October 2008

Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Summer/Fall 2008

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Faculty Activities
From The Interim Department
Head’s Desk

Hello everyone. It is truly a pleasure to be writing to you this early summer of 2008 about activities in the Animal Science Department. As you read through our newsletter, you will see that we have had a very busy and productive academic year here in Animal Science. Our judging and equestrian teams represented our department well across the many contests they participated in. We graduated 20 Animal Science majors in December and 20 in May along with 14 graduate degrees in this past academic year. We are so fortunate to have growth in our student numbers. Starting this fall semester, all Pre-Vet Majors will come through CASNR as Animal Science Majors to be advised by a joint advisory team of faculty from both Animal Science and Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences faculty. We are excited to have a more formal role in Pre-Vet advising and feel we have a lot to offer these majors.

Important activities occurring in our facility this year included Horsin’ Around, the FFA Livestock Management and Judging Contests, 4-H Horse Stampede, Oxbow Summer Camps, Livestock Judging Camp, and the Lancaster County 4-H Achievement Night which brought over 1,200 youth to our building. Other events included the Block and Bridle Kids’ Day, Certified Angus Beef Training Session, Equestrian Team competitions in November and February, Pork 101, the annual Bulls Worth Waiting For Sale, and Cattle Artificial Insemination Training School. It is wonderful to have these various activities in our facilities and we always welcome alumni and guests to our building.

The Animal Science Complex will be getting a facelift beginning this summer of 2008. A generous appropriation has been given to UNL to improve the ventilation, heating and cooling systems in our facility as well as install a new roof for the R.B. Warren Arena. The renovation is a five-phase project to extend over a two and one-half year time period. We are hoping to stay flexible during this renovation to continue providing the depth of programs our students and producer groups are used to attending in our facility. Some programs may need to be moved to alternate locations for a limited period of time.

As we enter the summer months, we find faculty and students very busy with research and extension activities. You’ll see many of our faculty at local and state equine and livestock shows. Please feel free to chat about our programs with any faculty or student you may see at these venues. We are fortunate to have such a great group of alumni always willing to help out and lend an ear or hand when we need you. You are appreciated.

(Dr. Sheila E. Scheideler, Interim Dept. Head)

90 Years of Poultry Science at University of Nebraska

This year the Poultry Science Association will be celebrating 100 years. The University of Nebraska started a Poultry program in 1917 with the first poultry course taught by M. E. Dickson. Dr. F. E. Mussehl, whom Mussehl Hall is named after, became the first department head, serving the University for 40 years in that position. Professor Mussehl’s large endowment continues to provide as much as $100,000 per year to support poultry research and teaching programs. In 1972 the Poultry Science Department was renamed Poultry and Wildlife Sciences, and in 1977 the Poultry Science programs were merged with Animal Science. In 1984 Dr. Glenn Froning moved from Animal Science to the Department of Food Science and Technology, but the other poultry faculty remained with the Animal Science Department.

Mussehl Hall (picture courtesy of Glenn W. Froning)
Department. Today the Department of Animal Science has Dr. Sheila E. Scheideler, Extension Poultry Scientist. The Departments of Food Science and Technology and Biological Systems Engineering, as well as others, are doing some poultry research.

**Department Heads**

Frank E. Mussehl, 1917-1957  
John Adams, 1957-1964  
Ted E. Hartung, 1965-1972  
Glenn W. Froning, 1972-1977

**Research Projects 1965-2008**

The Poultry Science Department did a lot of research with eggs, chickens and turkeys during 1965-2008 and listed below are research projects that occurred during that time:
- 1965-1994 – Important contributions on mineral and vitamin requirements for turkeys
- 1965-1994 – Pioneering work on the effect of energy requirements on feed intake of layers
- 1971-1979 – Pioneering work on mechanically deboned poultry meat with an emphasis on color and oxidation problems
- 1972 – Emulsification properties of poultry meat
- 1974 – Isolation and characterization of heme proteins in poultry meat
- 1980-2006 – Significant studies on the effect of animal care on physiology of the laying hen
- 1982-1986 – Prolslaughter stress effect on color and texture of turkey meat; one of the first reports on pale, soft and exudative turkey meat
- 1987 – Use of ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis to concentrate egg white
- 1992-1994 – Washing of mechanically deboned meat to concentrate protein and remove lipids
- 1994 – Supercritical carbon dioxide extraction to remove cholesterol and lipids from eggs and poultry meat
- 1996-1998 – Producing omega-3 eggs and eggs with reduced cholesterol; patent was developed and the eggs have been marketed in the Midwest
- 2000-2002 – Research on validation of pasteurization requirements of egg products completed
- 2006-2008 – Research on non-thermal pasteurization methods and Salmonella control in egg products continues in Food Science and Technology

**Awards**

Throughout the years the Poultry Science researchers have won many awards. Twice the researchers have won the American Egg Board Research Award and the American Feed Manufacturers’ Award. They have had one faculty member win the Extension Teaching Award. Two faculty members have received the Helene Cecil Award and two faculty members have won the National Turkey Federation Award. There are four members that have become Fellows in the Poultry Science Association and three of the faculty members have served as President of the Poultry Science Association throughout the years.
New Faculty

Judson Vasconcelos Appointed Feedlot Nutrition and Management Specialist

Dr. Judson Vasconcelos was appointed the new feedlot nutrition and management specialist at the University of Nebraska Panhandle Research and Extension Center. Dr. Vasconcelos is a native of Brazil and received a degree in veterinary medicine in 1998. He spent several years working for an American nutrition company based in Brazil. His industry connections brought him to Texas, where in 2004 he received his Master’s degree from West Texas A&M and his doctorate from Texas A&M University in 2006.

Dr. Vasconcelos will be responsible for conducting extension and research programs focused on efficiency, profitability, food safety and environmental aspects of feedlot cattle production in the central High Plains. This position will allow him to be faculty supervisor for the newly expanded Panhandle Research Feedlot at Scottsbluff, with developing, funding and conducting research trials at this facility.

His immediate goals are to network with consulting nutritionists to learn about research needs, then to align those needs to the capacities at the Panhandle Research Feedlot. One of the projects planned will be trials on distillers grains, one of the products of ethanol plants. The research feedlot plans to use by-products from the ethanol plant under construction at Bridgeport, NE. He has been interested in cattle production since visiting Brazilian ranches as a youth with friends. His home state is Mato Grosso do Sul, translated as “thick grass from the south.”

Current Faculty

Dr. Mohammad Koohmaraie Changes Careers

Dr. Mohammad Koohmaraie recently joined IEH Laboratories and Consulting Group. Prior to this change, Dr. Koohmaraie worked at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (USMARC) as a researcher and in 2005 was named Director. As Director he was responsible for directing research and the operations of USMARC.

Throughout his career, Dr. Koohmaraie focused his research efforts on the biological mechanisms regulating meat tenderness. Starting with the outbreak of E. coli 0157:H7 in the Northwest, he became heavily involved in leading and conducting research projects to help the meat industry reduce/eliminate E. coli 0157:H7 from the red meat supply. He worked closely with the meat industry to design projects to address food safety problems relevant to the industry. The focal points of these projects have been the development of methodology to assess the prevalence of key foodborne pathogens and intervention strategies to reduce or eliminate these pathogens from the red meat supply.

In his new position, Dr. Koohmaraie, will continue to focus on helping the industry produce the safest food possible.

Bud Britton Memorial Golf Tournament

The Bud Britton Memorial Golf Tournament was held on May 16th with only 15 people playing, but all had a great time. There were 5 teams with 3 players each. Two teams tied with the winning score. Shooting 1 under par were Dennis Conley, Rick Rasby, and Roman Moreno. Also shooting 1 under par were Phil Miller, June Snyder, and Galen Erickson. Members of the winning team were Phil Miller, June Snyder, and Galen Erickson based on a playoff format. Rick Rasby had the longest drive on number 4 at Mahoney. Galen Erickson was the closest to the pin in 2 on number 8, and Dennis Conley was the closest to the pin on number 2 (a par 3).

If this tradition is to continue, more people need to participate (even if they never played before).

Emeriti Faculty

Bob Fritschen has been keeping active being a mentor in the TeamMates program the past six years at Laurel, NE. He has trained new mentors and serves on the local board. In 2007 and 2008 Laurel, NE went through a tax increment financing process to assist with economic development. As a result, Bob has become chair of the Community Redevelopment Authority.

Bob presents two lectures to the LEAD program when they come to Wayne State College. One lecture is “How to Make Meetings More Productive,” and the other “Global Perspectives.” He even lectures on the history and health benefits of green tea, which he has done for 14 different groups from Norfolk to Vermillion, SD. He helps organize and is co-chair of the Laurel Community Foundation which raises and invests their funding to help support projects such as new playground equipment for the park.

Foster Owen cannot believe that he has been retired 20 years in June 2008. He says that “He intends on getting his money’s worth from TIAA/CREF.” He received his BS degree 60 years ago from Auburn University where Foster and his wife, Bobbye Jean, moved after his retirement from the University of Nebraska. He enjoys watching the football team, especially when they have beaten the University of Alabama the last six years!

Both Foster and Bobbye Jean keep busy with their church, especially the travel committee, which arranged for a trip to Nashville last Christmas season. They have also traveled to Branson, MO, visited Eureka Springs, AR and the Bill Clinton Presidential Library at Little Rock, AR.

They belong to two investment clubs, and both have started a “Just for Fun Club” at their church. One of the things Foster
Update on Dr. Ernie Peo

Ernest R. Peo, Jr., Emeritus Professor, Animal Science, and his wife Mary are living in The Ambassador, a skilled nursing and rehab center in Lincoln, Nebraska. They moved there in January 2007. The Ambassador staff provides Ernie and Mary a comfortable lifestyle designed to meet their specific needs. Ernie requires a wheelchair to maneuver around the center due to difficulties with his right leg. Besides going to the cafeteria three times daily to eat, they enjoy reading the newspaper and watching Judge Judy on TV. Ernie believes the judge tells people exactly what they need to hear.

People who know Dr. Peo easily realize his impact on the pork industry through his many years of teaching and research in swine nutrition. But few probably know that he earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees working with cattle. Also, as he was finishing his B.S., he was offered an assistantship to pursue an M.S. degree in animal breeding. He chose to research environmental issues in cattle instead.

“Animal breeding was not my cup of tea, so I declined the assistantship. Boy did that make some people mad,” Ernie recalled. This is an example of how Ernie placed more importance on pursuing a passion rather than money, although declining the assistantship placed a significant financial burden on his family. Dr. Peo’s former students can attest to him giving them such counsel many times.

When asked to indicate what he is most proud of, he confidently said “people-oriented things.” Former students help sustain the Peos. He is also proud of having established the university swine research unit at Mead. After having been on the faculty at UNL for only a few months, Ernie was given sole responsibility for the university swine research program. As a result of Dr. Peo’s leadership, countless research trials that impact the global pork industry have been conducted at Mead.

He is also proud of his ground-breaking research with CSP-250, which indicated significant improvements in pig growth performance. “Many people used CSP-250 in their nursery and grower diets based on those results,” he recalled.

“I want it to be known that my interest in research has not waned since my retirement,” Ernie emphasized. “I often think about trials that could be conducted. For example, given expensive corn, we must better understand carbohydrates in swine nutrition.”

Many would be pleased to know that Dr. Peo has not stopped offering advice. “Don’t be afraid to get some pig manure on you,” he stated out of the blue (I hope he was not thinking I needed this advice!). His advice was often well accepted by former students, because he always walked the talk.

Just as I was leaving, I observed once again Dr. Peo’s gentlemanly, humble nature. As facility staff, who appeared to know Ernie quite well, were assisting him into a wheelchair, he introduced me. I quickly told them that they are caring for a person who easily impacts 95% of the pork they eat (i.e., many of his former students are in key positions in the pork industry). They said WOW and immediately turned to Ernie and asked if he was a doctor. He quietly said yes. Then one said “You never told us about any of this. We are very impressed that we’re caring for an important person.” Ernie blushed.

Ernie and Mary warmly welcome visitors and your letters. The Ambassador is located at 4455 Normal Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68506; 402-488-2355.

Editor’s note: We’ll print in future newsletters recollections of Dr. Peo that any of his former students send us.

(contributed by Duane Reese)

Student Activities

Block and Bridle

Jay Wolf 2008 Block & Bridle Honoree

Jay and his family own and manage the Wagonhammer Cattle Company, a diversified cattle operation with farming, feeding and ranching enterprises near Albion and Bartlett. The Wagonhammer operation was founded in 1910 with a single dairy calf by Jay’s grandfather and great uncle, Julius and Max Wolf, who emigrated from Germany. Julius and Max saw the grazing potential of the Sandhills after the drought of the 1930’s, when many people abandoned the area. They converted to a cow-calf operation, and registered Angus were added in 1960.
agribusiness, and daughter Hilary is a sophomore at Boone Central High in Albion. Jay is the third of four children born to Jim and Elaine Wolf. Sister Debbie and her family live in Kansas City, sister Sue and her family live near San Francisco, and brother David and his family reside in Denver. Jay’s mother Elaine also lives in Albion.

Jay says, “I have tried to follow my parents’ examples of service and philanthropy. We all have benefitted from what others have done before us and we have to do our share of giving back.”

Scholarships

McKayla Hirschman, St. Paul – Senior Workhorse Award, Outstanding Senior Scholarship
McKenzie Chambers, Platteville, Colorado – Outstanding Initiate Award
Laura Witte, Scribner – Outstanding Sophomore Activities Award
Annie Doerr, Creighton – Outstanding Junior Activities Award, Mike Cull Block & Bridle Judging & Activities Award
Shantille Kruse, Tecumseh – Outstanding Junior Scholarship
Jeremy Haack, York – MAEC Top Senior
Maria Dorn, Brownville – MAEC Top Junior

2008-2009 Block & Bridle Club Officers

President – Garrett Koester, Wellfleet
Vice President – Jacob Geis, Newcastle
Treasurer – Jeremy Haack, York
Secretary – Shantille Kruse, Tecumseh
Historian – McKenzie Chambers, Platteville, CO
Marshall – Andrea Seidel, Burwell
Assistant Marshall – Jared Williams, Broken Bow
News Reporter – Laura Witte, Scribner
Program Chair – Matt Dolch, Villisca, IA
Assistant Historian – Stacey Guthard, Litchfield
Ambassador – Emily Arkfeld, Dunbar
Ambassador – Andrew Uden, Elwood
Social Chair – Jessalyn Schrock, Bennett
Advisors – Phil Miller, Senior; Rick Rasby, Junior; and
Bryan Reiling, Freshman
Club Secretary – Nancy Savery

Ambassadors

2008-2009 Ambassadors
Emily Arkfeld, Dunbar; Maria Lewis, Arco, ID; Jessalyn Schrock, Bennett; Amanda Pflasterer, Grand Island.

SEECA: Students for Education in Exotic and Companion Animals

A new student organization was formed this spring for students with an interest in exotic and companion animals. The organization will provide an opportunity for students with an interest in companion, exotic, or zoo animals to become acquainted with one another and to improve the knowledge and understanding of these animals. The club will do this through inviting speakers involved in a variety of fields related to exotic and companion animals to speak at regular meetings. In addition, the organization will seek to increase awareness of companion and exotic animals on campus and within the community. The students will be looking for opportunities to volunteer or aid service groups related to companion animals. The club received recognized student organization status in May.

The 2008-2009 officers for the Companion Animal Club are as follows:
President – Kristin Norwood, Kearney
Vice President – Allison Leimer, Mead
Treasurer – Allie Knoll, Crete
Secretary – Taylor Yaw, Imperial
Service Chair – Lindsay Olmsted, Crete
Historian – Laura Murray, LaVista
Faculty Advisor – Lisa Karr-Lillienthal

Judging

2008 Livestock Judging Team

The 2007-2008 Livestock Team completed their season on November 12th at the North American International Livestock Exposition. The team finished a great year with a 9th place finish out of 29 teams. Individually, Dirk Burken, Blue Hill; was named Reserve National Champion and Jackie Snyder, Hershey; was one of ten students named to the All-American Team. Other team members finishing their careers include Malloy Becker, Mccellandtown, PA; Maria Dorn, Brownville; Jeff Epp, Aurora; MaKayla Hirschman, St. Paul; Russell Pedrett, Palmyra; and Bryttni Westlake, Kinnear, WY.

The 2008-2009 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team has been rewarded with several awards and seen many outstanding team and individual performances. Team members include Annie Doerr, Creighton; Kyle Dorn, Adams; Garret Koester, Wellfleet; Shantille Kruse, Tecumseh; Roger Morgan, Burwell; Tony Roubal, North Bend; and Jason Warner, Arapahoe.

In preparation for the upcoming initial contest of the spring, the team hit the road at 5:00 am on January 1, 2008 for winter workout. The team traveled to over 20 different leading producers of cattle, sheep and swine producers in Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Wyoming. In all, the team spent the better part of two weeks evaluating livestock and presenting oral reasons in practice for the National Western Stock Show. On January 18, 2008 the once green new students to the judging arena grew up
fast with a strong start to the spring season. In sheep judging, the team finished 11th and Warner placed 4th. In swine judging, the team finished 7th with Warner placing 14th and scoring a contest leading 97 out of 100 points in swine reasons. In cattle judging, the team finished 8th. Individually, Kruse was 9th and tied for high point individual in feedlot steers. In oral reasons, the team finished 9th and Warner placed 4th. Overall the team finished 9th out of 21 teams.

Looking to build on their success, the team competed at the Sioux Empire Show in Sioux Falls, SD on January 26, 2008. UNL had a contest-leading day in cattle with several other top finishes. In sheep judging, the team finished 7th. Individually, Warner placed 8th. In swine judging, the team finished 6th. Individually, Warner placed 6th and Koester tied for 10th. In cattle judging, the team finished 1st. Individually Kruse was high individual overall, leading two other UNL students in the top five. Doerr placed 2nd and Roger Morgan placed 4th. In oral reasons, the team finished 3rd. Individually, Kruse placed 7th and Doerr placed 9th. Overall the team finished 3rd. Kruse led the team placing 3rd and Doerr was 11th.

On Saturday, February 9, 2008 the team hit the road again to compete at the Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines, IA. The contest provided both highs and lows for the young season. In placings the team finished 8th. Individually, Morgan lead the contest winning placings with his teammates. Warner placed 6th and Dorn placed 8th. In oral reasons the team finished 4th. Individually, Warner placed 4th. Even more impressive Warner and Doerr each received a 50 in oral reasons. Overall the team finished 8th. Individually, Warner was 2nd high individual, Morgan was 4th and Dorn was 19th.

New this year was the first ever Nebraska Cattlemen’s Classic Cattle Contest. On February 23, 2008 over 175 contestants from 5 different states and 13 different colleges gathered to compete. UNL rebounded well with the team finishing 3rd in placings. Individually, Warner placed 7th and Kruse placed 8th. In oral reasons the team finished 3rd. Individually, Doerr placed 4th, Warner placed 6th and Kruse placed 10th. Overall the team finished 4th, just 14 points behind the champion team. Individually, Warner placed 4th, Kruse placed 6th and Doerr placed 9th.

With a strong performance behind them, the team traveled to Houston to compete at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo during spring break. The team had a consistent day placing in the top ten of all species and oral reasons. Overall the team finished 9th out of 22 teams. Individually, Warner placed 14th in cattle, Kruse was 19th overall and Morgan finished the spring strong placing 15th overall in the alternate contest.

The fall promises to be even better with the team finishing the spring in the top ten of all five contests. Senior livestock judging team members will be back mid-August to prepare for competitions including the Mid-America Classic, Wichita, KS; the Premier Stockman, Frankfort, IN; the American Royal, Kansas City, MO; and the National Championship Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, KY. No question, these accomplishments would not be possible without the support of others. We would like to thank all producers, supporters and contributors of the UNL Livestock Judging Team including the Kimmel Foundation, Nebraska Farm Bureau Services Inc., the Nebraska Cattlemen’s Research and Education Foundation, and numerous others who make it possible to have this great program.

This summer several members will be participating in internships, summer contests, livestock clinics and the Big Red Judging Camp. Four of the seven team members were recently nominated for All-American status. The recipients of this honor will be named at the conclusion of the season. The team is coached by Matt Ellicott and assisted by Meat Science Master’s student Ben Williams of Logansport, IN.

Meats Judging Team

This spring, the 2008 Junior Meats Judging Team traveled to JBS Swift in Greeley, CO for the National Western Meat Judging Contest and to Columbia Packing Company in Dallas, TX for the Southwestern Meat Judging Contest. The team worked extremely hard giving up nights and weekends to practice.

Starting off with the spring contests at the National Western, the team placed 3rd in pork judging, 4th in specifications, and...
5th in total placings. Individually, Derek Schroeder was 3rd in lamb judging, 6th in total placings, and 17th in reasons. Bryce Gerlach was 5th high individual, placing 4th in specifications, 8th in pork judging, 11th in beef judging, 12th in reasons, and 13th in total placings.

At the Southwestern Contest, the team placed 4th in specifications and 6th overall. Individually, Bryce Gerlach was 12th overall, placing 7th in beef judging, 14th in beef grading, 12th in overall beef, 12th in total placings, 10th in reasons, and 9th in pork judging. John Person placed 12th in lamb judging. Brian Petersen was 17th in specifications, and Derek Schroeder placed 14th in total placings. The team is excited to get back this fall and start practicing so they can have a successful fall season representing UNL.

(contributed by Ace VanDeWalle)

MAEC Team

The National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest is a unique, comprehensive, two-day competition that combines components of meats judging, livestock judging, and real-world evaluation and pricing of commercial livestock and meat products. In addition, there is a fourth division within the competition where teams are provided a communications challenge. When presented with a current issue related to the livestock and meats industries, the team had one hour to develop an oral presentation or skit designed to address the topic incorporating viewpoints of the meat industry, livestock producer, and consumer. This year, the contest was hosted by Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma National Stockyards was the backdrop for the competition.

Although the team did not place as high they may have desired, ranking 14th overall, this group of students learned much about the livestock and meats industries. In practice and competition, they saw more variation than they may have ever realized even existed. They were able to visit with seedstock producers to hear their opinions of where the livestock industry is headed. They learned the basics of yield and quality grading and evaluation of our meat products. In practice, they were provided an in-depth tour of the beef processing facility in Schuyler, NE, so they might truly gain an appreciation of how the animal is utilized and merchandised once it reaches market weight.

(contributed by Bryan Reiling)

Equine Teams

Equestrian Team

This year, the Husker Equestrians again earned the title of Regional Champion Team, making it four years in a row! In addition, Chelsea Leatherwood (Lincoln) finished the Reserve High Point Rider in the region, while Alicia Wittwer (Dawson) finished in 3rd. Through regular season competition, riders compete individually to earn points and designated riders compete to earn points for the team. This year, 20 riders on the UNL Equestrian Team earned enough points to qualify for Regional Championships, held in Brookings, SD.

The 2007-08 team members include: Natalie Becher, Platte Center; Kim Behrends, Jensen; Megan Boone, Ashland; Samantha Cajka, Lincoln; Maria Cammack, Lincoln; Kim Corradi, Phillips; Shannon Cosgrove, Lincoln; Tami Cullen, Sycamore, IL; Cally Frahm, Oakland; Amy Greenwood, Wood River; Maggie Holub, Scribner; Kelsey Horner, Kearney; Lindsey Horner, Kearney; Emily Houdersheldt, Shelby; Krystl Knabe, Nehawka; Mindy Leach, Malcolm; Chelsea Leatherwood, Lincoln; Haze Lockee, Lincoln; Reenie McCormick, Omaha; Laura Murray, LaVista; Megan Oborny, Seward; Brandon Sorensen, Harvard; Whitney Sprout, Elgin; Lauren Waller, Lincoln; and Alicia Wittwer, Dawson. The team was coached by Libby Lugar.

(contributed by Libby Lugar)
Horse Judging Team

The 2007 Horse Judging season started off in the spring with the North American College Teachers of Agriculture contest held in Hutchinson, KS. At this contest, the team finished 4th in halter, 1st in performance, 3rd in reasons, and 2nd overall. The team competed against 14 other teams to bring home 4th place in Halter, 4th place in performance, 3rd place in reasons, and 4th place overall. In addition, Cassie Krueger and Mindy Leach finished 7th and 14th, respectively, in halter. Morgan Marshall and Mindy Leach both brought home top ten finishes in performance with 6th and 9th, while Mindy, Morgan, and Cassie all finished in the top 20 in reasons. Finally, Mindy Leach finished 9th high individual overall where Morgan Marshall and Cassie Krueger both followed up with top 20 placings.

In the Senior Collegiate Competition, Katy Cockerill, Granger, IN finished in the top third of all competitors in all divisions, while Mikki Schmidt, Gurley, in her first judging competition ever, finished in the top half. The team was coached by Libby Lugar.

(contributed by Libby Lugar)

Academic Quadrathlon

Twenty-three students competed in the Animal Science Quadrathlon which was held on March 5 and 6. The quiz bowl was won by Mitch Bredthauer, Malloy Becker, Emily Cone, and Mitch Novacek. The team of McKenzie Steger, Jacque Schrack, Robin Easterly, and Jared Williams placed first in the oral presentation, second in the quiz bowl, and third overall. The team of Katy Cockerill, Laura Thornton, and Emily Houderscheldt won the written exam, placed 2nd in the lab practicum, 3rd in the quiz bowl, and 2nd overall. The overall winning team was that of Chelsea Leatherwood, Jake Huebner, Mikkie Schmidt, and Jessie Bauman. The team won the quiz bowl and placed 2nd in both the written exam and lab practicum.

Alumni News

Deaths

Russell D. Hughes (B.S. ’37) of Fremont passed away at the age of 99. Russ graduated in Animal Science in 1937 and was a retired county extension agent.

Tim Stanton (B.S.’75; M.S. ’77) passed away on March 24, 2008 in Fort Collins, CO. Tim grew up in Stromsburg, NE. Tim first attended the University of Nebraska Kearney before coming to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln where he earned his B.S. degree in Agriculture and his M.S. degree in Animal Science. Tim continued his studies in nutrition and biochemistry, earning a Ph.D. degree from Oklahoma State University in 1980. After graduating with his Ph.D., he accepted a position in the Animal Science Department of Colorado State University. He held that position for 25 years. He devoted himself to his work which encompassed teaching, extension, and research.

He received the Western Section of American Society of Animal Science Extension Award in 2005. He was recognized by both Epsilon Sigma Phi and Colorado State University for 25 years of service as an Extension Professional. Tim’s treasures in life were his wife, Renate, son Will and two daughters Jackie and Hanni.

Updates

Curt Arens (B.S. ’86) – Curt has just released his first book “Down to Earth: Celebrating a Blessed Life on the Land,” which is published by ACTA Publications. It is about faith and family on the farm. Curt lives in Crofton, NE and can be reached by e-mail at bowview@gpcom.net.

Rex Messersmith (B.S. ’52) – Rex is a retired radio farm broadcaster. He continues to record two short programs for the Nebraska Soybean Board called “Update” and for the Nebraska Soybean Association called “Soybean Association Report.” These programs are on KRVN, Lexington, NE; KTIC, West Point, NE; and KZEN, Columbus, NE. Rex got his “start” with the University of Nebraska Agricultural Communications Department. Rex resides in Lincoln, NE.

Julie Rau-Ruhter (B.S. ’99) – Julie ranches with her husband Tony just south of Ainsworth, NE and works for AgInfoLink in their verification services. This helps ranchers and feedlot operators meet the requirements to market their cattle as a source and age verified for the Japanese market which requires cattle to be less than 21 months of age. She is a Sales Associate for AgInfoLink. She also was a LEAD fellow in 2007.
Dale Travnicck (B.S. ’65) – Dale is a rancher and farrier. Dale lives in Harrison, NE with his wife and five children. He is a member of the National Senior Pro-Rodeo Association and has done some calf roping and ribbon roping. His wife is a former barrel racer. He currently owns approximately 1,000 acres of pasture land in Sioux and Dawes Counties. They have about 60 cows in a cow-calf operation and raise their own replacement heifers.

Lindsey (Deardorff) Walsh (B.S. ’99) – Lindsey is currently working at Snitily Carr (advertising agency) in Lincoln, NE as an account director.

Awards and Recognitions

Faculty

Don Adams – OmVet Innovation Award
Kathy Anderson – 2008 Horseperson of the Year, and President of the American Youth Horse Council
Terry Klopfenstein – OmVet Innovation Award
Dennis Brink – CASNR Superior Academic Advising Award
J. Joe Ford – American Society of Animal Science Research Fellow Award
Rick Funston – Three-year term on IANR Committee on Policy for Appointment and Promotion
Kathy Hanford – IANR Dinsdale Award
Steve Jones – CASNR Award for working with students on the New Zealand Study Abroad Program
Jeff Keown – CASNR Award for working with students on the Mexican Study Abroad Program
Rodger Johnson – American Society of Animal Science Research Fellow Award
Don Levis – American Society of Animal Science Extension Fellow Award
Terry Mader – Honorary Professor in the School of Animal Studies at the University of Queensland, Australia; Member of Nobel Peace Prize Award Panel
Merilyn Nielsen – Past President of Midwest Section Society of Animal Science and the American Dairy Science Association
Rick Rasby – Distinguished Educational Service Award
Bryan Reiling – CASNR Outstanding Teaching Award
Sheila Scheideler – Nebraska Poultry Industries Hall of Fame
Gary Stauffer, O’Neill – Promoted to Extension Educator
Monte Stauffer, Papillion – Promoted to Extension Educator

Staff

Terri Behl – January IANR Office/Service Outstanding Employee
Nancy Savery – Honorable Mention in the Nebraska Mothers Poetry Contest

Students

Graduate

Alia Aljamal – Mussehl Graduate Fellowship
Rodrigo Arias – Ned S. and Esther B. Raun International Graduate Fellowship
Mark Corrigan 3rd Place Award for PhD oral paper competition at Midwestern Section of ASAS/ADSA

Mahmoud K. Masa’deh – Mussehl Graduate Fellowship, Distillers Grains Scholarship, Center for Biotechnology Milton E. Mohr Graduate Fellowship
Amilton Souza de Mello, Jr. 3rd Place Award for PhD poster competition at Midwestern Section of ASAS/ADSA, and Nebraska Cattlemen Beef Pit Scholarship
Roman Moreno – International Ingredients Corporation (IIC) Pinnacle Award in recognition of his excellent academic record and active participation in a variety of campus services
Pradeep Krishnan Rajalekshmy – Ruth Keller Memorial Fellowship

Undergraduate

Academic Achievement at Graduate Women in Science Forum
Meredith Adams, Mason City, IA; Alexandra Hill, Omaha; Jennifer Horst, Lincoln; Jessalyn Schrock, Bennett; Amanda Van Pelt, Mitchell; Kristina Hubbard, Overton; Maria Lewis, Arco, Idaho; and Emily Tschida, Omaha

Honors Convocation Awards

Kristina Hubbard, Overton – Chancellor’s Scholar; Kathryn A. Cockerill, Granger, IN; Nicholas J. Easterly, Sidney; Mikki J. Schmidt, Gurley; Andrea K. Schwarz, Archer – Superior Scholars
Zachary P. Adams, Wilcox; Anne N. Rolison, Plattsmouth; Taylor J. Yaw, Imperial – 4.0 Scholars
Stephanie M. Laudenkos, Columbus; Alexander J. Wolf, Albion; Lindsey Hofman, Omaha; Melanie D. Cofer, Gering; Ressa M. Hoffschneider, York; Katherine M. Koch, Crofton; Cassandra R. Krueger, Lincoln; Allison K. Leimer, Mead; Laura K. Maricile, Albion; Truc T. Nguyen, Lincoln; Stephanie R. Turner, Omaha; Anita L. Estes, Stuart; Jacob R. Geis, Newcastle; Magdalene D. Peitzmeier, Ft. Calhoun; Kyle R. Perry, Kimball; Brian R. Petersen, Burwell; Anthony J. Roubal, North Bend, Jason M. Warner, Arapahoe; Dirk Burken, Blue Hill; Joshua VanDeWalle, Cedar Rapids; and Jeremi Wurtz, Valley – High Scholars

Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Students

Kimberly Behrends, Jansen; Kyle Clymer, David City; Anna Geis, Newcastle; Ressa Hoffschneider, York; Katherine Koch, Crofton; Cassandra Krueger, Roca; Derrick Rocker, Franklin; Kayla Rubenthaler, Gothenburg; Stephanie Turner, Omaha; and Taylor Yaw, Imperial – Sophomores
Melanie Cofer, Gering; Jacob Geis, Newcastle; Stephanie Laudenkos, Columbus; Allison Leimer, Mead; Maria Lewis, Arco, ID; Truc Nguyen, Lincoln; Magdalene Peitzmeier, Fort Calhoun; Kyle Perry, Kimball; and Jason Warner, Arapahoe – Juniors

Undergraduate Students

Emily Arkfeld, Dunbar – National Junior Swine Association Senior Outstanding Member Scholarship
Jacob R. Geis, Newcastle – Center for Biotechnology Milton E. Mohr Scholarship
Bryce Gerlach, Wilber – Meat Science Association Undergraduate Scholaristic Achievement Award
Courtney Jolly, Lincoln – Academic All-Big 12 First Team in Swimming and Diving
Andrea Schwarz, Omaha – 3rd Place Award in Undergraduate paper competition at Midwestern Section of ASAS/ADSA
Scholarships

Awarded to Incoming Freshman Scholarships (High School Seniors):

- **Tate Cunningham**, Laurel – Elton D. & Carrie R. Aberle Animal Science Scholarship
- **Molly Wolfe**, Palmer – Dr. Charles H. & Beryle I. Adams Scholarship
- **Eric Bramow**, Elkhorn – Frank & Mary Bruning Scholarship
- **Lauren Perry**, Kimball – Dr. Tim & Florene Leon Scholarship
- **Allie Dvorak**, North Bend – Nebraska Pork Producers Association Scholarship
- **Bethany Blanchard**, Papillion – Art & Ruth Raun Scholarship
- **Jessica Roeder**, Gretna – Frank & Shirley Sibert Scholarship
- **Hali Jorgensen**, Omaha – Frank & Shirley Sibert Scholarship
- **Taryn Pieper**, Farnam – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship, and Cattlemen’s Ball of Nebraska Scholarship
- **Jared Schramm**, Moville, IA – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship
- **Jordan Stromberger**, Champion – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship
- **Barrett Hunkele**, Wilber – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship
- **Kelsey Maris**, Prague – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship
- **Samantha Krusemark**, Wisner – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **Matthew Wieden**, Liberty – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **Derek Kirkendall**, Dawson – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **Lauren Long**, Springfield – Robert E. Lute II Scholarship
- **Trenton Bohling**, Johnson – Donovan Yoachim Memorial Scholarship
- **Jared Williams**, Broken Bow – Frank & Shirley Sibert Scholarship
- **Taryn E. Pieper**, Farnam – Cattlemen’s Ball of Nebraska Scholarship

Upperclassman Scholarships

- **Asia Sabatka**, Westin – ABS Global Scholarship
- **Paul Schmid**, Bellwood – Baltzell-Agri-Products, Inc. Scholarship
- **Jennifer Schuckman**, Norfolk – Maurice E. Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship
- **Quentin Dailey**, Kearney – Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship
- **Brian Peterson**, Burwell – Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Company Scholarship
- **Jessalyn Schrock**, Bennett – Doane Scholarship
- **Jeff Schroeder**, West Point – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **William Thomas**, Ashland – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **Kyle Kohout**, Friend – Feedlot Management Scholarship
- **Kerri Koch**, Crofton – Robert H. Hatch Scholarship
- **Jessica Clowser**, Milford – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship (2nd year)
- **Tyler Pieper**, Farnam – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship (2nd year)
- **Spencer Bolte**, McCool Junction – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship (2nd year)
- **Jared Williams**, Broken Bow – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship (2nd year)
- **Azureen Erdman**, Brookfield – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Taylor Yaw**, Imperial – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Zachary Adams**, Wilcox – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Robin Easterly**, Sidney – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Melinda Rathman**, Farwell – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Jason Warner**, Arapahoe – William J. Goldner Scholarship
- **Joshua VanDeWalle**, Cedar Rapids – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
- **Allison Leimer**, Mead – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
- **Trenton Bohling**, Johnson – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
- **Shantille Kruse**, Tecumseh – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
- **Anna Geis**, Newcastle – Nutrition Service Associates Scholarship
- **Brett Kreifels**, Springfield – Parr Family Scholarship
- **David Hitchler**, Spalding – Chris & Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship
- **Lindsey Olmsted**, Crete – Chris & Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship
- **Kristin Norwood**, Kearney – Chris & Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship
- **Melanie Cofer**, Gering – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
- **Emily Tschida**, Omaha – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
- **Stephanie Turner**, Omaha – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
- **Cassandra Stephenson**, Fairmont – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
- **Brigham Scott**, Westerville – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
- **Jacob Geis**, Newcastle – Max & Ora Mae Stark Scholarship
- **Amanda Stastny**, Omaha – Max & Ora Mae Stark Scholarship
- **Dana Christensen**, Hardy – Dwight F. Stephens Scholarship
- **Kyle Perry**, Kimball – D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Scholarship
- **Cassandra Krueger**, Lincoln – Arthur W. & Viola Thompson Scholarship
- **Adam Pinkerton**, Beatrice – Arthur W. & Viola Thompson Scholarship
- **Lara Moore**, Viola, Arkansas – Nebraska Cattlemen New Student Scholarship
- **Shellie Internmill**, Alliance – Nebraska Cattlemen New Student Scholarship
- **Jodi Morton**, Milligan – Nebraska Cattlemen New Student Scholarship
- **Jonathan White**, Sutherland – Richard and Joyce Frahm Scholarship
- **Jay Nordhausen**, Ogallala – Richard and Joyce Frahm Scholarship
- **Kristina Hubbard**, Overton – I. L. Hathaway Top Senior Award
- **Dirk Burken**, Blue Hill; **Kathryn Cockerill**, Gretna, IN;
- **Nicholas Easterly**, Sidney; **Kristina Hubbard**, Overton; **Brian Petersen**, Burwell; **Anthony Roubal**, North Bend; **Mikki Schmidt**, Gurley; **Tracy Sonderup**, Fullerton; and **Joshua VanDeWalle**, Cedar Rapids – American Society of Animal Science Scholaristic Award (Seniors)
The Omtvedts Visit South America

Irv Omtvedt, and his wife Wanda, participated in a very interesting and enjoyable 15-day tour to Colombia and Ecuador in February. They were part of an 11-member group that accompanied the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Governor to get a first-hand look at the community and child-related projects sponsored by seven different Kiwanis clubs in these two countries, and to see the impact grants received from the Kiwanis International Foundation were having. They visited four elementary schools, a children’s hospital, a mobile clinic, and an orphanage as part of their tour. Since they traveled to some more remote areas in Colombia, a 4-man police escort accompanied the group while they visited these areas. Irv had visited Brazil and Argentina previously, so this trip provided him exposure to new territory and an opportunity to witness a vastly different culture than experienced previously. Since these two countries do not attract great numbers of tourists, that made this trip even more educational and rewarding for Irv and Wanda.

International Activities

The Omtvedts Visit South America

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Call for Information for the 2008 Winter Issue of the Animal Science Alumni Newsletter

All of us enjoy learning about classmates and other alumni from the Animal Science Department. We ask that you send information about yourself for the next issue of our alumni newsletter. You might include memorable events from your college days, such as classes, club activities, employment, teachers, friends and other items of interest. You might include what you have been doing since leaving campus, such as employment (when and where), participation in community activities, hobbies and other personal details that may be of interest. Please see back page for more information and how you may obtain additional departmental information and activity notices via e-mail.

Your Newsletter Leadership

Earl Ellington (Chair), Ted Doane, Jeff Keown, Duane Reese, Nancy Savery, and Minnie Stephens serve as the current departmental newsletter committee. The Animal Science Department has a long history of providing newsletters to its alumni and friends. Each year we hear words of satisfaction from several of you. We certainly encourage you to send us news items and any comments on how we might improve the newsletter.

(e-mail address: mstephens1@unl.edu)

1974 – B & B’s candidate for Mt. Rushmore ... Dr. Bob Moser

1992 — Left to right (Standing): Elton Aberle, Dept. Chair, Pete Olson, Matt Corwine, Jeanna Bracken, Chad Ross, Jay Elfeldt, Brent Vieselmeyer, Coach. Seated: Travis Caspersen, Loren Meiergerd, Danny Pass, Loren Johnson.
1974 Block and Bridle Queen, Peggy (Karlberg) Stenberg crowned by the 1973 Queen Barb (Sabata) Young.

1973-74 Senior Meats Team
Front Row: Gary Maricle, Fred Douglas, Dave Lamb, Meats Coach Mr. Jim Wise. Second Row: Monty Stauffer, Dick Wilson, Dennis Farrel, Steve Harms. Top Row: Lynn Bodbergson and Greg Robinson

1974 Block and Bridle Queen, Peggy (Karlberg) Stenberg crowned by the 1973 Queen Barb (Sabata) Young.
You’ve always said someday you’ll give something back to the college that gave you so much.

How about now?

Please contact Ann Bruntz
IANR Director of Development
402-458-1176
abruntz@nufoundation.org
Alumni Information

PLEASE NOTE: In an attempt to improve our contact with alumni, the Department of Animal Science is in the process of developing an alumni e-mail listserv. If you would like to receive more frequent updates and news about the Department including upcoming events, please send us your e-mail address.

To keep us informed of your location, professional involvement and items of interest, please complete the following information sheet and return it to Vicky Kobes, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, C203 Animal Science, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908; e-mail: vkobes1@unl.edu. Should you know of Animal Science Alumni who are not receiving this newsletter, please let us know how we may contact them.

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Address_________________________________________________________________________________________________
City_________________________________________________State _______________ Zip Code________________________
E-mail__________________________________________________
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