

MHS STUDENTS GET THE CHANCE

Five McPherson High School students worked very hard to get the chance to compete at the International Home Builder's Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. The competition was held on January 19-21 at Caesar's Palace and was sponsored by Centex Homes. They competed against students from 10 other high schools in the Residential Construction Management Competition. Two students from the group have dads that work at NCRA.

Taylor Stevens, son of **Jim Stevens – NCRA Decoking**, said that their competition had to do with “everything but the building. It was all about the business aspects of it like the drafting, the estimations, and the scheduling.”

Each team got the chance to make a ten minute presentation to the panel of four judges, and then the judges had ten minutes to fire questions at the students.

“That’s the part you can’t really practice for,” said Courtney Huber, daughter of **Dallas Huber – NCRA Buildings**

► *Taylor Stevens, Michael Bruns, Craig Lolling, Preston Mossman, and Courtney Huber made up the team that competed in Las Vegas. The team’s coach was Arlan Penner.*

and Grounds Supervisor “You just have to know what you’ve done and know your stuff.”

Dallas and his wife, Julie, went along on the trip as sponsors. Everyone got the chance to do some site seeing which included the Hoover Dam, famous hotels on the Las Vegas Strip, and some go-cart racing where Dallas is rumored to have left everyone else in the dust. Jim Stevens stayed home and enjoyed phone calls several times a day from Taylor about all the happenings.

The team ended up taking second place (up from 4th place last year) with first place going to a team from Juneau, Alaska.

Courtney said the high-

light of the trip was probably “the whole overall experience - just to have the chance to do this with this great group of guys.”

And the highlight of the trip for Taylor was “seeing that we had done a good job.”

Upon their return they were invited to Topeka to meet Governor Kathleen Sebelius, and then Kansas Representative Clark Shultz took them out to lunch. “He [Shultz] was a really nice guy,” said Taylor.

Courtney is currently planning another chance to compete this time in the Drafting division of the Skills USA events to be held in Wichita in April.

