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In Baseball Action • 8

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RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D
Yankton High School junior Sam Gusso is headed to a national science congress in Boston, thanks to a recommendation from former astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

Astronaut Invites YHS Student To Conference

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Sam Gusso is attending an invitation-only event with someone who's out of this world.

American hero and former astronaut Buzz Aldrin nominated Gusso, a Yankton High School junior, to attend this summer's Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders in Boston.

The honors-only program invites high school students passionate about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Aldrin, the second person to walk on the moon, serves as science director of the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists.

Gusso admits he didn't know he was up for consideration. He was even more surprised to learn who was instrumental in his selection.

"I saw an official-looking letter in the mail, and it was Buzz Aldrin inviting me to the Congress," he said. "I found out there's only about 1,000 students from the entire nation who are attending."

Gusso hopes to meet his hero in person while in Boston for the June 28-30 event.

"I believe Buzz Aldrin will be there to sign autographs and talk to us as one of the speakers," he said. "I look forward to meeting him and shaking his hand. That would be really cool. Buzz Aldrin is quite the man."

Gusso was chosen for the congress based on his academic achievement, leadership potential and passion for science and technology, according to a news release.

"I know people, who are going to the

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Body Of Missing Boy Recovered



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Two mourners comfort one another in front a makeshift memorial to 6-year-old Lincoln Hilt, whose body was found Friday afternoon in the Missouri River about 100 yards east of the boat dock where he was last seen Sunday night.

Body Is Found 100 Yards From Boat Dock

BY ROB NIELSEN
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After less than a week, the search for Lincoln Hilt is over.

The 6-year-old Hurley boy's body was found around 2:44 p.m. on Friday about 100 yards east of the dock he disappeared from during a fishing outing on Easter Sunday, according to a press release from the Yankton Police Department. He was found about 28 feet from shore.

The discover culminated a five-day

search that drew regional attention and drove a large amount of social media traffic. The search had been plagued by poor weather for the most part.

On a warm, sunny Friday afternoon, friends and family gathered around a makeshift memorial that had been set up on the outfield fence of the Riverside Park softball field. Around 4 p.m., a truck was ushered into the perimeter that police had set up around the dock area. Shortly afterwards, a public address announcement was made at adjoining Bob Tereshinski Stadium at River-

side Field informed attendees of the Mount Marty College-Morningside College baseball game that Lincoln's body had just been found. A moment of silence was observed.

A number of agencies have been searching for Lincoln since Sunday night, including the Nebraska Game Commission, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks, Yankton Search & Rescue, the Yankton County Sheriff's Department, the Yankton Police Department,

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COURTESY PHOTO

The Wausa High School speech team rolled to its second consecutive Nebraska State Activities Association (NSAA) speech

Talking The Talk In Wausa

Speech Team Talks Its Way To Second Straight State Title

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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WAUSA, Neb. — As a coach, Patricia Marks has developed a very deep bench — but you won't find her team on the court, field or track.

Her speech team recently won the Class D1 state title in the Nebraska State Activities Association (NSAA) competition. Wausa placed in seven of nine events, rolling up 150 points to runners-up Potter-Dix and Winside with 62 each.

When it comes to speech, the Vikings' tradition speaks for itself, said Marks, who is assisted by Kyle and Sam Stevens.

"This is my seventh year here, and during those seven years I have always taken kids to state," Marks said. "We have two champions, one runner-up, two third-place finishes and the rest were in the top five or six."

Wausa also excels in drama, particularly the state one-act contest, Marks said. In fact, the school has swept the state one-act and speech contests in consecutive years.

"We were told it's uncommon for the kids to win one-act, then turn around and win state speech — and then do it for two straight years," she said. "But this is a very talented group."

The repeat state championships are a tribute to the

STATE | PAGE 18

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