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NEWS RELEASE

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Local Trig-Star Winners Named

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Hempstead High School junior Jon Rueckert, Dubuque Senior High School junior Taylor Ryan, and Wahlert High School senior Timothy Miller were declared “Trig Stars” for their respective high schools for the 2012-2013 academic year during a recent competition. Each student will receive prize money of \$100 from the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa, donated by local contractors and land surveying firms. Rueckert’s perfect score in 56 minutes, 21 seconds was the fastest time in the City of Dubuque competition, qualifying him for an additional \$25 in prize money.

Second place winners at each high school were Jeffrey Teng at Hempstead, Stephanie Niedert at Senior High, and Levi Nauman at Wahlert. They also received monetary awards of \$25 from local sponsors. Hempstead High School had the only student who scored 100% on the test.

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. Last year, 19 high schools and 334 students competed across the state of Iowa. 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. Sixty-eight students competed in the City of Dubuque competition.

Local sponsors of the competition were:

- Buesing and Associates, Inc.
- Connolly Construction, Inc.
- Drew Cook and Sons Excavating, Inc.
- Gansen Excavating, Inc.
- IIW. P.C.
- Larry Boyer
- Lot Lines Etc.
- Tschiggfrie Excavating Co.
- W.C. Stewart Construction

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 Division, IIW, P.C., 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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