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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Jason Howe plays Jesus and Lillian Vetter plays a little girl in a crowd scene from "Behold Your King," which will be presented by Yankton's Calvary Baptist Church in conjunction with Easter.

'Behold': Theatrical Journey Set For Local Church

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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When the Calvary Baptist Church performs its Easter program "Behold Your King" a week from Sunday, it will be the culmination of a journey.

It's a journey from spring cleaning and discovering an old forgotten book; a journey of a calling to adapt that found book and create a play; a journey of finding faith in friends and most importantly in God — all of it undertaken by Deb Stevens and shared with the community of Calvary Baptist and the Yankton community.

"It all began when my husband was cleaning out some old books here at his office," Stevens said. "I was just looking through the box, and I pulled this one out because it was old and I like historical fiction. I started reading it, and it was so slow going at first, they just had a more intelligent way of writing fiction than now. But about the seventh chapter, I really started getting into the book. So I suggested we read it at my book club; I just couldn't let it go. There was just this idea rolling around in my head: You should write a script for this."

The book "Behold Your King" was originally published in 1945. Written by Florence Marvyn Bauer, it follows the story of Jonathan, a member of a Pharisee from Alexandria. He has come to Jerusalem to live with his uncle, Joseph of Arimathea. It is all about Jonathan's observation of the trials and tribulation of Jesus Christ. It explores his own finding of faith and the journey he takes to understanding.

Stevens said the process of writing the script for her was one she doubted she was capable of meeting. She feared the demands of writing a full-length drama, so she stopped. However, encouragement from a friend got her back on the path.

"I know that it was God's plan to put my friend there to get me working again," she said. "I can't even tell you what she said to me, but it inspired me to start working again. From there, the script just developed. When I look back, I don't know how I did it. You look at the number of pages of the book, the number of characters and then look at the script, and I just don't know how I got from there to here."

Stevens said once she had finished the script she asked friends from her book club to review it to make sure the story was still honoring the intent of the book. After that, she asked other friends to read it and make sure the drama made sense to someone who had not read the book.

"It was just a journey of faith," she said. "I went to pastor and told him I had written this script, and he jumped on it right away."

Calvary Baptist Pastor Jon Cooke said the congregations tradition of doing "The Victor" for Easter let him know they were more than capable of doing the more dramatic and line-heavy "Behold Your King."

"I just encouraged Deb to go for

MMC Set To Induct Three

Jensen, Orr, Pfeiffer To Enter School's Athletic Hall Of Fame May 8

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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The Mount Marty College Athletic Hall of Fame will add three members during an induction ceremony on May 8.

Tim Jensen, a baseball player from 1992-94, Chris Orr, a women's basketball player from 1988-92, and Michelle Pfeiffer, a track and field athlete from 2000-04, were chosen for this year's Hall of Fame class, bringing the current number of Hall of Famers to 47.

Below are bios on each of the three honorees:

TIM JENSEN

Were it not for budget cuts at another college, one of the greatest two-way players in Lancer baseball history might not have found his way to Yankton.

Jensen, a Wisconsin native, had just completed his playing days at Des Moines Area Community College and had accepted a full ride to Grand View College in Iowa. But, in mid-July, he and two other DMACC teammates got some bad news.

"We got a call from the coach, and the school had made cut-backs," Jensen said. "So any new athletes would not have a scholarship for that year. (The coach) said that they would honor it for any years after that, as long as it took to complete our degrees, but I couldn't afford \$18,000 a year."

So the 5-9 standout, who originally had several offers including NCAA Division I Arkansas, found himself looking for a place to play. And then-MMC baseball coach Bob Tereshinski came calling.

"I looked into it, and the chance to be a big fish in a small pond appealed to me," Jensen said.

DMACC teammates Jamie White and Tony Tonn, who had also signed with Grand View, followed suit. Another DMACC teammate, Roman Kula, had committed to MMC earlier.

Even though Jensen hadn't pitched at DMACC, Tereshinski was looking at him to fill a need on the mound.

"I didn't throw a pitch in two years at DMACC," Jensen noted. "That's how good our staff was."

Then Jensen took some swings in the batting cage during his first fall with the team.



"I brought him in to be a pitcher," Tereshinski said. "He took a couple of swings and crushed the ball. I took a look at him and said I have to put him in the lineup."

It wasn't just a couple of cuts that made that decision easy. "He had such a good, solid sweeping bat, plus he had speed," Tereshinski said. "It wasn't hard for me to make that decision."

In 1993, Jensen set what remains the school record for home runs with 19 blasts. He also had 57 RBI and three saves on the mound, which were both Lancer records at the time.

A season later, he established what was then the school record for hits (67), set the school record for complete games (9) and had the second-highest single-season totals for home runs (17), innings pitched (78 2/3) and strikeouts (84).

For his efforts, he was named to the NAIA All-District 12 Baseball Honor Squad both years, and was also named to the NAIA All-Region Team in 1994 and the South Dakota All NAIA Team in 1993.

Despite playing only half his career in a Lancer uniform, Jensen ranks second all-time in batting average (.425), fourth in home runs (36), and fifth in strikeouts (162), complete games (14) and earned run average (3.04).

"I wish I would have played four years at Mount Marty," Jensen

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Michelle Pfeiffer (above), Chris Orr (left) and Tim Jensen will be inducted into the Mount Marty College Hall of Fame during the school's athletic banquet May 8. Pfeiffer was a track standout while Orr excelled for the MMC women's basketball team. Jensen was a star baseball player for the Lancers. (Courtesy photos)



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