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News Release

Montezuma FFA Wins Iowa FFA Ag Communications CDE

AMES, IA--The Montezuma FFA Chapter from Montezuma 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 21, 2026. Members of the first place team included: Olivia Latcham, Abbi Henkle, Emma Snook, and Alexa Rose. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Mr. Rick Swenson. They will represent Iowa at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in October. The Cedar Rapids Prairie FFA Chapter from Cedar Rapids was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Madelyn Green, Alannah Mahoney, Tess Richards, and Madison Singbeil. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mrs. Laura Brecht and Ms. Kristy Thomann.

FFA members from 37 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 148 individuals who participated in the event completed several activities including demonstration of skills and problem solving in journalistic writing, social media planning, magazine layout design, and video producer/electronic media, as well as presenting a team media plan.

The Iowa FFA Agricultural Communications CDE was made possible with support from the Iowa FFA Foundation Gold Standard Partners. 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 Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- 2 Cedar Rapids Prairie
- 3 Davis County FFA, Bloomfield
- 4 Northeast FFA, Goose Lake
- 5 Osage FFA, Osage
- 6 Easton Valley FFA at Preston
- 7 Bellevue FFA, Bellevue
- 8 Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton
- 9 Nashua Plainfield FFA, Nashua
- 10 West Delaware FFA, Manchester

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

General Knowledge Exam

Team: Montezuma FFA, Montezuma Individual: Anna Peterson, Osage FFA, Osage

Team Practicums

Team: Montezuma FFA, Montezuma

Team Presentation

Team: Maquoketa Valley FFA

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (13)

Score Range (556.5 to 443.5)

Montezuma FFA, Montezuma

Cedar Rapids Prairie

Davis County FFA, Bloomfield

Northeast FFA, Goose Lake

Osage FFA, Osage

Easton Valley FFA at Preston

Bellevue FFA, Bellevue

Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton

Nashua Plainfield FFA, Nashua

West Delaware FFA, Manchester

Dike-New Hartford FFA

North Union FFA, Armstrong

West Lyon FFA, Inwood

Silver Teams (13)

Score Range (436.5 to 349.5)

Maquoketa Valley FFA

Williamsburg FFA, Williamsburg

Benton Community FFA, Van Horne

MMCRU FFA

Belle Plaine FFA

Ogden FFA

Nodaway Valley FFA, Greenfield

Marshalltown FFA

Cascade FFA

Keokuk FFA

Independence FFA, Independence

Monticello FFA

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn FFA

Bronze Teams (11)

Score Range (347 to 247)

Newell-Fonda FFA, Newell

Agri-Power FFA

Le Mars FFA Chapter, Le Mars

Sioux Central FFA at Sioux Rapids

Waverly-Shell Rock FFA, Waverly

Carroll Area FFA, Carroll

North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Lone Tree FFA

East Union FFA, Afton

Riverside FFA, Oakland

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of more than 20,500 student members as part of 273 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 and on social media.