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News Release

Maquoketa Valley FFA Wins 2024 Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle CDE

The 2024 Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event was held in conjunction with the Youth Dairy Classic in Manchester on Friday, September 13, 2024. Twenty-eight teams and 103 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 Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter located in Delhi was named the Iowa Champion FFA Dairy Cattle Team. Team members included: Ford Domeyer, Bianka Ronnebaum, Tyler Hoeger, and Caden Kremer. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Ms. Haylee Lau. 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 North Fayette Valley FFA Chapter located in West Union. Team members included: Blake Sparrgrove, Lily Holthaus, Alexis Oakland, and Brock Soppe. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Miss Kylee Smith. Tyler Hoeger from Delhi was the Champion Individual. Lily Holthaus from West Union was the Reserve Champion Individual.

The Iowa FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event was made possible with support through the Iowa FFA Foundation and the Youth Dairy Classic Exhibitors.

Cory Weigel, Alexis Blankenberg, Faith Wellman and Nathan Arthur were the official judges for the placing classes. They also acted as reasons judges.

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

Top 10 Teams

- 1 Maquoketa Valley FFA
- 2 North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- 3 Little Switzerland FFA, Waukon
- 4 Beckman Catholic @ Dyersville
- 5 Central Community FFA, Elkader
- 6 West Dubuque FFA, Epworth
- 7 Newton FFA, Newton
- 8 MFL MarMac FFA, Monona
- 9 Agri-Power FFA, Eddyville
- 10 Decorah FFA, Decorah

Top 10 Individuals

- Tyler Hoeger, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Lily Holthaus, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
Ethan Palmer, Little Switzerland FFA, Waukon
Ford Domeyer, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Bianka Ronnebaum, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Ana Rauen, West Dubuque FFA, Epworth
Kaitlyn Besler, Beckman Catholic @ Dyersville
Blake Sparrgrove, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
Blake Hunt, Central Community FFA, Elkader
Kiele Eberling, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

Dairy Cow and Heifer Placing Classes

Team: Maquoketa Valley FFA

Individual: Lily Holthaus, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Oral Reasons

Team: Maquoketa Valley FFA

Individual: Tyler Hoeger, Maquoketa Valley FFA

Dairy Production and Management Test

Team: North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Individual: Tyler Hoeger, Maquoketa Valley FFA

Herd Data Evaluation

Team: Maquoketa Valley FFA

Individual: Levi Lutz, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (13)

Score Range (1640 to 1358)

Maquoketa Valley FFA

North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Little Switzerland FFA, Waukon

Beckman Catholic @ Dyersville

Central Community FFA, Elkader

West Dubuque FFA, Epworth

Newton FFA, Newton

MFL MarMac FFA, Monona

Agri-Power FFA, Eddyville

Decorah FFA, Decorah

Postville FFA

Turkey Valley at Jackson Junction

Clear Creek Amana

Bronze Teams (6)

Score Range (1202 to 464)

Belmond-Klemme FFA, Belmond

Central City FFA, Central City

New Hampton FFA, New Hampton

Independence FFA, Independence

AGWSR FFA, Ackley

Western Christian FFA, Hull

Silver Teams (9)

Score Range (1337 to 1266)

West Delaware FFA, Manchester

North Scott FFA at Eldridge

Clayton Ridge FFA

West Central

Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton

Crestwood FFA, Cresco

Ridge View FFA, Holstein

Edgewood-Colesburg FFA, Edgewood

Riceville FFA, Riceville

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

Gold Awards (4)

Braden Ronnebaum, Maquoketa Valley FFA

Caden Fette, Central Community FFA, Elkader

Kade Meyer, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Aden Kruse, Beckman Catholic @ Dyersville

Silver Awards (6)

Karly Kerch, Maquoketa Valley FFA

Jr Becker, Benton Community FFA, Van Horne

Vayda Schulte, Little Switzerland FFA, Waukon

Carsten Lensing, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Hannah Schroeder, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Lila Moore, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Bronze Awards (4)

Aaron Fangman, Central Community FFA, Elkader

Sarah Dean, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Rylee Langreck, North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 20,000 student members as part of 267 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.