

Marketplace for kids a hit

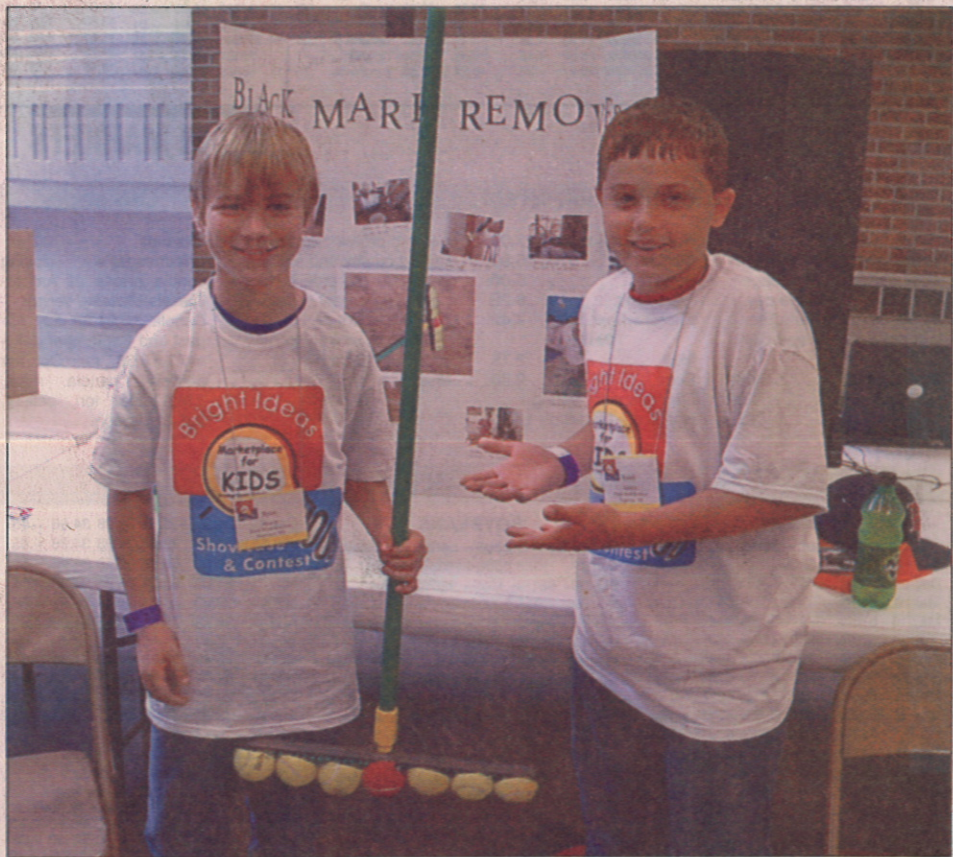
By **ANDREA JOHNSON**
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Hannah Sivertson sometimes left her orchestra music in her backpack and had trouble finding it when she needed it most. Her solution? A carrier that can be attached to the handle of an instrument case.

Hannah, a sixth-grader from Fargo, had one of about 30 projects submitted to the first ever Marketplace for Kids competition at the North Dakota State Fair on Wednesday.

Hannah said she surveyed the other students in her orchestra and 89 percent of them said they would use her invention to keep track of their music. Some kids lose their music all the time, she pointed out. She's participated in Marketplace for Kids through her school, but decided to enter the fair competition.

"I've never been to Minot before," she said, and she



Andrea Johnson/MDN

Ryan Baumgartner, 12, left, and his friend **Kaleb Schaub**, 13, both of Napoleon, created a "black mark remover" by attaching a row of tennis balls to the bottom of a mop.

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thought the competition would be different and fun.

Kaleb Schaub, 13, and his friend Ryan Baumgartner, 12, both of Napoleon, created a "black mark remover" by attaching a row of tennis balls to the bottom of a mop. Kaleb said he did a science experiment a few years ago that proved tennis balls could erase marks and thought this would be a good invention for Marketplace for Kids.

Casondra Rutschke, 12, of Linton, decorates old shoes and turns them into candle holders. She said she wanted

to find a way to recycle old shoes to keep them from going into the landfill. Her painted shoes and votive candles now decorate a lot of places in her own house, she said.

Courtney Smith, a sixth-grader from Stanley, is a budding singer who has recorded

several CDs. She performed at the Marketplace for Kids event. She said she enjoys showing people what she can do.

The competition was for fourth, fifth, and sixth-graders across the state, said executive director Marilyn Kipp. This was the first time it was offered as a competi-

tion. Usually it is a showcase. Kipp said children submitted either a finished invention or a business plan. The children also had an opportunity to visit with entrepreneurs at the State Fair on Wednesday.

Local judges helped judge the competition.

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