Vermillion Manfacturer Offers Double Edge Scholarship To Area Student

Vermillion, SD—A Vermillion man will get a jump start on his career thanks to the Build Dakota Scholarship program and the willingness of a Vermillion company to invest in the education of its future skilled workforce.

MASABA, a manufacturer of bulk handling equipment for the mining, aggregate, and agriculture industries, is partnering with Build Dakota and Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) to address its projected need for welders through participation in MTI's Double Edge program. The Double Edge is a hybrid of the Build Dakota and MTI's Workforce Recruit-ment Program (WRP). Under the program, a student's education is jointly funded by Build Dakota and the sponsoring company. The student must maintain an academic standard to remain eligible, and commit three years of post-grad service to the company.

Lofton Covington will enroll in MTI's Welding & Manufacturing Technology program this fall. It is one of thirteen MTI courses of study that are designated as high-need workforce programs by the Build Dakota Scholarship board, and students entering those fields are eligible to apply for funding under the program. Covington is a 2015 graduate of Vermillion High School.

"The rigors of the industries we serve, and the varied and high-tech nature of our manufacturing processes require that we have a highly-skilled workforce to meet the demands of our customers," said Jerad Higman, president of MASABA. "In a tight labor market, quality people are hard to come by, so when the Double Edge opportunity presented itself, it was an easy decision to make this investment in Lofton and in our company".

Build Dakota was created earlier this year out of a \$25 million gift to South Dakota's four technical institutes by philanthropist T. Denny Sanford. Over the first five years of the program, the equivalent of approximately 1,200 full-ride scholarships will be awarded to qualifying students in eligible academic programs. The state of South Dakota matched the Sanford gift, and those funds were placed in an endowment, which will continue to fund the Build Dakota program after the initial funds are invested in South Dakota's future technical workforce.

Because of the existence of the WRP program at MTI – a program under which a company funds a portion of a student's education for a post-grad commitment of employment with the company – the mechanism was in place for the creation of the Double Edge program.

The outcome is that more students will benefit from the Build Dakota dollars, while participating companies gain the assurance of trained talent when the student graduates.

"MTI's Double Edge and WRP are exciting programs for our students and employers. Participating in these programs will better position both the employer and the students for future opportunities", stated Rita Nelson, Workforce Development Coordinator with Yankton Area Progressive Growth. "The sponsoring company plays an active role in mentoring, educating and building their qualified workforce. The student receives more than a valuable scholarship for an excellent education, they build a mentorship relationship and career opportunities. We are extremely grateful to MTI and MAŠABA for working together to amplify the impact of the Build

Dakota Scholarship. This innovative partnership creates a highly-trained workforce ready to grow our regional economy and adapt for the future."

According to Mark Gerhardt, MTI's Vice President of Industry Relations, "in the five-year existence of the WRP program, we've had over 20 companies in seven different industries sponsor dozens of students who are now employed by those companies. Once the pipeline of talent starts to flow, the enthusiasm for the WRP grows, and most companies increase their level of participation. The rate of growth should be even greater with the Double Edge.

the Double Edge."

In addition to participating in the Double Edge program, MASABA has contracted with MTI's Corporate Education Division to provide non-credit training for existing employees in the areas of advanced welding

and manufacturing econom-

About Masaba

Masaba, Inc is aggregate and mining manufacturer in Vermillion, South Dakota. Harold Higman, Sr. founded Higman Sand and Gravel in 1939 in Akron, IA. He designed much of his own equipment. His son, Harold Higman, Jr. officially formed MÄSABA in 1962. His son Jerad Higman took over MASABĂ in 1999. In 2005 he moved the manufacturing location to Vermillion, SD. In 2008 Masaba expanded globally by adding a Canadian location. Markets served now include: mining, aggregate, agriculture, ports and inland waterways, industrial, power plants, pulp and paper, wood chips and specialty minerals. For information call (605) 624-9555 or visit the website at www.masabainc.com.

Men's Senior Golf Fun League

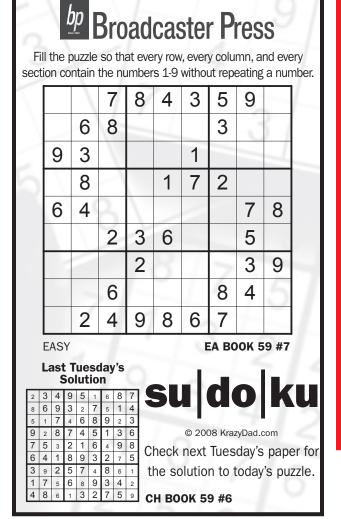
Eighteen seniors golfed on Tuesday, July 28th. Due to the recent rains, the match started one hour later than the usual 9:00 o'clock start time.

The team of Sid Davis, Max Anderson and Ken Beringer shot a 32, which was the best score of the day.

Two teams shot a 33 and by using a tiebreaker, Jerry Sommervold, Shorty Hanson, Dave Zimmer and Rex Huska came in second. The team of Tony Glass, Louie Fostvodt, Ross King and Cleland Cook shot the other 32. Louie made a 12 foot putt and a 6 foot putt. Ross made a 10 foot putt.

Harlan Schott, Pat Boyle and Gary Prasek shot a 34. Bob Solomon, Don Baer, Gene Iverson and Elmer Mount had a score of 36.

Senior men are welcome to join us at The Bluffs on Tuesdays. We start at 9:00 a.m. till Labor Day and then switch to the afternoons. Please come 20 minutes or more ahead of time so teams can be formed to compete in a best-ball format.



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WHEN: Aug. 13, 2015 5 - 7 p.m.

WHERE: 1617 317th St. Vermillion, SD

Join us and help celebrate the 10 Year Anniversary of Masaba moving to Vermillion! Food, refreshments, and tours will be provided.

Questions? Contact Steve Nelson at (605) 658-8952