DISPATCH

NEWS FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Fort Hays State University

Volume 28

Spring 2013

From the Chair -- Dr. John Greathouse —

Greetings to all alumni and friends! It has been a busy, yet fast-paced, year for the department. The fall semester began with approximately 226 majors and a number of classes were filled to their capacity. Early enrollment data indicates the same will be true for the upcoming spring torm

We anticipate there will be continued student growth over the next several years and we remain committed to providing an educational experience for our students that is focused on meeting future industry needs. A few initiatives that help us to remain on task for the current year include: 1) increased student hands-on learning opportunities utilizing the University Farm, 2) enhanced utilization of microcomputer software packages and applications, and 3) exposure to real-life projects that require interpretation and application of data derived from advanced precision agriculture technologies.

Financial support for the latter initiative came in the form of grant funds received from USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture this past fall. Dr. Craig Smith authored the grant and received \$277,243 to support a three-year precision agriculture instructional project that includes a collaborative component with faculty and students from Hutchinson

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Community College. Fort Hays State was one of 14 institutions of higher education awarded these Federal funds out of a pool of 26 applicants from across the country. Be sure to check out the news release about this grant that is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The department experienced three significant personnel changes this past year that impacted key program areas. After 36 years of service, Dr. Garry Brower retired as an associate professor of animal science. Sadly, Dr. Brower passed away in November 2012 as a result of an extended illness that developed during the later stages of his career. He was a solid faculty member who served a variety of roles within the department. He also was a great friend with a tremendous sense of humor and professionalism whose absence from the department clearly is noted.

Brian Lockman resigned his position in late spring to take an industry position with Seaboard Farms in western Kansas. Brian did a tremendous job repopulating the Swine Division with superior reproductive, growth, and carcass traits using predominantly Yorkshire, Duroc, and Hampshire blood lines. Brian also was responsible for developing and coaching the FHSU Swine Show Team that has shown growing

student interest and participation.

Buddy Curry left his position as Livestock Judging Team Coach/Agriculture Program Specialist at the end of the Fall 2012 term. Buddy worked diligently to help students learn the fine details of animal evaluation in the judging arena as well as in the classroom. He was instrumental at moving the FHSU Livestock Judging program forward following the departure of Kolby Burch.

New employees hired to replace Dr. Brower and Brian Lockman are Dr. Robert Keener, DVM, and Mr. Clay Hamil, respectively. Both have hit the ground running and already are making significant contributions to the department and our students. Biographical sketches on both can be found in the pages that follow. At the time of this writing, efforts are underway to fill the vacancy that follows Buddy Curry's departure.

I hope that you find this year's newsletter to be informative. Be sure to regularly check the FHSU Farm and Agriculture Department's Facebook page to stay abreast of our most current events. Stephanie Eckroat and Shelly Vandiver are the Facebook administrators and they have done an exceptional job creating and maintaining this impressive site.

Precision Ag Grant -- FHSU University Relations-

Agriculture at Fort Hays State University and Hutchinson Community College has been awarded a \$277,243 grant from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture for a precision agriculture partnership.

Precision agriculture involves using GPS and satellite technology to map fields and precisely apply chemicals and seed and measure the crop yield.

"One of the exciting things about this is being one of the lead institutions to get these funds, and that was through a competitive process," said Dr. John Greathouse, chair of the Department of Agriculture at FHSU.

The 2008 Farm Bill authorized the U.S. Department of Agriculture



Agriculture Department Faculty & Staff – Front Row (L to R): Dr. Brittany Howell, Stephanie Eckroat, Dr. Jean Gleichsner, Dr. Bob Keener, and Melissa Rudell. Back row (L to R): Ross Russell, Dr. Bob Stephenson, Clay Hamil, Dr. John Greathouse, Dr. Craig Smith, Harland Werth, Mick Glaze and Bronc Rumford.

New Faculty & Staff -

Dr. Bob Keener is the new Animal Science assistant professor in the Agriculture Department. He grew up on a diversified farm near Nekoma, KS consisting of both dryland and irrigated crops as well as a cow calf operation. Growing up, Bob was extremely involved in 4-H and FFA. He attended FHSU and completed the pre-veterinary curriculum before graduating from the KSU College of Veterinary Medicine in May 1998. After graduation, Bob came home to an Associate Veterinary position in a mixed animal practice in LaCrosse, KS where he practiced full time for

ten years. In 2008 Bob began farming and ranching full time. In January 2012 Bob accepted the challenge of teaching Anatomy and Physiology in the FHSU Agriculture Department. This opportunity evolved into accepting a full time position.

In August 2012 Clay Hamil became the manager of the Swine Division at the University Farm. A native of Alva, OK, Clay attended Connors State College in Warner, OK and judged livestock on the 1999 national championship team. Clay returned to Alva and graduated from Northwestern Oklahoma State University with

his B.S. in Agribusiness. During that time, he managed his family's farm/ranch operation, and was actively involved in various facets of the swine industry.

Clay is a strong supporter of the livestock industry. His family has deep roots in the swine industry; his father was a show pig producer while he was growing up and passed the passion down to him and his brother.

Clay's wife, Tasha, works for FHSU as an administrative assistant in Admissions. They have two daughters, MaKale and MaKenzi, who love to help their dad work the hogs.

Ag Department Faculty & Staff Information

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Ms. Stephanie Eckroat - Dairy Manager

Mr. Mick Glaze - Agricultural Business

Dr. Jean Gleichsner - Crops and Soils

Dr. John Greathouse - Animal Science

Mr. Clay Hamil - Swine Manager

Dr. Brittany Howell - Animal Science

Mr. Brady Richards - Beef Manager

Dr. Robert Keener - Animal Science

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Ms. Melissa Rudell - Administrative Assistant

Mr. Bronc Rumford-Rodeo Coach

Mr. Ross Russell - Asst. Rodeo Coach

Dr. Craig Smith - Agricultural Business

Dr. Robert Stephenson - Crops and Soils

Ms. Shelly Vandiver - Asst. Dairy Manager

Mr. Harland Werth - Crop/Shop Manager

DISPATCH is now available on-line at: www.fhsu.edu/agriculture/newsletter

Dr. Garry Brower Remembered -- FHSU University Relations -

Dr. Garry R. "Doc" Brower, retired FHSU associate professor of agriculture and Rodeo Club and Team advisor, died Monday, Nov. 26, at Mercy Regional Hospital in Manhattan. Tributes to Brower have been pouring into the Alumni Association as word of his death spread.

Alumna Dr. Marcy (Johnson)
Aycock '84, shared, "Doc looked after all of us in college and made each of us feel valued and special. He created a strong sense of family among the rodeo team and club. He made each student feel like they were his favorite! I'll miss him so much, and know all the Rodeo Club alumni family will miss him tremendously too. Prayers to Ruby and their family"

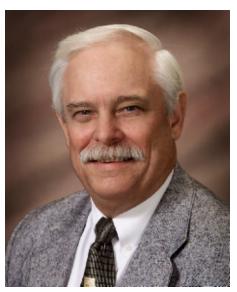
"As I think back," said former Rodeo Club president Steven Knowles '89," I realize that Doc gave his whole life to the department and of course to the club for the past 30 or so years. He shared his home and his life for us and will be missed dearly I will always remember Doc and Ruby handing back two dollar bills to the contestants to show the town of Hays how much the rodeo brought to the community. Our hearts go out to Ruby, their sons Doug, Justin, and the family at this time but we want them to know how much he did for us and how he helped shape our lives."

Bronc Rumford '74, current FHSU Rodeo Coach, perhaps best summed up the sentiments. "I loved and respected Doc so much and will miss him, but will never forget him. He was a character. There are so many stories that we will never get through all of them, but we will try. Doc, until we ride together up there where the grass is green and stirrup high, and the water runs crystal clear and deep, Happy Trails and know that we love you."

Brower began his career at Fort Hays State in 1976 as an assistant professor in the department of agriculture. In addition to more than 25 years of service to the Rodeo Team and Club as coach and advisor, Brower also coached the horse judging team, advised Block and Bridle, and served in Faculty Senate and numerous campus committees. In 1989, he was named a Teacher Fellow by the National Association of College Teachers of Agriculture. He retired from Fort Hays State in May, 2012 as an associate professor of agriculture. Dr. John Greathouse. FHSU department of agriculture chair, said, "Garry was a dedicated professional who, through his many years in academia, had a positive impact on thousands of individuals both in and out of the classroom. He was a valued colleague and leader within the Department of Agriculture who leaves a solid legacy of compassion and academic excellence."

In 2010, Brower said this about his experience at FHSU, "I accepted a position at Fort Hays on the basis I would be here one year, which was 34 years ago. After one semester, I was hooked." He further explained. "Teaching can be very rewarding. The self-satisfaction, the thrill, the sense of accomplishment when 'the light goes on' in particularly challenging students; the comments that you were tough on them, but they learned from you; the 'thank you' for encouraging them to finish a degree or to have an alumni parent tell their son or daughter 'Doc is tough but hang in there. I learned a lot and made it, so can you.' Another reward is to see them mature not only in their private lives but also in their careers and their accomplishments."

In April of 2011, FHSU Rodeo Club alumni and friends held the club's first reunion in conjunction with the annual FHSU Rodeo. A goal of that reunion was to establish the Doc Brower Scholarship to benefit members of the club and provide a lasting tribute and an expression of thanks to Brower for his work with the Rodeo Club. His health kept him away from the reunion, but he shared these remarks with those in attendance, "I am deeply touched, humbled and honored that a scholar-



Dr. Garry R. "Doc" Brower

ship is being established in my name. I can assure you that you cannot fully understand what this means to me. I have always been proud of the Rodeo Club and Team, and in this manner, I will be able to assist the coaching staff in recruiting individuals who are athletic, but more importantly are of good character and high integrity."

He ended his remarks by acknowledging his family. "Last, but by no means the least, I want to thank the love of my life and one of my fantastic sons, Justin, for attending on my behalf. Ruby Kay, Justin and Douglas made all of the sacrifices and concessions that have allowed me to be involved with the Rodeo Club...and for this I give them my eternal thanks and beg sincere forgiveness."

A celebration of Doc's life was held on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012, at the First Christian Church, 115 Courthouse Plaza in Manhattan at 3 p.m.

Donations may be made to the Doc Brower Scholarship Fund in care of the Fort Hays State University Foundation, One Tiger Place, PO Box 1060, Hays, KS 67601. Donations may be made online at http://foundation.fhsu.edu/support_program/rodeo/index.php

Condolences may be sent and Brower's complete obituary can be found online at Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home.

Service-Learning Projects

Thirteen students in the Home Horticulture course traveled to Camp Pawnee in Larned to assist with renovation of the camp by Larned Pride. FHSU students helped plant trees and flowers, install drip irrigation, mulch the site and construct a playground. Larned Pride was created in 2009 by a group of local citizens with a mission of creating a better environment and enhancing health for those in Pawnee County and the surrounding area. Camp Pawnee, a previous Boy Scout camp donated to the county, sits on 36 acres and is perfect location for children and families to go and enjoy outside physical activity. Funding was provided by the Golden Belt Community Foundation.



Fifteen students in the Cereal, Fiber and Oil Crops course helped with the SWIPE Out Hunger packaging event held in October on the FHSU campus. Almost 100,000 meals were packaged for shipment to the Horn of Africa. Students also made a campus presentation on "Recognizing Hunger and Addressing the Need." Funding was provided by the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture and Kansas Campus Compact.

Service-learning projects allow students to integrate community service activities into academic curricula.

Students in the Home Horticulture class plant a tree at Camp Pawnee in Larned.

Grant-

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to fund this kind of grant under the title Capacity Building Grants for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture. A \$4.5 million appropriation in fall 2011 was made available through a competitive grant process to distribute the funding.

The primary goal, in the language of the grant, is to expand "the capacity (of non-land grant universities) to conduct education, research and outreach activities relating to agriculture, renewable resources and other similar disciplines."

Dr. Craig Smith, assistant professor of agriculture at FHSU, is the principal investigator for the project, which is designed to enhance the technical and analytical skills of students and producers using advanced precision agriculture technologies. The grant is a collaborative venture between FHSU and agriculture faculty from HCC. The grant allows both institutions to purchase equipment.

Co-principal investigators at HCC are Steve Sears, agriculture agronomy instructor, and Dale Conard, ag-diesel coordinator and instructor.

Both schools will use grant money to acquire equipment. FHSU will

acquire a field tractor with auto-steer capability and a 60-foot crop sprayer with automatic boom section control for use on the 3,800-acre University Farm, said Smith. HCC will purchase a GPS-compatible grain combine and a farm utility vehicle with soil grid sampling equipment.

At HCC, on the college's 425-acre farm, Sears and his students will use the equipment in the field. The farm utility vehicle will be used with the soils class as one of the laboratory sessions. The class will map out fiveacre blocks to collect soil samples and then map zones of similar soil properties. Then soil inputs will be applied with variable-rate technology, which adjusts the application -- chemical or seed -- in different zones in the field. The combine will be used by the agdiesel students in the combine classes.

Students in the fields at HCC will learn to use the auto-steer functions and the equipment and software that controls fertilizer and seed amounts. They will learn to use equipment that has auto-shutoff functions that control planters and sprayers section by section to eliminate over-planting and over-spraying. They will learn to make the practical kinds of applications that can make equipment pay for itself.

"We're good at collecting data, and

Fort Havs State will be helpful in evaluating data and turning it into information," said Sears. "It will be a good partnership for both colleges."

A textbook description of precision agriculture, said FHSU's Smith, is "site-specific management of crops for purposes of reducing waste, increasing profits and improving the quality of the environment." In layman's terms, "Precision agriculture is using technology in agriculture to increase efficiency and increase profits."

In the field, he said, "We want to be able to map yields, perform some precision soil sampling and mapping, and create seed and fertilizer prescription maps."

"We'll tailor the application of fertilizer and, eventually, seed inputs to the specific soil or crop needs throughout individual fields, with the potential of varying it down to the foot." This means changing fertilizer rates and chemical application rates throughout a particular field based on soil and plant needs.

"Back in the classroom." he said. "we'll focus on how to analyze and use the data with a goal of profit maximization."

One technology that has proven

Agriculture Scholarships

Departmental scholarships were awarded this year to freshmen, transfers, and continuing students majoring in agriculture. Scholarship recipients were selected on the basis of academic achievement and interest in agriculture.

Congratulations to each scholarship recipient, and a special thank you to the scholarship sponsors.

Ark River Bend Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society Jared Holcomb – Cunningham

Base Camp Leasing Jared Helfrich – Wright

Agriculture Scholarship Lacey Ward – Superior, NE

Department of Agriculture Endowed Jillie Ganoung - Plainville Rebecca Heroneme – Zurich Jay Kindler – Alma, NE

Edward and Carolyn Scanlon Fund

Jared Cahoj – McDonald Cassadie Copeland – Ford Kyra Fulton - Norton Breanna Kroeger – Ellis Curtis Satran – Ogallah Hannah Speer – Dighton

High Plains Farm Credit Audrey Werth – Hays

Kansas Farm Bureau Chandra Devine – Seward Audrey Werth - Hays

Midland Marketing Nathan Felder – Brownell Ashley Montgomery – Hays Audrey Werth – Hays

Kansas Farm Credit Jay Ostmeyer - Oakley

Norvan and Dorothy Harris **Endowed**

Alisha Markle – Hays Macy McCurry – Burrton Martin Moreno – Elkhart William Poland II – Ellis Kirk Woodruff – Ashland

Roemer Family Aaron Roach – St. John Jordan Schmidtberger – Grainfield Samantha Tenpenny – Topeka

Anthony R. Legleiter Memorial Kyra Fulton – Norton

Bill and Deniece Roth Family Ryan Hoffman – Hoisington

Charles and Lura Stuzman Memorial Shaun Ohlde - Palmer

Herbert L. Fought Fund Joseph Aker – Abilene Luke Bellar – Howard Jessica Bruington – Independence Alex Burgess – Sterling Tayla Cannella – Calhan, CO Cree Cline – Upland, NE Jason Cowan – Goodland Chandra Devine – Seward Chandra Devine – Seward
Mary Eaton – Kinsley
Nathan Felder – Brownell
Hannah Gates – Yuma, CO
Kody Hale – Strasburg, CO
Morgan Hammel – Clay Center
Wade Hawkinson – Hastings, NE
Madison Holland – Lacygne
Kendall Hostler – Grand Island, NE
Kilee Hutchison – Pratt
Garrett Kahrs – Franklin, NE
Brittany Kammer – Oakley Brittany Kammer – Oakley Katelyn Keller – Ellis Rachel Klein – Fort Collins, CO Ashley Knoll – Deerfield Samantha Kysar - Lakin Samantha Kysar – Lakin Sarah Maddox – Geneseo Rebekah Martin – Doniphan, NE Rochelle McGhee – Westphalia Jade Meinzer – Yoder, CO Jacob Miller – Culbertson, NE Shaun Ohlde – Palmer Jared Reiman – Lawrence, NE Mollie Ringleman – Imperial NE Mollie Ringleman – Lawrence, NE
Mollie Ringleman – Imperial, NE
Lucas Robinson – Orleans, NE
Sam Rork – Horton
Randy Sheffield – Farnam, NE
Tye Smith – Bartley, NE
Hannah Speer – Dighton
Lulio Stata – Olivier Julie Stoss – Olmitz Samantha Tenpenny – Topeka Courtney Urbanec – Pender, NE Aubrie Vansteenburg – Halstead Candee VonLehe – Ness City Lindsey Wilson – Colby

Clifford and Rebecca Shauf Foundation

Mary Eaton – Kinsley
Jacob Holcomb – Cunningham
Cody Oates – Rosalia
Aaron Roach – St. John Cammie Schmidtberger – Victoria Emma Skinner – Belle Plaine Candee VonLehe – Ness City Sara Winkel – Glen Elder Eric Woodside - Prairie View

Gross Family Ryan Hoffman – Hoisington

Al Graff William Poland II - Ellis

Doug Palen Jared Helfrich – Wright Sarah Maddox – Geneseo Eric Woodside – Prairie View

R. Guy Bemis Memorial Cody Oates - Rosalia

Paul W. Boxberger Memorial Brittany Kammer - Oakley

American Ag Credit Rebecca Heroneme – Zurich Lindsey Wilson - Colby

Dean's Honor Roll —

To qualify for the Dean's Honor Roll at FHSU a student must complete 12 or more credit hours with a GPA for that academic term of at least 3.6.

Congratulations to the following agriculture and agricultural business majors for obtaining such an honor.

Spring 2012 Michael Davis - Palmdale, CA Chandra Devine – Seward Amber Elrod – Hays Nathan Felder – Brownell Bruce Figger - Hudson Hannah Gates - Yuma, CO Jeremy Hacker - Wilson Jared Helfrich - Wright Kayla Jarvis – Phillipsburg Ashley Knoll – Deerfield Macy McCurry - Burrton Corey Moomaw – Dighton Erik Pracht – Council Grove Paige Rebman – Republican City, NE Aaron Roach – St. John Cammie Schmidtberger - Victoria Matthew Schneweis - Dodge City Emily Schneweis - Dodge City Lane Underwood - Esbon Candee Vonlehe - Ness City Audrey Werth – Hays Lindsey Wilson – Colby Lauren Wright – Hays

Fall 2012

Luke Bellar – Howard Tayla Cannella - Calhan, CO Jason Cowan - Goodland Michael Davis - Palmdale, CO Chandra Devine - Seward Mary Eaton - Kinsley Nathan Felder – Brownell Shaun Gilbert – Rexford Jeremy Hacker – Wilson Wade Hawkinson - Hastings, NE Jared Helfrich - Wright Rebecca Heroneme – Zurich Madison Holland – Lacygne Katelyn Keller – Ellis Ashley Knoll – Deerfield Samantha Kysar – Lakin Alisha Markľe – Hays Ashley Montgomery – Hays Jace Nordyke – Holly, CO William Poland – Ellis Erik Pracht - Council Grove Casie Price – Mullinville Paige Rebman – Republican City, NE Curtis Satran – Ogallah Anthony Schmidtberger – Victoria Cammie Schmidtberger – Victoria Emily Schneweis - Dodge City Hannah Speer - Dighton Julie Stoss - Olmitz Candee Vonlehe – Ness City Lacey Ward - Superior, NE Audrey Werth – Hays Lindsey Wilson – Colby Eric Woodside – Prairie View Lauren Wright - Hays

Crops Judging Team -- Dr. Bob Stephenson -

The Fort Hays State University Crops Judging Team is up and running again. The team is supported by the Agronomy Club and this fall they came in third at the ASA Regionals at Manhattan. They recently returned from the Collegiate Crops Contest at Kansas City, where they competed with teams from Purdue, Oklahoma State, Minnesota, South Dakota and others. The team improved their scores and is excited about competing in a regional contest and possibly traveling to Iowa State University for another contest, before heading to Texas Tech University where they will compete in the North American Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) crops judging contest in April 2013. The team is coached by Dr. Bob Stephenson.



2012-2013 Crops Judging Team (L to R): Brandon Warner (Haven), Jillie Ganoung (Plainville), Wade Hawkinson (Hastings, NE), Macy McCurry (Burrton) and Darren Busick (Pretty Prairie).

Swine Show Team -- Mr. Clay Hamil-

This year the FHSU Swine Show Team has a new coach, Clay Hamil. With the changes in management come changes in techniques, improved knowledge, and a refreshing start to the school year. The year started with several litters of good looking hogs. Out of these hogs several were sent to young individuals in Oklahoma and Texas. Several of the hogs placed in the top 5 in the class to which they have competed.

The first trip was to Duncan, OK for the Fall Classic. The team took two Yorkshire gilts, six crossbred weanlings and had several weanling hogs out in the parking lot. Aranda Stolz, Taylor Eason, Jake Renner and Rebekah Martin did a tremendous job in representing the university by selling hogs and talking to producers and helping other producers and exhibitors around them. The team received several compliments on their work ethic and team work.

The next show the team attended was the Southwest Type Conference in Belton, TX. The team was extremely excited with the group of hogs this spring since everyone was involved with their selection, care and performance.



2012-2013 Swine Show Team -- Front Row (L to R): Taylor Eason (Round Rock, TX), Kilee Hutchison (Lakin), Aranda Stolz (Burlington, CO), Ashley Fitzsimmons (Cunningham) and Tayla Cannella (Calhan, CO). Back Row (L to R): Rebekah Martin (Hastings, NE), Garrett Kahrs (Franklin, NE), Kirk Woodruff (Ashland), and Clay Hamil, Coach. Not pictured: Jake Renner (Pratt).

Ag Alumni Spotlight: Mitchell Baalman '97

Mitchell Baalman, a graduate with a B.S. in Agriculture (crops option), is featured in the March 2013 issue of FHSU-TigerTalk that is available online at: goforthaysstate.com/s/947/1col.aspx?sid=947&gid=1&pgid=2714. Mitch is the owner/manager of FDK Partnership, an operation that covers

more than 12,000 acres of dryland and irrigated corn as well as soybeans, wheat and sunflowers.

FDK Partnership is one of six farming entities participating in *The Pursuit of 300: The Road to Higher Yields* program. The goal is to one day reach 300 bushels of corn per acre.

Rodeo Club -- Ms. Kara Hackney ---

The FHSU Rodeo Club has been busy at home and on the road as its competing team has been traveling throughout the states of Kansas and Oklahoma representing the university at the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rodeos. Four rodeos into the season, the team has six left before the College National Finals Rodeo in June, which takes the top cowboys and cowgirls in each of the association's 11 regions.

The fall 2012 semester was quite successful for the rodeo team. The men's team is sixth and the women's team is ninth in the Central Plains regional standings.

Individually, three men have been succeeding in the steer wrestling. Blair Jones is second in the event standings, followed by TyRell Rumford in sixth and Hunter Crawford in 11th. In the team roping standings, Dakota Milner is tied for first as a header, and Jones is tied for first as a heeler. Rumford is tied for 7th also as a heeler.

Within the women's team, Samantha Tenpenny is splitting 10th in the goat tying.

At the opening rodeo, hosted by Colby Community College, Jones won the men's all-around title and placed third in the steer wrestling. He and his header, Milner, placed fifth in the team roping. Milner and Jones were hot once again at the second rodeo at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, at which they placed third in team roping.

An FHSU cowboy won the allaround title again at the Pratt Community College Rodeo. This time it was Rumford, who also won the steer wrestling and team roping as a heeler. Also in Pratt, Jones was third in the steer wrestling, and Tenpenny was third in the goat tying.

At the final rodeo of the fall semester at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Crawford led the men's team to an 8th place finish by placing himself third in the steer wrestling.

The club also participated in community service and fundraiser events, including its Celebrity Night at Montana Mikes.

Bronc Rumford, head rodeo coach, was chosen for the second time as the

timed-event chute boss of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, the "Superbowl of Rodeo," Dec. 6-15 in Las Vegas, NV.

The club is currently working to raise money and gain sponsorship for its rodeo (April 19-210. If interested in doing so, contact Rumford at 785-628-4689 or e-mail him at cbrumford@fhsu.edu, or Ross Russell, assistant coach, at 785-628-4689 or email him at rdrussell@fhsu.edu.



2012-2013 Rodeo Club Officers (L to R): Ty Rumford (Abbyville), President; Ashley Fitzsimmons (Cunningham), Secretary; and Dakota Milner (Colony), Vice-President. Not pictured: Lacey Ward (Superior, NE), Treasurer.

Grant-

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itself profitable in the production ag industry is automatic boom section controllers for crop sprayers. "In the classroom, we spend some time analyzing the economics of investing in technologies such as these," said Smith. "This grant provides an opportunity to then go out to the field and give students some hands-on experience with the technology."

Precision ag technology can be highly precise with different levels of precision required for different field operations. "The tractor's GPS display records its exact location at any given moment, meaning latitude and longitude, down to two or three inches," said Smith. "There's equipment out there that will take you down to the centimeter, sub-inch level, but that precision isn't necessary for what we want to do at this time.

"I would stress that technology like this isn't anything new," he said. "A lot of farmers have been mapping fields for 15 years or more, but many of them aren't doing much with the data. They aren't using it to its full potential. They aren't using it in their production decisions."

This means, he said, "they have pretty maps. They're neat to look at, but a lot of times they don't go much further with them. We're trying to teach our students how to use this data to help to make profitable management decisions."

It is this kind of information that will go back and forth between HCC and FHSU, from the fields where the data are gathered to the computer labs for analysis, and then back again to the fields so that students can learn to use it.

Smith said that yield mapping and variable rate seeding will be possible through the support of Carrico Implement, Hays, Ellsworth and Beloit.
"We've had great support and cooperation from Carrico Implement in the past, and it is our hope that this grant allows us to strengthen that industry relationship and build several more," said Smith.

FHSU has what are called 2-plus-2 articulation agreements with commu-

Agronomy Club -- Dr. Bob Stephenson -

The Agronomy Club has been busier than ever and have several activities planned for the spring 2013 semester. In September the club sold t-shirts as a fund raiser through the FHSU Alumni Association at an FHSU football game, they held a fund raiser at the Mall in Hays during the children's Halloween Festival. They recently started selling "Eat Beef" tshirts as another fund raising activity. The club teamed up with DTA this fall for their annual Adopt-a-Highway cleanup and enjoyed pizza afterwards. They had a Christmas dinner/social. During the 2013 spring semester they will hold information nights, where they will bring in industry to help students learn more about specific internship and career opportunities. The club will be helping



2012-2013 Agronomy Club Officers (L to R): Darren Busick (Pretty Prairie), President; Jillie Ganoung (Plainville), Treasurer; Courtney Schweizer (Valley Center), Secretary; and Jerdan Schweizer (Langdon), Vice-President.

DTA with the spring highway cleanup and they have several other events planned; putt-putt, bowling, they have a barbecue fund raising event planned for April at "Pack-ThePark" – visit the FHSU Agronomy Club Facebook page to learn more about their activities. The club has 16 members and their advisor is Dr. Bob Stephenson.

Delta Tau Alpha - Agriculture Honor Society -- Dr. Jean Gleichsner -

Over the past year, Delta Tau Alpha (DTA) has been very active both onand off-campus. The chapter participated in a variety of activities including: the Adopt-A-Highway Program, Homecoming Banner Contest, and Christmas Angel Tree. The club again sponsored the Ag Quiz Bowl. The club hosted a Holiday Bowling Party.

Last spring the chapter held the 19th annual Ag Quiz Bowl. Participating teams tested their knowledge in the areas of agribusiness/economics, agronomy/horticulture, animal science, and general agriculture knowledge. The team of Bryn Benoit (Damar), Jeremy Hacker (Wilson) and Geoffrey Whisman (Palco) was victorious.

The DTA chapter attended the 52nd National DTA Convention held in the spring at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. In Kansas City, MO attendees toured Bayer CropScience and the National WW I Museum at Liberty Memorial. The chapter competed in the Corbus Book Competition - a book of the chapter's activities. Our chapter placed first in the Corbus Book Competition and received a plaque with an accompanying \$150 award.

Dr. Jean Gleichsner is serving as National Advisor. She has served as National Advisor since spring 2003.



2012-2013 DTA Club Officers (L to R): Curtis Satran (Ogallah), Vice-President; Amber Elrod (Jacksonville, NC), Secretary; Rebekah Martin (Doniphan, NE), President; and Kirk Woodruff (Ashland), Treasurer.

Grant-

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nity colleges across Kansas covering several different programs. These articulation agreements lay out the classes required in both schools to ensure a seamless, painless transition from the community college to FHSU. With these agreements in place, students and advisers at both

schools can know exactly what course work is required, and therefore credit transfers for course work are assured.

In this particular partnership, "Hutch's component is using the equipment and maintaining it, and we add on to that by analyzing and interpreting the data for future application," said Greathouse.

"This strengthens our bond with

HCC. We are looking to have a stronger transfer and articulation program, and this is a component that helps us make the transition of students in here even smoother and easier. It is really for those students who have a desire to focus on the application, utilization and advancement of precision agriculture technologies."

Block & Bridle Club -- Ms. Shelly Vandiver -

Block & Bridle has a new advisor, Shelly Vandiver, the assistant manager at the university dairy and the manager at the university sheep division. Shelly is a graduate of FHSU with a B.S. in Agriculture with an emphasis in animal science and former member of Block & Bridle. She is excited for the opportunity to advise the club that dedicates its resources to promoting a subject that she is passionate about, animal science.

This fall B&B had a booth at Oktoberfest selling t-shirts. They also prepared a float for the homecoming parade whose theme was: "Celebration of Tiger Nation." The



2012-2013 Block & Bridle Club Officers (L to R): Kari Castor (Weldon, CO), President; Hannah Gates (Yuma, CO), Treasurer; Tayla Cannella, (Calhan, CO), Secretary; Shelly VanDiver, Advisor and Caitlyn Schmidtberger (Victoria), Vice-President.

club's float read "Celebration of Feeding Tiger Nation" and displayed various areas of agriculture including wheat, sunflowers, milo, pork, and dairy/beef. The Northwest District FFA Dairy Judging Contest, held at FHSU Indoor Arena, was in November. There were approximately 220 high school students who attended.

This coming spring brings two major events for Block & Bridle, both in April. The first weekend in April is the Block & Bridle National Convention put on by Iowa State University in Ames. April 27th will be the Little International fitting and showing competition followed by a banquet. The Little "I" is Block & Bridle's showcase event that requires a lot of work by the chairs and contestants. At the banquet, the winners of Little "I" will be presented with their awards and next year's officers will be announced.

Agribusiness Club -- Mr. Eric Woodside -

This year the Agribusiness Club gained many new faces and has 21 active members. The club's purpose is to educate, promote, and actively support the agricultural industry. The club is active in the local community. Each member works to achieve 5 hours of community service toward our goal of 100 hours of community service for the whole club. Many of the members do community service on their own time, but we also do some as a whole. In the last few years, the club has picked up trash along the highway, played bingo with the local nursing home, and participated in the St. Jude's Up Til' Dawn letter writing event. By participating in service projects throughout the year, members transform from college students to active members in their communities.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in club activities to build strong skills in leadership and teamwork. A club activity and fundraiser was just started this past spring, the Lawn Mower Clinic. This was a huge

success and will continue to be put on for years to come. This fundraiser is for financial assistance for the club to travel and see opportunities in the ag industry. In spring 2012, the club took a trip touring agricultural based businesses in southern KS. The club visited with potential employers and other successful agricultural companies. Some of the businesses that they visited included: CHS Foods Soy

Protein Processing Plant, Yoder Meats, Archer Daniels Midland Company, and the Great Bend Farm Show. This was a great way for members to network with other agricultural businesses and to see what opportunities exist.

The club also invites speakers to campus to learn what job opportunities or internships they have to offer. Coadvisors are Mr. Mick Glaze and Dr. Craig Smith.



2012-2013 Agribusiness Club Officers (L to R): Luke Bellar (Howard), Treasurer; Amelia Nickelson (Hill City), Vice-President; Sara Winkel (Glen Elder), Secretary; and Eric Woodside (Prairie View), President.

Agriculture Management Practicum -- Dr. John Greathouse ----

AGRI 316 – Agriculture Management Practicum is a course in which students participate in a supervised agricultural "internship" experience. A majority of our students enroll in the Practicum course during the summer semester with positions that typically offer full-time employment

opportunities. The experiences often are mutually beneficial to the cooperating employer, who may be seeking an individual to train for future employment needs, and to the students who gain valuable experience working in a chosen career field.

We welcome the interest and support of the cooperators and agencies who employ our Practicum students. Students and their respective employers who participated in a 2012 summer Practicum experience are pictured on the next several pages.



Joseph Penning interned as manager of the FHSU Swine Division.



Adam Peterson worked at Irsik and Doll's Gray County Feed Yard in Cimarron, KS. David Ast (left) was Adam's supervisor.



Sam Carlson (left) interned as a general ranch hand with CK Ranch near Brookville, KS. Sam's supervisor for the last half of the summer was Chuck Norris (right) who replaced the initial supervisor, Ray Negus, who took a mid-summer retirement.



Zach Minnihan interned at Cone Ag., Inc., a seed, fertilizer and chemical company with agronomy application services, out of Pierre, SD. Zach is pictured with his supervisor, Kyle Hollingsworth (right).

Practicum —

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Jared Pfeifer (left) worked as an insurance intern with supervisor, Jason Kippes, at Kippes Insurance Agency, Inc. in Victoria, KS.



Evan Schluntz worked as a general farm employee with supervisor, Michael O'Brate (left), at O'Brate Farms near Ingalls, KS.



Jacob Duestch (right) scouted for Crop Quest with supervisor and FHSU alum, Jon French, out of South Central and Southwest Kansas.



Jared Reiman was a crop consultant intern with Central States Agronomics out of Kearney, NE. Jared is pictured with his supervisor, Todd Travis (right).



Emily Schneweis (right) was a credit intern for High Plains Farm Credit in Dodge City, KS. Pictured with Emily is her supervisor and FHSU alum, K.C. Preisner.



Zach Weeks (left) worked as an intern with Smoky Hill Golf Course in Hays, KS. Trey Wentling supervised Zach in this intern position.

Practicum —

from page 11



Elizabeth Koch (left) worked in Eastern Kansas as a seed and agronomy advisor intern with Winfield Solutions. Her supervisors were Caleb McNally (center) and John Watts.



Audrey Werth was a student intern with Commerce Bank in Hays, KS. Pictured with Audrey is supervisor Raymond Haas (left).



Drew Joy (right) worked for Gwennap Hay Company near Smith Center, KS. Pictured with Drew is his supervisor, James Gwennap.

Kody Hale (right) worked with supervisor and FHSU Alum, James Bieker, as a Servi-Tech crop consultant near Hill City, KS.



Weston Burcham (right) was employed with Bartlett Grain Company in Moscow, KS. His supervisor was Joe Heatherman.



Ethan Lamont (left) worked as a service, sales, and parts intern with Carrico Implement in Hays, KS. Ethan is pictured with his supervisor, Alan Fabrizius.



Practicum-

from page 12



Sara (Fox) Sloan was employed with 4M Feeders out of Stratton, CO. Sara is pictured with her supervisor, Rod Thompson (right), who also served as the feedlot's office manager.



Tye Smith scouted crops with supervisor Brent Hauxwell (right) of Hauxwell Consulting out of McCook, NE.

Emily Harre, pictured with her supervisor Roy Soukup (right), worked in Hanston, KS for the Hanston State Bank and the Hanston Insurance Agency.



Samantha Kysar interned with Northview Nursery & Landscape in Great Bend, KS. Samantha's supervisor was Tammy Turner (right).



Practicum —

from page 13



Ross Holmes (left) and Allyson Pakkebier (right) both interned at Rangeland Cooperatives, Inc. in Phillipsburg, KS. Pictured with Ross and Allyson is their supervisor, Bruce Williams.

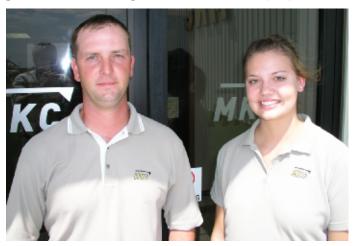


Ethan Lang was a crop consulting intern with Servi-Tech near Hastings, NE. His supervisor was Jeremy Gerloff (right).



Tyson Schneider was a general farm intern at Randy Carney Farms in Towner, CO. Tyson (left) is pictured with his supervisor, Randy Carney.

Sara Winkel was an agronomy and office intern with Mid Kansas Coop at their Groveland, KS facility. Sara is pictured with her supervisor, Nathan Eck (left).



Candee VonLehe interned at Crop Production Services in Jetmore, KS. She was supervised by FHSU alum, Todd Walters (right).



Tarent Tevis was a grain merchandising intern with DeBruce Grain in Abilene, KS. Tarent is pictured with one of his supervisors, Beth Weibert (left). Nathan Jacobs was Tarent's primary supervisor.



Practicum———

from page 14



Macy McCurry (left) worked with supervisor and FHSU alum, August Unruh, in the agronomy department at Farmers Cooperative Elevator in Mount Hope, KS.



Lindsey Wilson interned at The Nekoma State Bank in LaCrosse, KS. Ross Wilson (right) is a FHSU alum and served as Lindsey's supervisor.



Eric Woodside (left) is pictured with Ryan Schurr during his internship experience with Schurrtop Angus and Charolais Ranch in Farnam, NE.



Wesley Martin's internship with Midland Marketing was supervised by Don Moffet (right) at a recently-acquired grain, fertilizer, and chemical facility in Plainville, KS.



Katherine (Turner) Roth interned in the front office at the Pawnee County Coop in Larned, KS. Katherine (left) is pictured with her supervisor and FHSU alum, Jeff Delaney.



Jay Ostmeyer was a crop scout with Servi-Tech near Colby, KS. Jay (left) is pictured with his supervisor, Russ Martin.



AGRICULTURE 600 Park Street Hays, Kansas 67601-4099

Spring 2013 — Department News—

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From the College Dean -- Dr. Jeff Briggs

With new faces in the classroom and on the university farm, changes abound in the Department of Agriculture. Some great synergistic projects have been



initiated and we continue to emphasize getting students involved in practical experiences to enhance their skill sets. The University's theme for this year is "Average is Over" and the College of Health and Life Sciences and the Department of Agriculture definitely provide multiple opportunities for students to excel.

The focus in the College of Health and Life Sciences has been on creating an immersive/integrated learning environment that strives to connect faculty and students with community partners and funding entities eager to

support learning opportunities. Students gain tangible professional and clinical experience as well as intangible skills such as critical thinking and teamwork. Immersive learning opportunities involve student teams guided by expert faculty to create unique, high-impact learning experiences that result in workforce ready skill development.

The Department of Agriculture has a long history of getting students involved in immersive learning projects and recently launched a student-led beef cattle management operation where students are responsible for the authentic care and decision-making aspects of managing a herd on the University Farm. In addition, a significant USDA capacity building grant was received to support a precision agriculture project that will allow students access to state-ofthe-art precision agriculture technologies and help develop the skills necessary in the interpretation, analysis, and modeling of field data to enhance food production efficiencies. These integrated activities are the kinds of practices that make the Fort Hays State University experience special for our students.

Thank you for your continued support of our academic programs. It takes the support of faculty and staff. current students, alumni, and other friends of the program to continue to meet the needs of our students and the region that we serve. For regular updates on accomplishments and activities within the college, please follow the College of Health and Life Sciences on Facebook at http:// www.fhsu.edu/chls/. Just click on the Facebook link and become a fan. Thank you all for your support of the Department of Agriculture and Fort Hays State University!