

Numerous awards and honors to schools, judging teams, and individuals at 85th annual FFA convention in Columbia

News

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Read below for details on results of career development events, proficiency awards, area star awards, two area state officers, and other recognitions.

National FFA, top chapter awards went to Milan (11th), Trenton (19th), Chillicothe (26th), and Jamesport Tri County (30th). Only 33 awards were presented out of all FFA chapters in the state.

Among career development judging events at the state FFA convention:

Meadville placed 1st and Princeton 3rd in livestock. Members of the national-eligible livestock judging team from Meadville are Joel Martin (2nd), Miriam Martin (4th), Erin Shiflett (12th) and Tyler Dinsmore.

Members of the third ranked Princeton team are Jansen Stark (3rd), Samantha DeMoss, Taylon Place, and Braden Donelson. Newtown Harris FFA member Case White was 14th.

Gilman City ranked 6th in farm management. Members are Ryan Burrows (20) Mitch Ragan (23) Hannah Snuffer, and Hailey Francis.

Princeton FFA was 3rd in evaluations of horses. Members are Brody Cridlebaugh, (14th) Tessa Schwartkopf, Rylan Purdun, and Abby McLain.

In poultry judging, best finishes by area schools were Green City 10th and Gallatin 13th. Individually: Hadley Williams of Green City was 11th and Kase Critten of Gallatin was 15th.

In judging of soils, Gilman City was 10th at state. (Morgan Mulnix 22 and Morgan Reed 25)

For FFA knowledge, Princeton was 12th and Chillicothe 14th. Individual rankings included Marissa Surber of Chillicothe 15th and Jacob Schwenneker of Princeton 16th.

For dairy cattle judging, team standings include North Harrison 2nd, Milan 4th, and Trenton 6th. Individually, Cooper Sadowsky of Eagleville was 2nd high in the state; Shania Anderson of Trenton took 3rd place; Katelyn Gillum of Putnam County was 5th; Kiley Doak of Milan was 10th. Other Trenton team members are Becca Tate, Michael Jaycox, and LaKisa Hughs. Other members of the Milan team are Jessica Hoover, Savanna Taylor, and Morgan Gray.

Trenton finished in 6th place in ag sales. Individually, Alex Anderson was 10th and Kate Lowrey 11th. The other member is Shelby Lowrey.

Princeton high school had a team rank 6th in meats judging. Thomas Mallinson finished in 5th place individually. Other members are Justin Hamilton, Drew Cox, and Lauren McLain.

FFA state proficiency awards were presented for development of supervised agriculture experience projects. Area area residents who are 1st place recipients are:

Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems
Milan Mason Clark

Agriscience Animal Systems Research
Chillicothe Lauren Haley

Diversified Horticulture
Princeton Braden Donelson

Goat Production
Hamilton Haley Alden

Home &/or Community Development

Gallatin Dexter Daniel

Specialty Animal Production
Gallatin Megan Beck

Vegetable Production
Chillicothe Anthony Peniston

There are 2ND PLACE state proficiency awards. Among those honored were:

Equine Science - Placement
Milan Kelsey Eitel

Grain Production - Entrepreneurship
Chillicothe Jami Loney

Turf Grass Management
Chillicothe Cyrsten Lollar

Agricultural Mechanics Repair & Maintenance - Entrepreneurship
Polo Missy Ann Cawthon

OTHER AWARDS:

Chillicothe FFA Chapter received the United Sportsmen League Conservation Grant Award during the Missouri FFA Convention in Columbia. The \$500 grant is presented to FFA chapters who practice outstanding conservation management in their community.

Scott Gardner of Chillicothe was presented with an Honorary State FFA Degree. He has been involved in the Shaping Rural Missouri grant program through the F-C-S Financial.

Across the country, more than 300 FFA chapters competed in FFA Chapter Challenge, sponsored by the National FFA Foundation and Monsanto. Cameron FFA chapter clinched the title of Voting Challenge grand prize winner, and with it, an all-expense paid trip for seven to the National FFA Convention & Expo. Ron Alden, advisor for Cameron FFA, noted members met with local farmers to build relationships and learn about their livelihood. The farmers then voted for their favorite FFA chapter. As the top chapter in Missouri, Cameron receives certificates of credit up to \$2,500 which can be used with the national office for items such as new FFA blue jackets, convention fees and more.

State Stars in AgriBusiness, Farming and Placement were announced during the Missouri FFA Convention in Columbia. There were 16 nominees across Missouri for each category. Young men from FFA chapters in Princeton,

North Mercer, and Bethany win Area Two Star awards among 28 chapters in northwest Missouri.

Braden Donelson of the Princeton FFA Chapter is the Area 2 Star in Agribusiness. His parents are Kent and Tammy Donelson of Princeton. His advisor is Bryan Williams.

Gage Porter of the North Mercer FFA Chapter is Area 2 Star Farmer. His parents are Gary and Lori Porter of Mercer His advisor is Jeff Wyatt.

Dalton Bourne of the South Harrison FFA Chapter is Area 2 Star in Placement. His parents are Leland and Amy Donner of Martinsville. His advisor is Brandi Stagner.

Donelson's supervised agricultural experience program includes helping on the family farm, caring for his own small herd of cattle and showing a hog at local and state fairs. He also operates a summer lawncare and landscaping business and works for his father's snow removal business. Donelson serves as the chapter historian and has served as the parliamentarian. He won the area turf grass management proficiency award and was named Princeton Chapter Star in Agribusiness. Donelson is a member of the National Honor Society and has earned the Eagle Scout rank as a Boy Scout. He is an A-plus tutor and was captain on the varsity football team. After high school

graduation, Donelson

plans to study civil engineering at the University of Missouri.

Gage Porter's supervised agricultural experience began with renting 89 acres of land where he planted corn and sorghum. He entered the National Sorghum Producers yield contest and placed third nationally. The following year, he was the state winner. He has expanded his acreage to more than 300 acres planting corn, sorghum and soybeans. Porter also raises a small herd of beef cattle. Porter served as North Mercer FFA sentinel and vice president. He has been named the chapter Star Greenhand and Star Farmer. He received second-place state grain production entrepreneurship proficiency award at the FFA Convention. Porter also competed at the state level in soils, poultry and dairy cattle career development events. He has exhibited goats at the Missouri State Fair and participated in the Sale of Champions. Porter participates in National Honor Society, student council, softball, basketball and golf. After high school, Porter plans to pursue a career on his family's farm. He is especially interested in Angus cattle and will strive to expand the size of the current herd.

Dalton Bourne began employment with Baker Farms, where his duties included mowing, raking, baling and hauling hay. In 2011, he began working at Smith Farms operating equipment during planting, hay and harvest seasons. Also at Smith Farms, Bourne is responsible for feeding 500 cattle and caring for sheep. At South Harrison FFA, Bourne has served as chapter sentinel. He has competed in agronomy, agricultural mechanics and livestock evaluation. Bourne received second place in area beef production placement and grain production placement proficiency awards. After high school, Bourne plans to study diesel mechanics at Grand River Technical School in Chillicothe and to continue working for Smith Farms. Eventually Bourne would like to raise Charolais beef cattle and farm 1,000 acres in Harrison County.

Area Stars in agribusiness are recognized for outstanding achievement in work experience in an agricultural business. Area Star Farmers are chosen for outstanding production agriculture. Area Stars in Placement are selected for outstanding achievement in work experience in an agricultural business. MFA Incorporated of Columbia sponsors all the Area Agri Business, Area Farmer and Area Placement awards.

Three STATE Stars were recognized by the Missouri FFA Association.

Josh Brunscher of Carrollton FFA is State Star in Placement. His parents are David and Carrie Brunscher of Bogard. His advisor is Brooke Swindler. Other STATEWIDE STARS in farming and agribusiness are from Fatima and LaMonte.

TWO STATE OFFICERS ELECTED:

Taylor Washburn of Eagleville was elected State FFA Secretary for next year. She was a state officer candidate from the 28 FFA chapters in Area Two. Her advisor at the North Harrison School is Brandon Craig. Her parents are Rob and Tina Washburn.

Her supervised agricultural experience program consists of raising a herd of Charolais cattle. Miss Washburn also raises and trains registered American Quarter Horses, which she shows at events across the Midwest. Washburn served the North Harrison FFA Chapter as treasurer and two terms as vice president. She also served as treasurer of the Area 2 FFA Association.

Washburn has served as State Vice President of Community Service for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. She's been a 4-h member 8 years. Future plans are to attend University of Missouri to study biochemistry and animal science. After graduation, she plans to attend either veterinary or medical school. Her goal is to be very active in the agriculture industry, and possibly even serve as an elected official in the state legislature.

Â Miriam Martin of the Meadville FFA will be one of 13 vice presidents for the state FFA next year.

Â Her parents are Phillip (also FFA advisor) and Heather Martin. Miss Martin's supervised

agricultural experience program consists of a herd of Simmental Angus cross cows from which she markets feeder calves. She raises, exhibits and sells show pigs to local FFA members. She also operates a lawn mowing business for three church cemeteries. Martin served as chapter president and reporter. She was vice president of the Area 3 FFA. Miss Martin won the National Ag Day essay contest in 2012. She is a 2011 graduate of the Missouri Agribusiness Academy. She received first place in the area proficiency award of agriculture processing. She also was selected to attend the Washington D.C. Youth Tour with Missouri's electric cooperatives. Martin is Wyandotte 4-H Club president and a Missouri Pork Association Youth Ambassador. She plans to study animal science at University of Missouri hoping to improve the swine industry through advancements in efficiency, government policy, public and foreign relations, and biotechnology.

Among various other awards presented at the Missouri FFA Convention, Washington D-C Youth Leadership conference scholarships were given to Elizabeth Warren of Chillicothe; Savannah Taylor of Milan and to Jordan High of Norborne.

Among area FFA members receiving Youth in Agriculture scholarships are Crysten Lollar of Chillicothe, Miriam Martin of Meadville, Taylor Washburn and Garren Gibson both at North Harrison of Eagleville; Chase Thummel of Worth County; Haley Alden of Hamilton; Courtney Brown of Tina-Avalon; Tyler Lane of Brookfield; and Timothy Niemeier of Marceline.

Certificates to attend the agribusiness academy were presented to area FFA members including Hadley Williams of Green City and Cooper Sadowsky of North Harrison.