

Hyperion/ from page 1

The students noted that the Hyperion project would use 9 to 12 million gallons of water and day in the refining process. They also cited information credited to Derrick Iles, state geologist for the South Dakota Department of Natural Resources, who has stated that the biggest concern is not the consumption of groundwater but possible pollution.

The students also concluded that pollution from the refinery would likely have detrimental effects on nearby land because of contamination.

Hyperion has proposed to have nearly no external emissions because of internal combustion chambers. Although Hyperion has made these claims on their Web site, they are still unable to meet the standards of the proposed state air permit, the students told aldermen Monday, adding that Hyperion claims the refinery will produce roughly one third of the emissions of the Flint Hill refinery in Minnesota, while producing around 40 percent more oil per day, but still not meet state and federal pollution standards.

The students noted that corn production is a predominant economic activity in Union County and the surrounding area, and the Hyperion refinery could have a significant negative effect on corn growth. The risks of gaining another oil refinery in the United States, and more importantly in Union County, may outweigh the benefit, the students concluded through their research, noting that the environmentally responsible decision pertaining to land around Hyperion would be to continue with existing practices instead of endangering them with heavy industry.

The university students told the city council that the proposed Hyperion project has the potential to change the air quality of the immediate area as well as distant areas within the wind patterns surrounding Union County. It is estimated that the refinery will emit 19.6 million tons of pollutants annually. The USD students noted in their presentation that some individuals, including Gov. Mike Rounds, argue the emissions from this plant will only be 32 percent of what is currently emitted from Sioux Falls.

The class members' research notes that some Hyperion representatives and people in support of the refinery have claimed that due to the great air quality that currently exists in that region, most pollutants emitted from the proposed site will disappear into the atmosphere over time.

Research has shown that this is a misconception and that the pollutants being produced by a refinery will fall from the air and settle on the farmland around the region of Union County, according to the students' presentation. The USD class also presented research findings to the council that concludes that pollutants emitted by the refinery will continue to linger in the air for years.

Students learned that many people who live in the surrounding area of the proposed site and who are in favor of the refinery do not believe the proposed project will affect their day to day lives. However, the USD student's research concludes that emissions released into the air by the refinery will travel in the air by wind currents and have the potential to leave lasting effects on the farmland and quality of life of the in the area.

The student researchers concluded that the refinery would emit too much pollution into the atmosphere and the creates enough ecological issues in the Boreal Forests of Canada, where the oil that will be refined is contained in tar sands, to make it a worthwhile long term energy solution.

Students noted that if future technology would allow oil companies to harvest bitumen from the Boreal Forest in a less harmful manner, then the project could be sustainable for a longer period of time than currently projected.

One of the students involved in the research conducted a survey of individuals living in the area of the proposed refinery, and found that the community is equally for and against Hyperion, and that some people are undecided. Pollution is the major concern for members that are opposed and undecided about the issue, and growth is the major concern for supporters.

The survey revealed that many people feel that Hyperion is not telling the truth about pollution rates, however, those supporting the project think that the plant will be green and have almost no change to the air quality. When survey participants were asked what has to happen for them to change their stance, many of the members would change if there was too much pollution or alternative energy companies had interest in the location. Surprisingly, many people said they will not change their mind regardless of any changes.

The people surveyed consisted on average of older men with income around \$50,000 living both in rural and in-town Vermillion. About 20 percent of members surveyed own or owned a business at one point in time. Of the people surveyed, on average they felt they had above average knowledge about the Hyperion project.

Pool/ from page 9

Let's get to the games. Char 1 destroyed the home standing Careys 1 9-batters 20-5. Troy Schaffer and "Blue Barry" Brown were 5-0 with help from Bill Willroth and Grant "Fresh off the Harvest" Sommervold who went 4-1...Blah Blah blah...MOJO was 2-3 to lead the 9Ballers.

Leo's 3 went on the road to Bunyans and laid a heavy 19-6 crushing on Bunyans 2. Travis Snyder and Jon Brooks went 5-0 and were assisted by 4-1 effort from Kyle Mollet. Donny Stewart was top dog for the Bombers with two wins. Blaine Schoellerman also helped out with a couple of fine insults to the other team.

Once again the road team was victorious as Maya Janes 2 visited the Charcoal Lounge and lambasted the Char 2 by an 18-7 score. Nathan Bork was 5-0 with help from Troy Nicks and Brian Lambertz at 4-1 for MJ2. Josh Bievier and Ryan "Dino" Dineen each had a solid two wins for the home team.

The Eagles 2 soared into the Leos 4 home surface and dropped a 17-8 clipping of the home team. Tim Dooley showed the way with a five win night and got a little help from Quinten Larson's four wins for the "Birds of Prey." Harlan Durkin had three wins for Leos 4.

Leo's 1 used a five win night from Travis "Too Tough and Way Bad" Taggart to vex the Varsity 2 ballers by a 17-8 home victory. Rusty Jensen also pitched in with four wins for Leo's 1. The trio of Nick Eiacher, Ryan Brinkman and Jesse Greenway evenly split six wins for the Varsity 2.

Maya Janes 3 held serve at home with an 18-7 win over Careys 2. Ben Hobag was a five game winner for MJ3. Todd Ratiagan assisted with four wins. Careys 2 top shooter was Zac Lacey with a three win night.

Whimps defended "Beautiful Downtown Burbank" with a 17-8 whacking of Bunyans 1. Gleny Mac took home best in show with a 5-0 night. Rob and Skinny (sounds like a radio duo) won four each for Whimps. Jeremy Kirkpatrick was a three game

winner for the Bombers of Bunyans 1.

Jerry Sommervold and Clark Lewison celebrated the end of the harvest by gleening four wins each as the Eagles 1 team took down the Lettermen of the Varsity by a 15-10 tally. Larry Edwards and Cliff Deverell each helped with three wins for the high flying Eagles. Carl Towner and Mike Stewart were three game winners for the Varsity 1 shooters.

Maya Janes 1 defended home turf with a 15-10 besting of Leos 2. Gerit Soljje and Scott Towels each won five games for MJ1. Jami Baedke and Day Doty rolled in three nine balls each for the Leos 2 players.

Well, that's all for the games. It kind of has a stench or at least leaves a bad taste in a few mouths. Not really... it's just a game... and some of us will have to do better in the future. Before I say goodbye, I would like to remind you all that Dec. 16 is the last round of league play for 2009. We crank it all back up on Jan. 13, 2010.

So with that being said, here are the match ups for Dec. 16. The home team is listed first. Leos 1 vs. Maya Janes 3; Eagles 2 vs. Leos 3; Varsity 2 vs. Bunyans 1; Leos 4 vs. Char 1; Maya Janes 2 vs. Careys 2; Bunyans 2 vs. Leos 2; Whimps vs. Varsity 1; Careys 1 vs. Eagles 1; Maya Janes 1 vs. Char 2.

There you have it folks. That's all from me. Until next time. Thanks, MOJO.

South Dakota, Different in Good Ways

A bleak Christmas season is in store for South Dakota families suffering from the worst economy since the Great Depression. History tells us that memories of the hardships will fade with time, but kindnesses shown are long remembered.

In the 1930s, down-on-their-luck families sometimes lodged in county poor farms. Herschel and Hilda McKnight ran the Charles Mix County Home for the Poor in those years. It was housed in a four-story building that was once the Ward Academy in Academy, S.D., south of Mitchell. Before her death, Hilda told of her experiences to Marian Cramer, a Bryant farmwife and teacher who has written several articles for South Dakota Magazine.

Several times through the years, we've related Hilda's story of a 14-year-old girl's Christmas at the Home for the Poor. Here's an abbreviated version.

Hilda said she always remembered the day that Carol arrived with her mother. "It was never easy to welcome people to a poor house. Herschel moved quickly to the door and opened it. He had a special way of putting people at ease."

The McKnights strived to provide clothing so the kids wouldn't look out-of-place at school. The mothers and two WPA seamstresses sewed and repaired donated clothing. Carol befriended the McKnights and offered to help in the laundry and sewing room as well. But one day in the fall she told Hilda, "I know how hard you and Mr. Mac worked to get us nice clothes. It really doesn't matter, I guess. I have this lovely skirt and they still call us 'poor house kids' at school."

Hilda gave Carol a hug, and to hide her tears she fussed with a missionary barrel that had just been delivered from a church in the East. "Let's see what treasures we can find," she said. Together, they laughed



as they pulled out wool pants with the seat worn thin, a pair of long underwear with holes in the knees and elbows, and other useless things. But way at the bottom, Carol pulled out a chiffon scarf. Though threadbare, it seemed lovely to her eyes.

"Would you like to keep it?" asked Hilda. Carol's answer was to hold it closely and nod. The scarf was her doorway to dreams. She would sit on her bed and finger the soft chiffon. She was not in the Charles Mix County Home for the Poor. She was far away. She always neatly folded her scarf and put it away.

EXPLORING SOUTH DAKOTA



By Katie Hunhoff
Editor at South Dakota Magazine

The holidays came in 1933 despite the dust. Hilda and the women baked cookies and decorated the poor house with paper chains. The county allowed one clothing gift for each resident, so the McKnights shopped carefully to make it worthwhile.

A few days before Christmas, Carol tapped on the McKnights' door. "You have been so busy for all of us, but you won't have any Christmas presents, any Christmas," she said.

Hilda assured the girl that they would celebrate Christmas together as one big family. "You are all our family, Carol. We are happy."

On Christmas morning, Carol hesitantly returned to the McKnights' room. First, she approached Herschel. "I don't have a present for you," she said. "Just a hug," Herschel was a big man, and he enfolded the slim girl in his arms.

Then Carol said, "Mrs. Mac, I have something for you." She handed Hilda a box wrapped in paper, and watched like a hawk as she untied the string. Beneath the crackling paper was the girl's chiffon scarf.

Hilda fought back tears as she fingered its softness.

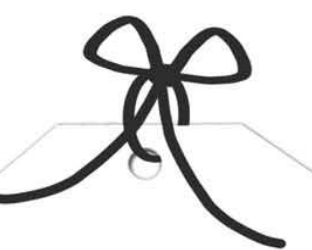
"It's all I have, Mrs. Mac," Carol said. Hilda told our writer that she treasured it forever: "The frayed chiffon scarf is forever my symbol of Christmas and a true gift of love."

Katie Hunhoff is an assistant editor at South Dakota Magazine, published in Yankton. For more history, travel and culture visit www.southdakotamagazine.com.

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Vermillion School District would like to **Thank** all "Excellence through Ethics Presenters" who provided for the Junior Achievement program at Vermillion High School.



Back row: Craig Thompson, Steve Howe, Jerami West, Andy Howe, Scott Munger, Barb Goodman, Will Kennedy, Tim Tracy, Jack Powell. Seated: John Prescott, Paul Preister, Farron Pratt, Brenda Fergen, Mike Carlson, Mark Froke

WELCOME

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Madelaine	Elizabeth	Cole	Audrey	Hadley	Tahni
Alexa	Brody	Amber	Jacie	Alycia	Laela
Aiden	William	Alice	Adalyn	Sierra	Preston
Miranda	Danaye	Hanna	Merik	Tiberius	Augustus
Lucas	Molly	Payne	Phoenix	Orianthi	Landen
Knox	Maryn	Karli	Beckett	Kolden	Zayden
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