New State Officers

The 85th South Dakota FFA Convention ended with the election of six individuals that will serve the South Dakota FFA Association for the next 365 days! The candidates go through three days of intense interviews before anxiously awaiting the announcement and installation of the new officers during the final session. Those selected to serve this year are:

- **President:** Makayla Heisler, Newell  
  Daughter of John & Judy Heisler
- **Vice President:** Breanna Bullington, Brookings  
  Daughter of Mark & Tammy Bullington
- **Secretary:** Cheyenne Leonhardt, Groton  
  Daughter of Terry & Cindy Leonhardt
- **Treasurer:** David Strain, Sturgis  
  Son of Mike & Robin Strain
- **Reporter:** Carrietta Schalesky, Faith  
  Daughter of T.W. & Faye Schaleksy
- **Sentinel:** Shala Larson, Webster  
  Daughter of Arlie Larson & Rosie Larson

Over the course of the next year, this officer team will travel across the state of South Dakota to present workshops, conferences and camps; as well as giving speeches and conducting business for the South Dakota FFA. All six will attend South Dakota State University for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. For complete biographies on the new state officer team, visit [www.aged.sdstate.edu](http://www.aged.sdstate.edu) and click on SD FFA Association and State Officers.

Congratulations to these individuals who will be serving this organization for the next year!

Honorary Degrees Awarded at SD State FFA Convention

The South Dakota FFA Honorary State Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards were presented at the 85th Annual South Dakota State FFA Convention on April 14-16, 2013, in Brookings, S.D. These awards recognize outstanding contributions to the SD FFA.

**The following individuals were awarded the Honorary State FFA Degree**

- Walt Bones  
  Theresa Derr  
  Jim Geisler
- Rod Geppert  
  Joan Hegerfeld-Baker  
  Walt Schaefer
- Amy Smith  
  Clint Smith  
  Sarah VanDerVliet
  Steve & Patty Garry, Parents of Kelli Garry, Retiring State Reporter
  Terry & Cindy Leonhardt, Parents of Taylor Leonhardt, Retiring State President
  Raydelle & Meria Sperle, Parents of Savanna Sperle, Retiring State Sentinel

**The following individuals were awarded the Distinguished Service Award**

- Rapid City Farm Credit Services  
  Shannon & Sue Rausch, Parents of Andy Rausch, Retiring State Vice President
  Tom & Karen Swan, Parents of Tyler Swan, Retiring State Treasurer
  Dan & Nicole Tonak, Parents of Ashley Tonak, Retiring State Secretary
Five South Dakota FFA members were awarded with the South Dakota FFA Association Star Awards for project excellence at the 85th South Dakota State FFA Convention in Brookings, S.D., on April 14-16, 2013.

The South Dakota FFA Star Awards recognize FFA members who have demonstrated exemplary work in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (internship) programs. Through their Supervised Agricultural Experience, these FFA members have mastered skills in agriculture production, finance, management and research.

After an extensive review of their Supervised Agricultural Experience program and records, 20 FFA members were selected as South Dakota’s finalists for State Star Farmer, Star in Agribusiness, Star in Ag Placement, Star in Agriscience and Star Greenhand. The finalists also discussed their projects in an oral interview with a panel of industry judges. The results are as follows:

**A. State Star Farmer**  
**Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America**

**JAKE KROHMER:** Wessington Springs  
**Finalists:**  
Audrey Souza — Milbank  
Preston Hansmeier — Webster  
Johannes Gimbel — Miller

**B. Star in Agribusiness**  
**Sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America**

**BRANDON REIF:** McCook Central  
**Finalists:**  
Lexi Slack — Viborg Hurley  
Chad Buse — Lennox-Sundstrom  
Samantha Rothschadl — Viborg-Hurley

**C. Star in Ag Placement**  
**Sponsored by the Dan Streff Family**

**EVAN DONAHUE:** Howard  
**Finalists:**  
Levi Olinger — Wessington Springs  
Jean Skoglund — McCook Central  
Cole Potter — Howard

**D. Star in Agriscience**  
**Sponsored by Verity Farms**

**GRETCHEN ROPS:** Lennox-Sundstrom  
**Finalists:**  
Liz Renner — West Central  
Beau Wensing — Florence  
Allison Dockter — Wilmot

**E. Star Greenhand**  
**Sponsored by Central Farmers Cooperative**

**JONATHON LINKE:** Woonsocket  
**Finalists:**  
Adam Eichacker — McCook Central  
Kate Westphal — Lemmon  
Rachel Schartz — West Central
A Trip to Sioux Falls for Ag Day

On March 23, Andy Rausch and I loaded up the car and took off with our booth for the annual Ag Day at the Washington Pavilion. Our mission: to educate the general public on where food comes from. We had several comparisons of how food gets from the farm to your plate and knowing that the audience would be largely younger children, we came equipped with six different livestock feed samples, toy tractors and other farm equipment to illustrate these paths.

That day, the Washington Pavilion had an official count of over 1800 visitors. A combination of the feed samples, farm toys, and our location led our exhibit to be an even bigger draw than we anticipated. We spent the day informing both adults and children about the production of food. We were also able to talk with the adults about their past experiences and backgrounds in agriculture.

The trip was a success and a great experience! We met a lot of new people and even got to reconnect with several individuals that we had met in the past year. SD FFA participating in this event was sponsored by SD FFA Star Partners — Pioneer, Monsanto, Northland Ford, North Central Farmers Elevator.

SD FFA Agriscience Fair Results Announced

The South Dakota FFA Association hosted its annual Agriscience Fair during the 2013 State FFA Convention, April 14–16, 2013. The Agriscience Fair was sponsored by Jim Chilson and the SD FFA Foundation. The displays included 49 exhibits in six different categories. The top projects in the junior (grades 7-9) and senior (grades 10-12) divisions for each category are listed below.

Animal Systems: The study of animal systems, including life processes, health, nutrition, genetics, management and processing, through the study of small animals, aquaculture, livestock, dairy, horses and/or poultry.

- Jr Division: 1st Place Nathan Flemming & Javen Moe, Florence
- Sr Division: 1st Place Shane Mueller, Garretson

Environmental Services/Natural Resources: The study of systems, instruments and technology used in waste management; the study of the management of soil, water, wildlife, forests and air as natural resources and their influence on the environment.

- Jr Division: 1st Place Trent Sumner & Kobe Roe, Florence
- Sr Division: 1st Place Jade Maier, Bowdle

Food Products & Processing Systems: The study of product development, quality assurance, food safety, production, sales and service, regulation and compliance and food service within the food science industry.

- Jr Division: 1st Place Hannah Hintz & Morgen Bunde, Florence
- Sr Division: 1st Place Craig Reiter & Patrick Reiter, Florence

Plant Systems: The study of plant life cycles, classifications, functions, structures, reproduction, media and nutrients, as well as growth and cultural practices, through the study of crops, turf grass, trees and shrubs and/or ornamental plants.

- Jr Division: 1st Place Janie Fritz, Sturgis
- Sr Division: 1st Place Kiera Leddy, Milbank

Power, Structural, & Technical Systems: The study of agricultural equipment, power systems, alternative fuel sources and precision technology, as well as woodworking, metalworking, welding and proj-

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South Dakota FFA Proficiency Winners Recognized

South Dakota FFA members were recognized at the 85th South Dakota State FFA Convention on April 14-16, 2013, for excellence in developing career-specific skills through their Supervised Agricultural Experience Project activities.

The FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards recognize members who have developed their skills and abilities related to employment, internships, apprenticeships and their future careers at agribusinesses or agriculture-related organizations. There are 49 Proficiency areas for FFA members to participate in (E = Entrepreneurship, P = Placement).

Ag Sciences – Plant Systems
National Sponsor: Monstanto
State Sponsor: South Dakota FFA
1st Kiera Liddy, Milbank
2nd Tara Parmely, Miller

Agriscience Research – Animal Systems
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: DuPont Pioneer
1st Shane Mueller, Garretson

Agriscience Research – Integrated Systems
National Sponsor: AllFlext USA Inc., Elanco; National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: ADM Benson Quinn
1st Elizabeth Anderson, Bowdle
2nd Matt Hummel, Florence

Agriculture Education (E/P)
National Sponsor: The James F. Lincoln Arc Foundation, Tulsa, Oklahoma
State Sponsor: Dr. Lon Moeller
1st Kelsi Kampshoff, McCook Central
2nd Abby Flinters, Harrisburg
3rd Courtney Rickett, Harrisburg

Ag Mechanic Design & Fabrication (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Cammack Ranch Supply, Union Center
1st Bradley Humiller, McCook Central
2nd Ethan Schallenberg, McCook Central
3rd Adam Wipf, Howard

Ag Mechanic Energy Systems (E/P)
National Sponsor: Lincoln Electric Co.
State Sponsor: Scott Supply Co.; University of Nebraska
1st Cooper Eliaison, Howard
2nd Derek Ibach, Harrisburg
3rd Nathan Duerer, Webster

Ag Mechanic Repair & Maintenance (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Butler Machinery, Jesse Larson.
1st Caleb Lang, Freeman
2nd Cooper Eliaison, Howard
3rd Nicholas Hoeker, Hitchcock-Tulare

Agricultural Processing (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: SD Soybean Processors, Volga
1st Ross Penning, Le Sueur
2nd Danielle Emmert, Harrisburg
3rd Katy Knudson, McCook Central

Agricultural Sales (E)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Legend Seeds, Inc.
1st Kari Shoup, Gettysburg
2nd Dillon Van Dyke, Elkon

Agricultural Sales (P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Fastenal
1st Shayne Gottlob, McCook Central
2nd Shane Mueller, Garretson
3rd Brock Anderson, McCook Central

Agriculture Services (E/P)
National Sponsor: TransCanada
State Sponsor: Midwest Cooperative; Northern Plains Cooperative
1st Jordan Fuerstenberg, Harrisburg
2nd Greg Haak, Howard
3rd Patrick Hybertson, Beresford

Agriculture Research – Animal Systems
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: DuPont Pioneer
1st Shane Mueller, Garretson

Agriculture Research – Integrated Systems
National Sponsor: AllFlex USA Inc., Elanco; National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: ADM Benson Quinn
1st Elizabeth Anderson, Bowdle
2nd Matt Hummel, Florence

Agronomy – Plant Systems
National Sponsor: Monsanto
State Sponsor: Monsanto
1st Kiera Liddy, Milbank
2nd Tara Parmely, Miller

Beef Production (E)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Jensen, Stewart, Odden and Vedvei
1st Garret Masat, Hitchcock-Tulare
2nd Jade DeBrey, Webster
3rd Adam Eichacker, McCook Central

Beef Production (P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: SD Cattlemen’s Association
1st Evan Donahue, Howard
2nd Justin Boll, West Central
3rd Jean Skoglund, McCook Central

Dairy Production (E)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Associated Milk Producers, Inc.
1st Jacob Siglin, Webster

Dairy Production (P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Associated Milk Producers Inc.
1st Peter Schukking, Lake Preston
2nd Jacob Hotchkiss, Tri-Valley
3rd Audrey Souza, Milbank

Diversified Agricultural Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Sioux Nation Ag Centers of SD
1st Tyler Mentele, McCook Central
2nd Zach Bies, McCook Central
3rd Eric Worth, Gettysburg

Diversified Crop Production (E)
National Sponsor: CHS
State Sponsor: Cargill, Inc.
1st Lauren Johnson, Webster
2nd Adam Eichacker, McCook Central

Diversified Crop Production (P)
National Sponsor: Diversified Crop Production Services; National Crop Insurance Services
State Sponsor: North Central Farmers Elevator
1st Tara Parmely, Miller
2nd Brandon Schwader, Howard
3rd Zach Bies, McCook Central

Diversified Horticulture (E/P)
National Sponsor: Wilbur-Ellis
State Sponsor: South Dakota Florist’s Association; First Premier Bank, Watertown
1st Gregory Mehlebech, McCook Central

Diversified Livestock Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: Wahl Clipper Corp
State Sponsor: McFLeek Feeds
1st Shane Mueller, Garretson
2nd Melissa Nelson, McCook Central
3rd Greg Haak, Howard

Emerging Agricultural Technology (E/P)
National Sponsor: Ag Leader Technologies; BASF
State Sponsor: Keim Biologicals
1st Matt Hummel, Florence
2nd Nichole Barber, Harrisburg
3rd Cooper Eliaison, Howard

Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management (E/P)
National Sponsor: Mission Company
State Sponsor: SD Assn of Conservation Districts
1st Nichole Barber, Harrisburg
2nd Jacob Siglin, Webster
3rd Cordell Wobig, McCook Central

Equine Science (E)
National Sponsor: Purina Animal Nutrition
State Sponsor: Amani Arabians, Tim Anderson & Kim Nevin, of Milbank.
1st Cody Larson, Canton
2nd Shelby Strand, Harrisburg
3rd Morgan Matthaei, McCook Central

Equine Science (P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Scott Cammack, Dawn Nagel, Susan Stoterau, Roger DeBrey, Webster
1st Aubrey Morris, McCook Central

Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: for the Harry and Millie Mann Foundation
State Sponsor: SD Soybean Research & Promo Council
1st Brandon Schwader, Howard

Food Science and Technology (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Candidsus and Londa (Vanderwall)
Nwadike; Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc.
1st Kayky Knudson, McCook Central

Forage Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Kuecker Seed Farm, Inc., Webster
1st Brock Anderson, McCook Central
2nd Shane Mueller, Garretson
3rd Samuel Simons, Miller

Forest Management & Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: John Deere
State Sponsor: Harrisburg FFA
1st Jordan Wiebe, Garretson

Fruit Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: DuPont Company
State Sponsor: MinnTex
1st Erika Cotton, Sioux Valley

Goat Production (E/P)
National Sponsor: Purina Animal Nutrition
State Sponsor: Scheel Livestock of Alpena;
RMH Livestock of Raymond
1st Emily Schallenkamp, McCook Central
2nd Rebecca Stohr, Milbank

Grain Production (E)
National Sponsor: Pioneer DuPont
State Sponsor: SD Wheat Commission
1st Nick Pardy, Howard
2nd Mark Streff, McCook Central
3rd Lauren Johnson, Webster

Grain Production (P)
National Sponsor: Pioneer DuPont
State Sponsor: McCook Central FFA Chapter
1st Zach Bies, McCook Central
2nd Brandon Schwader, Howard
3rd Cordell Wobig, McCook Central

Home &/or Community Development (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Monsanto
1st Beth Mayrose, McCook Central
2nd Jean Skoglund, McCook Central
3rd Cheyenne Edmundson, Garretson

Landscape Management (E/P)
National Sponsor: John Deere
State Sponsor: SD Wheat Growers Association
1st Evan Johnson, Webster
2nd Ross Tarbox, Huron
3rd Baily Neises, Howard

Nursery Operations (E/P)
National Sponsor: National FFA Foundation
State Sponsor: Northland Ford, Minneapolis
1st Kira Tschetter, Hitchcock-Tulare
2nd Jacob Siglin, Webster
South Dakota FFA Awards Collegiate Scholarships

South Dakota FFA awarded $14,000 in scholarships to 26 South Dakota FFA members that will be pursuing degrees in agriculture. The South Dakota FFA is dedicated to premier leadership, personal growth and career success, and is therefore proud to support South Dakota FFA members in their post-secondary education. The following scholarships were awarded as part of the South Dakota FFA Foundation’s collegiate scholarship program.

A. Blue and Gold

Bob Titus Memorial

This scholarship, which is sponsored by Sioux Falls Ford, was established in memory of Bob Titus, father of Past State FFA Officer Jenny Titus-Jacobson. The recipient of this $500 scholarship is Saleah Kennedy, Clark.

Wade Lang Memorial

This scholarship is given in memory of Wade Lang who served as the SD State FFA Treasurer from 1991-1992. The recipient of this $500 memorial scholarship is Mckenna Kringen, Madison.

A. Blue & Gold

SD FFA offers these scholarships to any graduating senior who is planning to enroll in an agriculture-related field in one of South Dakota’s institutions. The year’s recipients of the $500 scholarships are: Samuel Simmons, Miller; Aubrey Souza, Milbank; Chelsea Nett, Hurley; and Trevor Larson, Winner.

B. DuPont/Pioneer

As a Five Star Team Ag Ed Partner with the SD FFA Foundation, DuPont/Pioneer sponsors four $500 scholarships. The recipients are Melissa Nelson, McCook Central; Luke Eide, Deuel; Eric Worth, Gettysburg; and, Trevor Larson, Winner.

C. Mary Hanson Memorial

These scholarships are intended for FFA members who are residents in Minnehaha or Lincoln counties. This year’s recipients of the $750 scholarships are: Liz Renner, West Central; Katelyn Burgraff, Tri-Valley; Kelsey Kennedy, Beresford; and, Krista Smit, Lennox-Sundstrom.

D. Monsanto

As a Five Star Team Ag Ed Partner with the SD FFA Foundation, Monsanto sponsors four $500 scholarships. This year’s recipients are: Kayla Gilbertson, McCook Central; Caleb Lang, Freeman; Lexi Slack, Viborg-Hurley.

E. Northland Ford Scholarships

As a Distinguished Star Team Ag Ed Partner with the SD FFA Foundation, Northland Ford sponsors four $500 scholarships. This year’s recipients are: Tyler DeRouchey, Hoven; Reid Kaiser, Hoven; Elizabeth Bertolotto, Sturgis; and, Zach Bies, McCook Central.

F. Wosje Agricultural Business

These scholarships are sponsored by Chad and Rhonda Wosje. Chad and Rhonda are SDSU graduates and Sioux Valley FFA Alumni members. The recipients of these $500 scholarships are: Dean Christensen, Beresford; and Jean Skoglund, McCook Central.

Monsanto Scholarships: Kayla Gilbertson, McCook Central. Not Pictured: Shala Larson, Webster; Caleb Lang, Freeman; Lexi Slack, Viborg-Hurley.

Northland Ford Scholarships: Ron Einsphar, representative of Northland Ford; Elizabeth Bertolotto, Sturgis; Reid Kaiser, Hoven; Tyler DeRouchey, Hoven. Not Pictured: Zach Bies, McCook Central.

Wosje Ag Business Scholarships: Dean Christensen, Beresford. Not Pictured: Jean Skoglund, McCook Central.
State FFA Career Development Event Results Announced

Over 2,000 FFA members, advisors and guests attended the 85th South Dakota State FFA Convention hosted on South Dakota State University’s campus in Brookings, S.D., on April 14–16, 2013. Of those 2,000 plus individuals, several FFA members participated in the State FFA Career Development Events. FFA Career Development Events, or CDEs, assist agricultural education students in developing and refining their abilities to critically evaluate, effectively communicate and ultimately, succeed in future careers.

The results are as follows:

A. Agricultural Business Management

Awards and team travel scholarship sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank of South Dakota.

1st Place Team: Kadoka
  Austin Thayer, Chance Knudson, Kenar Vander May, Shane Ring
2nd Place Team: Wessington Springs
  3rd Place Team: Willow Lake
Top Individual: Austin Thayer, Kadoka

B. Agricultural Communications

Awards sponsored by South Dakota Broadcasters Association; team travel scholarship sponsored by Dakota Farm Talk.

1st Place Team: West Central
  Kaitlyn Schmeichel, Matthew Sebert, Cassie Wilbelski
2nd Place Team: Hoven
  3rd Place Team: McCook Central
Top Individual: Cassie Wilbelski, West Central

C. Agricultural Mechanics

Awards and team travel scholarship sponsored by CHS Foundation. Drills for top 10 individuals sponsored by CHS Foundation, and a welder for the top team sponsored by Lincoln Electric.

1st Place Team: Miller
  Nathan Bertsch, Tanner Cain, Trent Steptoe, Paul Waring
2nd Place Team: Dell Rapids
  3rd Place Team: Deuel
Top Individual: Thad Krause, Deuel

D. Agronomy

Awards sponsored by SD Seed Trade Association; team travel scholarship sponsored by Cropplan with Winfield and in memory of Walt Johnston by De & Mike Johnston.

1st Place Team: Hyde County
  Shawn Braine, Weston Hamlin, Hayden Houdek, Cole Oakley
2nd Place Team: McCook Central

E. Dairy Cattle Evaluation

Awards sponsored by SD Division of the Midwest Dairy Association; team travel scholarship sponsored by Global Dairy and Sharp’s Inc.

1st Place Team: Sioux Valley
  Ashley Rennich, Logan Triebwasser, Mike Triebwasser, Sierra Winter
2nd Place Team: Deubrook
  3rd Place Team: Deuel
Top Individual: Logan Triebwasser, Sioux Valley

F. Floriculture

Awards sponsored by Gettyburg High School and SDSU Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape and Parks Development; team travel scholarship sponsored by SDSU Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape and Parks Development.

1st Place Team: Milbank
  Natasha Borah, Katelyn Louitsch, Emily Pauli, Megan Schlesman
2nd Place Team: McCook Central
  3rd Place Team: Philip
Top Individual: Katelyn Louitsch, Milbank

G. Food Science and Technology

Awards sponsored by Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc. and Candidius and Landa (Vander Wal) Nwdakie; team travel scholarship sponsored by Dan and Sheri Kahnke.

1st Place Team: Milbank
  Sharon Folk, Kayla Holquist, Anna Kurtz, Ashley McCulloch
2nd Place Team: McCook Central
  3rd Place Team: Mitchell
Top Individual: Morgan Mattheai, McCook Central

H. Horse Evaluation

Awards and team travel scholarship sponsored by K Bar J Leather Co.

1st Place Team: Huron
  Jessica Broer, Dana Duvall, Sierra Goerg, Bailey Schoenfelder
2nd Place Team: Wolsey-Wessington
  3rd Place Team: Sisseton
Top Individual: Morgan Janisch, Sisseton

I. Livestock Evaluation

Awards sponsored by SD Pork Producers Council; team travel scholarship sponsored by Dakota Feeds, Inc. and Nelson Farm and Family.

1st Place Team: Woonsneck
  Aaron Linke, Jonatlin Linke, Nathan Linke, Riley Schmidt
2nd Place Team: Groton
  3rd Place Team: Hyde County
Top Individual: Maryn Howard, Groton

J. Meat Evaluation & Technology

Awards sponsored by John Morrell & Co.; team travel scholarship sponsored by John Morrell & Co. and Justin & Crissa Fruechte.

1st Place Team: Kimball
  Turner Blaisia, Mary Kroupa, Jace Pulse, Lisa Smith
2nd Place Team: Hitchcock-Tulare
  3rd Place Team: Lennox-Sundstrom
Top Individual: Jordanne Howe, Redfield

K. Milk Quality and Products

Awards sponsored by Land O’ Lakes; team travel scholarship sponsored by Lynn and Brenda Maass.

1st Place Team: McCook Central
  Nicole Roth, Cooper Seamer, Bridgett Tuschen, Madisen Wachtcher
2nd Place Team: Deuel
  3rd Place Team: Milbank
Top Individual: Allisa Krause, Deuel

L. Natural Resources

Awards sponsored by Grassland Coalition; team travel scholarship sponsored by Grassland Coalition and Jeff Vander Wilt.

1st Place Team: Milbank
  Sean Pinkert, Kasey Schmidt, Brock Tilma, Zach Wiese
2nd Place Team: Lennox-Sundstrom
3rd Place Team: Kadoka
Top Individual: Sean Pinkert, Milbank

M. Nursery/Landscape

Awards sponsored by Interstate University; team travel scholarship sponsored by SDGAK Gardens of Clear Lake and the South Dakota FFA Foundation. Chairsaw for first place individual sponsored by Interstate University.

1st Place Team: McCook Central
  Cole Cheeseman, Tim Gassman, Julie Loudenburg, Anthony Tuschen
2nd Place Team: Mitchell
  3rd Place Team: Lennox-Sundstrom
Top Individual: Julia Loudenburg, McCook Central

N. Range Plant Identification

Awards sponsored by SDSU Range Club.

1st Place Team: Kadoka
  Logan Christensen, Clint Stout, Aage Cepheya, Lane Patterson
2nd Place Team: Philip
  3rd Place Team: Newell
Top Individual: Logan Christensen

O. Veterinary Science

Awards sponsored by Mike McIntyre, D.V.M.; team travel scholarship sponsored by South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association.

1st Place Team: Milbank
  Brandi Buescher, Janine Erikson, Morgan Jones, Jamie Mundwiler
2nd Place Team: Lennox-Sundstrom
3rd Place Team: Groton
Top Individual: Morgan Jones, Milbank

1st Place Team (L-R): Jamie Mundwiler, Wyatt Kelly (alternate), Brandi Buescher, Morgan Jones, and Janine Erikson.

1st Place Team (L-R): Roger Scheibe, representative of Midwest Dairy Association, Sierra Winter, Ashley Rennich, Logan Triebwasser, Mike Triebwasser and advisor Don Sutera.
**DC Bound: Washington Leadership Conference**

This summer thousands of FFA members from across the nation will flood to Washington D.C. for Washington Leadership Conference (WLC). During the five-day event, attendees will learn how to become effective leaders by teaching them to know their purpose, value people, take action, and serve others. Also, while in D.C., students will build relationships with other students, tour the monuments, and do an awesome service project.

Each year the SD FFA Foundation sponsors four $500 scholarships to help defray registration and travel expenses to members who will be attending WLC in the summer. The members that received this scholarship are Alex Eschenbaum, Faulkton; Brenda Weber, Bridgewater-Emery; Kiera Leddy, Milbank; and Skylar Thomas, Elkton. Congratulations to all the recipients and have a blast in DC this summer.

**FFA Chapters Receive National Chapter Awards**

Eight South Dakota FFA chapters were recognized with National Chapter Awards at the 85th Annual South Dakota State FFA Convention in Brookings, S.D., on April 14-16, 2013.

The purpose of the National Chapter Awards is to encourage chapters to develop and use a strong Program of Activities. These chapters plan and carry out activities centered around three key areas: student, chapter and community development.

In the area of student development, chapters focus on developing activities to enhance students’ life skills. Some examples of these activities include: Career Development Events, scholarship programs, Supervised Agricultural Experience (internship) programs and mentorship activities with elementary students. The area of chapter development stresses the importance of providing opportunities to the chapter’s members. Within this area, chapters take part in activities such as hosting recruitment events, developing alumni groups and planting and harvesting crop test plots for both educational and financial purposes. The final area, community development, encourages FFA chapters to give back to their community through service and by developing partnerships with local organizations. In doing this, chapters participate in activities such as developing a community garden, expanding local parks and volunteering to assist with community events.

• The **Star National Chapter Awards**, sponsored by Reinke-Gray Wealth Management, were presented to FFA chapters placing first through third. The results are:
  1st: McCook Central   2nd: Lake Preston   3rd: Garretson
• Five other FFA chapters were also recognized for **outstanding student, chapter and community development**. These chapters are:
  7th: Howard   8th: Deubrook
• Three chapters were also recognized with the **Governor’s Citation for Community Development**. This recognition centers around community development, is given to the FFA Chapters with the top community interaction and activities in South Dakota and is sponsored by Patsy Riekcman & Daughters. These chapters are:
  1st: Lake Preston   2nd: McCook Central   3rd: Lennox-Sundstrom

**Growing for the Future.**

**Meet your new Ambassadors!**

Courtney Schaeffer of the Menno FFA chapter and Kyle Kramer of the Flandreau FFA chapter were selected to serve as the 2013-2014 South Dakota State FFA Ambassadors! They will have a busy year working with the state officers at summer Leadership Retreats, the FFA Animal Nursery at the State Fair, State Leadership CDE’s and State Convention!

Courtney is the daughter of Wesley and Danielle Schaeffer and grew up on a farm near Utica, South Dakota. She loves camping with her family, fishing, swimming, playing cards, traveling, and enjoying the company of her friends. Her high school activities include volleyball, cross country, track, softball, football stats, basketball, FCCLA, FFA, Oral Interp, One Act Play, band, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. This fall Courtney will attend South Dakota State University and major in Nursing.

Kyle is the son of Greg and Marianne Kramer and grew up on his family’s a farm near Flandreau, South Dakota. In high school, Kyle was involved in cross country, track, FFA, and National Honor Society. In his free time, he enjoys riding four-wheeler and snowmobile, building things, listening to music, spending time with friends, and is a passionate NASCAR fan. On weekends, he works at a local race engine shop and also helps with the preschool Sunday school. Kyle plans on attending South Dakota State University to major in Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering. Good luck to the new ambassadors this upcoming year!
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Here's to our partnership. And to the future.

*Based on towing and payload, when properly equipped. Class is Full-Size Pickups vs. 2012/2013 competitors.
Thank You to our SD FFA Foundation Sponsors

(July 1, 2012 - March 1, 2013)

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Candidus & Londa Nwadike
Cargill, Inc.
Cattleents Consulting, Inc., Dewayne Siebrasse
Central Farmers Cooperative
Clint & Kiersten Sombre
Craig & Maure Weinkauf, In Memory of Arthur J. Weinkauf
Croplan by WinField
Dakota Risk Management
De & Mike Johnson, In Memory of Walt Johnson
Eric & Roxanne Knock
First State Bank of Roscoe
Hansmeier & Son, Inc.
Harrisburg FFA
Jim Chislon
John Morrell & Company
K Bar J Leather, Co
Kuecker Seed Farm, Inc.
Larry & Sandra Nelson
LeRoy & Cathie Draine
Mark Gross
Mary & Cody Christensen
McFleeg Inc.
Mike Ringgenberg
Nathan & Tiffany Sanderson
Newell Ram Sale
Pipestone System
Randy Peterson
RMH & Scheel Livestock
Scott & Jessie VanderPoel
SD Association of Conservation Districts
SD Bankers Association
SD Broadcasters Association
SD Cattlemen’s Association
SD Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers
SD Grasslands Coalition
SD Pork Producers Council
SD Soybean Processors, LLC
SD Veterinary Medical Assn
SDSU Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape & Parks Dept
Stangl Shorthorns
Travis & Joleen Schuring
Univ. of NE, Nebraska College of Technical Ag
Verity Farms
Westoff Farms — Dan & Paul Westhoff
Brown Commodities
Byron & Lori Whitney
Caitlin Johnson
Cargill Inc.
Cattle Business Weekly
Cheyenne - Eagle Butte FFA
Chuck & Kerry Christman
Clair Welbon
Clark FFA
Clay & Angie Edwards
Cory Schrag
Craig Arbach
Dakota Ethanol, LLC/ Lake Area Corn Processors
Dakota Farm Talk
Dane & Donna Lambert
David & Donna Acheson
DeJong Ranch
Deuel FFA
Dr. Alice Harty
Eastern Farmers Cooperative
Elwyn & Jalayne Opheim
Eugene & Stella Nagel
Eugene Streff
Fiedler Farms, Inc.
First PREMIER Bank
Fred & Joan DeRouchey
Frontier Mills Inc.
Gary L. Hansen
Gettysburg FFA Chapter
Golden West Telecommunications
Greg Salmen
Gretchen & Brian Sharp
Harlan Palo
Horsch Anderson, LLC
Horsch & Seidel Livestock
Indiana Beef Production Div.
Indiana Cattlemen’s Association
Indiana Farm Bureau
Indiana Pork shoulder Council
Indiana Soybean Processors, Inc.
Indiana Sportmen’s Association
Indiana State University
Indiana Universities
Indiana University-Bloomington
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
Indiana Wisconsin Bank
Irvington, Indiana
James Odenbach
Jamie Brown
Jason Gant
Jeff Vander Wilt
Jerry Schmitz
Joey & Lindsey Haskell
Jon DeRouchey
Josh Johnson
Justin & Crissa Fruechte
Justin & Sarah Goebel
Kelly O’Donnell
Kevin Albrecht
Kevin & Jeanine Schnieders
Kindra Gordon
Krecia & Donnie Leedy
Land O’Lakes, Dairy Production Div.
Larry & Debra Rahm
Larry & Joyce Alderson
Larson Seed Farm
Laurie Falkoske
Lazy J Bar Ranch Red Angus
Leon & Genevieve Minor
Loyal Sauvgast
Loren Kasten
Loren Wieting
Mark & Susan Geib
Mark Christensen
Marvin Haag
Menno FFA Chapter
Merlyn & Janice Thorstenson
Midwest Ag Supply, LLC
Midwest Cooperatives
Midwest Glass Inc.
Mike & Betty Brink
Mike & Nita DeRouchey
Mike Finley
Milton Sundre
Molly & Brett Peterson
Monte & Ruth Mason
Murphy-Brown LLC
Nancy Krull
Nelson Farm & Family
Northern Plains Cooperative
Pauslen Marketing
Platte-Geddes Community FFA
Randy & Linnette Albers
Rapid City Central FFA Chapter
Rausch Herefords
Red River Farm Network
Reynold Enboe
Richard Stoebner
Roger DeRouchey
Roger Pearson
Ronald Teal
Roy & Sara Gjerde
Runnings
Ryan & Whitney Brunner
Ryan Carmack
Scotland FFA Chapter
Scott Supply Company
SD Florists Association
SD Seed Trade Association
SD Society for Range Mgmt
SDAAE
Select Sires MidAmerica
Shane Reis
Shannon & Sue Rausch
Shantel & Mitch Krebs
Shawn Stoley
Shawn Weishaar
Sisseton FFA Chapter
Stapleton Seeds
Steve Schlicher
Sunshine Angus Farms
Tara & Mark Beitelspaeger
Terry Jaspers
The Family of Justin Maass
Thomas Smotherman, Jr.
Three Corners Agency, Inc.
Melissa A. Stearns, Agent
Tom & Karen Swan
Tracy & Brett Kaltvedt
Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc.
Victor & Patty Beringer
Watertown Area FFA Chapter
Wayne & Gail Weishaar
Wayne Fischer
Wendy & Kurtis Sweeter
Whetstone Commodities, Inc.

Foundation Feature

• Congratulations to all FFA members and chapters on a successful SD State FFA Convention! What an exciting way to promote FFA, agriculture, and our diversity!
• Thank you to all of the individual and business sponsors that made all aspects of convention possible! Without dedicated sponsors, the SD FFA would not be able to provide the opportunities which help members “grow” for the future. In this time of lean school budgets, sponsors are crucial in keeping Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs in our schools.
• Be sure to “Like” the South Dakota FFA Foundation on facebook, to stay updated on what’s happening, and subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter, at www.sdffafoundation.org.

Spring Break FFA Partnership Visits

This spring break, while most college students were taking a break from classes by spending time on sunny beaches, building houses on mission trips, or working to make some extra cash, the state FFA officers had the awesome chance to visit with some valuable partners of the South Dakota FFA Association.

Traveling in teams of two, the officers were able to visit with 27 businesses from across South Dakota despite uncooperative weather conditions. We discussed ways that FFA can partner with businesses so both benefit from the relationship. Those discussions included ideas ranging from high school career days to safety stimulator booths at state convention as well as the wide range of internship opportunities and scholarships available to motivated students.

A pretty clear take-away from most business was the shortage of self-motivated, hardworking employees that they need to fill positions ranging from mechanics, to sales representatives, to bookkeepers. They are desperate for the work ethic and dedication found in most FFA members, and most want to hire high school students, so don’t be afraid to seek jobs/internships from local businesses.

Thank you to all sponsors who support South Dakota FFA members at the chapter and state level!
Deubrook Wins Image Builder Award!

In the FFA, our organization is represented in everything we do. Our organization shows through when we participate in career development events and complete service projects. When people see us and the blue jacket that we’re wearing, we’re not only representing ourselves but also the National FFA Organization.

The Public Relations application requires chapters to put together their public relations activities promoting Agricultural Education and FFA from the year. This year, the Deubrook FFA Chapter received 1st place and the Webster FFA Chapter took home 2nd place! Congratulations to both chapters on their accomplishments and always pushing themselves to the limit to make a positive impression through the media!

The Public Relations/Image Builder Award is sponsored by Paulsen Marketing of Sioux Falls.

Kayla Neuse accepts the 2013 Image Builder Award on behalf of the Deubrook FFA Chapter.

Hypnosis: The FFA Way

The Performing Arts Center on the campus of South Dakota State University had a full house as Dr. Al Snyder, hypnotist, performed in front of over 900 excited South Dakota FFA members and advisors.

Hypnosis is an artificially induced altered state of consciousness, characterized by heightened suggestibility and receptivity to direction. Hypnosis is often referred to as a sleep-like condition.

Hypnotist Dr. Al Snyder, a licensed veterinarian, has been hypnotizing members for State FFA Conventions and National Conventions for 13 years and is a past state officer from Wyoming. On the evening of Monday, April 15, 2013, Dr. Snyder had FFA members laughing as he hypnotized 20 FFA members after the Monday night session of the South Dakota FFA Convention.

These FFA members that were hypnotized ran through the crowd, stole fellow member’s shoes, and even sang to Gavin DeGraw’s popular song: “Not Over You.” The Hypnotist show involved all the members with a few members becoming hypnotized in the crowd and even more members laughing until it hurt. It was a success with many members requesting another show for next year’s convention!

Got Leadership?

Are you bored? Do you want to meet members from all across South Dakota? Do you want to have fun while learning how to be an effective leader? Do you want to meet the new State Officers? If any of these activities sound interesting to you then sign up for a FFA Leadership Retreat today!

South Dakota FFA members have the opportunity to attend one of two leadership retreats: West River at Camp Bob Marshall in Custer, South Dakota the week of July 9-12 or East River Retreat at Swan Lake in Viborg the week of July 16-18, 2013. While attending one of the two leadership retreats you will learn from the State Officers how to grow your leadership skills and meet many life-long friends all while experiencing the great outdoors of South Dakota and fun activities! Registration is due June 20 to the State FFA Office. Ask your advisor for more information or visit www.aged.sdstate.edu.

Viborg-Hurley Crafts their Way to the Top with Chapter Scrapbook

Newspaper articles, captivating photos, fun stickers, colorful backgrounds and a creative effort all go into making a fantastic chapter scrapbook. Chapters from all across the state create a chapter scrapbook each year so they can showcase their chapter’s activities and show them off at State Convention, hoping to win the Chapter Scrapbook Award. This year’s winner was the Viborg-Hurley FFA Chapter! Congratulations on your hard work and this outstanding accomplishment!
**Planting Inspiration**

What could your community or FFA chapter do with $2500? Every year Monsanto sponsors a program called America’s Farmers Grow Communities. This program allows farmers to register to win $2,500 for their favorite non-profit organization. One winner will be selected in each of the 1,271 eligible counties within 39 states. Not only does Monsanto donate to eligible communities, but they donate an additional $2,500 if the community is located in an area affected by the drought.

This year seven FFA chapters will be doing great things with their donation from the Monsanto Fund. The Deuel, Faulkton, DeSmet, Flandreau, Gettysburg, Bridgewater-Emery, and Wessington Springs FFA Chapters will be standing out, stepping up, and helping their communities grow!

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**FFA Members Grow with Scholarships from National FFA**

In 2013, the National FFA organization awarded $29,000 in scholarships to 19 SD FFA members in amounts ranging from $1,000 to $5,000. These high school students devoted much time and effort to academic studies, FFA, Supervised Agricultural Experiences, leadership, and community activities. The South Dakota FFA Association commends all of these members for their leadership and hard work. The scholarship recipients are as follows:

- Jessica Broer .......... Huron Vocational .......... Ford Trucks/ Built Ford Tough ............ $1,000
- Dean Christensen .... Beresford .......... Fastline Publications ............. $1,000
- Kirstyn Fiala ........ Miller ............ AGCO Dealer ................. $1,000
- Paige Hermanson .... Sturgis .......... Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Co. of Iowa .... $1,500
- Kyle Kramer .......... Flandreau .......... John Deere Dealer ............ $2,000
- Jorry Lammers ....... West Central .......... Ford Trucks/ Built Ford Tough .......... $1,000
- Caleb Lang .......... Freeman .......... Wilbur-Ellis Company ........ $1,000
- Kimberly Leber .......... Parker .......... Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM) .......... $1,000
- Katelyn Loutsch .......... Milbank .......... John Deere Dealer ............ $2,000
- Kyle McGuire .......... Rapid City .......... Ford Trucks/ Built Ford Tough .......... $1,000
- Mikayla Nuese .......... Deubrook .......... John Deere Dealer ............ $2,000
- Janelle Paulson .......... Clark .......... AGCO Dealer .......... $1,000
- Lacey Quail .......... Deubrook .......... Tractor Supply- Growing Scholars .......... $1,000
- Elizabeth Renner .......... West Central .......... John Deere Dealer ............ $2,000
- Gretchen Rops .......... Lennox-Sundstrom .......... AGCO Your Agriculture Company .......... $2,000
- Jean Skoglund .......... McCook Central .......... BNSF Railway Company .......... $5,000
- Tyler Swan .......... Newell .......... Bunge North America .......... $1,000
- Brian Van De Stroet .......... Canton .......... Hormel Foods Corporation .......... $1,500
- Alexandria Zanter .......... Menno .......... AGCO Dealer .......... $1,000

**Congratulations to all recipients and good luck in your future!**