

17th Annual Top O' the Day Tee-Off

By Kimberly Cook

It was a great day to be back on the golf course for the 17th Annual Top O' the Day Tee-Off on August 9.

CrossRoads Golf Course in Carrington once again honored water giants Russell Dushinske and Warren Jamison through the scramble hosted by the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) and the North Dakota Water Education Foundation.

Proceeds from the scramble benefit the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources Scholarship Endowment in memory of the men and their distinguished service, dedicated leadership and lifelong devotion to water development in North Dakota. Four \$1,500 scholarships are awarded each year to students attending a North Dakota college or university and whose families have taken an active role in state water resource management.

Thirty-four teams and 136 golfers flooded the 18-hole course at noon – after a much-welcome but poorly timed rain shower in the area – to contend for top finishes and prizes on many of the holes. Generous sponsors filled the course with contests and promotional items. Golfers wrapped up their day with dinner and an awards ceremony held at the CrossRoads clubhouse, recognizing the first-, third- and 17th-place teams, as well as winners of contests featured at many of the holes. A score of 57 was the tournament best, sending teammates Hayden Schmitz, Jayden Shipman, Seth Nelson and Alex Klever home with first-place prizes.

“It was extra special to get together again after last year’s tourney was cancelled,” Diane Jamison-Richards said. “We are grateful for all those who contribute to this fundraiser so that we can provide scholarships each year to four students. It takes many hands to put together a successful event such as this one. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one who is a contributor!”



Nancy Marquart, Garrison Diversion director, Nelson County, teeing off at the Top O' the Day Golf Scramble.



Garrison Diversion General Manager Duane DeKrey participated in the scramble, shown here vying for a "Hole in One" sponsored by Besette Motors of Carrington.



1ST PLACE, with a score of 57: Hayden Schmitz, Jayden Shipman, Seth Nelson and Alex Klever.



3RD PLACE, with a score of 59: Kelly Trautmann, Bill Trautmann, Steve Harrington, Jim McDonald.



17TH PLACE, with a score of 66: C J Hager, Riley Akervik, Levi Taylor, Austin Kastet.

Contests also were held on several holes, providing additional competition for participants! Those winners are:
Shortest Drive (Men) – Dana Johnson, Carrington
Closest to Pin Second Shot – Jeff Van Ray, Pingree
Longest Drive (Women) – Mary Kaye Schneibel, Manvel
Longest Drive (Men) – Tyler Reisenauer, Carrington
Closest to Pin Second Shot – Seth Nelson, Carrington
Shortest Drive (Women) – Lauryn Halvorson, Grace City
Longest Putt – Louis Halvorson, Grace City

A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to the sponsors of this year's event. These generous sponsors aided in the success of the scramble, many providing door prizes or games:

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ND Irrigation Association
ND Rural Water Systems Association
Southwest Water Authority
David & Connie Sprynczynatyk
Vogel Law

For more information on the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources Scholarship, please contact the North Dakota Water Education Foundation at ndwaterusers@btinet.net.



It's All **FUN AND GAMES** at the North Dakota State Fair

Educating folks about critical water needs across North Dakota is important, and the North Dakota State Fair is an ideal venue to reach a diverse crowd. Water Day began in 2008 as an opportunity for many water organizations to engage with the public about the critical water needs in our state. Today, it remains an educational platform about the diverse water needs we have, while showing appreciation to the general public with some fun and games.

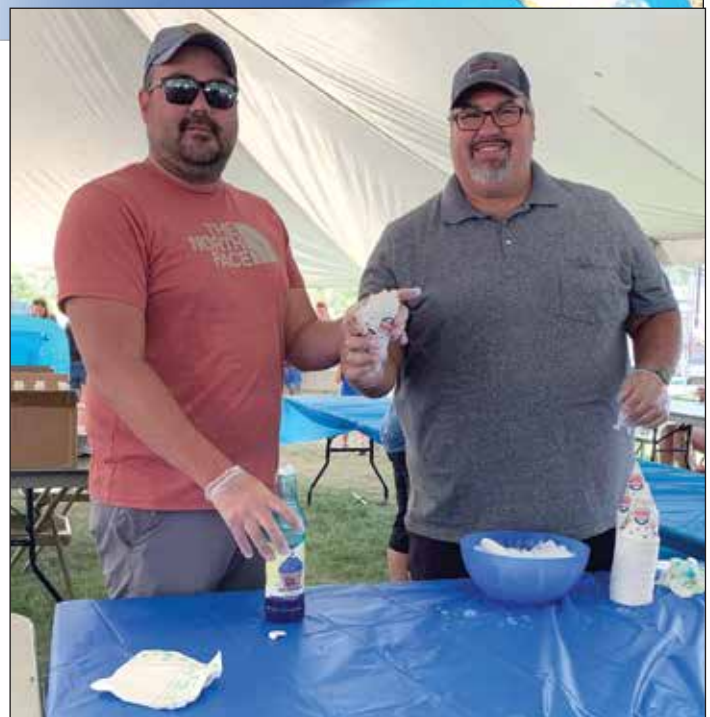
After a hiatus in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) returned to Water Day. The booth sponsored a ring toss carnival game with prizes and provided information for the Water Wiz trivia game played by attendees.

District employees served up SnoCones during the hour-long “Frost Fest.” sponsored by the ND Water Education Foundation.

“We always enjoy participating in Water Day, and are happy to support the Water Education Foundation and their statewide outreach,” Garrison Diversion Communications Director Kimberly Cook said.



Garrison Diversion Board Chair Alan Walter (Ward County) and Director Kenny Rogers (Bottineau County) assisted the North Dakota Water Education Foundation by shaving ice for all those SnoCones!



Garrison Diversion employees Ryan Anderson and Dustin Offerdahl distributed SnoCones to Water Day visitors!