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Animal Science Newsletter, Fall 1981

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ANIMAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Fall 1981 University of Nebraska-Lincoln Vol. 2, No. 1

ANIMAL SCIENCE COMPLEX COMPLETION GAINS SUPPORT

The University Board of Regents placed completion of the Animal Science Complex in No. 2 priority on their capital construction legislative request for 1982-83. The request is for $350,000 for design and blueprint development for a livestock center and an office-laboratory-classroom addition to Marvel Baker Hall.

The Judging Pavilion (old Horse Barn) and Mussel Hall (former Poultry Building) will be renovated for other uses within the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources when the Animal Science Complex is completed. If possible, the Beef Barn will be renovated and maintained as part of the new livestock center.

The Department has outgrown the existing facilities as a result of increased enrollments, mergers of Dairy and Poultry with Animal Science, and other shifts required in the Department's programs. Nebraska ranks 4th nationally in livestock sales, but the current East Campus livestock facilities rank 8th in the Big 8!

Since the need for these departmental facilities is critical to accommodate the Animal Science programs, it is hoped the Legislature will resume funding capital construction requests in 1982. Alumni are encouraged to visit with their State Senators about the need for completion of these facilities as an investment in Nebraska's livestock industry.

COMING EVENTS

Fall Semester Commencement - Dec. 19, 1981
Spring Semester Begins - Jan. 11, 1982
Spring Semester Commencement - May 8, 1982

NEW FACULTY IN ANIMAL SCIENCE

Robert D. Fritschen joined the Animal Science staff at Lincoln, July 1, 1981, as Professor of Animal Science in a swine teaching and extension role. Fritschen fills the vacancy resulting from Dr. Bobby Moser being named Head of the Animal Science Department at the University of Missouri. Fritschen is no stranger to Nebraska since he was the Animal Science swine specialist at the Northeast Station at Concord before serving the past two years as Associate Director of the Panhandle Station at Scottsbluff.

Terry L. Mader joins the Department in November at the Northeast Station in a beef cattle extension-research position. Mader fills the position previously held by Dr. Vernon Krause who accepted a nutrition position in industry. Mader is a native of western Kansas and worked in the feed industry in Nebraska and Missouri after completing his B.S. degree from Kansas State University. His M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are in beef nutrition from Oklahoma State University.

Chris R. Calkins, who completed his Ph.D. degree in meats at Texas A&M University, joined the department in August in a research and teaching position in the
meats area. He fills the position held by Dr. Dennis Olson who accepted a position at Iowa State University in 1980. Calkins is a native of Washington and earned his B.S. degree in Animal Science at Texas A&M University and his M.S. degree from the University of Tennessee.

DEPARTMENT HOSTS MIDWESTERN ANIMAL SCIENCE SOCIETY MEETINGS

The department hosted the 1981 annual meeting of the Midwestern Section of the American Society of Animal Science on campus June 9-10. Dr. Dwane Zimmerman, Past President of the Midwestern Section, served as coordinator for the event that attracted 528 persons from 23 states.

An Academic Quadrathlon, with university teams from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska and Wisconsin, was a special feature of the meeting. Each team had four undergraduate students who competed in a laboratory practicum, an oral presentation, a written exam, and a quiz bowl patterned after the T.V. College Quiz Bowl. The team from the University of Missouri won this year’s contest.

MERLYN CARLSON SELECTED AS HALL OF FAME HONOREE

Merlyn Carlson, prominent rancher, cattle feeder and businessman from Lodgepole, Nebraska, was selected as the 1981 Block and Bridle Club Honoree and his picture was added to the Hall of Fame in Marvel Baker Hall.

Carlson was president of the National Cattlemen’s Association in 1980 and has a ranching and cattle feeding operation in partnership with his father at Lodgepole and Chappell, Nebraska. He served as president of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association from 1970 to 1971. Carlson is the 47th individual honored by the club since 1938.

NEW FACILITY FOR RANGE BEEF RESEARCH

The Animal Science range beef program is being transferred from the Sandhills Ag laboratory at Tryon to a 12,817-acre ranch seven miles northeast of Whitman, Nebraska. Mr. & Mrs. Pete Gudmundsen gave their ranch to the University of Nebraska Foundation for research and educational purposes and it was dedicated as the University of Nebraska Gudmundsen Sandhills Research Center (GSRC) on June 26, 1981.

This is an ideal location for research and educational activities typifying the Sandhills of Nebraska and will be used by staff located at the North Platte Station, Panhandle Station, and Lincoln Campus. Dr. Don Clanton, Animal Science Professor at the North Platte Station, will serve as program coordinator. Mick Knott, who formerly managed the Sandhills Ag Lab beef operations, is the resident manager and responsible for day-to-day activities.

Foundation animals for the research herd will come from 750 heifers purchased last spring. Half of these will be kept for experimental use. The cow herd at the Sandhills Agricultural Laboratory (SAL) will also be moved to GSRC this fall since the 10-year lease of SAL expires January 1, 1982. The research emphasis at GSRC will be on range and cattle management problems directly applicable to the Sandhills.

STUDENTS VISIT EUROPEAN LIVESTOCK ESTABLISHMENTS

Dr. Ted Doane led a group of 14 animal science students on a three-week livestock study tour to western Europe during May. They visited both commercial and seedstock operations, as well as research stations and marketing agencies. The tour included stops in Spain, France, Switzerland and England as well as a brief stop in Morocco.

Participants were: Denise Brosius, Brady; Karen Fisher, North Loup; Debora Hamernik, Columbus; Ann Henderson, Alliance; Sheri Horn, Lincoln; Sally Klein, McCook; Jane Langenmeier, Valentine; Jacki Lempka, Tecumseh; Tony Lesiak, Fullerton; Juli Miller, Culbertson; Tim Nollette, Nenzel; Kathy Pinkerton, Blue Springs; Patsy Wieck, Grand Island; Jayne Witte, Louisville; and Rod Uhrig, Hemingford (a 1976 Animal Science graduate).

ANIMAL SCIENCE FACULTY RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Roger Mandigo, Professor of Animal Science in the meats area, received the Meat Processing Award from the American Meat Science Association at the 1981 annual meeting at Oregon State University. Mandigo was recognized for his research in areas of hot processing, flaked and formed restructured meats, mechanical tenderization, portion control operations and sausage products. Mandigo is a California native and joined the Animal Science Department in 1966 in a teaching and research role.
Dr. Terry Klopfenstein, Professor of Animal Science in beef cattle nutrition, received the American Feed Manufacturers Nutrition Award at the 1981 meeting of the American Society of Animal Science at North Carolina State University.

Klopfenstein was honored for his significant contributions in animal nutrition concerning improving the utilization of crop residues by cattle. Klopfenstein is a native of Ohio and joined the Department in 1965. He also received the 1981 University of Nebraska Livestock Service Award sponsored by Walnut Grove for his contributions to Nebraska’s livestock industry.

ANIMAL SCIENCE STUDENTS RECEIVE SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Tim Cech, a 1981 UNL Animal Science graduate, was selected for the Outstanding Undergraduate Travel Award by the American Meat Science Association this spring. Cech, a native of North Bend, was honored at the Reciprocal Meats Conference at Oregon State University in June.

Kevin Jones, a Ph.D. student in meats, won two national awards this summer. He received first place in the American Meat Science Association research poster competition at the Reciprocal Meats Conference at Oregon State University and first place in oral presentation competition at the Institute of Food Technology meetings at Atlanta.

Jim Nelssen, a Ph.D. student in swine nutrition, received the $1,000 Widaman Outstanding Graduate Student Award by the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station. This is a competitive award given to support basic graduate student research in agriculture and medicine. Nelssen is a native of Kansas and earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Kansas State University.

Michael Tess, who completed his Ph.D. degree in animal breeding this spring, received the Graduate Student Outstanding Scientist Award from the Nebraska Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi. Tess is now an Assistant Professor of Animal Science at North Carolina State University.

BEEF CATTLE TEACHING HERDS ON THE MOVE

The purebred Angus and Hereford teaching herds have been a part of the University of Nebraska since the turn of the century. These two, 50-cow spring calving herds, provide cattle for evaluation classes, provide records for animal breeding and production classes, and are used to demonstrate herd improvement through performance testing.

The bull growing facilities on the East Campus have two pinpointers which permit obtaining individual feed conversion data on 30 bulls. Use of these records plus expanded use of frame scores, scrotal measurements and libido testing of the young bulls by students have given a new dimension to the teaching program.

Bulls used via A.I. in the Angus herd this year include: Nichols Landmark L 56, KAF King Pin 991-643R and MBC Cherry Creek 0221-5091. Hereford sires included RH Prospector 8013, BB Domino 427 and Quartock Canadian Moor 416G.

The Angus herd, located at the Dalbey-Halleck farm near Virginia, is under the supervision of Dr. Merlyn Nielsen, and managed by Steve Pritchard. The Hereford herd, located at the University Field Laboratory near Mead, is supervised by Dr. Jim Gosey and managed by Jack Fudge. The Hereford herd was a featured stop on the Nebraska Hereford Tour on September 14, 1981. Visitors are always welcome and arrangements to see these herds can be made by contacting either the supervisors or the herdsmen. Bulls are on campus in Lincoln from November through April—stop in some time.

WINKLER SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

A scholarship to be used by a member of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Livestock Judging Team has been established to honor the late C.W. “Cly” Winkler. Winkler was a member of the 1930-1931 judging teams and was killed in an auto accident in January, 1981. Contributions to the Cly Winkler Memorial Scholarship can be sent to Robert M. Howard, Managing Editor, Nebraska Cattleman, P.O. Drawer 40, Alliance, NE 69301.

BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB OFFICERS FOR FALL SEMESTER

Officers for the 1981 Fall Semester of the Block and Bridle Club elected at the April meeting are:

President: Jane Pauley, Harvard
Vice President: Galen Loseke, Sutton
Secretary: Jayne Witte, Louisville
Treasurer: Tim Nollette, Nenzel
Marshall: Joy Schroeder, West Point
Asst. Marshall: Scott Langemeier, Schuyler
Historian: Greg Ibach, Summer
Asst. Historian: Mark Ford, Cody
Program Chairman: Tony Lesiak, Fullerton
Advisers: Dr. Keith Gillster

The University of Nebraska Block and Bridle Club is nationally recognized for its activities and leadership efforts. Events sponsored by the club include: A Fall Steak Fry to acquaint new students with club activities, Little Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Show, Kids Day, Ham Sales, Judging Contest and the Honor Banquet. The club has received top awards in national competition for club activities scrapbook and club annual.

EMERITI FACULTY CONTINUE INTEREST IN DEPARTMENT

A number of former departmental staff continue to make their homes in Lincoln. These include: M. A. Alexander, Vincent Arthaud, Cecil Blunn, William Del-
rick, Philip Kelly, Frank Mussehl, C. W. Nibler, Andrew Schultze (Eagle, NE), Walter Tolman (Platts- mouth, NE), and Dave Williams. Widows of former staff members who make their homes in Lincoln include: Mrs. M. L. Flack, Mrs. K. C. Fouts, Mrs. I. L. Hathaway, Mrs. William Loeffel, and Mrs. Mogens Plum.

DID YOU KNOW?

Poultry was a part of Animal Science at the University in the early 1900's. The 1916 college catalog listed four poultry production courses in animal husbandry. Professor Frank E. Mussehl came to Nebraska from Wisconsin in 1917 as a member of the animal husbandry staff and the Department of Poultry Husbandry was established in 1922 with Professor Mussehl as the Department Head. He continued to serve in that position until his retirement in 1957. Professor and Mrs. Mussehl still reside in Lincoln and the former Poultry Building was named in his honor in 1979. In 1977, the Poultry Science and Animal Science administrative units were merged into the Animal Science Department. So in truth, poultry science has “come full circle” on our campus.

The early-day poultry farm was located where Regents Hall now stands. Later, the area near the present Nebraska Tractor Testing Laboratory was occupied by the University poultry flocks. The present poultry complex on the East Campus was completed in 1963.