

# FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

## AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

### Faculty:

Dr. Mike Gould  
Dr. Garry Brower  
Dr. Brent Spaulding  
Dr. Robert Stephenson  
Dr. Ron Nelson  
Dr. Jean Gleichsner

Volume 7, Fall 1991

### Staff:

Gary Rolland  
Kevin Huser  
Bill Hoffman  
Kathleen Huser  
Steve Engelhardt  
Scott Pfannenstiel  
Janet Knipp

## THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

One year ago, I reported several significant financial grants to the FHSU Agriculture Department. I also reported that after a 13 year decline in numbers of Agriculture Majors at FHSU, two years of small increases (8% in 1988 and 1989) gave reason to be optimistic for the future. However, a very significant increase in agriculture majors has occurred for the fall of 1991. Numbers of Agriculture Majors have increased from 155 (Fall 1990) to 184 (Fall 1991) or about a 18.7% increase. Agriculture majors have also increased at many other colleges and universities in Kansas. Many community colleges as well as KSU have seen various levels of increases in Agriculture majors in the Fall of 1991. Perhaps high school counselors, parents and others influencing prospective college students have realized the bright and enjoyable future available to Agriculture graduates.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Over \$50,000 in scholarships have been awarded to freshmen, transfers, and continuing students majoring in agriculture for the 1991-92 school year. Generous gifts made by two area farm couples, Herbert L. and Susie Fought of Norton County and Edward and Carolyn Scanlon of Trego County are largely responsible. Scholarship recipients were selected on the basis of academic excellence and dedication to agriculture. Many students would be unable to attend Fort Hays without such financial assistance. The Agriculture Department would like to congratulate those selected and thank the sponsors of each scholarship. Not only has the Agriculture Department benefited from their generosity but so has the agriculture of Western Kansas.



1991-92 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS: Row 1 (L to R): Rich Callihan, Mike Kats, Gary Shapland, Janet Suelter, Mechelle Foos, Laura Kleweno, Kelvin Horinek, Terry Newell, Chad Tuttle, James Johnston, and Jason Butler. Row 2 (L to R): Troy David, Shawn Diederich, Tom Lindamood, Stephanie Vaughan, Melanie Wendling, Mary Bunker, Kimberly Roberts, Shannon Ardery, Shannon Stevens, Greg Wise, Nate Kuhn, Glenda Miller, and Dr. Jean Gleichsner - Scholarship Coordinator. Row 3 (L to R): Gary Grasser, Curt Lowery, Anita Sakala, Lance Kohl, Delbert Hawkins, Eric Dexter, Linn Kleweno, Greg Carey, Doug Scheer, Kevin Schoenhals, Bob Keener, and Jared Froetschner. Row 4 (L to R): Slade Girk, Dan Oeding, Corey Castens, Doug Palen, Scott Urban, Roger Gleason, Chad Fisher, Jon Herbel, and Jason Schneider. Students receiving scholarships but not pictured include: Jim Brown, Todd Brummer, Melissa Church, Nathan Davis, Chad Deines, Mike Dreiling, Greg Farney, Steve Fillmore, Chad Fiscus, Neil Gottschalk, James Grilliot, Calvin Hett, Randy Huser, Dan Kadel, Noel Ketzner, Lori Ladenburger, Marc Leiker, Clayton Preedy, Brandon Prough, John Rziha, and Laura Whittington.





Scott Pfannenstiel  
Assistant Dairy Manager



Kathy Huser  
Dairy Manager



Dr. Ron Nelson

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

The Agriculture program has been fortunate to be able to have two new staff members and one relatively new faculty member join us over the last 18 months. Joining the University Farm Staff is Kathy Huser (Dairy Manager) and Scott Pfannenstiel (Assistant Dairy Manager). Joining (Spring of 1990) the Academic Faculty is Dr. Ron Nelson. Dr. Nelson earned his PhD from North Carolina State University and spent several years in industry before joining the Agriculture Faculty.

## AGRICULTURE GRADUATE OF DISTINCTION

The 1991 Fort Hays State University Agriculture Graduate of Distinction was Mr. Darwin Bickford. Darwin, a 1983 graduate majoring in Agribusiness, has spent his post graduation career in the banking business. He is a native of Sterling, Kansas and lives with his wife Debra (B.S.

from FHSU in 1983) and son Jerad in Carthage, Missouri, where he is the Assistant Vice President of Boatman's Banks of Southwest Missouri. Darwin is also a Director of the FHSU Alumni Association. During his tenure as an undergraduate at FHSU, Darwin worked for the University Farm (Swine Unit and Bookkeeper) and was also a very active Block and Bridle member.

Advisor, Dr. Mike Gould; Junior Advisors, Dr. Ron Nelson and Kevin Huser.

The club's activities for the year began with Dr. Gould, Dr. Nelson and seven members traveling to the summer national meeting in Ames, Iowa. While there, the group attended Animal Science research paper presentations, as well as the National Block and Bridle Meeting. The fall semester and the annual "Welcome Back" picnic found the Block and Bridle Club upholding its tradition once again of working with the Student Government Association and Food Service to serve approximately 3,500 students, faculty, alumni, guests, and staff.

Service work provided by the Block & Bridle Club continued when twenty-five members traveled to Wichita with Dr. Gould to fry over 2,000 hamburgers for the participants and their families at the Kansas Junior Livestock Show.

Three livestock judging contests are held during the year which the Block & Bridle Club sponsor. The first contest was the FFA Dairy Judging Contest held in mid September with 21 schools competing. This contest was followed by the Junior College Livestock Judging Contest held in early October. Twenty-two community colleges from Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Wyoming competed in this contest. The awards banquet was held following the contest. The final contest which took place during the spring semester was the Northwest District Livestock Judging Contest in which 24 FFA chapters competed.

During October 26-28, 1990, the North Central Regional Block & Bridle Conference was held here at Fort Hays State University with Jerr'ee (Huckins) Fitzsimmons, Regional Vice-President, serving as the meetings coordinator. The meetings and activities were a huge success and also had a record attendance. Rob Rahe was elected Regional President.

The fall semester concluded with the annual Block & Bridle Club Christmas party held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Victoria, Kansas.

The National Block & Bridle Winter Meeting was held in February, 1991, at Houston, Texas, in conjunction with the

## THE BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB

The Fort Hays State University Block and Bridle Club once again had another very active year with 95 members. Officers during the 1990-91 school year were: President, Frank Morey; Vice President, Brenden Osborn; Secretary, Carmen Wilhelm; Treasurer, Laura Kleweno; Historian, Jerr'ee Huckins; Publicity, Karla Lang; JUCO Contest Chairman, John Gould; JUCO Contest Assistant, Jayne Dick; FFA Dairy Contest, Kathy Leiker Huser; Little I Chairman, Rob Rahe; Little I Assistant, Jerry DeWeese; Senior



Houston Livestock Show. Eighteen members traveled with Dr. Gould to attend the meetings as well as a very interesting and educational tour of southern Texas. Also during February, club members trimmed, ground, seasoned, and packaged nearly 400 pounds of sausage for its annual "Sausage Sale."

The biggest and busiest event of the spring semester was the Little International Fitting and Showing Contest. Sixty-five students from a variety of academic majors competed in beef, dairy, horse, sheep, and swine competitions. The awards banquet followed the contest and was held at the FHSU Memorial Union. Over 200 students, parents, faculty, alumni, donors, and guests were in attendance to recognize Little I showpersons and club members for their outstanding achievements in the club.

Officers for the 1991-92 term are: President, Jerry DeWeese; Vice-President, John Gould; Secretary, Mechelle Foos; Treasurer, Brian Nicholas; Historian, Curtis Ohlde; JUCO Chairman, Gary Shapland; Little I Chairman, Brenden Osborn; Little I Assistant, Randy Huser; and FFA Dairy Contest, Anita Sakala; Senior Club Advisor, Dr. Mike Gould; Junior Advisors, Dr. Ron Nelson and Kevin Huser.

## DELTA TAU ALPHA

With the dawn of a new school year upon them, the agriculture honor society Delta Tau Alpha looks forward to a bright and busy year. Last year the chapter raised pumpkins at the University Farm to sell in October. Monies raised, along with the chapter dues were used to travel to the National DTA Convention in San Marcos, Texas during mid-April. The group included: Alan Tillberg (President and delegate representative), Todd Wasinger (Vice President), Aaron Reece (Secretary), Raymond Splitter (Treasurer), Darrel Adams (Member), Kelvin Horinek (Member), and advisor Dr. Stephenson. The group learned a lot from other chapters, picking up ideas on community activities and ways of promoting agriculture. While in San Marcos, they traveled south for a day of fun and a chance to experience some of the culture and rich history of old San Antonio. There they visited the Riverwalk and The Alamo. They even took a boat ride on the cities extensive river system to learn more about the city and the history of San Antonio. While at the convention the group also gathered ideas on hosting the National Convention in Hays.

This year the group is excited about getting ready for the convention in Nashville, Tennessee, inviting speakers on campus, and checking on the feasibility of hosting the National Convention in Spring 1993. If all goes well, it could be an excellent opportunity for FHSU - DTA alumni to revisit the campus and spend some time with old friends. This year's officers are: President, Kelvin Horinek; Vice President, Mechelle Foos; Secretary, Darien Fritts; Treasurer, Laura Klewen; and Advisors, Dr's. Brent Spaulding, Jean Gleichsner and Robert Stephenson.

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

The 1990 and 1991 livestock judging teams have done rather well over the past year. The 1991 team is looking forward to a great deal of success through the fall semester. Chuck Bezona (Syracuse, KS), Rodney Hurst (Sylvia, KS), James Johnston (Dighton, KS), Michael Kats (Prairie View, KS), Nick Ketzner (Bird City, KS), and Gary Shapland (Dighton, KS) are all members of the current Judging Team. They will be competing at the Mid America Classic, The American Royal, and The North American International.

This group did very well this spring both as a team and individually. At The Arizona National in Phoenix, the team finished fifth overall. Gary Shapland finished second overall, fourth in reasons, and was high individual in beef. The team finished ninth overall, eighth in cattle, eighth in swine, and tenth in sheep. Nick Ketzner finished ninth overall while James Johnston was fifth in horses, and Gary Shapland finished sixth in swine. At Houston, the team finished eleventh overall, with no individuals getting mentioned. The team traveled to Los Angeles, California to compete in the NACTA Contest and finished third overall. They were also second in cattle, third in sheep, third in swine, and third in reasons. Gary Shapland finished fifth in swine. They also competed in the National Western at Denver.

The 1990 team consisting of Rich Gleason (Spearville, KS), Kathleen Leiker (Munjoy, KS), Brenden Osborn (Anthony, KS), Rob Rahe (Belleville, KS), and Duane Strine (Ephingham, KS) competed in The Mid America Classic, The American Royal, and The North American International. Rich Gleason finished as tenth high individual in swine at the International.

We also have a good group of juniors who will be competing in the Spring of 1992. These individuals are working hard and should have a very good year. Many freshman and sophomores have also shown a lot of interest in judging for us. With this kind of interest the Livestock Judging Team should be very competitive over the next few years.

## LIVESTOCK SHOW WINNERS

Fort Hays State University Farm sheep and swine competed quite successfully in several livestock shows over the past year. Lambs and pigs sold to 4-H and FFA youngsters in April have been selected as champions, reserve champions and class winners of a number of livestock shows. Congratulations to the Sheep and Swine unit for the quality animals produced.

### 1991 RESULTS FROM THE CLUB LAMBS AND PIGS

#### Lamb Results:

Grand Champion Market Lamb, El Paso Co. Fair Calhan, Colorado  
Two Class Winners, El Paso Co. Fair  
Grand Champion Market Lamb, Trego Co. Fair  
Grand Champion Market Lamb, Osborn Co. Fair  
Champion Hampshire Market Lamb, Osborn Co. Fair  
Reserve Champion Market Lamb, Ellis Free Fair  
Reserve Champion Market Lamb, Graham Co. Fair

#### Pig Results:

Grand Champion Barrow, Ellis Co. Fair  
Reserve Champion Barrow, Ellis Co. Fair  
Three Class winners, Ellis Co. Fair  
Grand Champion Barrow, Ellis Free Fair  
Reserve Champion Barrow, Ellis Free Fair  
Grand Champion Market Hog, Rice Co. Fair  
Class Winner, Rice Co. Fair  
Grand Champion Barrow, Lance Co. Fair  
Class Winner, Lance Co. Fair  
Grand Champion Market Hog, Cheyenne Co. Fair  
Third Place Barrow overall, Tri-State Royal, Goodland, KS  
Grand Champion, Los Angeles Co. Fair was sired by Guru the York herd sire of the FHSU swine unit.  
Several barrows will be shown at the Kansas Junior Livestock Show this fall. Some barrows are also going to Denver to compete in the National Western Stock Show.

## COOPERATIVE RESEARCH

Drs. Jean Gleichsner and Bob Stephenson in cooperation with Collingwood Grain Inc. are conducting winter wheat and grain sorghum research at the University Farm. Research is focused on production problems currently facing Kansas farmers. Areas being studied include disease control and soil fertility. Now if only the weather would start cooperating.

## AGRIBUSINESS PROGRAM

The Agribusiness program has recently undergone several important curriculum changes. First, two new courses have been added to the curriculum. The first, "The Fundamentals of Agricultural Commodity Marketing" is a study of the futures and options market for agricultural products. It deals with the use of the futures market for hedging purposes and helps the students understand the risks and benefits of using these markets for speculative purposes as well.

The second new course, offered the first time last spring semester, is called the "Agribusiness Firm Management and Marketing." This is a senior level course designed to provide the students the opportunity to apply many of the tools and concepts they have been exposed to in other classes, in a simulated environment to the management of real agribusiness firms.

In both of the new courses, local firms have played an important role by providing real management problems and situations for students to grapple with through on-site consultation and presentations for students.

In addition to the new agribusiness courses, the business core for the program has been expanded to include a course in management accounting. All of these adjustments should help to provide a strong background for our students and put them in a stronger competitive position in the job market in the future. The prospects for our Agribusiness graduates appears very bright at this time with a strong demand for them in the job market.