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News Release

WEST LIBERTY FFA CHAPTER WINS 2016 STATE FFA FLORICULTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The West Liberty FFA Chapter was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Floriculture Career Development Event held at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids on June 14, 2016. Members of the first place team included: Gracie Danner, Jaida Dalton, Belinda Heckman, and Lauren Aird. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr. Zach Morris and Mr. Dick Brand. They will represent Iowa at the National Floriculture Career Development Event at Indianapolis, Indiana, in October. The Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Erin Cantrell, Brianna Lundvall, Keri Webster, and Sarah Siglin. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mrs. Melissa Heeren and Mrs. Louise Fleming. Erin Cantrell, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter, was named the High Individual Overall in the competition.

FFA teams from chapters including individuals participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide students an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Floriculture. The event consisted of a general knowledge exam, problem solving and decision making, plant identification, floral design, pesticide use and application, floral production, and a team activity.

The Iowa FFA Floriculture Career Development Event was coordinated and conducted by Lora Dodd-Brosseau and the faculty and staff at Kirkwood Community College. Kirkwood Community College also provided a lunch to all participants.

The Iowa FFA Floriculture Career Development Event was made possible through the Iowa FFA Foundation with support from Goode Greenhouses. The Ball Horticultural Company and Bayer Crop Science through the National FFA Foundation sponsored the Champion Team Plaque.

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

Top 10 Teams

- 1 West Liberty FFA Chapter
- 2 Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter
- 3 Muscatine FFA Chapter
- 4 Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts
- 5 Montezuma FFA Chapter
- 6 Wapello FFA Chapter
- 7 Ballard FFA Chapter at Huxley
- 8 St. Ansgar FFA Chapter
- 9 Washington FFA Chapter
- 10 LaPorte-Dysart FFA Chapter

Top 10 Individuals

- 1 Erin Cantrell, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter
- 2 Gracie Danner, West Liberty FFA Chapter
- 3 Jaida Dalton, West Liberty FFA Chapter
- 4 Belinda Heckman, West Liberty FFA Chapter
- 5 Olivia Danz, Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts
- 6 Keri Webster, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter
- 7 Lauren Aird, West Liberty FFA Chapter
- 8 Sarah Siglin, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter
- 9 Shelby Helm, Montezuma FFA Chapter
- 10 Samantha George, Muscatine FFA Chapter

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

General Knowledge

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter **Individual:** Erin Cantrell, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter

Problem Solving

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter **Individual:** Gracie Danner, West Liberty FFA Chapter

Identification of Plant Material

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter **Individual:** Gracie Danner, West Liberty FFA Chapter

Floral Design

Team: Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter **Individual:** Erin Cantrell, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter

Floral Production

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter **Individual:** Keri Webster, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter

Pesticides

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter **Individual:** Jaida Dalton, West Liberty FFA Chapter

Team Activity

Team: West Liberty FFA Chapter

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (9)

Score Range (1242.5 to 964.5)

West Liberty FFA Chapter
Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter
Muscatine FFA Chapter
Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts
Montezuma FFA Chapter
Wapello FFA Chapter
Ballard FFA Chapter at Huxley
St. Ansgar FFA Chapter
Washington FFA Chapter

Silver Teams (10)

Score Range (931.5 to 688.5)

LaPorte-Dysart FFA Chapter
Cascade FFA Chapter
Denison FFA Chapter
Keota FFA Chapter
Red Oak FFA Chapter
Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter at Delhi
Lone Tree FFA Chapter
West Fork FFA Chapter
West Delaware FFA Chapter at Manchester
Fairfield FFA Chapter

Bronze Teams (3)

Score Range (561 to 246)

Marengo FFA Chapter
Oelwein FFA Chapter
Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 14,800 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.