

Pittsville chemistry students attend governor's conference

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On Nov. 12, Mark Denniston's advanced chemistry class, consisting of Taylor Wilke, Angie Tritz, Carrie Lippert, Seth Smazal, Kyle Wilke, Christian Coyle and Karissa Quinlan, attended the 2008 Governor's Conference on the Environment at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. More than 300 students from more than 50 high schools attended the conference.

The focus of the conference was "Student Power: Conserving Your Future with Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy." Before attending the conference, each school was required to complete an energy-related project. The Pittsville students chose a project in which they investigated the stand-by energy consumption, or energy usage in the "off" mode, of electric devices in the high school.

While at the conference, the students listened to speakers and participated in workshops focusing on career choices and options in energy, eating to save energy and the environment, solar energy, wind energy, reducing carbon footprint, and biofuels.

The advanced chemistry students now will look at more ways to improve energy conservation and efficiency at the school. One possibility is writing a grant to obtain a solar panel for the school that could be used for both educational and energy-saving purposes.

Pittsville High School advanced chemistry students who attended the Governor's High School Conference on the Environment included Kyle Wilke, counterclockwise from top left, Seth Smazal, teacher Mark Denniston, Angela Tritz, Taylor Wilke, Carrie Lippert, Karissa Quinlan and Christian Coyle.

