NDSU awarded two renewable energy SunGrants

Three agricultural economists affiliated with NDSU’s Bio-Energy and Products Innovation Center have landed two of eight SunGrant projects awarded in 2009. The two projects will receive $245,100 in new funding. More than 42 national proposals were submitted for consideration. The SunGrant program funds renewable energy research under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy.

David Lambert, principal investigator, and Larry Leistritz, co-principal investigator, developed “The Logistics of Herbaceous Crop Residue-Based Ethanol Production Under Uncertainty.” Because of the economic and environmental advantages expected from the emerging technologies based on cellulosic ethanol production, investor interest and federal mandate both suggest an increasing share of the nation’s renewable energy needs will be met from biomass sources such as crop residues and other herbaceous and woody feedstock sources.

Lambert and Leistritz will develop a logistical model of a crop residue-based industry in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota to identify optimal strategies for harvest, storage, pretreatment, and location and scale of biorefineries. The model will include uncertainties surrounding harvest and transportation costs, feed values, prices of biofuels and other potential industrial products, as well as uncertainties surrounding the engineering aspects of the conversion processes. Model results will indicate not only optimal system design, but also provide information on the distribution of returns to the different participants in the system. The two-year project received $143,090 in funding.

Cole Gustafson’s proposal, “Prioritizing Corn Harvest and BioMass Collection Activities,” has received $100,010 to examine the emerging competition for time between regular corn harvest activities and collection of biomass such as corn cobs and stover for use in alternative energy production.

Corn cobs are emerging as a preferred biomass source, but require additional field time during busy harvest periods for collection. Gustafson will develop a decision aide to examine the profitability of corn biomass collection given the number of field days available, weather uncertainty, relative prices of corn grain and biomass and different collection technologies. Farmers in three corn growing regions of North Dakota will be asked to participate in the study.

Mediation Office opens on campus

Rick Johnson, NDSU General Counsel, has announced the opening of the Mediation Office. The purpose of the office is to help resolve employment disputes before they turn into major conflicts and to coordinate requests from NDSU departments for mediation services in the workplace. Mediation also is sometimes required by university policies.

Debra McDonough, administrative assistant in the General Counsel’s Office, will coordinate the requests. She has a list of local, independent mediators. The department making the request will pay for expenses.

For more information, contact McDonough at 1-8741.

NDSU Bookstore plans winter sale and ugly sweater contest

The NDSU Bookstore will have a winter sale on Jan. 28-30 and an ugly sweater contest on Wednesday, Feb. 4. To participate in the contest, stop by the store from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to have your photograph taken. The person who has the ugliest sweater will win a $25 gift card for the NDSU Bookstore.

New e-mail address for ‘It’s Happening at State’

Effective immediately, when sending submissions for “It’s Happening at State,” please e-mail them to ndsu.itshappening@ndsu.edu.

Published by the Office of the Vice President for University Relations.
Campus personnel sought to participate in global outreach survey

The Office for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach is conducting a survey to learn more about international activities at NDSU. The survey is available online. To participate, go to http://thinktank.groupsystems.com/opinio/s?s=5481. The survey will be conducted until Friday, Feb 6.

According to Kerri Spiering, associate vice president of equity, diversity and global outreach, many people on campus are presenting at international conferences, conducting research overseas, doing international outreach and have other international contacts. Spiering is interested in learning about these activities.

A database will be compiled from the information collected, which will be used to help coordinate the university’s global outreach efforts. Information from the database will be used to form country and regional groups to discuss these efforts. Participants from the groups will be identified to volunteer on President Joseph A. Chapman’s Global Outreach Task Force.

Contact Spiering at kerri.spiering@ndsu.edu or 1-7895 for more information.

Anxiety screening to be offered by NDSU Counseling Center

The NDSU Counseling Center has scheduled free, anonymous anxiety screenings for students. The screenings are scheduled Feb. 2-6, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Counseling Center in Ceres Hall, room 212.

Symptoms of anxiety may include worrying all the time, being afraid in social situations, anticipating your next panic attack, having trouble sleeping, difficulty concentrating or headaches for no apparent reason. It is estimated that 5 percent to 15 percent of the population will suffer from an anxiety-related disorder at some point in their lives.

To help students learn about anxiety disorders, their symptoms and effective treatments, faculty or staff who have concerns about any of their students should feel free to refer them to the screening. Appointments are suggested; students may schedule a screening appointment by calling the Counseling Center at 1-7671.

All screenings are anonymous. The screening program takes up to one hour, and includes an educational video, an anonymous written self-test, a meeting with a mental health professional, free informational materials on anxiety disorders and a referral for further evaluation or treatment if indicated.

Online screening also is available at www.ndsu.edu/counseling. According to the online screening results, seeking further evaluation or treatment may be suggested. NDSU students may do this by making an appointment for a consultation at the Counseling Center by calling 1-7671 and bringing the results of the survey to the appointment.

For further information about anxiety disorders and the screening, visit www.ndsu.edu/counseling.

Counseling Center to sponsor NDSU CARES

The Counseling Center invites the NDSU community to participate in NDSU CARES (Campus Awareness, Referral and Education for Suicide Prevention), a suicide prevention project aimed at educating the campus about the warning signs of suicide and steps to be taken to decrease risk. The Counseling Center plans to train 1,800 members of the NDSU community during the next three years.

It is estimated that 1,100 college students die by suicide each year, an average of three per day. According to Mark LoMurray, director of the North Dakota Suicide Prevention Project, suicide rates for North Dakota youth and young adults are higher than the national average. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 10- to 24-year-olds in North Dakota and 15 percent of these suicides are completely without warning.

Members of the NDSU community can participate in the project by taking part in the gatekeeper training program. According to William Burns, director of the Counseling Center, the focus of gatekeeper training is to develop the largest possible safety net for students. “While a variety of campus offices offer support to students, most college students who commit suicide have never had contact with their campus health center or counseling center,” Burns said. “For this reason, faculty and staff members, as well as other students are important points of contact for students in crisis. Just as people trained in CPR help save thousands of lives each year, people trained as gatekeepers learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis, how to have a caring conversation with a distressed student and how to refer the student for help.”

Beginning Feb. 23, a training session will be held in the Memorial Union from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday of the semester. This training session will be interactive in style. To register for one of the sessions, contact the Counseling Center at 1-7671.

Members also will come to your department, office or area to give a training session. Separate training sessions have been developed for faculty, staff and students. The standard length of a training session is one hour. Training sessions will be scheduled throughout the spring semester. To schedule a training session, call 1-7671. There is no limit to the number of faculty and staff members who can attend a session. Because student training sessions are more interactive, there is a limit of 20 students.

For more information, call 1-7671.

NDSU offers tool to assist crop selection

The NDSU Extension Service has updated the Crop Compare program, which is a spreadsheet designed to compare cropping alternatives.

The program uses the direct costs and yields from the 2009 projected crop budgets for nine regions of North Dakota. The user designates a reference crop and enters its expected return over variable costs as the reference crop. The program provides the prices for competing crops that would be necessary to provide the same return over variable costs as the reference crop.

The Crop Compare program is available by going to www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/farmmgmt/farmmgmt.htm.
Yadav turns to NDSU for ideas to improve teaching-learning process

A.K. Yadav, from the Ansal Institute of Technology, Gurgaon, Haryana, India, spent last week visiting NDSU. He is a professor of computer science and dean of Student Affairs and Corporate Relations at the institute.

Yadav is working on improving the teaching-learning process at the institute, including helping faculty learn to incorporate active and cooperative learning into their classrooms. The Ansal Institute of Technology uses the western educational model of continuous assessment rather than the traditional single examination model. Feedback from students who currently are attending NDSU will help future transfer students be better prepared for their course work and for living in North Dakota.

“It has been a very unique experience for me,” Yadav said. “I feel very at home and have had a warm reception. It gives me the feeling I should look at coming back again and next time I will have even more to share and more to learn.”

Yadav is a strong advocate of research collaboration and of faculty and staff exchanges, as well as praising the student exchange program. During his visit, he participated in planning meetings with professors and department chairs in engineering, computer science, biotechnology and other programs.

“Also, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all the senior officials at NDSU,” he said. “They have been extraordinary in supporting this joint venture. I feel proud that we have such visionary leaders on both sides.”

Team Makers has record-breaking year

The Team Makers Club, the annual fundraising arm for the athletic department, produced another record-breaking effort this year by increasing the number of members, cash donations and total revenues. The mission of Team Makers is to provide financial support, promotion and spirit for student-athletes and the athletic department.

The membership drive surpassed 1,900, an increase of more than 200 members. The expansion reflects exceptional local and regional outreach efforts by the fund drive committee and the many volunteers. Cash donations surpassed $2.1 million, an increase of more than $350,000 from the previous year.

“To realize this growth, both in membership and in total dollars raised, speaks volumes for the efforts of our many volunteers. With the state of the economy, their efforts reflect their passion and commitment to assist in the education of our student-athletes,” Pat Simmers, associate athletic director for annual giving and executive director of Team Makers, said. “We are grateful to all who made donations to support our athletic program.”

Trade for goods and services totaled more than $200,000, in addition to more than $200,000 in other revenues, with the total impact for Bison Athletics in 2008 surpassing $2.5 million.

The Team Makers Club is a separate 501C3 foundation.

NDSU Distance and Continuing Education launches new Web site

Distance and Continuing Education launched a new Web site on Jan. 15 at www.ndsu.edu/dce.

The new Web site includes three areas specific to the individuals Distance and Continuing Education serves. Visitors may want to start at the main homepage to find featured news and events from all areas. For information related to one specific area, users can bookmark the “Information” page that corresponds with their area of interest. The three areas are:

Degree Eligible Activity
This area includes information on degrees and classes offered through NDSU Distance and Continuing Education. Classes are offered online, print-based and face-to-face.

Non-Credit Activity
This area offers personal or professional enrichment programs and classes that are generally not eligible for degree credit. A current schedule of workshops, conferences and continuing education unit opportunities also is found in this area.

Professional Development (K-12) Activity
This area is devoted to K-12 teachers and administrators who would like more information regarding professional development classes offered or would like to offer a class in their school district.

“Updating our Web site was important because it serves as a vital information source for our Distance and Continuing Education students and prospective students. It is often our first point of contact with people from throughout the United States and many countries,” said Lisa Nordick, assistant dean and director.

“Faculty Resource” and “Student Resource” tabs also were added to offer resources and assistance for Distance and Continuing Education instructors and students.

For more information, contact Connie Jadrny at 1-9738 or 1-800-726-1724.

Research institute fellowships awarded to NDSU graduate students

The North Dakota Water Resources Research Institute has announced its graduate research fellowship recipients for 2009-10. Fellowships ranging from $4,000 to $12,000 were awarded to graduate students from NDSU.

NDSU fellows, areas of study, their advisers and fellowship research projects are:

Dimuthu Wijeyaratne, environmental and conservation sciences, Marinus Otte, “Chemical Fingerprinting of Sediments and Water of the Souris River for Identification of Diffuse Pollution Sources;”

Harjyoti Kalita, materials and nanotechnology, Achintya Bezbaruah and Bret Chisholm, “Iron Imprinted Polymer for Removal and Monitoring of Arsenic;”

cont.
Qigang Chang, environmental and conservation sciences, Wei Lin, “Development of GAC-NZVI Adsorbent for Arsenic Removal;”

Rabiya Shabnam, environmental and conservation sciences, Achintya Bezbaruah and John McEvoy, “Interactions between Microorganisms and Metal Nanoparticles: A New Approach for Groundwater Remediation;”

Sita Krajangpan, civil engineering, Achintya Bezbaruah and Bret Chisholm, “Modification of Iron Nanoparticles by Amphiphilic Polysiloxane Graft Co-Polymer for Arsenic, TCE, and RDX Remediation;”

Halis Simsek, civil engineering, Eakalak Khan, “Fate of Biodegradable Dissolved Organic Nitrogen in Fargo Waste Water;” and

Brianna Schneck, biological sciences, John McEvoy and Mark Clark, “Source Tracking of Cryptosporidium in Rural Watersheds.”

Selection of student fellows and the award amounts are based on competitive proposals prepared by the students with the guidance of their advisers. Projects proposed for fellowship support should relate to water resources research issues in the state or region. Regional, state or local collaboration or co-funding is encouraged. Fellowships have a matching requirement of two non-federal dollars to one federal dollar. A panel of state water resource professionals reviews the proposals and selects the fellows and award amounts based on the quality of proposals and the priority of the proposed projects for the state and region. The general criteria used for proposal evaluation include: scientific merit, originality of research, research related to state or region and extent of regional, state or local collaboration or co-funding.

Funding for the fellowship program comes primarily from the annual base grant provided to the institute by the U.S. Geological Survey. An additional support of 15 percent of the base grant comes from North Dakota State Water Commission. The North Dakota institute is one of 54 institutes located in a land-grant institution in each state and territory under the umbrella of the National Institute for Water Resources.

For more information, contact institute director G. Padmanabhan, professor of civil engineering, at 1-7043, or G.Padmanabhan@ndsu.edu or visit www.ndsu.edu/wrri.

Platt publishes book chapter

Carrie Anne Platt, assistant professor of communication, has published a book chapter titled “Family Values 2.0: The Pedagogical Function of New Media in the Same-Sex Marriage Debate.” Published by the Cambridge Scholars Press, the chapter appears in “Queer Identities/Political Realities,” an edited book by Katherine German and Bruce Drushel.

The chapter explores how new media practices such as e-mail, interactive Web design, viral video and social networking are used to train activists and standardize messages in the ongoing debate about same-sex marriage.

Platt used the Focus on the Family and the Human Rights Campaign, one of the largest and most influential lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender advocacy groups in the United States, as case studies. In the study, she documents how the online resources provided by the organizations address the rhetorical challenge of debating same-sex marriage both nationally and state by state.

The study also considers the difficulties of attempting to advance a cause in the courtrooms and at the ballot box. It argues that new media technologies serve a dual function in the debate, making various arguments for or against same-sex marriage while also teaching individuals how to argue for or against same-sex marriage in their own communities.

The chapter concludes by contextualizing the rhetorical use of new media within the history of rhetorical pedagogy and considering the influence of political realities on these rhetorical choices.

For more information, contact Platt at 1-7294.

NDSU Dance Team places fifth in nation

The NDSU Dance Team finished in fifth place at the Universal Dance Association’s 2009 College Dance Team National Championship Jan. 17-18. The competition was held at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

The Division I section champion was California State University Long Beach, followed by Idaho State University, California State University Fullerton, Missouri State University and NDSU. A total of 24 schools took part in the Division I competition.

The 13-member squad, coached by Katy Kowalski and Meghan Wabner, performs at NDSU athletic events, community functions and competitions. The team’s choreographer is Emily Schock.

“I am so proud of all their hard work and dedication to the team,” said Kowalski. “We couldn’t have asked for a better group.”

Captain Amber Haugen, a senior from Alexandria, Minn., said, “We worked so hard this season, and being fifth in the nation is something to be proud of. We wanted to walk off the floor at nationals having no regrets, which I feel we did.”

Sophomore Katie Montag, a sophomore from Apple Valley, Minn., added, “We really wanted to peak at nationals. We truly came together and did the best we have ever done.”
NDSU students and faculty to participate in snow symposium

Two faculty members and three students from NDSU have been accepted to participate in the Festival du Voyageur 15th annual International Snow Sculpting Symposium planned for Feb. 12-15 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Festival du Voyageur is western Canada’s largest winter festival. Artists travel from around the world to create gigantic snow sculptures in the symposium.

Stevie Famulari, assistant professor of landscape architecture, and Dave Swenson, associate professor of art, will team up with Kris Mills and Chris Reisz from the University of New Mexico to form team USA 1. Kyle Slivnik, David Prom and Patrick Benson, all landscape architecture students, are team USA 2. Teams are selected for their experience in sculpture, originality and visual interest of the chosen subject and physical and artistic qualities of the proposed sculpture. “Typically, only one team from each area is chosen,” Famulari said. “Having two USA teams chosen is quite an exception.”

The festival’s theme is “The World’s Largest Kitchen Party,” but artists are allowed to entertain other large-format ideas they have envisioned. Each team is given a block of compacted snow that measures 10-feet by 12-feet by 12-feet. They also are provided a basic tool kit of shovels, spades, ladders and scoops. Teams are free to bring other materials such as wood chisels, saws and garden tools to help sculpt their pieces. Power tools are not allowed.

USA 1 will create a sculpture titled “Medusa’s Rise.” Famulari said the sculpture is inspired by the myth of Medusa and the serpents that are part of her head. The sculpture will be a massive version of Medusa’s head, which appears to rise while the serpents also climb from the ground. There is a stairway to a door in the back of her head, which allows people to see through the back of the sculpture through her eyes. According to the sculptors, this symbolizes the door to the soul.

USA 2 plans to create a snow globe. “Ironic, we know,” Slivnik joked. “Instead of the traditional globe, we’ve decided to tip it on its side. “The idea is to make it appear that gnomes have pushed it over, breaking the glass globe, spilling the contents of it onto the ground.” Titled “Mischievous Gnomes,” the team intends to create a sculpture that is visually interesting as well as something that people can relate to. The team also hopes to generate a smile or two.

Both teams have sculpting experience, just not with snow. Slivnik and Prom have experience sculpting ice. The members of USA 1 have sculpted ice, bronze, soil, wood, clay and wax. To enhance their skills, both teams have been practicing with snow piles around town. Famulari is building a snow fort in her front yard and Slivnik says that outside of snowmen, all members from his team have practiced sculpting jumps for snowboarding. They currently are practicing by sculpting caves and tunnels in snow piles around town.

Famulari says they will not be able to practice building “Medusa’s Head” until the symposium, but she is not worried. Having four diverse artists from landscape architecture and the art department is part of the strength of this team. Famulari thinks their ability to work well together adds to their piece “Part of the art process is just letting the process be, and letting the piece change according to the medium one is working in, as well as the direction the process of working with four artists takes the piece,” Famulari said.

“Our expectations are fairly high,” Slivnik said. “We want to make something that will hopefully get us invited back in the future. We look at this sculpture as a piece that we can add to our portfolios, so it is kind of a win-win for us.”

On Tuesday, March 4, both teams will show a short documentary on their snow sculptures at this Fargo Film Festival. In celebration of the Fargo Film Festival’s opening film, “Ice People,” USA 2 also will put their snow sculpting skills to the test and create another snow sculpture in front of the Fargo Theatre.

For more information, contact Famulari at (505) 710-3586.

Cwiak to represent NDSU emergency management program in Ghana

Carol Cwiak, emergency management lecturer, will represent NDSU in a collaborative relationship with the country of Ghana. The North Dakota National Guard, which initiated the potential link between NDSU and Ghana, has assisted with training programs for Ghana’s national equivalent of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

According to Daniel Klenow, chair of sociology, anthropology and emergency management, a natural outcome of this relationship includes the development of possible educational outreach programs. “Carol Cwiak is uniquely qualified to represent NDSU because of her deep understanding and experience with emergency management policies and procedures at the municipal, state and national levels,” Klenow said.

Cwiak’s Feb. 7-14 visit will include an assessment of the potential for an agreement with a Ghana university, as well as meetings with administrators from the country’s emergency management response program. In addition to her knowledge and experience with applied emergency management issues, Cwiak also has been active as a presenter at the International Association of Emergency Manager’s annual conference, the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Emergency Management Institute Higher Education conference, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security and at the upcoming World Conference on Disaster Management in Toronto.

Gustafson works on biofuels, wind energy projects

Cole Gustafson, Extension biofuels economist, is leading a six-state effort to develop a series of Webcasts with national leaders in the wind energy industry. The first presentation is Friday, Feb. 13. He also is scheduled to deliver a train-the-trainer Webcast on the economics of wind energy to Extension educators and rural community developers on Feb. 27.

Gustafson is seeking comments and suggestions on several biofuels and wind energy projects.
He is working on a biofuel project that was started with a grant from the Great Plains Institute. The project’s goal is to develop a tool that producers surrounding the new Spiritwood project can use to evaluate the profitability of supplying biomass to the new combined heat and power facility.

In a related project, Gustafson is working to develop a state-wide inventory of biomass, including crop, pasture, urban waste and agricultural processing residual materials.

He also is developing a preliminary assessment of developing a sugar beet-to-biofuel industry in the state. The goal is to identify five regional production areas across the state, and then determine optimal sugar beet processing and transporting methods to reduce biofuel production costs.

To help potential wind energy investors evaluate the profitability of different lease arrangements and systems, he is developing a wind calculator. It is a spreadsheet that calculates potential returns, operating expenses and investment costs associated with a new project.

For more information, contact Gustafson at 1-7096, or cole.gustafson@ndsu.edu.

Veterans Upward Bound names site coordinator

The Veterans Upward Bound program based at NDSU has named Shelle Michaels as the site coordinator for the University of North Dakota satellite office.

Michaels’ work experience includes being national communication officer and North Dakota state director of the Soldiers’ Angels program. In addition to her new duties, Michaels will continue her volunteer work with Soldiers’ Angels.

Veterans Upward Bound offers veterans a chance to reach out for a better tomorrow. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education to serve all eligible veterans free of charge. The veterans also can draw educational benefits, such as Montgomery GI Bill and Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation.

Veterans Upward Bound provides no-credit course work and supports services to help veterans complete high school equivalency examinations and to prepare for post-secondary education. Appropriate program and school selection is part of the project and veterans can transfer benefits to any accredited school.

The project assists with obtaining information on other educational opportunities, academics, advising, financial aid, career counseling, school admissions and provide referral services to veterans who want to further their education.

Veteran Upward Bound project director Bruce Steele said, “We live in challenging and exciting times. Some veterans start a college education soon after leaving the military, while others pursue their education goals after raising a family or building a career. NDSU Veterans Upward Bound is committed to serving all veterans through education and supportive services.”

For more information, contact Michaels, at (701) 777-6465 or shelle.michaels@ndsu.edu.

Alumni and friends to celebrate NDSU Arizona Week

NDSU alumni and friends will celebrate the 2009 Arizona Week Feb. 17-22. There are several events planned in Mesa, Sun City, Scottsdale and Tucson including golf outings, lunches, dinners and socials. Each year, people gather at NDSU Arizona Week to enjoy time with friends and learn how NDSU is moving forward, taking a prominent role in education, research and service.

Tuesday, Feb. 17 – Tucson

A “Taste of North Dakota” social is planned at the home of Fred, BS ’70, and Linda (Kane), BS ’73, Paavola.

Thursday, Feb. 19 – Sun City

Tod Gunkelman, BS ’47; Ray Horne, BS ’55; Myron Johnsrud, BS ’57, and the Department of Athletics invite NDSU alumni and friends to participate in an 18-hole, four-person scramble tournament at Union Hills Golf Course, 9860 Lindgren Ave. in Sun City. The shotgun start is at 11:30 a.m. Cost is $100 per person. Lunch, golf cart and greens fees are included.

A historic Glendale outing will be offered as an alternative to golf. The event is hosted by Do (Shanks) Gunkelman, BS ’47, and Bev Horne, BS ’55. After lunch at Union Hills Country Club, a bus will take the participants to Cerreta Candy Co. for a tour and chocolate making. Cost is $25 per person. Lunch and transportation are included. To RSVP for the event, call 1-6807.

Friday, Feb. 20 – Mesa

President Joseph A. Chapman will present a university update at a social and dinner at the Union Hills Country Club. The Bison Arts Singers also will perform. Cost is $35 per person. To RSVP for the event, call 1-6807.

Friday, Feb. 20 – Scottsdale

Join the NDSU athletics department at Gainey Ranch Country Club, 7600 Gainey Club Drive, Scottsdale, for the Gainey Ranch Golf Tournament sponsored by Eide Bailly. The shotgun start for the shamble tournament is 8 a.m. Cost is $195 per person, which includes greens fees, golf cart, lunch and range balls.

Saturday, Feb. 21 – Mesa

Join the NDSU athletics department for a golf outing at Red Mountain Ranch Country Club, 6425 East Teton in Mesa. The shotgun start is 12:30 p.m. Cost is $100 per person which includes golf, dinner buffet and golf cart.

Saturday, Feb. 21 – Tucson

Show your Bison pride and cheer on the softball team at the University of Arizona’s Wildcat Invitational at Hillenbrand Stadium in Tucson. The NDSU softball team will take on Utah at 1:30 p.m. For game tickets, call (520) 621-2287 or (800) 452-2287. Go to www.gobison.com for a complete tournament schedule.
'Best of the Best' workshops scheduled

The NDSU Extension Service is joining Minnesota and North Dakota wheat and soybean growers and check-off organizations in scheduling a series of regional wheat and soybean workshops.

“Best of the Best in Wheat and Soybean Research and Marketing” workshops are scheduled for Feb. 4 at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks, N.D., and Feb. 6 at the Marriott Courtyard in Moorhead, Minn. A “Best of the Best Wheat Research and Marketing” workshop is scheduled for Feb. 13 at the Doublewood Inn in Bismarck, N.D.

“These meetings have become a popular venue for wheat and soybean growers to learn the latest research findings and advice on how to market their crops,” said Joel Ransom, NDSU Extension Service agronomist and one of the meeting organizers. “With the recent big swings in commodity and input prices, these meetings will be an excellent way for farmers to learn how to optimize returns.”

Presentations will address the economics of production, marketing, disease and insect control, selecting new varieties, fertility management and winter wheat production.

There is no participation fee, but advanced registration is required. For more information on the Grand Forks and Moorhead meetings, call (800) 242-6118, ext. 13. For the Bismarck workshop, call (866) 871-3442. To register online, go to www.smallgrains.org.

International business seminar scheduled

The Northern Crops Institute will sponsor a daylong seminar, “Protocol: Your Vital Tool in International Business,” scheduled for Monday, Feb. 9, at the Fargo Holiday Inn. The seminar is for persons whose job requires communicating, negotiating and socializing in the global marketplace.

The seminar will address many areas of international protocol, including how to present a business card, make introductions, present gifts and appreciate cultural differences. Electronic communications and practical travel tips also will be discussed. During a four-course noon luncheon, participants will practice appropriate table etiquette for a formal meal. In addition, a panel of regional international business leaders will share their experiences doing business in different regions of the world.

Pat Berglund, a corporate etiquette and international protocol consultant and former institute director, will lead the seminar. She is certified by The Protocol School of Washington, and has international experience in Asia, Central and South America, Africa and Europe.

Tuition is $100, which includes an illustrated workbook and the luncheon. Cancellations received after the Feb. 2 deadline will be assessed a 10 percent service fee.

Go to www.northern-crops.com/scourses/scprotocol/protocol09.pdf or call the institute at 1-7736 for more information and registration forms.

NDSU Extension Services plan Advanced Crop Advisers Workshop

The NDSU and University of Minnesota Extension Services have organized the Advanced Crop Advisers Workshop scheduled Feb. 12-13 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. The workshop is designed to provide in-depth discussion of selected topics for agricultural professionals who advise farmers with crop production recommendations.

Certified crop advisers attending the workshop will have the opportunity to earn 10 continuing education units. Registration is requested and the workshop fee is $140 if received by Monday, Feb. 9, or $75 if attending one day. Late registration fees are $175 or $100 for one day. A brochure that contains workshop details, including a preregistration form, is available at www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/carringt.

For more information, contact Greg Endres at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center at (701) 652-2951 or Phillip Glogozza at the Minnesota Extension Service in Moorhead at (218) 236-2008.

Little Country Theatre to present ‘West Side Story’

Little Country Theatre will kick off this semester’s theatre season with “West Side Story,” a musical by Leonard Bernstein, Arthur Laurents and Stephen Sondheim.

“West Side Story,” a Tony Award winning musical, is considered a classic that forever changed the American musical and will highlight Little Country Theatre’s season with energetic dance, unforgettable lyrics and an amazing story. The musical successfully broke a barrier as it dealt with youth gangs and racial prejudice. It features some of Broadway’s most beloved music, including “Somewhere,” “One Hand, One Heart,” “Tonight,” “America” and “Maria.”

The production will run from Feb. 25 until March 1 in Festival Concert Hall. The show begins at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets for the production of “West Side Story” are available at the Fine Arts Box Office, 105 Music Education Building, room 115; at www.ticketmaster.org; or by calling 1-7969. The cost is $18 for adults; $15 for seniors and NDSU faculty, staff and alumni; $10 for general students; and $8 for NDSU students. All tickets, with the exception of NDSU students, are $10 on opening night only. Gift certificates also are available.

Go to www.ndsu.nodak.edu/finearts/theatre/production_season/west_side_story/index.html for more information, to read the rehearsal blog, view pictures, learn about guest director Gary Briggle or share your “West Side Story.”

Sunday, Feb. 22 – Maricopa

Join the NDSU athletics department at The Duke at Rancho El Dorado, 42660 West Rancho El Dorado Parkway in Maricopa, for a golf outing. The shotgun start is at noon. Cost is $75 per person and includes greens fees and cart.

For questions regarding Arizona Week, contact Beth Roybal, Stephanie Martin or Kristi Weston at the NDSU Alumni Association at 1-6800. For more information and registration information, go to www.ndsualumni.com.
Positions Available
Positions open and screening dates through the Office of Human Resources, SGC, 1919 N. University Drive. Position openings also are available through the NDSU Web site at www.ndsu.edu/jobs.

Administrative Assistant
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Account Technician – Cashier/#00021185
Customer Account Services
$24,000+/year
Feb. 6

Agricultural Research Technician/#00021585
North Central Research Extension Center – Minot, N.D.
Salary commensurate with experience
Open until filled

Beef Unit Manager/#00020063
Animal Science
Salary competitive and commensurate with experience
House and utilities provided
Feb. 4

Nursery Manager/#00020162
North Dakota Forest Service
Salary commensurate with experience
Feb. 16

Marketing, Recruitment and Public Relations Coordinator
Graduate School
Salary commensurate with experience
Jan. 30

Program Coordinator for Multicultural Department
Multicultural Student Services
$32,000/year
Jan. 31

System Engineer
Information Technology
Salary commensurate with experience
Feb. 2

Academic Adviser/Lecturer
College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences
10 months (Aug. 15 to May 15, plus summer hours)
$35,000+/year
Open until filled

Non-discrimination Policy
North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, Vietnam Era Veterans status, sexual orientation, marital status or public assistance status. Direct inquiries to the Chief Diversity Officer, 205 Old Main, 1-7708.

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