

# Building for the future

## Didion Ethanol will use milling by-product to produce ethanol

**TOWN OF COURTLAND —** Construction started four months ago on a 40-million gallon state-of-the-art ethanol plant being built by Didion Ethanol. After obtaining all the necessary permits, construction crews began moving dirt on Oct. 18.

Kurt Baird, the construction manager, said that Didion has 22 employees on site, and he may add eight more people when the weather breaks. Agra Industries of Merrill is the general contractor on the project, and Didion's construction department sub-contracts work on the project.

"It's a very exciting company to work for," said Baird, who has been with Didion since January, 2002 and lives in Fox Lake.

To date, approximately 2,500 yards of concrete have been poured, with 48

tons of rebar. The recent cold snap slowed construction down, Baird said, because the ability to pour concrete is very, very hard. Employees were

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— Kurt Baird

Construction manager for Didion

offered the choice of whether to work or not during the sub-zero weather.

The ethanol plant will use a by-product created when Didion Milling grinds corn. Baird said

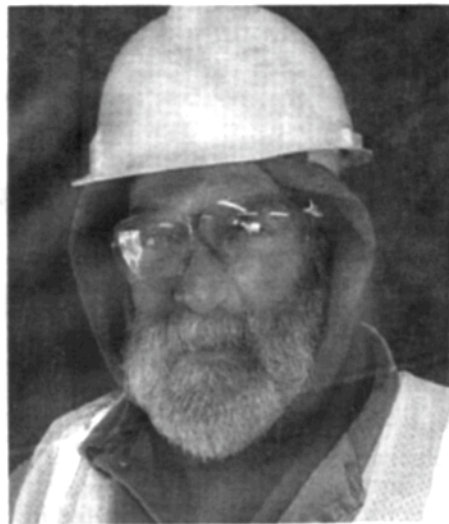
that the parts of the corn left over in the grinding process are full of starch and sugar, ideal for making ethanol. Baird has worked on five other ethanol plants in his career.

"This will probably be one of the first ethanol plants that has built concrete buildings like we have," said Baird. "It's unique."

Didion hopes to have the ethanol plant, designed by Delta T, up and running by late December.



Angel Martinez



Jeff Kippley

## Local men help build new plant

Angel Martinez has lived in Cambria for approximately a year. He started his career with Didion Ethanol LLC on the ground level, working on construction projects initially with Didion Milling. He is a laborer on the site, meaning he helps build concrete tilt-up wall panels, and recently has completed the certified fork truck operator class conducted on the Didion site. Angel likes sports, as a matter of fact he is a real football fan of his cousin Mario Leija who plays for the Cambria/Friesland Hilltopper team.

"Didion is a good company," said Martinez.

Angel enjoys working with his team members, braving the Artic winter temperatures with a smile on his face.

Jeff Kippley, Didion Ethanol LLC Construction crew member resides in Cambria.

A resident since last November, he is a concrete finisher/carpenter on the current site. He likes his craft and the local residents, especially the good food found at a local watering hole, "The Dump". He wants to remain as a team member throughout the entire project.

Thank you, Jeff and Angel for being important members of our team.

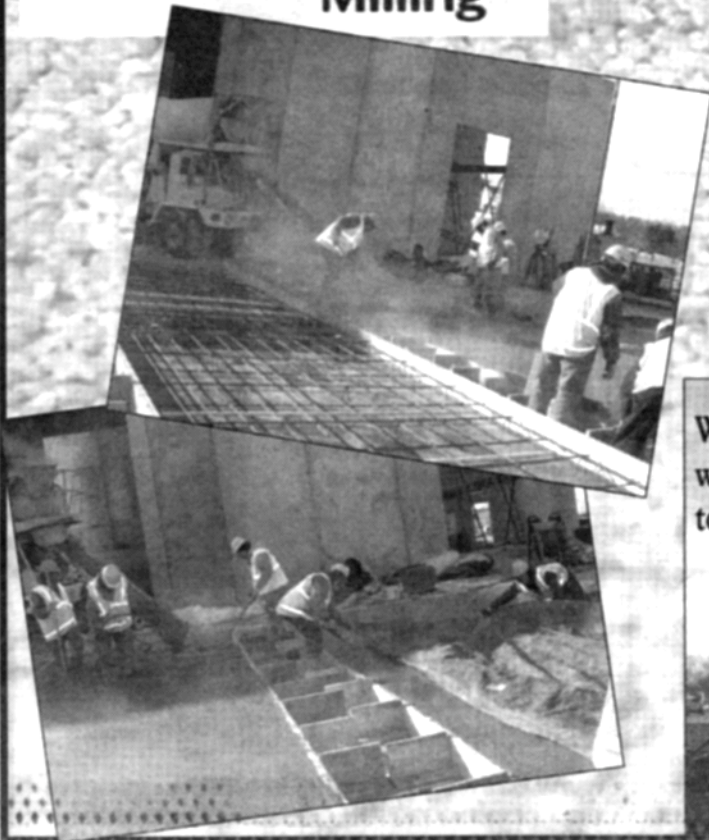
# Didion

Milling

Ethanol

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