



Huntington North High School seniors Dilan Buuck (left) and Ryan Schroeder display the tools they received as part of their awards from the State SkillsUSA competition. Photo provided.

HNHS students grab top spots at SkillsUSA contest

Students from Huntington North High School took top honors at the recent state SkillsUSA Precision Machining Competition.

HNHS, one of 22 schools competing, had four students in the top 10.

Dilan Buuck placed first in the state precision machining technology competition and Ryan Schroeder placed third.

Grant Pape placed eighth, Travis Campbell placed ninth and Joe Bentz placed 15th.

The competition was held April 10 and 11 in Indianapolis.

The purpose of the state competition is to evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of precision machining technology.

"It reinforces what students are learning in the classroom when they attend these competitions," says Brian Murray, HNHS precision machining instructor. "It's a valuable opportunity for our students to see how their work compares to other students."

In the precision machining technology category, contestants were judged in a variety of categories such as shop theory, blue print reading/sketching, three jaw lathe operation, milling operations, grinding, digital layout and drill, inspection and calculation and precision measurement. Penalties were given for clothing and safety.

"This was my sixth competition, so I've competed before," Buuck said. "It was not messing up that was more difficult."

Buuck has already en-

listed with the United States Army. He will complete basic training at Fort Jackson, SC, this summer. After basic training he will focus on Apache helicopter repair training.

For placing first in the state, he is eligible for an Ivy Tech Community College scholarship that would cover tuition and fees for up to 15 credits for three consecutive terms at Ivy Tech. His first place finish at state also earned him an additional \$10,000 scholarship from Lincoln College of Technology.

Buuck previously received \$3,000 scholarships from both Lincoln College of Technology and Ivy Tech Community College Northeast for his first place performance at the regional SkillsUSA competition on Jan 31.

Schroeder was awarded a \$3,500 scholarship from

Ivy Tech, which would pay for a full year of tuition, fees and books. Schroeder also received a \$6,000 scholarship from Lincoln College of Technology, where he plans to study CNC Machining and Manufacturing Technology.

Ivy Tech also awarded Campbell a \$2,500 scholarship and Pape a \$2,000 scholarship for their achievements at regional and state.

SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations.

Huntington North's precision machining program is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the precision machining processes used in industry, manufacturing, maintenance and repair.