



## **Iowa FFA Association**

### **The FFA Mission**

*FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.*

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**NEWS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

### **2011 Stars Over Iowa Winners** 83<sup>rd</sup> Iowa FFA Leadership Conference

The 2011 Stars Over Iowa were announced at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Des Moines, on Friday, April 15, 2011. Twenty-one finalists were introduced in three different areas: Agricultural Placement, Agribusiness, Agriscience, and Agricultural Production. The members were selected as a result of receiving the Iowa FFA Degree. The Iowa FFA Degree is the highest honor that can be bestowed on an FFA member by the state association. Five hundred sixty-two members received the Iowa FFA Degree in 2011 and twenty-one of those members were selected for outstanding recognition in the Stars Over Iowa ceremony.

Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont Business, through the Iowa FFA Foundation, sponsors plaques for each of the twenty-one finalists and for each area winner. The Iowa Farmer Today, through the Iowa FFA Foundation, sponsored cash awards for each of the Star finalists.

### **Stars in Ag Placement Finalists**

- Colton Barnes – South O’Brien FFA Chapter at Paullina
- Ben Folkmann – Marengo FFA Chapter
- Jesse Hanson – Sioux Central FFA Chapter at Sioux Rapids
- Caleb Haselhuhn – Albia FFA Chapter
- Justin Mendenhall – Central Trail FFA Chapter at Leon
- Janae Mogler – West Lyon FFA Chapter at Inwood
- Matt Tekippe – West Delaware FFA Chapter at Manchester

The 2011 winner in Ag Placement was Matt Tekippe of the West Delaware FFA Chapter at Manchester. Tekippe established his Supervised Agricultural Experience at Sun Valley Farms. Since that time, he has progressed from doing basic chores to taking a leadership role in making decisions and offering input to the future of the operation. Tekippe has sprayed the fields, side dressed nitrogen, given cattle shots, mixed feed and helped overhaul tractors. Recently, Tekippe helped Sun Valley Farms purchase a self-propelled sprayer and is taking a course to become a certified custom chemical applicator. Upon graduation, Tekippe plans to work at Sun Valley Farms and eventually become a partner.

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### **Stars in Ag Production Finalists**

- David Anderegg – Tri-Star FFA Chapter
- Jonathan Bierschenk – Benton Community FFA Chapter at Van Horne
- Emma Payne – Davis County FFA Chapter at Bloomfield
- Brett Timmins – Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill
- Robert Trumm – Cascade FFA Chapter
- Logan Worden – Oelwein FFA Chapter

The 2011 winner in the area of Ag Production is D.J. Anderegg from the Tri-Star FFA Chapter. As a freshman, Anderegg established a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project that consisted of fifty acres of corn, one dairy heifer, two head of breeding beef, and two market lambs. Since that time, Anderegg has increased his SAE to 560 acres of corn and soybeans, four head of dairy cattle, six head of breeding beef, two market steers, and two yearling ewes. Anderegg has gained extensive knowledge in crop management, fertilizer selection and application, conservation, and marketing. Along with crop management, Anderegg has acquired knowledge in beef, dairy, and sheep production. Upon graduation, Anderegg plans to attend Northeast Iowa Community College to earn an electrical certification and then return to the family farming operation.

### **Stars in Agribusiness Finalists**

- Rebecca Cameron – Osceola Big Chief FFA Chapter at Osceola
- Colton Ebel – South O'Brien FFA Chapter at Paullina
- Chris Gitch – Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA Chapter at Sumner
- Trevor Knuth – Atlantic FFA Chapter
- Cody McLees – Cascade FFA Chapter
- Justin Stewart – Oelwein FFA Chapter

The 2011 winner in the area of Agribusiness is Rebecca Cameron from the Osceola Big Chief FFA Chapter at Osceola. As a freshman, Cameron took her love of tractor restoration and turned it into her own business. She started with one tractor and has now restored seventeen tractors, with more on the calendar for this summer. Cameron has gained extensive knowledge about engine repair, shop safety, welding, painting, and electrical systems. She has also broadened her knowledge base by working with new technology such as electronic sensors and computer diagnostic programs. Cameron's Supervised Agricultural Experience project goals focus on accurate records, good communication, and customer satisfaction. She is currently creating a website that showcases her work and advertises her business to tractor owners all over the U.S. Upon graduation, Cameron plans to attend Indian Hills Community College and major in Diesel Mechanics.

## Stars in Agriscience Finalists

- Kayla Hasper – Central Lee FFA Chapter at Donnellson
- Evan Magnussen – South O'Brien FFA Chapter at Paullina

The 2011 winner in the area of Agriscience is Evan Magnussen from the South O'Brien FFA Chapter at Paullina. Magnussen's agriscience project has been a three year investigation involving the use of poultry feathers as a possible solution in controlling soil erosion and nitrogen runoff and leaching. He is also a partner with his two brothers in a cattle and hay production business. Magnussen credits his Supervised Agricultural Experience project with helping to develop skills in record keeping, gathering and presenting research, as well as application of classroom instruction. Magnussen plans to major in Animal Science at South Dakota State University.

The Iowa FFA Association has 222 local chapters with over 12,000 FFA members. FFA is a national organization of more than 500,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in science, business and technology of agriculture. Local, state and national programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. FFA's 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.

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