

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 12, Number 1

ISSN: 1086-4172

April, May, June 2004

2004 USA Shooting Open National Championships

LEVI GEURTS

NAMED TO NATIONAL TEAM

"Welcome to the National Team!" This was USA Shooting National Coach Dave Johnson's comment to Levi as he packed up after firing the finals in Men's 10 Meter Air Rifle at the USA Shooting Open National Championships held in June at Ft. Benning, GA. Levi's finals score of 100.7, added to his match scores of 586 and 584, put him in 4th place overall in Men's Air Rifle. The next thing he knew, Dave Johnson was shaking his hand.

"It kind of caught me off guard and messed me up a bit during the next day's Smallbore Prone match," Levi said. He fired a 576 and 575 in the Prone match and then went on to fire an 1124 and 1151 in the 3p Match. The 1151 is a match personal best for Levi. So I would say that he didn't stay "messed up" for very long! I should also mention that Levi fired a 99.7 in the Men's Air Rifle Juniors category and ended up placing 3rd overall Junior.

Levi is the son of Dan and Barb Geurts. They hail from Buffalo, North Dakota. I've known Dan and Barb for quite a few years now and will tell you that these folks are committed to promoting Junior rifle shooting. Dan coaches the Buffalo Sharpshooters BB gun and Air Rifle teams. He's an excellent coach and can also sniff out an ice cream parlor, well, almost as well as this writer can! Levi started shooting BB gun at 9 years old. He started shooting Precision Air Rifle at 12. He has been to the National Junior Olympics in Colorado Springs 5 times. He is currently 17 years old and now on the US National Team. I'll leave the math up to you!

Being on the US National Team, Levi is in the company of folks named Parker, Emmons, Rawlings, Tanoue, and Hall plus a couple of others. He is to wear his team coat, etc to matches. He is starting a home training regimen and must submit monthly reports to Dave Johnson. In December, USA Shooting is planning on flying Levi to Colorado where he will do some training and they will do some testing with his smallbore rifle, an Anschutz 2013. When they figure out what Eley ammo shoots best in his rifle, they will provide him with 2500 rounds of it. They will also supply some pellets for his trusty FWB P70 air rifle. After that we'll just have to wait and see. Levi tells me that they might take him to any of a number of matches. Maybe the Rocky Mountain, the Pan Am Games, or the World Cup. After graduating from high school, Levi hopes to attend college with the help of a shooting scholarship.

On interviewing Levi for this article, I asked him to what or to whom does he attribute his success. He needed no time to formulate his answer. "I've reached this point because of lots of practice and because Dad buys a lot of stuff!" says Levi.

I also asked, "Do you have any advice for up-and-coming shooters?" Levi replied, "Practice makes perfect!" "I practice 2 ½ hrs a day, 6 days a week. I never get sick of practicing!" There's a lesson here about setting goals and working towards them, about really wanting something and going for it. I know that Dan finally convinced Levi that 6 days of practice would be enough, instead of the 7 that he was doing!

But it was Levi's final comment that really told me that this young man was going places in life. A statement proclaiming that his head is squarely on his shoulders. A statement that almost certainly would bring his father to tears with pride! What did he say?

Levi answered, "After shooting, I really like to go get some ice cream!"

-submitted by Eric Pueppke

Editorially Speaking

Your editor has finally sat down to complete this issue of the Target. I have been occupied at work and with other obligations. Please accept my apologies for the delay.

I am going to jump from one subject to another here, so hang on and try to keep up.

My last editorial congratulated the efforts of Minot and Grand Forks in the construction of their new indoor range facilities. Unfortunately, in this editorial, I have the sorry news that The Gateway Pistol Club is not currently able to use the Fargo Regional Training Center indoor range. In fact, they have been formally advised that the range facility will not be available to them at all. This is certainly sad news. I have taken the time to write the Fargo City Commission and the Cass County Commissioners a letter with my request that they reconsider this decision, and I understand that the Gateway Club members are doing what they can. If any of you see any way to reverse this decision or can offer any advice to the Club, contact Eric Pueppke or Steve Faught.

You will find some very good news in this issue about our junior shooters. The efforts of these young people and their families and coaches are really paying off. Of course, as you probably know, I think the efforts of these young people in the shooting sports are guaranteed to produce good results for them and their families. Efforts at perfect practice and efforts to support that perfect practice are so worthwhile that it is amazing to me that more people do not become involved in the process to secure their own reward.

I thank those of you who took the time to put together short articles about the junior results and the results of other matches. I look forward to a summary of the Camp Perry rifle and pistol shooters' experience this year aside from what I am sure were many trips to Andy's for ice cream to soothe their nerves after the daily matches.

Remember to Vote. The reality that the political process impacts all of our lives cannot be ignored. Rather than go into a long editorial about who you should vote for in November, I suggest that you log into this website for a great outline of some very telling facts about the voting record of our candidates: <http://www.sportsmenforkerryedwards.com/>.

Thanks to Ed Jensen for this web address.

Please also remember to contact our senators and congressman to encourage them to represent support of those North Dakota attitudes about firearms use and ownership that are clearly documented in our state's gun laws that include:

1. Concealed Carry.
2. Protection of manufacturers and sellers from those nuisance law suits that are so costly to defend and that threaten to inflate the cost of firearm ownership out of the reach of any ordinary citizen.
3. Shooting range protection for our existing outdoor ranges.

Those of you who are interested in the Olympic Shooting results and the results of the USA National Championships can link to them via the NRA's (<http://www.nra.org/>) and USA Shooting's (<http://www.usashooting.com/usashooting.cfm>).

The following is still my favorite assertive statement:

If guns cause crime, then pencils cause misspelled words, and guns kill people just like spoons have made Rosie O'Donnell fat.

We welcome Ryan Kadrmas of Dickinson as our newest life member.

NDSSA Officers and Chair people

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 HiPwr Rifle: See Director Dennis Coulter above.
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The Target
ISSN: 1086-4172

PUBLISHED quarterly (four issues a year) by the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc., P. O. Box 9242, Fargo, ND 58106-9242., a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America, for the purpose of promoting safety and education in the sport of shooting. The Target is provided to all members of the NDSSA. Individual subscriptions are \$10.00 a year and club subscriptions are \$20.00 a year. The editorials and articles appearing in the publication reflect the differing views present among sportsmen and gun owners, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Target, P. O. Box 9242, Fargo, ND 58106-9242.

DEADLINES: Closing date for material for each issue is the first day of the month preceding the month of publication. Publication dates are: January, April, July, and October. All materials are to be provided to the following address:

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Mark your calendar for our Association's **Annual Meeting and Recognition Banquet to be held on February 12, 2005, at the Grand Forks Ramada motel in conjunction with the Forks Friends of NRA Banquet.** Please plan to attend.

Junior Results from Pocatello, Idaho

North Dakota was well represented at the NRA National Air Gun Championship and Training Summit in Pocatello, ID, July 8-11 by the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association air pistol and air rifle teams.

The air pistol team was awarded bronze medals and a plaque for their 3rd place overall score of 2035. After the first match, the ND team was in 4th place. During their 2nd match, the boys improved on their 1st day's team score by 19 points to capture 3rd place. The team members were Kyle Faught, son of Steve and Dawn Faught, Chris Pueppke and Matthew Pueppke, sons of Eric and Char Pueppke, all of Amenia ND. Matthew Pueppke was awarded a silver medal for his 2nd place finish in the Sub-Junior category with a score of 673. The air pistol team shot two matches, each consisting of 40 shots. The timed matches are shot in 75 minutes.

The precision air rifle team placed 10th overall and consisted of Levi Geurts, son of Dan and Barb Geurts, Buffalo; Darin Carlsrud, son of Dale and Roberta Carlsrud, Tower City; Matthew Pueppke, and Kelsey Hansen, daughter of Jeff and Kari Hansen, Minot. Levi Geurts was awarded an overall 5th place medal for his first match score of 586, an overall 2nd place medal for his second match score of 591, a 2nd place medal for his overall total score, and a gold medal in the Junior category for his total match score of 1177 out of 1200.

The air rifle team shot two 3-position matches. Each match consists of 20 shots in the prone position, 20 shots standing and 20 shots in the kneeling position. During the second match, perfect prone scores of 200 were shot by both Levi Geurts and Matthew Pueppke. Levi, Darin, Matthew and Kelsey all shot personal best scores during these matches. Darin fired the same very solid, consistent score of 556 in each of the two 3-position matches. Kelsey is a new air rifle shooter and had her first national match experience in Pocatello. She fired a fine score of 537 in the first match and followed that with a 2nd day score of 567.

The teams were able to travel to the national tournament with the generous donations by the Buffalo Wildlife Club, members of the Minot Rifle and Pistol Club, a number of Minot area businesses and the NRA. Three of the precision air rifles and air pistols that were shot in this tournament have been provided by the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association. The teams would like to thank all of their supporters for this wonderful opportunity.

Submitted – Charlotte Pueppke

Some background on Levi's Coach

Army Reserves Maj. David Johnson, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., will be the rifle coach for Team USA in the Olympic Games at Athens, Greece, this summer.

Johnson, 40, a native of Mount Holly, N.J., has been a member of the U.S. National Rifle Team for 15 years. He competed in the 1992 Olympic Games at Barcelona, Spain, where he placed 11th and 21st in air rifle and three-position shooting respectively.

Johnson began shooting in 1972 at the Langley Junior Rifle Club in Virginia. A 1982 graduate of Hampton High School, he

holds a bachelor's degree in finance from West Virginia University.

In 2000, after leaving active duty and joining the Army Reserves, he took the job as rifle coach at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and led the Nanooks to three individual and two team NCAA championships.

In June of 2002, he returned to active duty and was assigned to WCAP and selected as rifle coach for the U.S. National Team.

"The World Class Athlete Program is important to me because I will be able to represent the USA in the Olympic Games as a coach," said Johnson, an infantry officer who joined the Army in May of 1986 and was attached to the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga. "I joined the Army because my dad was in the military and I wanted to serve also."

What does it mean to give MORE than 100%?

Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%?

We have all been to those meetings where someone wants you to give over 100%.

How about achieving 103%? What makes up 100% in life?

From a strictly mathematical viewpoint it goes like this:

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

is represented as:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26.

Then:

H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K

8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98%

and

K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E

11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96%

While,

A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E

1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100%

However,

B-U-L-L-S-H-I-T

2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103%

AND,

A-S-S-K-I-S-S-I-N-G

1+19+19+11+9+19+19+9+14+7 = 118%

From this, one can then conclude with mathematical certainty that while Hard Work and Knowledge will get you close to 100%. Attitude will get you all the way, but Bullshit and Ass kissing will put you into the overachiever category.

Of course, there is always the other overachiever who is the sum of Hard work (98%) + Knowledge (96%) + Attitude (100%) for a grand total = to 294%.

*** We would all like to be recognized as overachievers. ***

Which kind do you want to be?

Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Ass'n. Range update

Work continues on the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association's ranges. Saturday, July 31st, five willing workers put up framework and roof trusses to extend the covered firing line. When this phase is finished, there will be 176 feet of canopy, making this one of the best covered firing lines in the region. We plan to cover more next year or the next.

The club house is framed and covered with OSB; the windows are all installed. The facility is stubbed in for water and sewer; however it will be at least a couple of years before that part is complete. We should have the siding and roofing on before the frost kills the mosquitoes.

The concrete company that is scheduled to do the sidewalk in the pit is way behind schedule. They have done a very little excavating so far, and that is all. We had hoped to have that sidewalk in before the State High Power Rifle Championships of July 24 and 25, but so far, no concrete. Again, we hope to have this project done before the snow flies. Also, more target carriers are in the works.

Our next big shoot on the High Power side is the High Power Regional Championship to be shot September 18th and 19th, 2004. Since we have the only 1,000-yard range between a heck of a long ways East from here, and seven hoots and two hollars to the West, it would make sense to seriously consider shooting it, 'cause it is in your own back yard'. It will consist of five twenty-shot 1,000-yard matches, some with irons and some with 'scopes.

There is also an "F" class available for the Regional. That is, any rifle, any sight, and any reasonable support. Except the rifle must be 35 caliber or less, no muzzlebreak, and must be shot from the shoulder. Supports may include sand bags, bipods, etc, but no machine rests or mechanical cradles. Since "F" class is relatively new the rules are still being worked out, but you can find some on NRA's web site as well as CMP's web site. If you are interested in shooting this match, contact:

Leon Nesja, 708 Sweetbriar Road, Mandan, ND, 58554; or (701) 663-8818 for a program, and entry form, and more details.

Keep 'em in the black.

Leon Nesja, High Power Chairman, Bis/Man R&PA

This following is an unsolicited e-mail that was apparently sent to many for general distribution. I thought it was inspirational. If you have seen it elsewhere, it is worth looking again.

Whether or not you like George W. Bush, **you gotta admire this!**

Take close note of the photo.

Arlee Fairbanks wrote:

This is a section of a letter from my grandson who is stationed in Korea. **Makes me think our president is a real person.**

Attached is a picture of one of my best friends in the Army, Mike McNaughton. We were privates together in 1990-1994. He stepped on a landmine in Afghanistan Christmas 2002. President Bush came to visit the wounded in the hospital. He told Mike that, when he could run a mile, they would go on a run together. **True to his word, he called Mike every month or so to see how he was doing.** Well, last week they went on the run, 1 mile with the president. **Not something you'll see in the news, but seeing the president taking the time to say thank you to the wounded and to give hope to one of my best friends was one of the greatest/best things I have seen in my life.** It almost sounds like a corny email chain letter, but God bless him.

Love,

Justin

CPT Justin P. Dodge, MD
Flight Surgeon, 1-2 AVN RGT
Medical Corps, U.S. Army



Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Sep 11, 12	Bismarck 5th Annual Sighting In Days	Bismarck	Sam May	701-258-2360
Sep 12	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Sep 18, 19	High-power Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 25, 26	Bruce Alexander Memorial High-power Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Sep 25,26	Blackpowder Cartridge Rifle State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
Sep 26	Lake Region Shooting Sports Sighting In Days	Devils Lake	Open to all	
Oct 3	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
November 2	Election Day - Make sure to vote for your Rights-	Voting booth		
Dec 11	4 position Smallbore	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Dec 12	Approved Air Rifle and Pistol	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Feb. 12	NDSSA Annual Meeting	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Feb. 12	Forks Friends of NRA (evening after the meeting)	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 9242, Fargo, ND 58106-9242

Also join via the web: <http://www.ndssa.org>

- Yes, to protect my right to keep and bear arms; I would like to join the NDSSA and support the legislative efforts of the NDSSA.
My dues for a membership as noted are enclosed.

Please return this form. Print name and address as you wish it to appear on our records.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Interests

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting | <input type="checkbox"/> Bullseye Pistol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Rifle | <input type="checkbox"/> Hi-Power Rifle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Pistol | <input type="checkbox"/> Smallbore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Police PPC | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rifle Silhouette | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pistol Silhouette | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter Safety | |

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective July 1, 2003)

Life.....\$200.00 One Year\$15.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$15.00

5 Year....\$65.00 Junior.....\$5.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and mail to above address. (July 2003)

North Dakota State High Power Rifle Championships

Saturday and Sunday, July 24th and 25th, the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association hosted the North Dakota State High Power Rifle Championships at their range near Moffit.

A see-saw battle for the title of North Dakota State High Power Rifle Champion between Thomas Thompson of Bismarck, and Duane Holien of Cando, kept the attention of 27 of the State's top shooters. Both Thompson and Holien are classified as High Masters, and are always at or near the top, when scores are compiled. Thompson led after the 200-yard off-hand match with a 188-1x out of a possible 200 over Holien's 182-1x. Holien came back big time, when he cleaned the 200-yard rapid fire match with a 200-10x to take over the lead when Thompson scored a disappointing 191-6x. Thompson re-took the lead with a 199-5x in the 300-yard rapid fire match to best Holien's 193-1x. The 600-yard match is where Holien cinched the title by outscoring Thompson 196-7x to 191-0x. When the scores were added, Holien posted an aggregate of 771-19x, edging out Thompson's 769-12x. Total possible is 800.

Coby Dalgliesh of Sarles won the Master Class with 762-11x. Our neighbor from South Dakota, Harold Walker of Sturgis, scored an impressive 755-25x to handily take the Expert Class. Sharpshooter David Geyer of Bismarck bested his class with a 717-12x. Aaron Carico of Valley City posted a 692-3x to emerge as the Marksman Class winner.

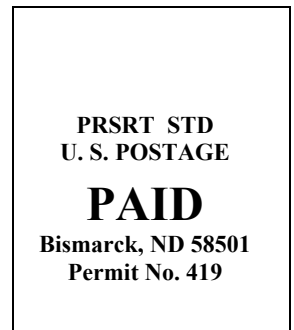
Jimmy W. Barner of Emerado took home the North Dakota State Service Rifle Championship title with a score of 753-11x. Dennis Coulter of Grand Forks was High Senior, posting a 751-10x.

The Excellence in Competition Match, a service rifle match sponsored by the Civilian Marksmanship Program, was won by Jimmy W. Barner with a 468-10x of a possible 500. In addition to a gold medal, Barner also gained the last points needed to earn the title of Distinguished Rifleman, an NRA national recognition. Coby Dalgliesh took the silver, and Russ Theurer of Bismarck captured the bronze.

In the Team Match, Forks Rifle Club#1 took first with a score of 1918-50x out of a possible 2000. Forks Rifle Club#2 was second with 1736-24, beating the host Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association's 1710-19xs. Leon Nesja, Match Director

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