus received a bye in the first round of the tournament and then took on the #1 seed, Kyle Caldwell from Grand View, and lost by a 5-2 decision.

Marcus then bounced back in the consolation bracket by pinning Dracius McKee from Texas Wesleyan in 2:50. In consolation round 3, Marcus squared off against GPAC Conference foe and #10 seed Chris Paulson from Briar Cliff.

Marcus lost twice to Paulson during the regular season, but took revenge and won by a score of 8-4 to advance in the tournament. The next round, which is the 4th round consolation match, is also known as the blood round. This round determines whether you are eliminated from the tournament or become an All-American.

In the 4th round (consolation quarterfinals) Marcus wrestled Elliot Rodgers of Marian and won a close match by a score of 8-6 to earn All-American status.

On Saturday in consolation round 5, Marcus lost to Gavin Smith from Campbellsville by a score of 6-1, which put Marcus in for 7th & 8th place against the #1 seed Kyle Caldwell again. Marcus clinched 7th place due to a medical forfeit by Caldwell, from Grand View.

Marcus became the 20th NAIA All-American in DWU Wrestling program history after taking 7th place at the NAIA National Championships. Marcus has also been named NWCA (National Wrestling Coaches Association) All-Scholar Athlete for his efforts on the mat and in the classroom.

His parents, Ron & Susan Urban of Plankinton, along with brothers Ryan and Tyler Urban, were able to travel to Wichita and attend the National Tournament to watch him earn his All-American honors.

Reflecting on his "Journey to All-American", Marcus said, "This season has been nothing short of a dream come true. I'm so grateful to look all the way back to the end of last season because after that we weren't even sure we would have a season with Covid-19. It feels good though to finally achieve a goal that I've been aiming for ever since I decided to continue to wrestle at the collegiate level."

Blizzard Wizard

(Continued from Page 1)

Winners for the state's 12 DOT regions are: "Darth Blader" by Dave Bacon of Aberdeen; "Art" by Family and Friends of the late Art Deknikker (Faith and Bison); "Mt. Plowmore" by Landon Harrod of Edgemont; "Snow Mater" by Jim Bruce of Highmore; "Blizzard Wizard" by Cordell Davis of Plankinton; "Winter Warrior" by Marion Goehring of Herreid; "Lewis & Clark" by Jackie Heier of Pierre; "Polar Patter" by Tiffany Hoff of Rapid City; "SnowBeGone Kenobi" by Shawn Hanson of Sioux Falls; "Thaw Enforcement" by Robert Innes of Aurora; "Walter the Salter" by the Dairy Queen Staff of Winner, and "Frosty the Snowplow" by Lilly Kroger of Beresford.

"The name Art was submitted by several people in the Belle Fourche Area in memory of 43-year SDDOT veteran snowplow operator, Art DeKnikker," says Todd Seaman, Rapid City Region Engineer. "The opportunity to honor Art's dedicated public service is a true testament to all our plow operators who

work hard every day to keep citizens safe."

Cordell, along with children Carter, Abby and Kenzie, got to meet "Blizzard Wizard" face to face, last Thursday, proudly sporting its new name decal across the top of its windshield.

The one year old,



Front L to R: Noble Black, Kaine Lindsey, Kolby Lindsey; Second L to R: Tucker Hastings, Asher Helma, Noah Reimnitz, Kane Hosman, Will Hosman, Ryne Earl, Hudson Baker, Arrick Hauge; Third L to R: Trysten Eide, Carson Earl, Preston Nedved Max Vanden Hoek Fourth L to R: Ethan Reimnitz, Daniel Dorsey, Keagan Hill, Tanner Baker Back Row L to R: Coach Shay Johnson, Coach Ryan Urban, Tate Tolsma, Payton Nedved, Austin Hauge, Paxton Nedved, Tyce Feistner, Coach Josh Geppert

Youth Wrestlers Head to State

By Wendy Nedved

Congrats to all the wrestlers who competed at regions at the Mitchell Corn Palace on Saturday, March 13th, 2021! To qualify for the state tournament, wrestlers need to place in the top 3 for all divisions except Midgets which takes the top 4.

We had 15 out of 25 qualify for the state tournament in Rapid City on March 26-28th.

2021 SDWCA Region 3 Tournament Results for MVPCS

Tots 37 - Kaine Lindsey's place is 3rd; Tots 57 - Kane Hosman's place is 1st; Bantam 61 - Hudson Baker's place is 2nd; Midgets 50 - Asher Helma's place is 1st; Midgets 56 - Noah Reimnitz's place is 3rd; Midgets 59 - Will Hosman's place is 1st; Midgets 77 - Carson Earl's place is 4th; Novice 72 - Trysten Eide's place is 6th; Novice 77 - Max Vanden Hoek's place is 1st; Novice 82 - Preston Nedved's place is 4th; Novice 82 - Daniel Dorsey's place is 3rd; Schoolboy 90 - Keagan Hill's place is 3rd; Schoolboy 110 - Tanner Baker's place is 4th; Schoolboy 120 - Paxton Nedved's place is 1st; Schoolboy 125 - Tyce Feistner's place is 3rd; Schoolboy 150 - Payton Nedved's place is 5th; Schoolboy 160 - Tate Tolsma's place is 2nd; Cadets 138 - Austin Hauge place is 2nd; Girls A (Grades PreK-2) 60 - Noble Black's place is 3rd

Freightliner dual wing truck/plow has a Detroit DD 13 engine, live body and chain on the floor for sanding. Its operator is Bill Metzger, 13 year employee of the DOT, who drove it over from its housing in Mitchell. Its snow removal route is from Mitchell to Spencer on Interstate 90.

"I was honored to be chosen," said Cordell, who is eager to enter again if the DOT holds another contest.

An interesting side

note, Blizzard Wizard is one of 25 plows in the State undergoing a blue light safety test, seeing if the back strobe light color of blue, (Photo) which normally is white or orange, affects the amount of accidents.

"Don't crowd the plow!" {Ed Note: Congrats Cordell, next time we see Blizzard Wizard,

out on Interstate on a Potter's spell to make snowy day, we'll say the snow disappear. "Evanesco!", Harry



Xavier Schmidt, 7, son of John and Casey Schmidt, got his wheels stuck in the heavy snow, but wasn't deterred from having a grand time on the family farm!

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day



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Tap Green Beer \$2 Glass

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