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HARRIS HORIZONS

FALL / 07

PLUMBING / PROCESS PIPING / HVAC / REFRIGERATION / CONTROLS / ELECTRICAL / SERVICE



back to campus

Construction has started on the TCF Bank Stadium at the University of Minnesota

Gopher Football is moving back to campus and Harris Mechanical was recently awarded the mechanical contract for the TCF Bank Stadium for the University of Minnesota. Harris will be providing the HVAC, plumbing, piping, controls and fire protection for the \$288 million stadium.

From 1924 to 1982, the University of Minnesota Gopher football team played outdoors at the on-campus Memorial Stadium. The Gophers then moved to the Metrodome in downtown Minneapolis and the stadium was demolished in 1992 after a decade of no football. In 2003 the University felt that it was time to bring the team back to campus and they unveiled drawings and a general plan to build and finance a new stadium. The stadium was finally approved in 2006 and construction started right away.

The project was divided into three phases. Phase 1 started with the reconstruction of streets and parking areas surrounding the new stadium. Phase 2 involved the realignment of streets south and west of the stadium as well as construction and expansion of surface parking north and

east of the site. The third and final phase of the project started in July with construction of the actual stadium.

Site preparation and foundation work is currently being completed and the stadium's steel structure is scheduled to start this winter. Harris will start work on the underground piping in November. The external structure will be completed next fall and the internal finishing, lighting and landscaping will be completed in time for the first football game of the 2009 season.

The stadium will be located on the former Huron Avenue parking complex, which is close to existing athletic venues such as Mariucci Arena and Williams Arena. This site will house the stadium and parking facilities and also leave room for potential future development of new academic and research facilities for the University.

The open-air, horseshoe-shaped stadium will seat 50,000 fans with the potential to expand to 80,000 seats in the future. The stadium will feature 36 suites, 59 loge boxes (outdoor, rail-enclosed, small group seating areas), 300 indoor club seats, 1000

outdoor club seats and a large indoor club. The stadium design also includes space for home and visitor game-day locker and training rooms; an area for print and broadcast media; and room for concessions, catering and sales of collegiate apparel and merchandise.

Once the stadium is complete, it will also provide a place for many other campus and community events. However, the most important element of the stadium is that students and fans will experience the way a college football game should be played - outdoors and on campus.

who's involved: Harris Mechanical

- Owner: **University of Minnesota**
- General Contractor: **MA Mortenson**
- Principal-in-Charge: **Rawley Brodeen**
- Sr. Project Manager: **Dave Bawek**
- Superintendent: **Dave Dabruzzo**
- General Foreman: **Rick Smeed**



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Decisions. We make them every day. Sometimes they are so inconsequential that you don't even realize you are making one, like which pair of socks to grab out of the drawer in the morning. Others we agonize over. Sometimes we know right away when we've made a good one, sometimes it takes longer, still others we never know.

So when we make a decision, how do we go about it? Generally we put together all of the facts we know, make a few assumptions, and move on. Bill Gates once said something like "if there is enough information to make a business case, it's already too late." And, as Donald Rumsfeld once said, "We have known knows, in other words the things we know, we have known unknowns, the things we know we don't know, and we have unknown unknowns, the things we don't know we don't know." Regardless of your views on Bill Gates and Donald Rumsfeld together they raise a very good point. On any decision of any importance, you'll never know everything you "need" to know to make the "right" decision, and if you do it's probably already been made for you.

Despite this, one thing is certain, all decisions lead to some sort of change. Change is uncomfortable for a lot of people, but there is simply

no way to prosper without it. When we look through the history of great companies we see great change. Wallgreens changed from a restaurant business to a convenience store, a decision that clearly turned out to be "right." Other decisions by great companies have not been so well received, for example the "new" Coca-Cola formula during the 80's.

We've made a lot of decisions over the years that have changed the company. Some have been very positive, like entering the controls business or the HVAC service business, or merging with HiMEC. Others have not been as successful, for example the Fire Protection business.

So what's the key to making good decisions? Well, unfortunately if there is one universal secret I don't know it. What I do know is that you can't always have all the information, or you'll never make a decision. And once you've made one and it doesn't turn out as you'd hoped, change it right away and move on.

What all this means is that we'll always be in a state of change, and the best thing we can do to prepare for it is not get too comfortable with the status quo! To end with one more quote, "It is not the strongest of a species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is most adaptable to change." Charles Darwin.

ZEROING IN ON SAFETY

Hand and power tools are a common part of our everyday lives and are present in nearly every industry. These tools help us easily perform tasks that otherwise would be difficult or impossible. Because power tools are so common in construction, we are constantly exposed to a variety of hazards related to their use. The very tool that makes our job easy and efficient may one day be the cause of a tragic accident. It is good to be reminded of common-sense safety practices:

- Every tool is designed for a specific use. Do not misuse.
- Inspect daily for defects.
- Keep tools in proper working condition - clean, sharp, oiled, dressed, and adjusted.
- Mushroomed chisels, star drills, etc., cause dangerous flying objects. Keep them dressed.
- Never hit hardened steel with hardened steel, such as hitting a hatchet with a hammer.
- Do not use cheaters to increase capacity. Get a larger tool.
- Carry tools in a proper sheath belt, bag, or box, points down.
- Be sure safety can gaskets are in place, latches are in working order, and correct markings and color are displayed.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

In Memory of Dave Kuhlmann
1964 - 2007

by Kelly Johnson

With heads bowed and hearts hurting we have said good-bye to one of our own. On June 17th, 2007 (Father's Day) Dave Kuhlmann, a sheet metal worker for HiMEC died of an accidental drowning. Aside from his wife Tina, Dave leaves behind four children. Two sons, Lucas and Andrew; and two daughters, Kristina and Lauren.



Dave Kuhlmann passed away this past Father's Day.

Dave no doubt was a wonderful father and friend. Many stories have been shared about him taking his kids fishing, camping or stopping by someone's house for an impromptu visit with them in tow. Dave brought his own whimsical aura to the workplace. In an upbeat excited-about-life sort of way, he got the job done and had fun doing it, all the while adding his famous one liners just for entertainment. Dave liked people and it was not unusual for him to see someone he barely knew and take the time to get to know them better.

Talented with a tin snips, Dave would replicate the Sheet Metal Workers International Association logo into a plaque for those retiring from the trade. In his honor one was collectively made by the guys that consider him family and presented to his children.

Dave will be truly missed.

SECOND STORY

And They're Off

Columbus Township, MN

Harris Special Projects is currently providing the plumbing, HVAC and controls for the new North Metro Harness Racing Track located in Columbus Township, MN. This design/assist project involves the construction of a new grandstand building, maintenance building and four barns. Once in full-operation, North Metro will offer wagering on a 5/8-mile harness racing track and a card room with 50 gaming tables for casino card games and poker.

Harness racing is a horse race between trotting or pacing standardbred horses pulling lightweight, two-wheeled carts driven by jockeys. The races are won by skill and strategy rather than speed because the horses must race at a specified gait. Metro plans to have up to 50 races in its first season and will also broadcast live nationwide harness racing events in the grandstand facility.

The Floods of August 19th

by Kelly Johnson, Administrative Assistant - HiMEC

August 19th is a day residents of Southeast Minnesota will never forget. Heavy rains producing 10-17 inches ravaged some areas of Southeast Minnesota. Hardest hit was the town of Rushford. Eighty-five percent of the homes in the town of 2,350 were damaged beyond livable conditions. Furnaces, water heaters, carpeting and furniture had to be replaced and many personal items were lost forever. The devastation spread to the neighboring towns of Utica, Elba, Elgin, Plainview, and some residences of Houston, Olmsted and Winona Counties. Not only were homes destroyed but also partial roadways were washed out. In some cases the only means of travel in and out of town were left impassible.

HiMEC began a relief effort almost immediately. The service department began going door to door giving written estimates to replace water heaters, water softeners, boilers, air conditioners and furnaces at discounted prices. Since then, several technicians have been working long days to get these items installed quickly as the weather will soon turn cold.

The project has gone well for Harris despite a very wet August and September. This made it difficult to install the underground plumbing, but with a total of 30 workers at the project site, mechanical installation remains on schedule.

Harris worked with Dunham Associates to optimize mechanical systems based on quality, cost and efficiency. The General Contractor is Kraus-Anderson Construction-St. Paul Division and the Harris Project Manager is Chuck Schmaltz. Construction started in March and completion is expected in April of 2008.

Installing ductwork at the North Metro Harness Racing Track.



Of course everything is in demand. Food, water, cleaning supplies, and most of all money. HiMEC began a collective effort to raise funds for those immediate items needed. On September 5th, checks totaling \$2,170.00 were sent to the Southeast Minnesota Red Cross earmarked for this disaster.

The southeast chapter of the American Red Cross has provided nearly 175,000 meals and snacks, thousands of comfort kits, and clean-up kits throughout the flooded communities.

Two months after the flood help is still needed. As one individual who was helping said, "Nobody has anything left."

Effects of the flood in SE Minnesota.



LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

HARRIS MECHANICAL

Harris is currently providing the plumbing, piping, HVAC and controls for the renovation and addition to the Fine Arts building at **Normandale Community College** in Bloomington, MN. Jorgenson Construction is the General Contractor and Frank Roberts is the Harris Project Manager. ● Harris was recently awarded the mechanical contract for the **Park Nicollet Melrose Institute** in St. Louis Park, MN. The facility will treat and heal patients with eating disorders. The new center is expected to open in early 2009. The General Contractor is Kraus-Anderson Construction and Bob Dettling is the Harris Project Manager.

HARRIS SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Projects will be providing plumbing, HVAC and fire protection for the new **Sheraton Hotel** in Woodbury, MN. This design/build project involves the construction of a new 150 room hotel, pool, restaurant and meeting space. The project developer/owner is JLT Group, a St. Paul business that Harris has worked with repeatedly. JE Dunn is the General Contractor; Travis Hoff is the Harris Project Manager. ● Special Projects is upgrading the hot water boiler system for the **Amery Public School System** in Amery, WI. This project involves installation of high efficiency boilers and upgrades to temperature controls in three (3) schools. Harris is working direct for the DLR Group, the project construction manager. Dan Salo is the Harris Project Manager. ● Special Projects is working with Dew Corporation on the **US Postal Service** boiler upgrade projects in Red Wing, Wabasha and Caledonia, MN. These projects involve the conversion of existing steam boilers and piping to more efficient hot water. Harris previously completed three (3) similar projects for Dew/US Postal Service at various locations in 2006. Mike Biebl is the Harris Project Manager. ● Special Projects is working with Oak River Technology to design and install process piping for the battery coating line at **Boston Scientific**, located in Arden Hills, MN. Mike Biebl is the Harris Project Manager. ● Special Projects is working with Lund Martin on two (2) hospital renovation projects at **HCMC** in Minneapolis, MN. These projects involve the remodel of existing space to accommodate HIV/Rheumatology and OB/GYN clinics. Dan Salo is the Harris Project Manager.

HARRIS SERVICE

Harris Service has recently secured new projects at: **Medtronics; ASAP Inc.; Abbott Northwestern Hospital; Methodist Hospital; and the Walker Art Center.** ● Service has recently secured maintenance agreements at: **Hormel; ASAP Inc.; Skyscape Condominiums; 1225 LaSalle; and Northwest Area Foundation.**

HiMEC SERVICE

HiMEC Service has recently secured maintenance agreements at: **Rochester Toyota; Zumbrota Public Library; Images** in Kasson, MN; **Just Foods; District One Hospital** in Faribault, MN; and **Selco.**



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HARRIS/HIMEC HAPPENINGS...

- **Engagements:** **Jeremy Quade** (HiMEC Plumber/Fitter) to **Kelly Meyer**. A summer 2008 wedding is planned. **Melissa Sack** (Harris CAD Operator) to **Peter Winberg**. They will be getting married on March 29, 2008. **Tanya Ohman** (daughter of Tammy Ohman, Harris Accounts Receivable Coordinator) to **Bryon Christensen**. A May 2009 wedding is planned. Congratulations to all!
- **Weddings:** **Dean** (Harris Safety Representative - Otter Tail) and **Katherine Johnson** were married on May 2, 2007. **Deb** (Harris Accounts Payable Coordinator) and **Eric Drummer** were married on July 7, 2007. **Rob** (Harris Coordination Detailer) and **Brandy Randall** were married on August 18, 2007. Congratulations to all!
- **Expecting:** Congratulations to **Tim** (Harris Sheet Metal Foreman) and **Julie Boudewyns** who are expecting their second daughter at the end of October. **Scott** (Harris Plumbing Foreman) and **Jodi Milless** will travel to China in October to adopt their second daughter from China, Meizi Meilin who is 22 months. Jade Lin, the Milless' first daughter from China who is 5 ½ will also make the trip along with their son Kelly who is 14. Big bothers Corey, 23, and Jesse, 12, will welcome them home when they arrive at the end of October. We wish them a safe journey! If you wish to learn more about their story, you can read more at www.journeytomei-mei.blogspot.com.
- **Births:** **Herman Torres** (HiMEC 5th year Local #6 Apprentice) and **Violet Googins** had a baby girl on June 6, 2007. Eliyana Lynn Torres weighed 8 lbs 6 ounces. **Mike** (HiMEC Sheet Metal Journeyman) and **Tasha Nelsen** and big sister Bria welcomed Claire Emily to their family

on August 10, 2007. Emily weighed 8 lbs 9 ounces and measured 20 ½ inches long. **Ross** (Harris Controls Account Executive) and **Kim Nelson** welcomed their daughter Kelsey Joy on August 26, 2007. Kelsey weighed 8 lbs 1 ounce and was 21 inches long. **Travis** (Harris Project Manager) and **Lori Hoff** welcomed Ethan Braden into their family on October 5th. Ethan weighed 7 lbs 14 ounces and measured 20 ½ inches. Congratulations to everyone on the new additions to their families!

- **November 24th** marks Harris' 10th year at 909 Montreal. We've come along way since our days on University and look forward to many more years at this location.
- We would like to welcome the following employees: **Ryan Dark** - Project Engineer Intern, Utah; **Steve Fairchild** - Service Sales Representative, HiMEC, **Sean Murck** - Sheet Metal Drafter, Harris; **Angela Schmidt** - Service Dispatcher, Harris; and **Josette Wynne** - Purchasing/Estimating Assistant, Harris. Congratulations to **Dan Salo** on his promotion to Harris Project Manager.
- **Maggie Pumper** (daughter of **Greg Pumper**, HiMEC Director of Field Operations) and her softball team, the Rochester Polar Bears, were State Champions in the Class C Girls Under 14 Fast Pitch Softball League. They were undefeated in the State Tournament and headed to Nationals in Bloomington, IN and won 2 of their 5 games. Sponsored by Rochester Title & Escrow, the team comprised of 13 girls who were coached by Steve Lewison and Bob and Donna Rosenblad. Congratulations to the team on a great season!

Please contact **Tricia Mathews** with announcements: (Phone) 651-602-6621, (E-mail) tmathews@hmcc.com.