



# FFA's NEW ERA

**SOUTH  
DAKOTA**

May 2009

Vol. 75 • No. 3

## FFA Stars Honored for Outstanding Projects

The State FFA Degree, the highest degree conferred by the South Dakota FFA, was presented to 238 agricultural education students at the 2009 South Dakota FFA Convention held in Brookings, April 19-21. After a review of the student's supervised agricultural experience program and records, plus an oral interview, the sixteen most outstanding were selected to be the State Star Farmers, Stars in Agribusiness, Stars in Placement, and Stars in Agriscience for the past year. They are:

A. Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America:

State Star Farmer - Jill Halse, Florence

Finalist: Jennifer Knock, Willow Lake

Finalist: Kevin Berg, Dell Rapids

Finalist: Andy Rossow, Florence

Photo Caption (L to R) Farm Credit Services of America Sponsor Rep. Rachel Mehlhaf; Jill Halse; Parents Linda and Larry Halse.



B. Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America:

State Star in Agribusiness - James Haak, Howard

Finalist: Dustin Palmquist, McCook Central

Finalist: Jenae Logan, Gettysburg

Photo Caption (L to R): Advisor Charlene Weber; James Haak; Parents Janet and Larry Haak.



C. Sponsored by the Dan Streff Family:

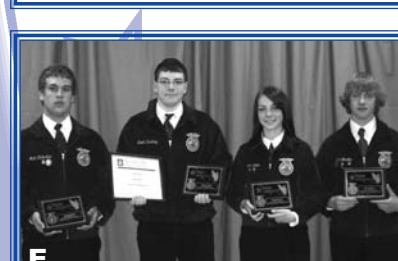
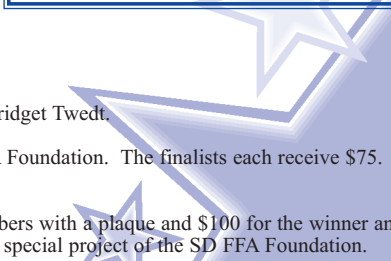
State Star in Placement - Matt Hein, Wessington Springs

Finalist: Zach Hansen, McCook Central

Finalist: Jordan Larsen, Viborg

Finalist: Derek Zenk, Webster

Photo Caption (L to R): Sponsors Dan, Ashley, and Karen Streff; Matt Hein; Parents Joanne and Walter Hein; Advisor Craig Shryock.



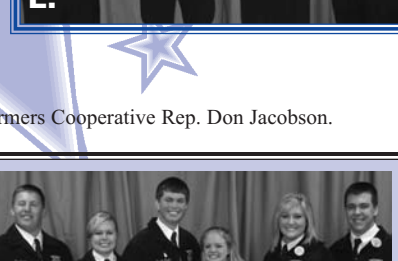
D. Sponsored by Ryan Brunner:

State Star in Agriscience - Matt Auch, Centerville

Finalist: Heather Pieper, Florence

Finalist: Damonn Mischke, Florence

Photo Caption for (L to R): Parents Duane and Mary Auch; Matt Auch; Advisor Bridget Twedt.



Each State Star receives a \$300 cash award and a certificate from the National FFA Foundation. The finalists each receive \$75. Each area is sponsored as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation.

Star Greenhands were also recognized for their accomplishments as first year members with a plaque and \$100 for the winner and \$25 for each finalist. The award is sponsored by Central Farmers Cooperative as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation.

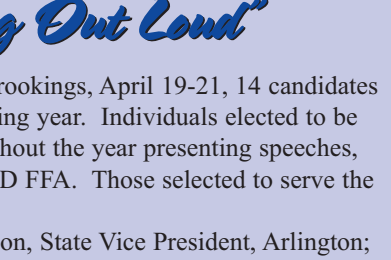
E. Star Greenhand: Garth Dunlavy, Webster

Finalist: Samantha Keller, Hoven

Finalist: Matt Eichacker, McCook Central

Finalist: Nick Mueller, Garretson

Star Greenhand Photo Caption (L to R ) Parents Leo and Denise Dunlavy; Garth Dunlavy; Advisor Fred Zenk; Sponsor Central Farmers Cooperative Rep. Don Jacobson.



## 2009-2010 State Leaders Announced, Will Spend Year "Leading Out Loud"

At the 2009 State FFA Convention, "It's Now or Never" held in Brookings, April 19-21, 14 candidates interviewed for the six leadership roles in the SD FFA for the coming year. Individuals elected to be South Dakota State FFA Leaders will travel across the state throughout the year presenting speeches, workshops, camps, conferences, and conducting business for the SD FFA. Those selected to serve the SD FFA for 2009-2010 are:

Photo: Brady Duxbury, State President, Wessington; Caitlin Johnson, State Vice President, Arlington; Jacob Englin, State Secretary, Deubrook; Rebecca Naasz, State Treasurer, Platte; Chelsey Abler, State Reporter, Hoven and Trent Thompson, State Sentinel, Harrisburg.

The 2009-2010 State Ambassadors are Kaitlin Jacobi from Harding County and Kari Rogers from Gettysburg.





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# Honorary Degrees Awarded at SD FFA State Convention

Honorary Degrees were awarded at the SD FFA State Convention April 19-21, 2009.

The following friends of SD FFA were recognized for their contribution to the State organization.

**Pictured Left to right:**

Wendy Sweetner, Sioux Falls  
Tom Wagner, Gettysburg  
Don Bohn, DeSmet  
Dale Moeller, Garretson  
Steve Winter, Redfield  
Jarrod Johnson, Pierre  
Amy Fischer, Lennox  
Ronald Christensen, Webster  
Jodi Mackey, DeSmet  
Jerry Janisch, Milbank  
Lura Roti, Sioux Falls  
Not pictured: Mark Wilson, Pierre; Moss Jopson, Egan; Gary French, Watertown

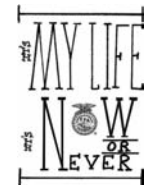


**In addition the parents (not pictured) of 2008-2009 State Officers were given the Honorary Degree :**

Lee and Sherry Johnson, Harrisburg, parents of Josh Johnson retiring State Reporter  
Miles and Kim DeJong, Kennebec, parents of Wyatt DeJong retiring State Secretary  
David and Mary Rae Skoglund, Canova, parents of Maria Skoglund retiring State Sentinel  
Chuck and Kerry Christman, Lemmon, parents of Shad Christman retiring State Vice President  
Mark Gross, Tulare, father of Shane Gross and Diane French mother of Shane Gross, retiring State Treasurer  
Jerry and Barb Gottlob of Salem, parents of retiring State President had previously been given the Honorary State Degree so were recognized with the Distinguished Service Award.

**Honorary American Degree Recipients will accept their recognition at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN October 2009:**

Mr. Richard Lubinus, Platte, posthumous  
Gretchen Sharp, Bath  
Tim Nichols, Brookings



## Past State Officers Step Up and Stand Out

It is an honor to serve the FFA of South Dakota as a State Officer. Year after year you can find these past state officers, or "PSO's" as they are affectionately called popping up around state convention. Whether they are bringing their students as an agriculture education teacher, working on stage crew or taking in their first convention in 50 years, past state officers continue to make an impact on South Dakota FFA. Thank you to all the past state officers who attended this years' convention:

A. 06-07 (L to R) Dani

Herring, Matt Tollefson, Ashley Knock, Kyli Zenk, Melanie Koehlmooos and Laurie Zubke

B. 05-06 (Back L to R) Travis Lape and Cody Chambliss (Front L to R) Michelle Osterman, Holly Marshall, Molly Fendrich and Megan Whitney

C. 02-03 (Back L to R)

Mary Christensen, Ryan Brunner, Jared Knock and Kelly O'Donnell (Front L to R) Sarah Stratmeyer and Jamie Swan  
D. 01-02 (L to R) Micah Hanson, Brad Bies, Kim Anderson and D. Craig Dybedahl officer in 77-78

E. 00-01 (L to R) Zach Rada and Sarah Van Der Vliet

F. 98-99 (L to R) Kathy Hildebrandt, Lura Roti, Rachel Mehlhaf, Shane Reis, Tiffany Sanderson and Nathan Sanderson

G. 97-98 (L to R) Ryan Eichler, Jenny Jacobson and Barry Jacobson

H. 88-89 Lee Friesen, Kristie VerMull-McNamany, Mike Jaspers, Gerri Eide (officer in 89-90), Ed Mueller (State Advisor, at the time), Maribeth Rasmussen, and Mark Gross

I. 78-79 John Rist, 65-66 Lee Rist

J. 59-60 (L to R) Marvin Wastell and Jerry Hauck

K. 50-51 (L to R) Bob Bauman and Tom Adler  
L. 49-50 Darrel Dean  
M. 48-49 Walter Ellefson  
N. 39-40 Ralph Paulmer





# 2009 Proficiency Winners

**Agricultural Communications (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by the National FFA Foundation. Our state level Sponsor is the Tri State Neighbor, Sioux Falls.

Shane Cross- Hitchcock-Tulare

Shane began his SAE with working on his FFA Chapter's website. He has learned a lot about effectively communication through websites. This year he expanded his SAE by working with Gretchen Sharp to develop a new website for the South Dakota FFA Association.

**Agricultural Education (Placement)** Sponsored nationally by The James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation. Our state level Sponsor is Dr. Lonell Moeller.

Maria Skoglund- McCook Central

From SOFY 1 day camps, FALS and numerous other activities Maria Skoglund is always promoting the importance of educating our youth and the public on the importance of production agriculture in our state. Maria has spent many volunteer hours doing these programs with promoting and education.

**Agricultural Mechanics Design & Fabrication (Entrepreneurship/Placement)**

Sponsored nationally by Dodge Trucks. Our state level sponsor is Cammack Ranch Supply, Union Center.

Zachary Voss- Harrisburg

Zach's project consists of working 2367 hours at "A Concrete Image" of rural Harrisburg. Zach has acquired many skills in the areas of job estimating, preparing, placing and finishing concrete in a wide variety of agricultural and landscaping applications. His parents are Chad and Tammi Voss and his FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Ag Mechanics Repair & Maintenance (Entrepreneurship)** Sponsored nationally by Hobart Welders and Tractor Supply Corporation. Our state level sponsor is Butler Machinery

Daniel Long- Harrisburg

Daniel's project was the restoration of a 1947 Case VAC tractor and a 1957 Allis Chalmers D-15 Tractor. Dan was also responsible for the repairs and maintenance of all the pickups, tractors, equipment and machinery used in his custom baling and firewood businesses. Daniel's parents are Mark and Marlynn Long and his FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Ag Mechanics Repair & Maintenance (Placement)**

Taylor Osterberg- McCook Central

Taylor Osterbergs main project in this area was the restoration of one of his grandfathers tractors an Allis 45. He spent many hours rebuilding, sanding, and painting this tractor along with repairing four wheelers and snowmobiles.

**Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Briggs & Stratton and New Holland. Our state level sponsor is South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Tim Norling- Centerville

Tim Norling has been working for KnN electric al under an apprentice license for over 500 hours. His duties include maintenance, record keeping, wiring residential, commercial, and agricultural facilities.

**Agricultural Processing (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally CHS Foundation, and Archer Daniels Midland Co. Our state level sponsor is the SD Soybean Processors, Volga.

Chelsea Schmidt- Harrisburg

Chelsea has worked a total of 1751 hours for All-Star Pizza of Harrisburg. Chelsea was one of the original employees when the business opened 3 years ago and she has learned all aspects of food processing and preparation and has achieved the level of assistant manager. Her parents are Connie Schmidt and Ben Gibbens and her FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Agricultural Sales - (Entrepreneurship)** Sponsored nationally by Vigortone Ag Products. Our state level sponsors are Hojer Gelbvieh Ranch.

Jenae Logan- Gettysburg

Jenae's SAE involved the purchase and management of a local business, the Coffee Bean. The shop has employed 17 local citizens and has expanded its menu to include a wide variety of food and drink items, and has proved to be a profitable enterprise.

**Agricultural Sales – (Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Vigortone Ag Products. Our state level sponsors are Hojer Gelbvieh Ranch.

Ben Scheier, McCook Central

As a sophomore in high school Ben Scheier began his job working for Puthoff repair where he helped in assembling, delivering and repairing farm implements. Ben has learned many skills in customer relations and with developing responsibility for your work.

**Agricultural Services (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by National FFA Foundation. Our state level sponsor is the Midwest Cooperatives in Pierre, Northern Plains Cooperative in Gettysburg, and Eastern Farmers Cooperative in Garretson.

James Haak- Howard

James Haak SAE consists of owning his own Custom Land Rolling and Corn Stalk chipping business for the past 4 years.

**Beef Production - Entrepreneurship** Sponsored nationally by the Nasco Division of Nasco International Inc. Our state level sponsors are Lake Preston Charolais Breeders: Jensen, Odden, Stewart, Wienk and Vedvey Charloais.

Wyatt DeJong- Winner

Wyatt's SAE consists of owning, managing, and marketing his herd of registered Maine-Anjou, Maintainer, and Simmental used for breeding, showing, and club calves. His operation consists of 36 head and various investments in his family's ranch

**Beef Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Fort Dodge Animal Health, Midwest PMS. Our state level sponsor is the SD Cattlemen's Association.

Layton Schimke- Wessington Springs

Layton Schimke has worked for Gary Wenzel in the past years. He has accumulated 4,061 hours since he began his SAE project. He has help to the overall progression of his 7500 acre ranch. He helped call out 800 cows, record keeping, herd health, and general ranch work.

**Dairy Production - Entrepreneurship** Sponsored nationally by the DeLaval Inc. and New Holland. Our State level sponsor is Associated Milk Producers, Inc.

Kevin Berg- Dell Rapids

Kevin Berg of the Dell Rapids FFA Chapter owns 26 head of registered Holsteins, Jerseys, Brown Swiss and Milking Shorthorns.

**Dairy Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Monsanto.. Our State level sponsor is Associated Milk Producers Inc.

Ana Schweer- Watertown Area

Ana Schweer is a Freshman at SDSU majoring in Dairy production. She raises her Dairy Cattle at Watertown Holsteins, which is her family's operation that specializes in breeding and selling registered Holsteins. Maintaining accurate records and analyzing milk production data is the main goal for her entrepreneurship project. Ana is active in the Dairy Club on campus at SDSU. Her advisor is Mr. Jason Frerichs

**Diversified Agricultural Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by the National FFA Foundation. Our state level sponsor is the Lake Preston Coop.

Paul Westhoff- McCook Central

Paul Westhoff works on his family farm in the areas of crop and beef production and has over 7, 400 hours of placement on the family farm. He will assist his father in all areas of crop production and with his and his dad's beef cattle. Diversified Crop Production - Entrepreneurship Sponsored nationally by CHS

**Cooperatives Foundation.** Our state level sponsor is Golden Harvest.

Thomas Lamb- Clark

Thomas's SAE consisted of 540 acres of corn production and 520 acres of soybean production.

**Diversified Crop Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by National Crop Insurance Service. Our state level sponsor is NC+ Hybrids.

Ross Renback- Harrisburg

Ross has worked 2622 hours on his parents farm since beginning his FFA career. Ross is responsible for seed selection, tillage and harvesting the 3000 acres of corn and soybeans raised each year on the family farm. Ross's parents are Rodney and Marilyn Renback and his FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Diversified Horticulture – (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Nationwide Foundation. Our state level sponsor is the South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Carl Wobig- McCook Central

Because of the interest he developed with his participation in the Nursery Landscape CDE Carl Wobig applied for and got a job at the local Brickhouse Lawn and Garden Center. In this SAE he has put in more than 2000 hours of work at home or with the company with greenhouse management, landscaping and turf care.

**Diversified Livestock Production- Entrepreneurship** Sponsored nationally by Tractor Supply Company and Tarter Gate Co. Our state level sponsor is McFleeg Feeds, First National Bank of Yankton.

Jennifer Knock- Willow Lake

Jennifer Knock's Diversified Proficiency consists of 5 crossbred beef cows and 23 crossbred breeding ewes.

**Diversified Livestock Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Behlen Mfg. Co. Our state level sponsor is Sioux Nation Ag Center of SD and IA.

Mark Huls- McCook Central

Mark Huls works with cattle, horses and swine on the family farm in addition to helping with all the hay production to be fed to livestock. His jobs include feeding, working and herd health with all areas of livestock production on the farm.

**Emerging Agricultural Technology (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** sponsored nationally by the National FFA Foundation. Our state level sponsor is Kimball Livestock Exchange.

Damon Mischke- Florence1S

Damon's program consists of directed lab research projects in food science, animal science, and ag mechanics-energy systems research. He has amassed almost 200 hours of work in his various research projects including an ag energy project where he is researching the energy efficiencies of compact fluorescent bulbs versus regular tungsten bulbs.

**Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Ford Trucks. Our state level sponsor is SD Association of Conservation Districts.

Dustin Palmquist- McCook Central

**Equine Science - Entrepreneurship.** Sponsored nationally by Keystone Steel- Red Brand. Our state level sponsor is the Amani Arabians, Tim Anderson and Kim Niven, Milkbank.

Calista Winter- Harrisburg

Calista's project consists of owning, training, showing and caring for 3 horses. Calista is responsible for feeding, health care, grooming and exercise of these horses and she participates in western and English horse show classes, rodeo and trail riding. Her parents are Ken and Pam Winter and her FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Equine Science - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Tractor Supply Company and Ariat International, Inc. Our State level sponsor is Scott Cammack, Dawn Nagel, Susan Sterauer, and Webster FFA.

Katie Hart- Viborg

Katie Hart's equine science placement project has involved over 9000 hours for Lazy Hart Bar Ranches and Hart Training handling everything from nutrition, feeding, herd management, riding lessons and rodeo competitions. Katie is currently attending SDSU majoring in nursing and attending college on a rodeo scholarship.

**Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** sponsored nationally by National FFA Foundation. Our state level sponsor is the SD Soybean Research and Promotion Council.

Ethan Javers- Harrisburg

Ethan farms 24 acres of soybeans on land he rents from his father in northern Lincoln County. He rotates his ground with corn and has increased his enterprise from 10 acres in 2006. He is responsible for tillage, planting and harvesting operations and pays for expenses by working for his father. Mark and Joan Javers are Ethan's parents and Mr. Todd Marks is his FFA Advisor.

**Floriculture (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by National FFA Foundation. Our state level sponsors are Norm and Mary Rae Petersen, Montrose.

Angela Hanson- McCook Central

Joining the FFA as a freshman it was easy for Angela Hanson to choose the SAE and CDE she wished to pursue since her mother and aunt owned and operated Brickhouse Lawn and Garden. During the years she has worked over 700 hours in this area of her job and with a Directed Lab in the local high school.

**Forage Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by the Class of America. Our state level sponsor is Kicker Seed Farm, Inc., Webster.

Dustin Palmquist- McCook Central

Dustin Palmquist comes from a diversified production farm where he works in all phases of the farm. His SAE in forage production involves the hours he spends swathing and baling hay and alfalfa. He is also a part owner of Palmquist Custom Cutting for silage production. Where they cut over 950 acres of corn last year.

**Forest Management and Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Dodge Trucks and John Deere. Our state level sponsor is the South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Joshua Fuerstenberg- Harrisburg

Joshua works for Smith Industries of Harrisburg which processes local waste timber into firewood. He has worked 1189 hours sorting, stacking, bundling and delivering firewood. His parents are Ron and Kris Fuerstenberg and his FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Grain Production - Entrepreneurship** Sponsored nationally by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Our state level sponsor is the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council.

Landon Kuecker- Webster

Landon's SAE consists of 25 acres of Crow's Corn and 20 acres of Brigg's Wheat. He spent about 20 hours planting, chisel plowing, preparing the grain bin for storage, harvesting, and record keeping for his corn and wheat.

**Grain Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Our state level sponsor is the South Dakota Wheat Commission.

Brian Gottlob- McCook Central

Working for his dad, uncle and brother has given Brian Gottlob many opportunities to learn new skills in production agriculture. One of these areas is in corn production where Brian has put in over 2,200 hours of labor developing these skills.

**Home and/or Community Development (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Carhart. Our state level sponsor is South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Josh Johnson- Harrisburg

Joshua has worked 1122 hours remodeling and repairing barns and outbuildings, fixing and building fences and landscaping his family's acreage north of Harrisburg. Josh has also been involved within his community by working at Old MacDonald's Farm, volunteering at the Banquet in Sioux Falls and assisting with many 4-H, FFA and other community projects. His parents are Lee and Sherry Johnson and Mr. Todd Marks is his FFA Advisor.

**Landscape Management (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by MTD Products, Inc. and Tractor Supply Company. Our state level sponsor is the SD FFA Foundation.

Matt Moen- Harrisburg

Matt began his SAE project in the 8th grade by mowing and assisting his brother with landscaping his family's acreage. Matt has continued his project by working 2902 hours for Cutting Edge Landscapes which is a full service landscape contractor doing commercial and residential projects. Machelie and the late Mike Moen are his parents and Mr. Todd Marks is his FFA Advisor.

**Nursery Operations (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Landmark Nurseries, Inc. Our state level sponsor is South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Jordan Heumiller- McCook Central

Working at Brickhouse Lawn and Garden Jordan Heumiller has spent many hours working in the greenhouse beginning plant flats and transplanting trees and shrubs. With the Landscaping business he has also learned proper methods for care of these trees and shrubs as well.

**Outdoor Recreation (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by GM Powertrain, and Lund Boat Co. Our state level sponsors is Schoenbeck Law, Watertown; Jack's Campers, Mitchell and South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Scott Hoiiten- McCook Central

Scott Hoiiten spends many hours working on his grandfathers and uncles pheasant farms raising and releasing each year. He also will guide hunters and clean and package pheasants for the groups on their return.

**Poultry Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by Wayne Farms LLC, Pilgrim's Pride Corp. Our state level sponsor is the SD FFA Foundation.

Brandi Hansman- Garretson

Brandi manages a small chicken operation consisting of 35 laying hens. She currently sells organic eggs to neighbors in the area surrounding Garretson.

**Sheep Production (Entrepreneurship/Placement)** Sponsored nationally by LA-CO Markal. Our state level sponsors are the Newell Ram Sale and Iowa Lamb, Hawarden, IA.

Austin DeZeeuw- Elkton

Austin DeZeeuw lives and works on his family farm which is a sheep production, cow-calf, and beef feeding operation. Over the course of his SAE he has developed his own sheep flock that is separate from his parents. Austin began his sheep enterprise with 20 head that he financed with a loan. His parents supported his project with pasture, equipment, facilities, and feed. Austin now sells breeding stock at State and National Shows.

**Small Animal Production and Care – Entrepreneurship/Placement** sponsored nationally by Merial. Our state level sponsor is Mike McIntyre, D.V.M., Winfred.

Trent Thompson- Harrisburg

Trent's entrepreneurship project consists of 10 rabbits and 26 specialty show birds. Trent has greatly expanded his project since beginning his FFA career in the 8th grade. Trent has applied the knowledge he has gained from this project to his Animal Science studies at SDSU. Trent's parents are Gregg and Robin Thompson and his FFA Advisor is Mr. Todd Marks.

**Specialty Animal Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement** Sponsored nationally by Land O'Lakes Feed/Purina Mills. Our state level sponsors are the SD Rabbit Breeders Association, Rogger DeRouchey, and SD FFA Foundation.

Tricia Neels- Garretson

Tricia operated a dairy farm of goats of two milking does, three nannies, and one Billy. She markets most of her milk through goat soap as a value added project.

**Swine Production - Entrepreneurship** Sponsored nationally by LA-CO Markal. Our state level sponsor is the SD Pork Producers Council.

Danny Zenk- Webster

Danny Zenk's Swine Entrepreneurship program includes raising crossbred market hogs to show at the County and State levels in both 4-H and FFA. Danny's advisor is Mr. Fred Zenk.

**Swine Production - Placement** Sponsored nationally by Sunglo Feeds, and Phibro Animal Health. Our state level sponsors are Murphy Farms LLC and Clark County Contract Growers.

Zach Hansen- McCook Central 1S

Having never worked in swine production Zach Hansen had many new skills to learn as he began working with a local swine cooperative. He can now treat sick animals, AI, heat detect, vaccinate and feed balanced rations. In this area of his SAE he has put in over 1500 hours of work.

**Turf Grass Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement** sponsored nationally by John Deere. Our state level sponsor is the Croplan Genetics.

Cody Wegleitner- Howard 1G

Cody Wegleitner SAE consists of owning his own Lawn and Landscape business the past 3 years. He has increased his business to 70 customers in 2008.

**Vegetable Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement** sponsored nationally by Seminis Vegetable Seeds, Inc. Our state level sponsor is in the honor of Bill and Stella Hanson by Clark and Lyla Hanson and South Dakota FFA Foundation.

Caitlin Peterson- Harrisburg

During the past three summers, Caitlin has volunteered 627 hours in the supervision and management of the schools 20 50' x 50' educational vegetable gardens. Caitlin was responsible for weeding, seed selection and establishing a watering schedule for the gardens. Caitlin's parents are Jerry and Anne Peterson and Mr. Todd Marks is her FFA Advisor.

**Veterinary Science- Entrepreneurship/Placement**

Anna Souvignier- Harrisburg

Anna's placement SAE project consists of 2305 hours employed by Dale Animal Hospital of Sioux Falls and Precious Pets Pet Resort of rural Canton. Anna has learned such skills as proper restraining techniques of pets, giving injections, cleaning exam rooms, developing x-rays and health care and grooming of small animals. James & Deb Souvignier are her parents and Mr. Todd Marks is her FFA Advisor.

**Wildlife Production and Management. – Entrepreneurship/Placement** Sponsored nationally by Land O'Lakes Feed/Purina Mills, and Cabelas. Our state level sponsor is Cabela's.

Courtnee Spaans- McCook Central

Courtnee Spaans wildlife SAE program involves working with Pro Pheasants, and the McCook County Wildlife Club. Here she has put in many hours with such programs as take a kid fishing, firearm safety, trap shooting and with the annual pro pheasant banquet.

# State FFA Convention Career Devel

More than 2,000 FFA members, advisors, parents, and special guests realized that “it’s their life” and the time is “now” as they gathered at SDSU April 19-21st for the 81st South Dakota State FFA Convention. During these few days and only five sessions, numerous awards were presented. Members with outstanding SAE projects received Proficiency Awards, State Degrees, and some individuals were recognized for achieving the American Degree. Legendary basketball coach Don Meyer, past South Dakota FFA member Don Ogden, and National Southern Region Vice President Regina Holliday as well as the State Officers filled Frost Arena with inspiration as their keynote speeches and retiring addresses were presented. South Dakota’s FFA Foundation and supporters were also recognized for their generous contributions as well. On Monday afternoon, over twenty members received scholarships! To add more fun to this great event, FFA members demonstrated their talent during the Monday night pre-session talent show! A little sleepy after Tuesday night’s amazing dance, Frost arena was once again packed with members excited to hear the CDE results and meet the 2009-2010 state officer team. Tuesday’s session wrapped up the 81st South Dakota State FFA Convention as the FFA members headed home knowing that the “time is ‘now’” to define “their lives”!



**A. Agricultural Business Management: Sponsored by Wells Fargo**

1st Place Team – Willow Lake: Team members include Megan Nelson, Jennifer Knock, Ashley Tonak, Karissa Warkenthien; 2nd – Milbank, 3rd – Clark, 4th – Wessington Springs, 5th – Newell

**B. Agricultural Mechanics: Sponsored by CHS Foundation**

1st Place Team – Freeman: Team members include Patrick Hofer, Dan Stern, Daniel Gering, Lawson Graber. 2nd – Sioux Valley; 3rd – Phillip, 4th – Canton, 5th- Wessington Springs

**C. Agricultural Sales: SD Department of Agriculture**

1st Place Team – Garretson: Team members include Ian Carlson, Emilie Gehrke, Zeke Hollaren, Nick Mueller. 2nd – Newell, 3rd – McCook Central, 4th – Arlington, 5th – Winner

**D. Agronomy: Sponsored by SD Seed Trade Association**

1st Place Team – Hitchcock Tulare: Team members include Kara Brock, Shawn Doren, Garrett Masat, Erika Roeber. 2nd - Newell, 3rd- Rutland 4th- Harrisburg, 5th- Garretson

**E. Dairy Cattle Judging: Sponsored by the SD Division of the Midwest Dairy Association**

1st Place Team – Deubrook: Team members include Josh Lunden, Brandon Johnson, Shelby Lunden, Jacob Englin. 2nd – Tri-Valley, 3rd – Newell, 4th – Centerville, 5th – Arlington

**F. Dairy Foods: Sponsored by Land O’ Lakes, Dairy Products Division**

1st Place Team – Milbank: Team members include Brandi Niedert, Adam Cloos, Megan Johnson, Nichole Buchele. 2nd – Garretson, 3rd – Dell Rapids, 4th – Miller, 5th – Beresford

**G. Floriculture: Sponsored by Shon & Gerri Eide, Brian & Gretchen Sharp**

1st Place Team – Philip: Team members include Grace Schnabel, Loni Nelson, Michelle Vantassel, Morgan Frein; 2nd – Lennox-Sundstrom, 3rd – Milbank, 4th – Clark, 5th – Hoven





# Development Events Results Announced



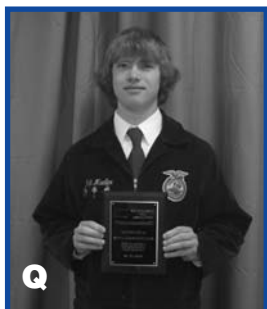
**H. Food Science: Sponsored by Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc., and Londa Vander Wal**  
 1st Place Team –Milbank: Team Members include Emma Christensen, Brenna Rausch, Brent Seehafer, Kjersten Ydstie; 2nd – McCook Central; 3rd – Harrisburg, 4th – Brookings, 5th- Kimball

**I. Horse Evaluation: Sponsored by K Bar J Leather Co.**  
 1st Place Team – Wolsey-Wessington: Team members include Padyn Scheer, Mariah Waters, Leah Cypher, Bo Mutchelknaus. 2nd –Philip, 3rd –Wall, 4th –Miller, 5th- Florence.



**J. Livestock Judging: Sponsored by the SD Pork Producers Council**  
 1st Place Team –Mitchell: Team members include Kelsey Repenning, Sam Hanten, Weston Geppert, Austin Havlik. 2nd –Highmore, 3rd –Sioux Valley, 4th – De Smet, 5th- Groton.

**K. Meats Evaluation and Technology: Sponsored by John Morrell & Company**  
 1st Place Team – Kimball: Team members include Ann Kroupa, Shelby Kroupa, Taylor Geppert, Toby Lutter. 2nd – Lennox-Sundstrom, 3rd – Milbank, 4th –Hitchcock-Tulare, 5th- Wessington Springs.



**L. Natural Resources: Sponsored by the SD Grassland Coalition**  
 1st Place Team Milbank: Team members include Patrick Bray, Scott Athey, Kylie Poel, Megan Ludwig. 2nd –Webster, 3rd –Kadoka, 4th – Philip, 5th- Lennox-Sundstrom.

**M. Nursery/Landscape: Sponsored by the SD FFA Foundation**  
 1st Place Team – Mitchell: Team members include Collin Gronseth, Cole Johnson, Courtney Nolz, Tasha Paulson. 2nd – Harrisburg, 3rd –Lennox\_Sundstrom, 4th – Garretson, 5th – Milbank

**N. Range Plant Identification: Held and sponsored by SDSU Range Club**  
 1st Place Team –Newell Team 1: Team members include Morgan Myers, Blane Hotchkiss, Kirk Hohenberger, ; 2nd – Newell Team 2 ; 3rd – Kadoka, 4th- Philip, 5th- Wall.



**O. Botany/Plant & Soil Science Jr. Division** – Kendra Peterson, Sisseton  
**P. Sr. Division** – Chelley Eisebeisz, Bowdle

**Q. Engineering/Mechanical & Ag Engineering Science**  
 Jr. Division – Matt Hummel, Florence  
 Sr. Division – Nicholas Mueller, Garretson

**R. H.O. Sergeant Award** - Brittany Gassman, McCook Central - FFA Member recipient  
 Mr. Mike Brink, Hitchcock-Tulare FFA Teacher recipient

**S. Agri Entrepreneurship**  
 Bailey Hurlbert, Clark

FFA Scrapbook: 1st Place – Faulkton, 2nd – Webster; 3rd – Centerville

Public Relations: 1st Place - Webster

Agriscience Student Recognition Program - The state winner, receiving a \$500 scholarship from the National FFA Foundation is: Damonn Mischke, Florence

Agriscience Fair Jr. and Sr. Division - Sponsored on the state level by Toyota  
 Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science Sr. Division – Brandy Heathcote, Florence

Animal Science/Zoology Jr. Division – Jordan Wellnitz, Florence

FFA Chapter Website Design Contest  
 1st Menno  
 2nd Harrisburg  
 3rd Viborg





# Chapter Chatter

**Harding County FFA** - Here in Harding County we are winding down our first year of FFA. We will be hosting our FFA Banquet on May 4th, and will be putting on a petting zoo on May 8th. We recently attended the State FFA Convention where our livestock judging team did very well. Also, our very own Kaitlin Jacobi was selected to serve as FFA Ambassador next year! Way to go Kaitlin! We are excited to attend FFA Leadership Retreat this summer, and are looking forward to more FFA events next fall.

**Webster FFA** - The Webster FFA Chapter Banquet was held March 26, 2009. The new officers elected for the 2009-2010 year are President-Andy Dale, Vice President-Olivia Siglin, Secretary-Kellie Fosheim, Chaplin-Christine Fosheim, Historian-Drew Wolter, Reporter-Amber Hommel, Sentinel-Landon Kuecker and Advisor-Garth Dunlavy.

The Star Discovery was awarded to Jacob Siglin, Star Greenhands-Christine Fosheim and Ben Nelson, and Star Chapter-Andy Dale.

The record book awards were sponsored by Dacotah Bank and were awarded to each grade level. The best record book award for the freshman was awarded to Christen Fosheim, sophomore was Danny Zenk, Junior was Andy Dale and Senior was Kirsten Johnson. The Discovery Degree was awarded to Nathan Duerre, Shala Larson, Shannon Pappas, Chad Sjurson and Mark Meland. The Greenhand Degree was awarded to Travis Larson, Dylan Knutson, Ben Nelson, Samantha Hommel, Christine Fosheim, Josh Gaikowski, Kelli Sichmeller, McCarte Sichmeller, Brandon Whitmyre and Justin Snaza. Chapter Degrees were awarded to Drew Wolter, Adam Wegleitner, Bobbie Jo Hommel, Garth Dunlavy, Danny Zenk, Kyle Whitmyre, Landon Kuecker, Luke Meland, and Olivia Siglin.

The FFA Advisory Council awarded the Advisory Scholarship to Derek Zenk. The scholarship is based off the member's record book, future plans, leadership activities and an interview.

The Honorary Chapter Degree was awarded to Gary and Margaret Kwasniewski. It is given to those who have rendered outstanding service to help advance agricultural education and support the FFA.

The **Clark FFA Chapter** just finished their Chapter FFA Banquet. From a random drawing, the chapter received \$500 from Farm Credit Services to attend National Convention, and Pfizer donated through two local vet services. Our Advanced Ag class received recognition for helping with construction of our local thrift store and food pantry. In our fruit sales competition, the senior class won, and went to a Clark business to eat lunch. Since summer is fast approaching, we are gearing up and preparing for the many summer activities in which our members are involved. Traditionally our senior officer team attends Leadership Retreat, and we are working on completing the registration. The Clark FFA Chapter also has two members attending WLC this summer, Bailey Hurlbert and Casey Janisch. In the classroom, students are working on completing their end of the year projects. Students are also selecting dates for their SAE visit from Mr. Janisch this summer. - Submitted by Andrea Paulson, Reporter.

The **McCook Central FFA Chapter** began work with our Awards Banquet right away after the conclusion of this year's State Convention. With our banquet being the Monday after convention, we had a lot of work to do. At our banquet, we awarded not only the outstanding members of our chapter, but also the members of our community who have so diligently assisted us in the past year. Now, with the hustle and bustle of the end of the year activities slowing down, our chapter is focused on the fundraising opportunities for the team we are sponsoring for our local McCook/Miner County Relay for Life event, as well as other summer activities, which include: FFA Leadership Camp and an Officer Retreat to work on the POA for our chapter for the upcoming year.

The **Florence Chapter** has been busy this past spring. The members were awarded with special honors such as being state star finalists, state degree winners, and team placing 5th in horse judging. There was various medals given out for other CDE's as well. They recently had their banquet celebrating their great year and installing new officers. The chapter will be busy this summer working on CDE and SAE projects. Many members look forward to attending the leadership camp!!!

## At the Fair!

What do flower arrangements, agri-science exhibits, flat bed trailers, and chapter exhibits have in common? They are all things that can be found in the ag mechanics building at State Fair! In addition to these things you can enter many more, including an agri-science exhibit, flower arrangement, or anything you can make with your own two hands. There are a few rules; you can't enter the same item more than one year at the fair, items entered must have been constructed by an FFA member in an ag education class or as a part of your SAE, and anything entered needs to stay on display for the entire fair week. Premiums are paid to the top 6 entries in each class. This is a chance for you to not only showcase your special skills, but to possibly earn some cash! Entries are due August 14 to Dave Vanderwal. To find out more about what and how you can enter, visit the South Dakota FFA website at [aged.sdtate.edu](http://aged.sdtate.edu).

## Thank you to our South Dakota FFA Foundation Gold and Silver Sponsors

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## Foundation Feature

Congratulations to all FFA members and Chapters for a very successful SD State FFA Convention! Thank you to all of the individual and business sponsors that made the event possible! "It's Now or Never" to help SD FFA members learn, lead and succeed through agricultural education.



The SD FFA Foundation is pleased to announce our golf tournaments scheduled for this summer:  
 SD FFA Blue and Gold Open on June 24 at the Central Valley Golf Course in Hartford  
 FFA Pasture Pool Classic on July 11 at the Newell Golf Course in Newell  
 Please visit the news page at [www.sdffaoundation.com](http://www.sdffaoundation.com) for more information.



We are also pleased to offer the Blue Jackets Bright Futures FFA Jacket Program again this year for SD FFA members to have the opportunity to earn their own FFA jacket. If you remember

the power of the blue jacket, please consider supporting this FFA tradition for the next generation by sponsoring an FFA jacket for \$55. Just fill out the form at the bottom of this page, mark "FFA Jacket Program," and send it in with your contribution.

Let's Play Ball! Join us for FFA Day at the Dome with the Minnesota Twins on July 12. A portion of ticket sales for this event comes back to the SD FFA Foundation.

## McCook Central FFA Chapter Receives Governor's Citation for Community Development

The McCook Central FFA Chapter received the Governor's Citation for Community Service during the South Dakota State FFA Convention in Brookings, April 19-21. Governor Mike Rounds presented the citation to representatives of the McCook Central FFA chapter. The recognition centers on community development and is given to the FFA Chapter with the top community interaction and activities in South Dakota.



Community Development- The McCook Central FFA has always worked hard to teach each year's new members the value of community involvement and developing a sense of pride in the local chapter with involvement in the community through other organizations or individually. There were three community development activities the chapter participated in.

The first activity of the chapter was providing for less privileged families over the holidays. The chapter sponsored two families at Thanksgiving with everything they needed to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. At Christmas they sponsored a sharing tree in the school. Gifts were purchased for 63 youth in local communities. The final piece to this project included a challenge to all high school students and staff to fill up Mr. Rieckman's pick-up bed with food, gifts, clothing and other household items to give to one family during Christmas. This was a huge success with over \$700 worth of items collected.

The second community activity was a project to demonstrate to local youth the importance of agriculture and to have members serve as role models to younger students. This was accomplished by hosting a SOFY Day camp with 30 members instructing over one hundred 3rd graders and colony students on the importance of farm safety. Having members of the chapter meet and read with kindergarten students once a week to develop strong reading skills and mentor relationships. The chapter also worked during FFA week to involve younger students in activities such as Food for America, a Petting Zoo and Ag Olympics.

The final activity of the chapter was to promote awareness of cancer and help raise money for these awareness activities. During the summer members participated in the McCook/Miner Relay for Life Run/Walk by having chapter members participate and by cooking and serving breakfast to everyone who participated with The Backyard Catering and the Howard FFA chapter. McCook also had members on this year's planning committee and has members who helped start a High Schools against Cancer Chapter, and sold daffodils to benefit cancer research.

McCook Central FFA firmly believes pride and hope begins at home in our own communities.

"I believe in the future of agriculture with a faith born not of words, but of deeds..."  
 -The FFA Creed

Help SD FFA members learn, lead and succeed by contributing to the SD FFA Foundation today!

Please record my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FFA Jacket Program - please use my \$55 contribution to sponsor an FFA Jacket for a SD FFA member.

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The SD FFA Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Your donation is eligible for a charitable deduction on your federal income tax return. Consult your tax advisor



# FFA Chapters Receive National Chapter Awards

The Garretson FFA, McCook Central FFA & Harrisburg FFA Chapters received Star National Chapter Awards at the South Dakota State FFA Convention in Brookings, April 19-21. The purpose of the Star National Chapter Awards is to encourage chapters to develop and use a strong Program of Activities. Successful chapters plan and carry out activities centered around three key areas: student, chapter, and community development. Those most successful are recognized with the Star National Chapter Award. This award is sponsored by SD FFA Foundation on the state level.

## In 1st place, the Garretson FFA Chapter conducted the following:

Student Development Area-Garretson applied three Student Development Activities. The first activity "Re-inventing SAE", focused on computer skills and marketing methods in value-added agriculture. The chapter had 100% participation in SAE projects. The second was titled "Career Development", all chapter members studied Agricultural careers using the internet, field trips and guest speakers. Thirty-three members competed in twenty-one different career development events during the year. The third activity was titled "Safety is Elementary"; a Healthy Lifestyles Committee was formed and presented a bicycle safety program, worked with the Teens Against Tobacco Use and prepared three news releases on accidents involving farmers that were published in the local newspaper and TV station.



Chapter Development-Garretson applied three Chapter Development Activities. The first was titled "National FFA Week". The chapter hosted an FFA Week breakfast. Members participated in all organizational activities including; invitations, setup, cooking, cleanup and public service announcements. The second activity was titled "Building Future Leaders". Leadership training for officers was a portion of this activity along with revising the Program of Activities, adopting a 50:50 share plan for attending leadership conferences and training first year members in parliamentary procedure skills. The third activity's title was "Sell What You Grow". This project focused on marketing concepts. Members toured ag related businesses and listened to guest speakers, contacted Agriculture promotion associations, trained in sales skills and sold cheese and meat products.

Community Development-Garretson's three Community Development Activities included: "Fishing for Growth", the chapter organized a fishing derby to be included in the city-wide celebration; "Honor Our Seniors", a vegetable garden was planted and the produce was donated to elderly people in the community, programs for the local nursing home were organized, senior citizens were interviewed about what agriculture was like when they were young and members delivered Meals on Wheels. "Drive It Up" found members organizing a blood drive, a food drive and a shoe drive.



**In 2nd place, the McCook Central FFA Chapter:** Student Development Area-McCook Central applied three Student Development Activities. The first activity was

titled "Project IMAGE (Involved Members as Great Examples)" used experienced members and their SAE programs as examples to increase the participation of all FFA members for awards above the chapter level. The second was titled "Project LEAD (Leadership, Education & Development)" to improve the participation of the chapter members in the different leadership activities offered to them. The third activity was the Pass the Pig program that raised over \$1200 for scholarships.

Chapter Development-McCook Central applied three Chapter Development Activities. The first was "Project HELP (Hands on Learning Program)" included providing hands on learning experience with a cooperative Supervised Agricultural Experience Program for our members with our 40 acre land laboratory. The second activity involved school improvement projects such as painting the agriculture shop. The third activity was "Building Leaders Program" this project's primary purpose was to implement a plan to develop quality leaders for their chapter and designing a Program of Activities that would challenge their officers and the members of their Chapter.

Community Development-McCook Central's three Community Development Activities included: adopting and providing for needy families during the holidays and their annual Christmas Sharing Tree. Involving the youth of our schools with PALS and SOFY program. The final activity in this area was involving students in raising money for cancer research and awareness.

## In 3rd place, the Harrisburg FFA Chapter:

Student Development Area – The Harrisburg Chapter implemented three student development activities designed to help improve the members leadership skills, expand their SAE programs and assist them in exploring the many different career skills available within the agricultural industry.



Harrisburg's activities were: Creating agricultural safety presentations for local grade school students; Hosting the District 3 Leadership CDE's which involved planning, scoring, time-keeping and selling concessions for the event; Increasing the number of students with high quality SAE projects, 39 members submitted proficiency award applications for state consideration.

Chapter Development Area –To increase recruitment and develop good relations with other CTE organizations, the Harrisburg chapter hosted a joint meeting in October with the local FCCLA chapter. Eighty students attended this meeting where members worked together to make greeting cards which were sent to US troops stationed overseas. Chapter officers and award winners attended the National FFA Convention to attend sessions and leadership workshops, make new friends and gain a better understanding of the national FFA. Working with "The Banquet" in nearby Sioux Falls allowed members the chance to better understand the needs of low income families in our community and area.

Community Development Area –The Harrisburg chapter promoted agricultural awareness by hosting the Old MacDonald's Farm petting zoo at the Sioux Empire Fair. A chili feed was held prior to a home football game to provide a hot meal on a cool night and to help raise funds for traveling to the national FFA convention. To promote a better environment and to develop pride within the Harrisburg community, FFA & FCCLA members worked together on the first Sat. in May at Harrisburg Community days. Eleven members braved the rain to clean up 2 miles of road ditch east of town while another 15 members assisted the city council and street crew in collecting branches, old appliances and other unwanted items.

## Join us at FFA Leadership Retreat!

Picture this: It is a beautiful sunny day, and you are sitting outside basking in the warmth of the sun gaining personal connections and leadership knowledge that will benefit you for a lifetime. What is this great experience? FFA Leadership Retreat and YOU are invited!

FFA Leadership Retreat offers FFA members the chance to gather from all over the state to gain useful leadership knowledge and skills to apply in their local chapters. Along with the practical skills these members will attain, they will have the opportunity to meet a multitude of members and become more outgoing individuals. Leadership Retreat offers members the chance to make tons of new friends from a variety of areas, while also making a personal connection with the State Officers. From working in small groups to the excitement of the dance, this experience of a lifetime has knowledge and fun to offer those who attend.

Interested in bettering your chapter and yourself? Then join in the excitement and meet a great bunch of friends at this summer's FFA Leadership Retreat! Dates are as follows: July 1-3 at Camp NeSoDak near Waubay. July 8-11 at Camp Bob Marshall near Custer. July 12-15 at Camp Bob Marshall. For more information, talk to your advisor or log on to [aged.sdstate.edu](http://aged.sdstate.edu). Hope to see you all there!