

Teamwork — in the name of science:

USD hosts annual Science Olympiad Saturday

By Travis Gulbrandson
travis.gulbrandson@plaintalk.net

This Saturday, more than 250 middle school and high school students will be in town showing off their scientific know-how.

The University of South Dakota will be host to 21 middle and high schools as part of the 28th annual South Dakota Science Olympiad.

The 15-member team from Vermillion Middle School will be among those who come to participate in a series of events requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills and applications.

"We always try to have as many people compete as we can," said VMS Science Olympiad advisor Natasha Gault. "Half of them are just scientific testing events, and a good portion of them are building events."

The team began practicing in mid-November, meeting once per week for two and a half hours.

"They conduct research on their particular event," Gault said. "If it's a building event, they work on developing blueprints, and then building. Most of the tests are taken in a partnership, so they also work with a partner on learning the information that's required for their event."

Clark Bennett, event organizer and mathematics instructor at USD, said teams should get at least two months of preparation behind them before attending.

"As soon as you get all the rules by sending in your payment and your registration information, I send out the manual to you and you can start preparing for the various things," he said.

Bennett said he and approximately 100 others have been working since August to ensure everything is in place for Saturday.

"We have to get all of the appropriate supplies either collected or made," he said. "There are 23 events per division, and we have two divisions, a middle school division and a high school division. So, that's 46 events that we have to prepare for."

Participation relating to specific events varies from year to year, he said.

"Robotic stuff is not always the most heavily attended because there's a lot of time involved creating that stuff," Bennett said. "You have to build something to ... I believe this year it's going to be sitting in one place, but it has to move batteries and nails and pieces of PVC pipe and pencils into various locations in a little court."

"Just because of the time commitment that it takes to build it and fine-tune it, not all of the schools typically take part

in it," he said.

Events such as these often attract a fair amount of spectators, Bennett said.

Some others include a catapult event called "Storm the Castle," which takes place at the Vermillion Armory from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and "Bottle Rocket," which is to the north of Old Main from noon-2 p.m.

Gault said the students who participate gain a lot in the way of problem-solving skills and independent learning.

"Since there are such a variety of events and information, they really have to have a particular passion in an area, and if they don't have that passion the results usually don't end very well for them," she said. "So, they have to go beyond what they're used to, which is reading something out of a book."

"They actually have to go and find the information and understand it, primarily independently," she said.

Bennett said, "I think they get a greater appreciation of science and how diverse it is. It can be fun. It's not just, 'I have to take this.' It's, 'I want to take this because it's interesting.'"

For more information and a full schedule of events, visit <http://orgs.usd.edu/sdscioly/>.

Match Day reveals USD med students' residencies

Fourth-year medical students at the Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota learned where they will complete their residency training. Match Day ceremonies were recently held across the country, including in Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Yankton. Envelopes were handed to each student with their residency acceptance letters inside.

This year's Sanford School of Medicine graduating class has 52 students. They chose 19 different specialties and will train in 24 different states. Eleven students will train in residencies in South Dakota at least for their first year.

"The competition for positions in residencies is

increasingly difficult with a national total of 31,355 active applicants competing for 24,034 residency positions this year," said Paul Bunger, Ph.D., dean of medical student affairs for the Sanford School of Medicine. "The simultaneous Match Day celebrations in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Yankton were well attended by faculty, staff and families of the students, and there was great cause for celebration as they opened their envelopes to reveal their training sites."

For the first two years, medical students are taught on the Vermillion campus. Third- and fourth-year students are trained in Rapid City, Sioux Falls or Yankton.

OBITUARIES

Marlin Becker

Marlin Arthur Becker, 79 of Meckling, passed away Friday, March 23, 2012 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center in Vermillion.

Marlin Arthur 'Lefty' Becker was born April 18, 1932 to Fred and Regina (Schmidt) Becker near St. Helena, NE. He attended school through the eighth grade after which



BECKER

time his help was needed on the farm. He was inducted into the Army Dec. 8, 1952 and sent to Korea June 20, 1953. On July 11, 1953 his troop was called back from attacking Pork Chop Hill, soon after the truce was signed and on September 23, 1954 Sgt. Becker was honorably discharged. Afterwards 'Lefty' returned to Nebraska to work as a farmhand. On June 25, 1960 he married Dorene Orth of Lesterville, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton. In March 1961 they moved to the Meckling area and began farming and raising their

family: Timothy, Jeffrey and Julie. Marlin served on the Spirit Mound township board for many years and also the FMHA board. He was a lifelong member of the VFW and St Agnes Catholic church in Vermillion.

Survivors include his wife, Dorene and children, Tim Becker, Jeff (Jill) Becker and Julie Becker all of Meckling; two sisters, Marjorie Borgheinc, Fullerton, NE and Bonnie Logue, Aurora, NE; in-laws Mary Becker, Hayward, CA, Sara Becker, Bandon, OR, Jayne Becker, Lakeport, CA, Ronald Orth, Scotland, Luverne and Verna Bierle, Webster City, IA, LeRoy and Laverna Orth, Ames, IA and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Vernon, Erwin (Bud), Ralph, Lawrence; and a sister, Betty Saylor; in-laws Allen Saylor, Jim Logue, Alfred Borgheinc and Loraine Orth; father and mother-in-law, Peter and Alta Orth.

Funeral Mass was 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 27, at the St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion with burial in the Calvary Cemetery in Vermillion. Visitation was Monday, March 26 beginning at 5 p.m. with a prayer service at 7 p.m. all at the church. hansenfuneralhome.com.

Local food entrepreneurs workshop April 10, 17 and 24

SDSU Extension is hosting a series of trainings April 10, 17 and 24 for local fruit and vegetable growers and food producers, local food-product processors.

The morning sessions will include three business planning sessions running from 9 a.m. to noon. The afternoon will include three local food focused tracks running from 1-4 p.m.

Individuals interested can register for each session individually. Each session is \$15. A lunch will be provided by the Montrose Busy Bees as a fundraiser for \$9. The workshops will be held at the Montrose, SD, United Methodist Church, 109 S. Second Ave.

Workshop details:
April 10, 9 a.m.-noon:

Determining Feasibility. This workshop includes answering feasibility questions, marketing analysis tools, creating a mission statement, setting business goals and objectives.

April 10, 1-4 p.m.: Farmer's Markets. This workshop includes; start-up and selling tips, developing by-laws, provides an agency overview, food safety and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

April 17, 9 a.m.-noon: Developing the Business Plan. This workshop includes an overview/executive summary, company summary, management and ownership, product and service summary, and market analysis, marketing plans, financial analysis.

April 17, 1-4 p.m.: Starting a Commercial Licensed Kitchen.

This workshop covers the benefits, start-up, regulations - equipment, facility, food safety, foodservice manager sanitation certification, types of license and beginnings of a business plan.

April 24, 9 a.m.-noon: Business Documents & Financing Options. This workshop includes choosing a business structure, taxes and licensing, overview of financial statements and financing options.

April 24 1-4 p.m.: Online Marketing. This workshop includes interactive session to show tools, tips and techniques for online marketing, popular internet business tools, sites for marketing local food and online etiquette.

Following each business

session, a coach will be available for one-on-one business planning assistance, for those not attending the afternoon sessions.

For some sessions it is suggested to bring a laptop or one can be provided. See registration for detail about computer usages at specific classes.

Registration form available at <http://www.igrow.org/events>. Return this form along with payment to; SDSU Extension-Sioux Falls Regional Center, Attn: Chris Zdorovtsov, 2001 E. 8th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103. For more information contact Chris Zdorovtsov at 782-3290 or Christina.Zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu.

Not your usual history of the trumpet

The National Music Museum, on the campus of the University of South Dakota, is pleased to offer an entertaining interpretation of the history of the trumpet at its popular Friday noon-hour Brown Bag Lunch Program on March 30. The program is free and open to the public.

David Shaner, retired professor of trumpet at Colorado State University (Fort Collins) and principal trumpet with the Cheyenne (Wyoming) Symphony, delights audiences with "Trumpets Now & Then: A Humorous Look at Trumpets

Through the Ages." Wearing appropriate period costumes while playing replicas of a variety of early trumpets from his personal collection, Shaner traces the history of the trumpet in its many forms, from conch shells and animal horns used for signaling and religious ceremonies, to the modern valve trumpet used for orchestral work, chamber music, and in the performance of jazz. In the spirit of April Fool's Day, Shaner will share not only an historical, but one might also say an hysterical side of the amazing history of the trumpet.

Boating and fishing restrictions while divers inspect spillway

Beginning Friday, March 30, divers will be conducting an extensive inspection of the spillway apron at the Gavins Point Dam. The apron is the cement structure below the spillway that prevents water releases from digging out or "scouring" the area immediately below the spillway.

This inspection will take approximately one week and will include Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1.

During this time, boating and fishing will be prohibited in the spillway area. The area known as the "Fishing Wall" will be closed to fishing. For the safety of the divers boaters need to stay clear of the spillway. Individuals fishing will be prohibited from casting in the direction of the spillway.

For further information call the Lewis and Clark Visitor Center at (402) 667-2546.

Degree Completion Program

COMPLETE YOUR DEGREE WITHOUT COMPROMISING YOUR LIFE.

Next session begins June 2012
usiouxfalls.edu/dcp

University of Sioux Falls
(605) 331-6735

YANKTON MONUMENT CO.
Family Memorials by Gibson

AMBER WESTERGAARD

325 DOUGLAS AVENUE, YANKTON, SD 57078
OFFICE (605) 664-0980 • 1-800-658-2294
Cell (605) 610-6992 • www.gibsonmonuments.com

An Evening With

KANSAS

KANSAS COLLEGIATE SYMPHONY TOUR
A backing ensemble featuring musicians from the USD Symphony Orchestra

FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH

Aalfs Auditorium in Slagle Hall (414 E Clark St.), Vermillion, SD
Doors open at 7pm • Show starts at 8pm • Reserved Seating

Tickets available in the Fine Arts Building at the University of South Dakota (Open M-F, 10am to 2pm - Cash Only), charge by phone (866) 300-8300 & online at JadePresents.com

Limited student tickets available in the Fine Arts Building for only \$25! (USD students only / i.d. required)

Help Us Keep Vermillion Looking Beautiful

The City of Vermillion Code Enforcement Department wishes to remind you that it is the duty of the occupant or owner of any lot in the City of Vermillion to keep such lot free from tall grass, weeds and Noxious vegetation and to cut such growth whenever:

1. Grass or weeds grow taller than 6 inches on any developed lot or any lot on a block that is comprised of 50% or more developed lots
2. Grass or weeds grow taller than 12 inches on any undeveloped lot.

Exception: Portions of property used specifically for agricultural purposes, including, but not limited to, flower gardens, vegetable gardens, and the growing of crops as well as property that is unable to be mowed due to topographical or wetland features shall be exempt from divisions (1) and (2) above. No property shall be exempt from the noxious vegetation prohibition above.

Lot in violation of City ordinance will be tagged and assessed an administrative fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for the first offense with the fee increasing by 20 dollars (\$20.00) of every additional offense with each calendar year. If all the grass and weed have not been cut in the time allowed. The City will cut the grass and or weeds and bill the property owner for the cost of mowing plus a \$25.00 service fee.

Please be courteous to other and help keep Vermillion looking beautiful.
If you have any question please contact the Code Enforcement office at 677-7089

Subscribe Today!
Call 624-4429

CLAY COUNTY, SD LAND AUCTION

133.36 Acres, Fairview Township
Thursday, April 12, 2012 • 10:30 AM

We will sell the following real estate at public auction at the landsite located from Vermillion, SD 2 3/4 miles southeast on the Burbank Road and 3/4 mile south on Saginaw Ave.

Awesome, describes this property! Farmers, hunters and recreational enthusiasts look closely at this opportunity. Farmland, 70 plus acres of trees, wildlife, fishing, camping, 4-wheeling, Vermillion River, rural water, 6 one acre lots, one mile from the Missouri River, it doesn't get much better than this. According to the FSA there is 57.3 acres of cropland with 40.5 acre corn base/88 bushel yield/139 bushel CC yield and a 16.8 acre soybean base/30 bushel yield/36 bushel CC yield. Cropland predominate soils include Haynie silt loam and Modale silt loam. According to Surety-AgriData the productivity index rating of the cropland east of the trees is 88.8 and the rating of the cropland within the trees is 71.4. Taxes:\$4352.90 For Personal showing please contact auctioneers.

Legal Description: Gov't Lot 1 and Accretion to Lot 1 and Lots 1 & 3, Block 1, Lots 1 & 2, Block 2, Lots 1 & 2, Block 3, O'Connor Sub Division in Gov't Lot 1, 28-92-51 and Gov't Lot 2 and Accretions to Lot 2, 33-92-51, Clay County, SD

TERMS: 15% nonrefundable down payment day of sale with the balance due at closing on or before May 14, 2012. Land is available to the new owners for the 2012 crop year. Title insurance and closing costs split 50/50 between buyer and seller. 2011 taxes due in 2012 paid by the seller. 2012 taxes due in 2013 to be paid by the buyer. The acres in this property are based on acres stated in the county tax records with acres to be understood to be "more or less". The sellers do not warranty or guarantee that the existing fences lie on the true and correct boundary and new fencing, if any, will be the responsibility of the purchaser pursuant to SD statutes. The property is sold in as is condition and as a cash sale with no financing contingency. Sold subject to existing easements, restrictions, reservations, or highway of record, if any. Information is deemed to be correct but it is not guaranteed. All prospective buyers are encouraged to inspect the property and verify all data provided. Statements made the day of sale take precedence over all written advertising. Real Estate licensees are agents for the seller. Sold subject to confirmation of owners.

For terms, maps and pictures visit: www.westraatkins.com

William O'Connor II, Owner

Joel R. Westra, Broker, Beresford, SD
605-310-6941
Pete Atkins, Broker Associate, Tea, SD
605-351-9847
Phil Eggers, Broker Associate, Sioux Falls, SD 605-351-5438
Mark Zomer, Rock Valley, IA
712-470-2526