



# THE SPIGOT

from the NORTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEMS ASSOCIATION

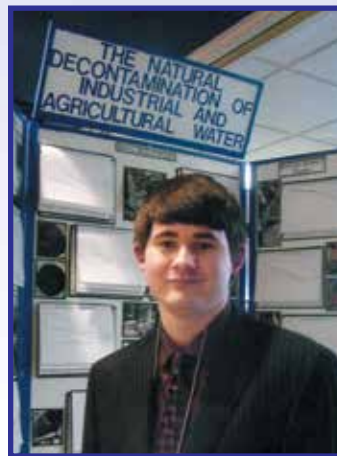
## NDRWSA Presents Awards at Science, Engineering Fair

By Lisa Schatz

North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA) is a proud sponsor of the State Science and Engineering Fair. This year's competition marks the 64th annual event held at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. Students from six different regions from across the state competed for awards and scholarships. Since 1995, NDRWSA has presented awards to students for projects that addressed water and wastewater issues. These projects explore many facets of water science, such as improving the quality of drinking water, the effects of water pressure, the effects of soil type and fertilizers on water quality, and protecting water resources.

Approximately 200 students participate in this two-day event, along with their families and more than 100 judges and teachers involved in science, technology, engineering, and math. Students competed to advance to the International Science and Engineering Fair held in Los Angeles, Calif. Students also have an opportunity to receive cash awards, prizes, and scholarship opportunities.

The recipient of this year's NDRWSA State Science Fair



**Gage Metzen of Hankinson High School received this year's NDRWSA State Science Fair Award.**

Award is Gage Metzen of Hankinson High School. Metzen received \$100 and a plaque of recognition. His project analyzed the decontamination ability of coontail, sago pondweed, and barley straw. Secondly, the project was analyzed to determine the decontamination ability of natural wetlands.

Lora Horner of Wishek Public School received \$50 and a plaque of recognition. Horner's project analyzed the water



**Lora Horner of Wishek Public School received \$50 and a plaque of recognition for her water quality project.**

quality from three different sources. The water was tested for pH, nitrates, conductivity, and total dissolved solids on six different variables. The water samples were taken from a pipeline, two private wells, and an artesian well.

Les Sigette of NDRWSA helped judge this year's student projects. "I am amazed at the originality of projects and the effort put forth by students to uncover new knowledge about the universe we live in," says Sigette. NDRWSA is proud to be a part of this successful annual science fair event and would like to congratulate this year's winners and wish these young leaders success in their future endeavors.

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