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News Release

North Fayette Valley FFA Wins 2016 Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event

The 2016 Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event was held in conjunction with the Youth Dairy Classic in West Union on Saturday, September 10, 2016. Fourteen teams and forty-nine individuals participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide students an opportunity to display their knowledge and skills in the area of dairy cattle selection and management.

The North Fayette Valley FFA Chapter located in West Union was named the Iowa Champion FFA Dairy Cattle Team. Team members included: Matthew Appler, Morgan Lauer, Cassidy Bohr, and Max Gibson. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr. Ryan Holthaus and Ms. Rachael Strong. The champion team will compete in the National FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event during the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana this October.

The Reserve Champion Team in Dairy Judging was the West Dubuque FFA Chapter located in Epworth. Team members included: Madison Strief, Adam Simon, Garret Pfeiler, and Regan Demmer. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Mr. Luke Rauen. Matthew Appler from West Union was the Champion Individual. Regan Demmer from Epworth was the Reserve Champion Individual.

The Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event was made possible with support from Associated Milk Producers, Inc. and the Iowa State University Dairy Science Club through the Iowa FFA Foundation. Allflex USA sponsored the State Winning Team plaque through the National FFA Foundation.

Scott Stempfle, Brad Arthur, Nashua Lansing, and Lars Sivesind were the official judges for the placing classes. Dean Weber from Rockwell prepared the testing materials.

Listed below are the top teams and individuals in the various parts of the career development event.

Top 10 Teams

- 1 North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- 2 West Dubuque FFA, Epworth
- 3 Wapsie Valley FFA, Fairbank
- 4 North Scott FFA, Eldridge
- 5 Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi
- 6 Decorah FFA, Decorah
- 7 Edgewood-Colesburg FFA, Edgewood
- 8 New Hampton FFA, New Hampton
- 9 St. Ansgar FFA, St. Ansgar
- 10 Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA

Top 10 Individuals

- Matthew Appler, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
Regan Demmer, West Dubuque FFA, Epworth
Aaron Gerdts, St. Ansgar FFA, St. Ansgar
Blake Courtney, Decorah FFA, Decorah
Adam Simon, West Dubuque FFA, Epworth
Rachel Grober, New Hampton FFA, New Hampton
Cassidy Bohr, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
Thomas Lehmann, Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi
Todd Miller, Wapsie Valley FFA, Fairbank
Calvin Heims, Edgewood-Colesburg FFA, Edgewood

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

Dairy Cow and Heifer Placing Classes

Team: West Dubuque FFA, Epworth **Individual:** Devan Hackenmiller, St. Ansgar FFA, St. Ansgar

Oral Reasons

Team: West Dubuque FFA, Epworth **Individual:** Matthew Appler, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Dairy Production and Management Test

Team: North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union **Individual:** Rachel Grober, New Hampton FFA, New Hampton

Herd Data Evaluation

Team: North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union **Individual:** Aaron Gerdts, St. Ansgar FFA, St. Ansgar

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (7)

Score Range (1659 to 1509.5)

North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

West Dubuque FFA, Epworth

Wapsie Valley FFA, Fairbank

North Scott FFA, Eldridge

Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi

Decorah FFA, Decorah

Edgewood-Colesburg FFA, Edgewood

Silver Teams (5)

Score Range (1479 to 1418)

New Hampton FFA, New Hampton

St. Ansgar FFA, St. Ansgar

Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA

Maquoketa FFA, Maquoketa

Nashua Plainfield FFA, Nashua

Bronze Teams (2)

Score Range (936.5 to 466.5)

Starmont FFA, Arlington

Western Christian FFA, Hull

The following FFA Members served as show persons during the event and were ranked as follows:

Gold Awards (7)

Cole Kruse, Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi

Cassi Westhoff, Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi

Rachel Darnall, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Hailey Nierling, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Julianna Wise, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Andy Lillegraven, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Jaden Anderson, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Silver Awards (6)

Austin Miller, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Tommy Rolison, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Zach Schroeder, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Tatum Kahler, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Kariann Elsbernd, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Megan Kueker, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 14,700 student members as part of 226 local FFA chapters across Iowa. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Iowa FFA Association was organized by delegates from 23 schools at Iowa State College on May 17, 1929 and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The Iowa Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to local agricultural education programs. For more, visit the Iowa FFA Association online at IowaFFA.com, on Facebook, and Twitter.