

Kendra Rose Levanen

—the first to receive
the new Trig-Star Scholarship awarded
to students choosing surveying
as their career



Kendra participated in the 2006-2007 Montana Trig-Star program, taking the Trig-Star test at Flathead High School in Kalispell, MT. The test was sponsored on the local level by the Northwest Chapter of the Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors (MARLS), and proctored by member Marc Burkhart.

Tying for seventh place out of 44 participating students at Flathead High School is very respectable. Finishing tied for the eighteenth position out of 168 students from the four participating High Schools in the Northwest Chapter is even more impressive.

First introduced to land surveying as a junior participating in a survey unit at the Kalispell VO-AG center, Kendra realized her career calling. She wanted a physical career, a job that would often be outdoors, and land surveying looked like the perfect answer to both these stipulations.

Coming from a large family—three brothers and six sisters—Kendra is no stranger to hard work. She started her first job at Farm-to-Market Pork, an agricultural processing business, as a high school freshman. Since graduation, Kendra has been offered a full-time position at Farm-to-Market Pork which, along with the Trig Star scholarship, will help to fund her college education.

Among Kendra's many accomplishments, superior work ethics stand out. The trait of giving her work all she could was instilled in her through her involvement in 4-H and FFA—6 and 4 years, respectively. Still involved in FFA, Kendra will be traveling to Indi-

anapolis this October to compete in the National Meats Judging competition.

Kendra's application to work and study were further demonstrated this past winter when she was absent from school for a full week to accompany her family on a "Make-A-Wish" trip for her physically disabled youngest sister.

During her absence, one of the toughest topics was covered in her pre-calculus class. "Very few students I have known after 22 years of teaching would have been able to do as well as she did in making up her work. She came in after school for help, but first did her part by reading the material and getting notes from other students before asking for my assistance. Her work ethic is amazing." says Kendra's pre-calculus teacher Janet Espeseth.

Kendra is enrolled in Flathead Valley Community College's survey program, where she expects to earn an associates degree. Upon graduation, Kendra intends to pursue a career in surveying and become a licensed professional land surveyor. Judging from her early credentials, I would say Kendra Rose Levanen will be an outstanding addition to our profession, Land Surveying.

Randy W. Thomas, PLS
Bureau of Land Management
Montana State Office
State Trig-Star Coordinator, Montana