

# FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

## AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

### Faculty:

Dr. Mike B. Gould, Chairman/Farm Superintendent  
Dr. Garry Brower, Animal Science/Rodeo Advisor  
Dr. Brent Spaulding, Agribusiness/NAMA Advisor  
Dr. Jean Gleichner, Crops/DTA Advisor  
Dr. Robert Stephenson, Soils/DTA Advisor  
Dr. Sandra Johnson, Animal Science/Block and Bridle Advisor  
Dr. Earl Taylor, Agribusiness

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### Staff:

Gary Rolland, Beef/Horse Units Manager  
Kevin Huser, Swine/Sheep Units Manager  
Steve Englehardt, Crops/Maintenance Units Manager  
Kathy Huser, Dairy Unit Manager  
Harland Werth, Crops/Maintenance Asst. Manager  
Stephanie Eckroat, Dairy Asst. Manager  
Janet Knipp, Head Secretary

### THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We have just completed another eventful year. This might be a good time to recap some major events involving the FHSU Agriculture Department in the past several years.

It was about 1988 that the numbers of students majoring in Agriculture at FHSU reached an all time low (134 majors). Our department was under rather intense scrutiny. There were very serious doubts expressed by our administration relative to our continued existence. Studies were made. Reports were submitted to our local administrators and forwarded to the Board of Regents. The 1989 year was quite similar. A positive note was a small (about 5%) increase in our numbers of majors. Again, many reports were submitted. It was about 1990 when we saw a quite significant (155) increase in agriculture majors at FHSU. We have seen very substantial increases over the past few years resulting in the largest number of agriculture majors for the 1993-94 academic year. We had 248 agriculture majors this past year. With these significant increases in student numbers, our situation has changed dramatically since 1988. We are viewed in a much more favorable way (compared to 1988) by our administration. It was in 1992 (after four years of increasing student enrollments) that we asked (proposed) for an additional agriculture faculty position. Since about 1970, we have had two crops/spoils professors, two animal science/general agriculture professors and one agribusiness professor. The need existed for an additional agribusiness position. We were unsuccessful in '92 and again in '93. I am proud to indicate to you that as classes began this fall, we have a new agribusiness professor (Dr. Earl Taylor) as a member of our faculty.

Things seem to have changed dramatically for the FHSU Agriculture Department in a few short years. However, we are realistic and know full well that other changes are eminent. Other problems will appear. We look to today with pride in our students and accomplishments. We look to the future with anticipation realizing we must continue to improve and grow. We thank you for your support in past years and solicit your continuing support in the future in the realization that next year will be different. New challenges! New accomplishments!



### NEW FACULTY

Agriculture students at FHSU are indeed fortunate to have a new professor to work with. Dr. Earl Taylor joins us as our newest agribusiness professor. Dr. Taylor is a native of Colorado Springs. He earned his B.S. degree at West Texas State University in 1989. West Texas is very similar (size, student body, etc.) to FHSU. He completed his Ph.D. at Texas A&M in August of 1994. Dr. Taylor has worked in southwest Kansas as a crop consultant. We look forward to our association with Dr. Taylor.

### BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB

The Fort Hays State University Block and Bridle Club has a very busy year with membership reaching 101. Officers during the 1993-94 school year were: President, Melanie Wendling; Vice-President(s), Anita Sakala and Linn Kleweno; Secretary, Deb Carpenter; Treasurer, Robyn Carey; Historian, Lisa Pacht; JUCO Chairman, Mike Eckroat; Little I Chairman, Eric Dexter; Little I Assistant, Aaron Lewis; FFA Dairy Chairman, Aaron Lewis; Club Advisors, Dr. Mike Gould, Dr. Sandy Johnson, and Kevin Huser.

The first activity of the fall semester for the Block and Bridle Club was to co-sponsor with the Memorial Union Activities Board the annual "Welcome Back Picnic." The club worked with the Student

Government Association and Food Service to set up tables, serve the meal, and clean up after the event.

B & B sponsored two District FFA Contests and one Junior College Livestock Judging Contest. The first contest was the FFA Dairy Judging Contest in mid September. This contest was followed closely by the JUCO Livestock Judging Contest in early October. The final contest, the FFA Northwest District Livestock Judging Contest was held in April.

The Block and Bridle Club helped show their support of the Fort Hays State University campus by participating in three different service projects. The first was to work at FHSU's promotional booth at the Kansas State Fair. The second was to spend a few nights at the Endowment Association making phone calls to raise money for the annual Endowment Telethon Scholarship Drive. The Block and Bridle Club was rewarded for its help with the telethon by being named the Outstanding FHSU Student Organization. This award was based on a combination of dollars raised and participation. The final campus activity B & B got involved in was the Lipizzaner Horse Show sponsored by the MUAB. Club members helped the show run smoothly by volunteering as ticket takers and ushers.

Twenty FHSU Block and Bridle members traveled to Manhattan, Kansas, in October to attend the annual Regional Meeting. During the three day event the group toured Kansas State University's farms, listened to various speakers, and attended the official business meeting. The fall semester came to a close in December with the traditional B & B Christmas Party at the VFW Hall in Victoria, Kansas.

Right after returning for the spring semester the club found itself busy making preparations to attend the National Block and Bridle Conference in Houston, Texas, March 3-6. The National Meeting was held in conjunction with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Fifteen members and two advisors attended this meeting. During the four days the group toured from Houston, to Corpus Christi, to Mexico, and back to Houston. Even though the four days were very busy with travel the club members had a lot of fun meeting new



people, and learned a lot from visiting the King Ranch, the Hudgins Brahman Ranch, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (where they were entertained by Vince Gill.) The National Meeting ended with the business meeting where Dr. Gould was awarded a plaque for his 1992-1994 term as National Block and Bridle President.

April proved to be the busiest month of the spring semester. Along with the FFA Livestock Judging Contest, was Ag Awareness Day and the Little International Fitting and Showing Contest. Ag Awareness Day serves to educate the youth of the community by giving children the opportunity to learn about farm animals and the importance of agriculture. The biggest event of the year was the Little International. This event is a livestock fitting and showing contest that is open to all FHSU students. The five areas of competition that a student can compete in are beef, dairy, horse, sheep, and swine. The awards banquet and dance that followed the competition proved to be one of the most successful based on the attendance of many alumni and friends.

The 1994-1995 year has started off with A LOT of enthusiasm and motivation. The reason behind stressing A LOT is that membership is up considerably. The first meeting had 145 members in attendance followed by 120 returning for the second meeting.

Besides the excitement of the membership increase, the club has already helped with the "Welcome Back Picnic", pulled off a very successful FFA Dairy Contest, and were entertained by the new members with a dance at the Silver Star in Schoenchen, Kansas.

There are approximately six activities still ahead for the fall semester. The two events for September include participating in the community sponsored "Walk for Heart" on September 17, and the JUCO Livestock Contest, September 30. In October the Block and Bridle will help the Endowment Association kick off the Scholarship Telethon on October 19 & 20. In November the club will have the opportunity to attend the National Convention in Kansas City. The National Convention, held in conjunction with the American Royal, will recognize the 75th Anniversary of the National Block and Bridle Club. The finale for the fall semester will be the Christmas Party that is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 10, in Schoenchen, Kansas at the Silver Star.

In the spring semester Block and Bridle will be kept busy with plans for the Northwest District FFA Livestock Judging Contest (April 6), Ag Awareness Day (April 7), and the Little International Fitting and Showing Contest (April 8). The Regional B & B meeting will also be held sometime in the spring at Columbia, Missouri.

The officers for the 1994-1995 term are: President: Robyn Carey, Vice-President: Noel Ketzner, Secretary: Del Hawkins, Treasurer: Brook Lewis, Historians: Billie Brown and Rebecca Rahe; Publicity: Tiffany Lowery & Amy DuBois; Little I Chairman: Aaron Lewis; Little I Assistant: Mitch Rohr; JUCO Chairman: Eric Dexter; FFA Dairy Chairman: Jon Kelty; Ag Awareness Day Chairman: Jacque Hopkins; and (New Position) Initiation Chairman: Kim Riemann; Advisors: Dr. Mike Gould, Dr. Sandy Johnson, and Kevin Huser.

### DELTA TAU ALPHA 1994-95 Officers

President . . . . .	Don Sanders
Vice President . . . . .	Aaron Phelps
Secretary . . . . .	Sindi Baker
Treasurer . . . . .	Stephanie Helms
Advisor . . . . .	Dr. Jean Gleichsner

The Agriculture Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha attended the 35th National DTA Convention at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX on April 7-9, 1994. Dustin Walker, former FHSU chapter president, completed his term as Mid-West Region Vice President. Dr. Robert Stephenson was re-elected as National Executive Treasurer. Clay Scott placed second in the interview contest. The local chapter placed second in the Corbus Award Competition, which recognizes the achievements of the chapter over the past year.

Last fall the chapter held the first annual Ag Quiz Bowl. Teams participated from the Block and Bridle Club, National Agri-Marketing Association, the Rodeo Club, as well as DTA. Each three-member team was asked questions from the areas of animal science, plant science, soils, and agri-business. The winners were Chad Tuttle,

Stephanie Eckroat and Pete Flax from DTA. The chapter will also be very active in service activities both on campus and in the community. Activities will include the American Heart Walk, Adopt-A-Mile, the Alumni Endowment Telethon, the fall picnic and other projects.

Currently there are 13 active members in the FHSU chapter. To be eligible for membership a student must rank in the top 35% of their class at the university and complete at least 45 total credit hours with at least 12 hours of agricultural courses.

### AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS 1994-95

Over \$80,000 in scholarships were awarded to full-time agriculture students for the 1994-95 school year. Selection is based on academic achievement and interest in agriculture. 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. The Agriculture Department would like to recognize Servi-Tech, Inc. of Dodge City for the establishment of a new scholarship. Support from area companies insures the growth of the scholarship program at FHSU and more importantly the opportunity for agricultural students to complete their education. Congratulations to each scholarship recipient and a special thanks to the scholarship sponsors.



1994-95 Continuing and Transfer Scholarship Recipients—Row 1 (L to R): Dr. Jean Gleichsner, Scholarship Coordinator, Dustin Lantow, Darren Rubottom, Travis Crites, Stephanie Helms, Julie DeWeese, Darla Catlin, Aaron Phelps, and Melanie Lumpkins. Row 2 (L to R): Shawn Pabst, Cody Sump, Glenn Herman, John Jirak, Phil Henrickson, Scott Schertz, Matt Baalman, and Rolland Winter. Row 3 (L to R): Ed DeSouza, Todd Brummer, Dan Miltenberger, Lance Feikert, Chad Schnankenberg, Troy David, Chad Fabrizius, and Tim Benoit.



1994-95 Freshmen Scholarship Recipients—Row 1 (L to R): Dr. Jean Gleichsner, Scholarship Coordinator, Tammy Wittman, Jana Ramonda, Melanie Rishel, Jamie Mountain, Becky Mellott, Walter Acheson, and Lukes Thielenhaus. Row 2 (L to R): Jeff Bogner, Philip Woods, Philip Bulter, Kate Shephard, Ty Barten Roy Winklepleck, Jason Gerstberger, and Justin Terry. Row 3 (L to R): Mark Sorensen, Aaron Huckerott, Chris Thom, Scott Ravenkamp, Chris Eubank, and Dan Brubeck.



## RODEO CLUB

The Rodeo Club experiences not only a financially successful year but also a year that several major accomplishments in physical facilities. The Alumni Rodeo was not the success that we wished that it could have been but several factors were undoubtedly involved with the low attendance; however, I can assure you that the attendees enjoyed themselves fully. The Intramural Rodeo was a blazing and amusing success and the 1994 version will occur September 21. The 29th Annual N.I.R.A. rodeo was a financial success because of the hard work by club members to sell advertising not because of the weatherman's cooperation. We now have a record of 15 out of 18 years since I have been at Fort Hays that the weather was neither conducive nor appreciated. I understand from other alumni that the previous eleven years only at an equal three years of totally acceptable weather. This year we are trying something new, we have notified the celestial committee that decides rodeo weather condition that we will have our 30th Annual on the last weekend in April (28-30), as per usual; however, we are actually going to have it on April 21-23. It seems as if we have good weather the week prior to our rodeo but not the week of our rodeo. We will keep you informed of the success of this sacrilegious strategy. The 1994 Alumni Rodeo is scheduled for October 15-16 not October 1-2 as advertised in the Alumni Association News.

Last year the Rodeo Club volunteered to participate in the Endowment Telethon not only as a service project but also to contact our alumni that were not at the Alumni Rodeo. We were successful in accomplishing our service project but many of our faithful alumni confused our efforts with the University Telethon and said "NO" when requested to help with the scholarship fund. We will volunteer again for the Telethon and will be calling the Rodeo Club Alumni on October 25 (6 PM to 10 PM). Nevertheless, our primary scholarship endeavor this year is "An Evening with Baxter Black" on November 30 (7 PM) in the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center (Sheridan Coliseum) with a "Party with Baxter" after the performance (Knights of Columbus). Tickets go on sale to the public October 24, with only 1,000 reserve seat tickets available. We already have 420 of these reserve tickets allocated; therefore, buy your tickets early or if Rodeo Alumni send a money order or cashiers check on or before October 14 and we will send you the tickets prior to the public sale and try to seat the alumni together. The price of the tickets are \$10 and \$15 and are all reserved seats. We will not have any "WILL CALL" tickets, they must be paid for in advance.

The Rodeo Team had a reasonable year but their regional rankings did not reflect their true ability. For instance, the girls team was ranked 12th in the region; however, we had barrel racers that were 7th, 11th and 21st in the region and a 17th place breakaway; however, had we selected the correct combination of team members they would have ranked 5th in the region. One member of the women's team was 11th in the region and missed four of the rodeos. The Men's Team finished the year in 11th place with team ropers in the 10th and 29th positions (94 points separating 1st and 29th) but the 10th place roper was one of the headers for the region winning heeler. Unfortunately, the PSU freshman heeler took his high school chum Dodge City Community College sophomore headers with him to the CNFR instead of senior Justin Ungeheuer. The team roping was so tight that the top 10 leaders were separated by only 30 points and in the final rodeo, an individual as deep as 29th place could have won a round and the average and gone to Bozeman. SWOSU men won the region followed by PSU and the women were represented at CNFR by SWOSU and SEOSU. SWOSU was not able to put a third consecutive national team title in their pocket but they "hot in the hunt".

Our recruiting has limited success but we had extremely limited dollars to recruit the transfers and freshman. We can discuss all the merits of our program and the physical facilities, etc., but folks scholarship dollars are the answer. So if you want to more competitive teams, do not say "NO" when you are called this October. If we do not have your current phone numbers and you want to be involved in the scholarship efforts, you can call 913-628-4366 or send it to Rodeo Club, 600 Park Street, Hays, KS 67601-4099. If each of the Rodeo Club Alumni gave an average of \$10, we could have an annual scholarship fund in excess of \$6,000.00. It is important to note that first of all, tuition is now in excess of \$60 per credit hour (\$26 at community colleges) and will undergo two more increases of approximately 7% each. Secondly, many of the Pell Grants, etc., are more restrictive and thus unavailable to many students. Thirdly, Kansas

does not allow us to waiver out-of-state tuition (\$180 per credit hour) and they must satisfy seven very strict requirements to obtain in-state tuition.

## AGRIBUSINESS PROGRAM

The past several years have brought a number of notable changes to the Agribusiness program at FHSU. First, enrollment in the Agribusiness program has increased steadily since 1987 to the present time as has the entire agriculture program. This has been a great benefit to the program, but has brought with it a number of challenges, including larger classes and more pressure on the teaching facility.

Second, three new courses have been added to the curriculum since 1990. The first, "The Fundamentals of Agricultural Commodity Marketing," is a study of the futures and options market for agricultural products. This is a junior level course designed to help students understand how agriculture producers can use the futures and options markets to help manage market risk. The course also helps the students understand the risks and benefits of using these markets for speculative purposes as well.

The second new course is called "Agribusiness Firms Management and Marketing." This is a senior level course designed to be a capstone course providing students the opportunity to apply the tools and concepts they have learned in other classes to the management of real agribusiness firms, in a simulated environment. In both of these courses, local firms have played an important role by providing real management problems and situations for students to grapple with through on-site visits and consultations with management personnel of these companies.

The third new course, "Introduction to Agribusiness," is a freshman level course designed as an introductory course to help new agriculture and agribusiness students become acquainted with the basic concepts of agricultural economics and business at an earlier stage in their schooling program than was previously possible.

The third change has been the organization of a student chapter of the National AgriMarketing Association (NAMA) on campus. Our student chapter is sponsored and closely associated with the Great Plains NAMA which is the professional chapter in western Kansas and northern Oklahoma. The organization is largely career oriented providing the students the opportunity to associate with professional Agri-marketing people in a number of ways. One of the activities that will be done annually by the local student chapter will be the development of a marketing presentation which will be given by the students to the members of the professional chapter and may also be presented in competition with other student chapters at the annual national convention.

Lastly, and likely the most important change in the agribusiness program has been the approval by the University Administration and Board of Regents of a new teaching position in the Agribusiness program last year. We are very happy to announce the hiring of Dr. Earl L. Taylor this last summer to fill this position. Dr. Taylor is a recent graduate of Texas A & M University who started with us at the beginning of this fall semester. He brings with him a strong educational background in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness. Initially, Dr. Taylor's major teaching responsibilities will be the agricultural marketing courses. We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Taylor to our program. More information is given about Dr. Taylor elsewhere in this newsletter.

All of these changes, program adjustments and the hiring of a new faculty member will help us meet the changing needs of our students and will help 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.

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

The 1993 Livestock Judging Team of Dustin Gilliland, Bird City, Randy Huser, Victoria, Noel Ketzner, Bird City, Ross Stejskal, Lewis, Shannon Stevens, St. Francis, and Doug Wright, Bird City, finished the fall semester competing in three contests. They began the fall traveling to Wichita for the Mid America Livestock Contest followed by a trip to Kansas City in early November to compete in the American Royal Contest. The team ended the year in Louisville at the North American International in November.



Immediately after Louisville the 1994 team started their workouts. The team members are Eric Dexter, Harper, David Dickerson, Paradise, Stephanie Dickerson, Paradise, Jon Herbel, Lucas, Mitch Rohr, Hays, and Melanie Wendling, Palco. The first trip was to Phoenix to compete in the Arizona National Livestock Judging Contest where the team finished 3rd in Beef and Mitch Rohr was 12th high individuals in Beef. Two weeks after the Phoenix contest the team went to Denver and competed in the National Western. In Denver the team finished 5th in placings and 13th overall in the Livestock Contest. They also competed in the carload contest finishing 8th overall and Jon Herbel was 9th high individual in the Carload Contest. At the Southwestern Livestock Expo in early February at Fort Worth, Stephanie Dickerson was 14th high individual overall and was 4th in Sheep. Stephanie also finished 2nd in Horses at Houston in early March. The team finished the spring semester with a trip to Wilburton, Oklahoma to participate in the NACTA Contest. Jon Herbel won the contest and was high individual in Swine. Stephanie Dickerson finished 4th overall and was 3rd in Swine. The team ended up finishing second overall.

The fall semester looks very promising for this team. They had and extremely good day at NACTA and should continue into the fall with lots of confidence. We have several Junior College transfers who will be judging in 1995 and we are expecting a very good year. Hopefully we will have many good results from them next year.

### LAMB AND PIG SALE RESULTS

The 1994 Lamb and Pig Sale was held on April 24th. We sold 45 pigs and 30 lambs in the sale and had good results so far this summer. Along with our sale this year we started a futurity show called the Western Kansas Swine Futurity which was held on July 16th at the Livestock Pavilion. The universities pigs along with 9 other breeders pigs were designated for the Futurity. We had 61 pigs shown in the futurity and feel it was a great opportunity for the 4-H kids.

**Pig Results:** Grand and Reserve Grand Champions-Ellis Co. Fair  
Grand and Reserve Grand Champions-Rowles Co. Fair  
Grand Champion-Chautauqua Co. Fair  
Grand and Reserve Grand Champions-Ellis Free Fair  
Grand and Reserve Champion-AOB at the Western  
Ks Swine Futurity  
Grand and Reserve Champion Crossbreeds-at the  
Western Ks Swine Futurity  
Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Gilt-at the Kansas  
State Fair - 4-H Show

**Lamb Results:** Grand Champion Market Lamb - at the El Paso Co. Fair,  
Colorado Springs  
Grand Champion Market Lamb - Graham Co. Fair  
Reserve Grand Champion - Ellis Co. Fair

### NACTA JUDGING CONFERENCE

The FHSU Agriculture Department will sponsor the 1995 National Judging Conference over the last weekend in April. We will host some 500 college and university judging contestants in five contests (Livestock, Dairy, Crops, Soils, and Computers). The approximately 500 contestants will be representing about 20 two year colleges and near 15 four year universities. The conference is held at different locations each year (Eastern Oklahoma State College in

1994, Hutchinson Community College in 1993, FHSU in about 1980). This is a major undertaking for FHSU or any other institution. Many of you will be given opportunities to return to FHSU and help us with this event. I hope that as you are contacted for help you will be able to come to campus in late April of 1995. This event is especially taxing to us since April is a very busy month in a normal year (FFA Livestock Judging Contest, Little International Fitting and Showing Contest, Agriculture Awareness Day, FHSU Rodeo and the Block and Bridle Awards banquet). We will certainly appreciate help. We feel an obligation to host this event (most schools are quite reluctant) and the successful event will certainly enhance our image among other schools and universities.

### SUMMER RESEARCH

Drs. Robert Stephenson and Jean Gleichsner in cooperation with Ag Connections Inc. from Seneca, KS conducted field research on grain sorghum and wheat during the past two years. The research has focused on the use of growth promoters, micronutrients and various combinations. With two years of wheat data completed, some treatments increased yields, but the differences were not statistically significant. Foliar applications on milo resulted in significant and consistent differences in treatments during 1993 and were applied again in 1994. If results are similar to those in 1993, some treatments could prove to be economical for producers in western Kansas.

Dr. Stephenson in cooperation with SCS Soil Scientist and alumni, Gary Parks - Hutchinson, have been looking at the effects of sodic soils on wheat yields. "Slick Spots" as they are called, are areas of a field where soluble salts such as sodium have accumulated. These slick spots can reduce crop yields depending upon the salt concentration and its proximity to the crop's root system. In 1994 wheat yields were reduced by as much as 75% from these salts. The long term study will look at wheat yields and also will include a complete soil characterization with EC determinations and the monitoring of salt movement.

### IMPORTANT DATES 1994-1995

August 17	Faculty Orientation
August 18-19	Enrollment
August 20	University Freshman Orientation
August 22	Back-to-School Picnic
August 29	Department Freshman - New Transfer Orientation
September 5	Labor Day
September 13	FFA Dairy Contest
September 9-10	State Fair Booth
September 30	Oktoberfest + JUCO Contest
October 1	Homecoming
October 19	Telethon - Block & Bridle
October 20	Telethon - Agriculture Department + Delta Tau Alpha
October 29	Visitation Day
October 31	Early Enrollment begins
December 10	Block & Bridle Christmas Party
April 6	FFA Livestock Judging Contest
April 7	Ag Awareness Day
April 8	Little International/Awards Banquet
April 22	FHSU Rodeo
April 27-29	Judging Conference