

## 30th annual Pro Pheasant banquet is Friday, March 27



This is quite a collection. In honor of its 30th anniversary, the Clark County Pro Pheasants organization will be auctioning off the 30-year cap collection at the annual banquet, Friday, March 27. Bob Steffen, right, is the Pro Pheasant president and James Arthur, left, is the secretary/treasurer.

The Clark County Pro Pheasant 30th annual banquet is Friday, March 27 at the Clark American Legion Hall.

As this is the 30th anniversary, it is a special occasion, the first annual Clark County Pro Pheasant Banquet was held Friday, April 4, at the Imperial Lounge. Seating allowed only 175 tickets to be sold. The speaker at the first banquet was G, F & P pheasant specialist Willie Foss

of Watertown. 1986 tickets were available from: Jerry Jacobsen, Vance Neuberger, Tom Crabtree, Randy Binger, Leonard Palmer, Dave Warkentien, Tim Peterson, Don Roehrich, Todd Sundvold, Rod Christman, Mark Foster, Arlo Saboe and Chuck Langner.

The Pro Pheasant Banquet is now held annually on the last Friday in March. Clark County Pro Pheasant Club president Bob Steffen said that the organization is committed

to working with their members to increase the pheasant population in Clark County.

In 2014 the organization enrolled 354.8 acres in the food plot program in Clark County. They also helped members in releasing 2,000 fertile hens in Clark County in the spring of 2014. Steffen said, "Unfortunately the spring was wet and cold and may have led to this venture not being as successful as hoped for. The birds are subsidized for our members. We have secured hens for the spring 2015 release and will be providing a limited number of live traps this year."

One of the highlights of the club is the annual Youth Pheasant Hunt held in early October. The participants were invited from a list of kids who successfully completed their hunt safe course in Clark County. There were 10 first time hunters who participated in trap shooting and hunting with a guide and a dog. After the hunt, lunch was served and there were drawings for donated prizes.

Clark County residents make up a good portion of the Pro Pheasants' membership, but members also come from surrounding counties and from Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio.

## No valuation appeals heard at city equalization meeting

The Clark City Council met Monday, March 16, at the Ulyot Building, primarily to host the annual equalization meeting. Bob Steffen represented the Clark School Board at this meeting. No appeals had been filed, so this portion of the meeting ended rather quickly as the city council did take some time to look over the real estate valuations of all the residences and businesses.

The council then heard a variance

request by Terry O'Neill. O'Neill is planning on building a house and storage shed on N. Smith St., on the far north end of Clark. The variance passed on building a 42' wide by 64' long storage shed.

After routine business, the council moved up the April 6 meeting time to 6:00 p.m. and then talked summer recreation. Summer recreation rates for the swimming pool as well as softball and baseball will remain the same as in years past.

Swimming pool personnel was then hired with respective wages also approved. Clark finance officer Jackie Luttrell has stated on various occasions that more kids are needed for lifeguard positions and she added that there could be limited pool hours in the future if more pool workers are not allocated.

Hopefully, Lonna DesLauriers will again be the pool manager, said

**City equalization**  
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## Cyclones claim consolation championship at State

▲ Mackenzie Huber and Mikayla Prouty named All-Tourney



The Clark-Willow Lake Lady Cyclones lost a heart breaker then won two games in comfortable fashion, coming home with the fifth place trophy at the South Dakota Class A Girls Basketball Tournament, last weekend in Watertown.

In a timeout during the Cheyenne-Eagle Butte contest, coach Mark Prouty diagrams a play he wants the team to run.

Seniors Mikayla Prouty and Mackenzie Huber were named to the All-Tourney team.

The Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones finished the 2014-15 campaign with 18 victories and 7 losses on the season, finishing in fifth place at the South Dakota Class A Girls Basketball Tournament over the weekend in Watertown.

"It was a great experience for our entire team, not only on the court, but off the court as well," said Cy-

clone head coach Mark Prouty of gaining state tournament exposure. Coach Prouty noted that getting to the state tourney and experiencing the state tourney were nice accomplishments for the Cyclones.

**Clark-WL 63 (OT) Webster 65**

The game of the tournament for the Cyclones was the opening round contest against Northeast Conference rival Webster. Webster rallied

to tie the game in the final seconds and then outlasted Clark-Willow Lake in overtime to prevail in a hard fought contest, 65-63, in overtime.

"Webster, wow, what a heart breaker," said Prouty. "I thought we did the things we needed to win the game right up to the final seconds with a desperation shot at the regulation buzzer. It was a great



Going to the state basketball tourney is what all players dream about, strive for and attempt to accomplish. Winning the Region 2A boys basketball championship last Tuesday were the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones.

Seniors showing off the championship plaque are, left to right, Cody Nelson, Mike Bethke, Tyson Jen-

kins and Rawson Yost.

The Cyclones play Little Wound in the first round of the State A Boys Basketball Tournament Thursday, in Rapid City. Tip-off is slated for 1:45 p.m. MT.

Clark-Willow Lake defeated Sioux Valley 52-29 in the Region 2A championship game, Tuesday, at Webster.

## Cyclones are State Tourney bound!

Rapid City is the site of the South Dakota Class A High School Boys Basketball Tournament to be held March 19-21 at the Civic Center.

The Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones punched their ticket to the state tourney in a big way, knocking off the Sioux Valley Cossacks, 52-29, in the Region 2A championship game, Tuesday, at Webster.

The Cyclones are on a roll heading to the state tournament! Sporting a 19-3 record the team has won 14 consecutive games. Little Wound will be the opening round opponent, with tip-off slated for 1:45 MT, on Thursday.

"Getting to the State Tournament never gets old," said Clark-Willow Lake head coach Jerome Nesheim. "Any time you make it, it is very special, just because every year it is a different group of players."

Nesheim continued talking about Thursday's opponent. "We open up with Little Wound. When we have gone into most games this season we have had a height advantage, but not this one. Little Wound's center is 7' 1". It will be a challenge for us. We want to make sure we attack him aggressively. He is going to block a lot of shots, but we still have to make him guard us."

The opening round match-ups at Rapid City include: #1 seed Aberdeen Roncalli vs. #8 seed Lennox at 12:00 p.m.; #4 seed Clark-Willow Lake vs. #5 seed Little Wound at 1:45 p.m.; #2 seed Winner vs. #7 seed St. Thomas More at 6:00 p.m. and #3 seed Dell Rapids vs. #6 seed Mt. Vernon-Plankinton at 7:45 p.m.

Nesheim went on to praise his squad at how well they have gelled during February and March, playing very stiff defense and knowing their respective roles on offense.

"This time of year, the team that

**Cyclones to State**  
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## Today is National Ag Day

Every farmer in the United States produces enough food to feed 151 people every day. Whether one produces the food and fiber, or just consumes it, pride should be taken in American agriculture.

March 15-21 is National Agriculture Week. Wednesday, March 18, is National Agriculture Day.

Clark County 4-H Youth Program Advisor Kim McGraw expounded on the importance of agriculture in today's society. "Today, each farmer feeds 151 people. Fifteen years ago it was 129 people being fed by each American farmer and 15 years from now it will probably be around 170 people," she said.

McGraw touted the importance of advancements as well in agriculture, as it is quite a responsibility to help feed the seven billion inhabitants on earth. "It's important to keep our food productivity advancing, so farmers, those who work one-on-one with farmers and even those in a position such as mine, where I work with youth, look generations down the road to keep ag advancement a cutting edge reality."

The weather has been unseasonably warm the last week, causing many producers to be thinking about the upcoming growing season and getting in the fields.

David Karki is the SDSU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist at the Watertown Extension Regional Center. In an interview with Karki about the upcoming growing season, he began by introducing himself and that he's been at Watertown the past six months. Between plant breeding and agronomy, Karki has spent the last 10 years in the field of plant science, with much of that time in Brookings, at SDSU.

**Planting season outlook**

"As far as what will be planted nationwide this year, there looks to be slightly less corn and no increase in soybean production," said Karki of USDA National Ag Services statistics. "What this means is that



producers either aren't planting anything or they are planting something besides corn or soybeans."

Karki then talked about on a state-wide or local level, that crop decisions will probably echo what the producer has planted the last several years, with several

factors coming into play in 2015.

"Inputs haven't gone down and crop prices haven't gone up," he said and speculated that because of this producers could put small grains, such as oats, into the base acre equation. "Which crop will be most profitable will be and has been thought of by all producers, as well as what will the weather be like this spring and summer?"

The SDSU agronomist then talked about looking at weather predictions, long-range and short term. "I do this quite often and looking at the USDA National Drought Monitor, eastern South Dakota is listed as abnormally dry (conditions). That usually means that we're either coming into a drought or coming out of a drought. NOAA is optimistic that we will be coming out of this category by the end of May, except for the far northeast corner of the state. It has been dry for sometime."

**Optimism 2015**

McGraw stated that part of being a producer is to have that optimis-

**National Ag Day**  
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WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Mar. 10.....	54	29	0
Mar. 11.....	55	29	0
Mar. 12.....	68	39	0
Mar. 13.....	55	34	0
Mar. 14.....	65	35	0
Mar. 15.....	73	48	0
Mar. 16.....	56	20	0
2015 precipitation to date	.56"		
2014 precipitation to date	.71"		