

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS

One soldier visits home, three more activated



From left: Dana Dodd, vice president of information services technology, was among the well-wishers at a reception held for Darrell Schultz (right) while he was on leave from Iraq.

Headquarters employees held a reception July 29 to welcome home Darrell Schulz as he took time out of his two-week leave to say hello to his coworkers. Schulz, general mechanic II, is a member of the North Dakota Army National Guard Company C 141 Engineer Combat Battalion stationed in Iraq. Lowell Rader, boiler attendant at Leland Olds Station, serves with the battalion as well.

Schulz shared a slide show of photos depicting the work the battalion is doing to aid in Iraq's reconstruction. He thanked friends and coworkers for the support they've show during his deployment.

Not long after Schulz returned to Iraq, two more Basin Electric employees and one Dakota Gasification Company (DGC) employee were called into service. Terry Nelson and Fred Karnik, temporary pilots for Basin Electric, were activated with the North Dakota Army National Guard Detachment 42 Operational Support Airlift on Sept. 18. The detachment's eight members were deployed to Afghanistan after spending about a week preparing at Ft. Bliss, TX. As part of the group's mission, Nelson and Karnik fly a King Air jet similar to the one they fly for Basin Electric.

Doran Link, field technician at DGC's Synfuels Plant, was activated Aug. 16

with the 1041st Engineering Detachment 3rd Brigade 104th Division of the Army Reserve. Link is an explosives expert and was deployed to Devils Lake, ND, where he is training other reservists in demining activities.

Holst wins national bowling tournament



Mike Holte

It was a long road to hoe for Mike Holst, Laramie River Station mechanic/welder. Two hip replacements later, he emerged as the 2004 Seniors, age 55-59, National

Singles Bowling Tournament champion in Reno, NV.

Holst's bowling career began at age 14, but he never dreamed he would win the Seniors' division of the National Bowling Tournament. He gives all the credit for this victory to "luck."

Before making it to the top of the podium, Holst had a degenerative disease in his hips. This disease resulted in two hip replacements; the first was eight years ago and the second was two years later. Holst says, "The surgery actually improved my game because it took the pain off my hips."

As one of the younger senior bowlers, Holst plans to bowl as long as he can. "At least until the hips give out and I have to get new ones again," he says.