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News Release

Ballard FFA Wins Iowa FFA Ag Communications CDE

AMES, IA--The Ballard FFA Chapter from Huxley was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Agricultural Communications Career Development Event (CDE) held at Iowa State University in Ames on April 16, 2019. Members of the first place team included: Isabelle Ramer, Joseph Jordan, Jenna Hernandez, and Ellie Twedt. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Ms. Jenny Lichty. They will represent Iowa at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in October. The Montezuma FFA Chapter from Montezuma was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Alyssa Cline, Michael DeJong, Elise Boulton, and Brayden Stockman. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr. Rick Swenson and Ms. Lindsey Schanbacher.

FFA members from 17 chapters participated in this year's career development event. The event provided students the opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of agricultural communications. The 67 individuals who participated in the event completed several activities including demonstration of skills and problem solving in web design, video production, journalistic writing, and opinion writing, as well as presenting a team media plan. High individual for the web design practicum was Talin Knobloch, West Lyon FFA, Inwood. Michael DeJong, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma was named the high individual for the video production practicum. Top journalistic writing practicum winner was Elise Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma. Brayden Stockman, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma won the opinion writing practicum. Each practicum winner was awarded with a plaque.

The Iowa FFA Agricultural Communications CDE was made possible with support from Iowa Soybean Association and the Soybean Checkoff and Iowa Farmer Today through the Iowa FFA Foundation. Champion and reserve champion teams were presented with plaques and rosettes. Plaques were also presented to the champion practicum team, top written plan and top presentation. Plaques were also presented to the champion practicum team, top written plan team and top presentation team. Other top ten teams were also presented with rosettes.

Top 10 Teams

- 1 Ballard FFA, Huxley
- 2 Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- 3 North Scott FFA at Eldridge
- 4 Monticello FFA, Monticello
- 5 Lone Tree FFA
- 6 Decorah FFA, Decorah
- 7 Wilton FFA, Wilton
- 8 West Lyon FFA, Inwood
- 9 Independence FFA
- 10 North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

- Team Project Proposal
 - North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- Team Presentation
 - Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Team Practicums
 - Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Web Design Practicum
 - Talin Knobloch, West Lyon FFA, Inwood
- Video Producer Media Practicum
 - Michael DeJong, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Journalistic Writer Practicum
 - Elise Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Opinion Writer Practicum
 - Brayden Stockman, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (4)

Score Range (694 to 646)

- Ballard FFA, Huxley
- Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- North Scott FFA at Eldridge
- Monticello FFA, Monticello

Bronze Teams (5)

Score Range (567.5 to 459)

- Osceola Big Chief FFA, Osceola
- West Delaware FFA, Manchester
- Osage FFA, Osage
- Belle Plaine FFA
- Manson-Northwest Webster FFA, Manson

Silver Teams (8)

Score Range (639.5 to 599)

- Lone Tree FFA
- Decorah FFA, Decorah
- Wilton FFA, Wilton
- West Lyon FFA, Inwood
- Independence FFA
- North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- Unity Christian FFA
- Oelwein FFA, Oelwein

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 15,400 student members as part of 242 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.

