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NEWS RELEASE

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Local Trig-Star Winners Named

DUBUQUE, Iowa -- Wahlert High School senior Michael Kann, Hempstead High School junior Kelsey Kemp, and Dubuque Senior High School sophomore Ben Martin were declared Trig-Stars for their respective high schools for the 2010-2011 academic year during a recent competition.

Each will receive a cash prize of \$100 from the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa donated by local contractors and land surveying firms. In addition, Kann's perfect score in 16 minutes and 40 seconds, qualified him in second place in the state competition. Kann received an additional \$150 for second place in the state and an additional \$25 for the fastest time in the city of Dubuque competition.

Second place winners at each high school were Alex Baranski from Hempstead, Katie Augspurger from Senior, and Al Freisinger from Wahlert. They also received monetary awards of \$25 from local sponsors. Hempstead High School had 13 out of 27 students who scored 100 percent on the test. Senior High followed with seven perfect scores.

A "Trig-Star" is a mathematics student who has demonstrated skill in the practical application of trigonometry. The competition is a timed exercise, which involves solving of trigonometry problems incorporating the use of right triangle formulas, the law of sines, and the law of cosines. Sixty minutes is allowed for the test competition. Nineteen high schools and 289 students competed across the state. State winners qualify to take the national test and a chance to win the top three prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, or \$500 and a trip to the national convention for professional surveyors. Seventy three students competed in the City of Dubuque competition.

Local sponsors of the competition were: Buesing and Associates; Connolly Construction; Drew Cook and Sons, Inc.; Gansen Excavating, Inc.; IIW Engineers & Surveyors, P.C.; Larry Boyer; W.C. Stewart Construction; and Tschiggfrie Excavating.

The Trig-Star competition is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors, the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa, local licensed land surveyors, and area contractors. Prior to the competition, the City of Dubuque Engineering Department, Buesing and Associates, IIW Engineers and Surveyors, and WHKS & Company worked together to present land surveying topics and procedures to interested math and calculus students. These presentations expose students to the land surveying profession.

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