2005

Block & Bridle Club Annual 2004-2005

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Block & Bridle Club Annual 2004-2005
Shaping the Memories

2004-2005

Block & Bridle

Club Annual

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Department of Animal Science
Block and Bridle Chapter Annual
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April 4, 2005

Dear Block & Bridle Club Members:

The Block & Bridle Club maintains an excellent reputation for fostering friendship, collegial competition, and personal growth among its members. The activities you conduct build knowledge, technical and leadership skills, and confidence; all of which are key ingredients to success. Your selection of Bob Dickey as this year’s Honoree continues the legacy of recognizing individuals whose career and service in the livestock industry had monumental impact. Bob enriched many lives through his dynamic involvement with youth, community, and individuals representing many segments of the livestock industry in Nebraska and beyond.

Congratulations to all members of Block and Bridle for an outstanding year of participation, accomplishments and leadership. The Club Officers and Committee Chairs are commended for their leadership and dedication. The impact of the several public events and organized activities can not be overstated. When this academic year comes to a close, I hope you look back and remember many valuable learning experiences, service and personal gains achieved during your membership in Block & Bridle. The trip to the National B&B meetings in San Antonio set a record for number of UNL members attending over many years.

I also extend a hearty “congratulations” to the three faculty advisors to the Club, Rick Rasby, Brett White, and Galen Erickson. They made valuable contributions to provide continuity, to challenge you to assess program planning and direction, and to enhance visibility of the Club. I thank them for their dedication and involvement.

Lastly, I wish continued success in school or beyond to all B&B members as you identify your career and personal goals and pursue those aspirations in work and life. I hope those plans include animal agriculture.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Donald H. Beermann
Professor and Head

P.O. Box 830908 / Lincoln, NE 68583-0908 / Phone (402) 472-3571 / FAX (402) 472-6362 / http://animalscience.unl.edu
March 8, 2005

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends,

This has been another successful and exciting year for Block and Bridle. This success is in large part due to the dedication and commitment of the officers and members, without them Block and Bridle could not function. Dedication to Block and Bridle is exhibited throughout the year as we complete our activities. This year Block and Bridle hosted or was involved in over 14 activities. I applaud all those involved for this! There are few other organizations that can boast that much activity.

We would like to thank our advisors; Dr. Rick Rasby, Dr. Brett White, and Dr. Galen Erickson for their guidance and support this year. Without them things would not have run as smoothly.

Serving as the President of Block and Bridle has been a privilege and I thank you all for giving me the opportunity. The enthusiasm and friendship that flows through this club is overwhelming and I am happy I had the chance to be a part of it. I have made many memories that will last a life time!

I extend the best of luck to the club for the future. I wish each and every one of the members the best of luck as they continue through college and into the world. I know that each of you will be successful in whatever it is that you choose to conquer. With representatives like the members of Block and Bridle waiting to take their place at the threshold of Agriculture, I have no doubts that the future is bright.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ashley Lewis
2004-2005 President
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, chartered by the Legislature in 1869, is that part of the University of Nebraska system which serves as both the land-grant and the comprehensive public University for the State of Nebraska. Those responsible for its origins recognized the value of combining the breadth of a comprehensive University with the professional and outreach orientation of the land grant University, thus establishing a campus which has evolved to become the flagship campus of the University of Nebraska.

“A Winning Tradition”
Nebraska has won 21 total National Championships in 5 different sports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Just the Facts: (2004-2005)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16,305 total undergraduates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% out-of-state students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% Multicultural student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,980 undergraduate degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident tuition: $143.75 per credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,561 Faculty &amp; Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research: $84,134,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students from 92 of 93 Nebraska counties, all 50 states and over 100 foreign countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Programs of Study

- Agribusiness
- Agricultural Economics
- Agricultural Education
- Agricultural Engineering
- Agricultural Journalism
- Agronomy
- Animal Science
- Biochemistry
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Diversified Agricultural Studies
- Environmental Soil Science
- Environmental Studies
- Fisheries & Wildlife
- Food Science & Technology
- Grazing Livestock Systems
- Horticulture
- Mechanized Systems Management
- Natural Resource & Environmental Economics

Administration & Staff

Dr. Steven S. Waller ........................................... Dean
Dr. Jack L. Schinstock ........................................ Associate Dean, Student Affairs
Dr. Susan Fritz .................................................. Associate Dean
Dr. Arlen W. Etling ............................................. CASNR Professor and Associate Director of International Affairs
Billie K. Lefholtz ................................................. Office Manager/Alumni Relations Director
Virginia L. Pierson ............................................. Office Assistant
Melissa J. Sailors ............................................... Receptionist/Secretary to Associate Dean
Janice M. Sammet ................................................ Transfer Credit Evaluation Specialist
Rosalee A. Swartz .............................................. College Relations Director
The Business option allows students to work closely with faculty in both the Animal Science and Agribusiness Agricultural Economics Departments. Students are introduced to the business side of Animal Science, which

The Pre-Veterinary option allows students to take the classes needed for acceptance to veterinary school, while providing hands-on experience with large animals that can only be gained through animal science classes.

Animal Production and Management incorporates the knowledge and skills needed to produce, manage, and care for livestock. Much hands-on experience is provided, including specialized courses such as “Advanced Techniques in Reproduction”, that emphasize the latest technology.
Block & Bridle History

The National Block & Bridle Club was created in Chicago, Illinois on December 2, 1919. The local clubs then became chapters for the national organization. Nebraska was a charter chapter, along with Missouri, Iowa, and Kansas. During this meeting the club's objectives were formed: To promote a higher scholastic standard among students of Animal Husbandry, to promote animal husbandry, especially all phases of students animal husbandry work in colleges and universities; to bring about a closer relationship among the men and women pursuing some phase of animal husbandry as a profession.

Club's Objectives

- To promote a higher scholastic standard among students of Animal Husbandry
- To promote animal husbandry, especially all phases of student animal husbandry, especially all phases of student animal husbandry work in colleges and universities
- To bring about a closer relationship among the men and women pursuing some phase of animal husbandry as a profession

Insignia

Colors - Royal Purple and Navy Blue.

Flower - Lilac.

This symbol is very significant to club members, as it represents the principles on which our club is built. Character, sincerity and a moral life are asked of members when they are initiated into the club and are depicted in the straight perpendicular of the "B." The distinct curves of the "B" are symbolic of social pleasure, mental energy, and the determination of members.
Calendar of Events

State Fair Beef Pit  August 28, 2004
Big Red Welcome  August 22, 2004
4-H Herdsmanship  September 4 & 5, 2004
Steak Fry  September 10, 2004
Little Aksarben  October 22, 2004
Holiday Gathering  December 7, 2004
National Convention  January 13-15, 2005
Kids Day  March 3, 2005
Big Red Beef Show  March 12, 2005
Agricultural Education Contest  March 31 & April 1, 2005
Honoree Trip  April 9, 2005
Little MAEC Contest  April 12, 2005
Honors Banquet  April 22, 2005
Super Seniors
Aaron Fehringer
Kami Marsh
Matt McGraw
Aaron Naber

Seniors
Ashley Batie
Nathan Heidbrink
Cathy Hervert
Sabrina Jansma
Lindsey Kampbell
Lisa Kot
Ashley Lewis
Darci McGee
Brock Olson
Matt Porter
Jennifer Witte
Vicki Wray

Juniors
Ashley Benes
Erin Clark
Lesha Eggers
Tessa Frenzen
Natalie Hart
Beth Maricle
Brent Nelms
Crystal Olson
Bill Pohlmeier
Shane Potter
Rachel Reuss
Debi Schulz
Jessika Uden
Sarah Vanness
Ryan Walrath
Josie Waterbury

Sophmores
Amy Bell
Jennafer Glaesemann
Krista Holstein
Brynn Husk
Amy Martin
Jackie Snyder
Sarah Stepan
Sarah Witte

Freshman
Janae Althouse
Mallory Becker
Merilynn Hirsch
MaKayla Hirschman
Betsy Kruse
Mikki Schmidt
Lauren Schroeder
Josh VanDeWalle
2004-2005 Officers

Back Row (from Left to Right): Natalie Hart-Marshall, Ryan Walrath-News Reporter, Krista Holstein-Assistant Historian, Cathy Hervert-Ambassador, Brock Olsen-Ambassador, Matt Porter-Treasurer, Brent Nelms-Assistant Marshall, Shane Potter-Social Chair. Front Row: Vicki Wray-Vice President, Ashley Lewis-President, Ashley Batie-Secretary, Beth Maricle-Program Chair, and Jessika Uden-Historian.
2004-2005 Initiates

Back Row (L to R): Josh VanDeWalle, Mallory Becker, Josie Waterbury, Merilynn Hirsch, Rachel Reuss, Janae Althouse, and MaKayla Hirschman
Front Row: Betsy Kruse, Lauren Schroeder, Sarah Vannes, Erin Clark, & Mikki Schmidt.

Initiate meetings are designed to help new club members become acquainted with the club. Initially, they played icebreakers to loosen up and get to know each other. The initiates became experts at playing the “Animal Game.” They learned the historical heritage of Block and Bridle including: the dates and location of foundation, the meanings of the symbols and colors of Block and Bridle and finally the club objectives. Initiates also learned the Constitution and bylaws of the club. Each of the officers met the initiates and described their responsibilities.

For initiation to the club the initiates composed their own version of I’m a Little Teapot. They are great singers and I’m sure they would share a verse or two.

Finally the initiates decorated paddles and sought after as many signatures as possible gather. Then they took a an initiation quiz and could finally become new Block & Bridle Members.
Best Decorated Paddles:
Betsy Kruse &
Mallory Becker

Initiates
Rick Rasby joined the staff at the University of Nebraska in 1986 as Extension Beef Specialist with primary responsibilities in cow/calf management, reproduction, and nutrition. He received a B.S. from UNL and M.S. and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. His areas include beef cattle reproduction, nutrition, and management.

Brett White received a B.S. from UNL and M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He teaches courses including: Physiology and Management of Reproduction and New Techniques in Reproductive Biology. His hobbies include fly-fishing, Husker football, and sports.

Galen Erickson received his B.S. from Iowa State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. from UNL. He joined the staff in June 2001 as an Assistant Professor and Beef Feedlot Extension Specialist.
Vicki Wray is the daughter of James and Carole Wray from Scotia, Nebraska. According to Vicki the people are the greatest thing about the club. They have so many different personalities, yet everyone has the same passion for agriculture. Vicki will miss the Big Red Beef Show the most. Her future plans include graduating and then working as an ag lender. Her advice for the Block and Bridle Members is to "Enjoy whatever it is that you do." In her years of college life she has learned that if things become so stressful that they are no longer fun, pause and evaluate what needs to be changed to make the situation more enjoyable.

Darci McGee really enjoyed the laid back atmosphere and all of the unique events that the club participated in. She is from Fairbury, Nebraska and the daughter of Scott & Judy McGee. The thing that Darci will miss the most is the National Block & Bridle Convention because it was such a fun experience to be able to meet club members from other states. Her future plans include pursuing a Masters degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She offers good advice to current students: "Don't always worry about grades and classes. Spend time on them, but don't forget to be social and make lots of friends because that is what you will have when college is over."
Jennifer Witte is the daughter of Don and Kelly Witte and the late Cindy Witte from Scribner, Nebraska. Her favorite things about Block and Bridle are the friends that she has made at events such as Kids Day, Little Aksarben, National Convention, Steak Fry, Little MAEC, and many more. Her favorite event is the Steak Fry because it is a great way to start out the school year. Her future plans are to pursue a Masters Degree in Leadership Education and then hopefully have a career in extension. Her advice to other club members is to "Make the most of every moment, so that you'll have memories to last a lifetime."

Matt Porter is a transfer student who joined the club when coming to UNL. He has really enjoyed the relationships between all of the club members. Everyone gets involved and does a lot of activities for various communities across Nebraska. He will miss the Big Red Beef Show and the Steak Fry the most because of the interaction between all the club members and seeing everyone work together to make the events a success. Porter is the son of Doug and Connie Porter from Nelson, Nebraska. His future plans include moving to the Minden area to student teach at Wilcox-Hidreth and then upon graduation working for Servi-Tech as an Area Crop Specialist. Matt provides great advice for the future: "Get involved with as many events as you can. This is where you make friends within the club and these relationships may last forever. Good Luck and always have fun in the years to come and remember that us graduating seniors are only a phone call away."
Senior Tribute

Cathy Hervert is the daughter of Lon and Leann Hervert from Ravenna, Nebraska. She loves meeting new people, developing great friendships, and taking part in various activities. Cathy will miss going to the National Block and Bridle Convention and Little Aldarben. Her advice for the future is to “Enjoy your time here, because it will soon be over and then you will have to work for a living. Keep in touch with the friends that you have made, they will help you in the long run.”

Brock Olson, from Stuart, Nebraska is the son of Russ and Michelle Olson. He really enjoyed all the trips that he has gone on and the people that he has had the opportunity to meet. He feels that the connections he has made will be valuable in his future. His advice to future members is to stay involved and take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way.
2003-2004 Block and Bridle Awards

Nick Weinrich
Senior Workhorse

Jessika Uden
Outstanding Sophomore Activities

Vicki Wray
Outstanding Junior Activities & Outstanding Junior Scholarship

Kristna Holt
Co-winner Outstanding Senior Scholarship

Aaron Naber
Mike Cull Award & Co-winner Outstanding Senior Scholarship
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Red Welcome</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$48.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steak Fry</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>$321.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Aksarben</td>
<td>$390.00</td>
<td>$372.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kid's Day</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holiday Gathering</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$225.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Block and Bridle</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Red Beef Show</td>
<td>$4,689.37</td>
<td>$6,609.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural Education Contests</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>$343.50</td>
<td>$193.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$214.39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual/Historian/News Reporter Expenses</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
<td>$610.00</td>
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<td>Banquet</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsorship</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$840</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>$300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$10,462.87</td>
<td>$8,675.91</td>
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<td>Estimated End of Year Balance</td>
<td>$5,600.00</td>
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* These figures are without complete expense/income
Secretary's Report

August: State Fair Herdsmanship, Steak Fry

September: Little Aksarben, National Convention, Big Red Beef Show

October: Clothing, Holiday Gathering, National Convention, Scrapbook

November: Holiday Gather, Annuals

December: Holiday Gathering, Beef show, Block & Bridle Burr Hall Study Break

January: Kids Day, State FFA, B&B Banquet

February: B&B Annual, Beef Show, Honoree Trip, Officer Elections, Clothing

March: Honoree, Honoree Trip, State FFA, Kid's Day, Beef Show, Little MAEC

April: State FFA, Honoree Trip, Block & Banquet, Elections, Little MAEC

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PR Partnership
440050 E. Fairview Rd.
Gothenburg, NE 69138
On September 4th and 5th various Block and Bridle Members assisted in judging Herdsmanship for 4-H during the 2004 Nebraska State Fair. Members judged 4-H for the first place Beef Carcass Contest, Highest Milk Production, and the Highest Protein Production.

Block and Bridle also supports 4-H by sponsoring three awards at the Nebraska State Fair. We sponsor the award for the first place Beef Carcass Contest, Highest Milk Production, and the Highest Protein Production.

Ryan Walrath judging the swine area.

Jackie Snyder and Jessika Uden judging the sheep area.
The Block and Bridle Club worked in the Beef Pit at the Nebraska State Fair on August 28, 2004. Many members find this a very fun way to meet beef industry members while lending a hand to serve meals to many visitors at the fair.
Big Red Welcome

The first recruitment event for new members was on August 22, 2004. Ambassadors Cathy Hervert and Brock Olsen sat up a display booth at the Big Red Welcome. This event offers students the opportunity to learn about many of the clubs and activities that are available at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Block and Bridle Display consisted of pictures from many of last year's events including Nationals. The primary goal is to gather information about students who may be interested in joining Block and Bridle.

Socials

[Images of people socializing]
On October 22, 2004 twenty six students participated in Little Aksarben at the Animal Science Building. The judges were April Johnson for Horses, Will Griffin for Beef, Ted Doane for Sheep, and Clyde Naber for Swine. This event allows students to use the animals within the department and show off their fitting and showing skills. Results provided by Committee Chairperson Cathy Hervert.
Little Aksarben Novice Division

Chatelle Ogea

Aaron Naber

Sarah Witte

Erin Mecklem

Mallory Becker First Place Overall
Lauren Schroeder Second Place Overall
December 7, 2004 was a day to take a break from studying for finals and celebrate the upcoming holidays with the Holiday Gathering. The Block & Bridle Club annually provides the meal for Animal Science Faculty, students, staff, and graduate students. The major reason for the meal is to show our appreciation for the support and help from all of the animal science faculty and students throughout the year. The meal consisted of ham and roast beef sandwiches, chips, and holiday deserts along with Pepsi products. Ashley Lewis & Vicki Wray were co-chairs for the event and would like to thank Ashley Batie, Natalie Hart, Ryan Walrath, Shane Porter, Brock Olsen, and Josie Watebury for their help in making the event a success.

In the name of the holiday spirit the UNL Block and Bridle club sponsored the first annual UNL Block and Bridle “Take a Break!” Study Break for the residents of Burr Hall and other members of the University that were studying hard for upcoming finals. Hot chocolate, sandwiches and assorted goodies were served to the approximately 20 students in attendance. The purpose was to serve as a recruitment activity for the club, enabling us to put a face to the organization.
The Block & Bridle National Convention was hosted by Colorado State University and the University of Wyoming. Delegates at this year's convention had the opportunity to listen to different industry speakers and attend several workshops. Speakers included a retired NFL referee, a representative from CattleFax and a representative from the American Quarter Horse Association. Workshop topics included making a positive impact, animal identification, and leadership qualities just to name a few.

Delegates also had an opportunity to attend the National Western Stockshow or participate in one of the different industry tours offered. A banquet and awards were also a part of the convention followed by a dance.

UNL was awarded 5th Place for the 2003-2004 Annual. Members at the National Convention included (from Left to Right) Cathy Hervert, Jennafer Glaesemann, Mallory Becker, Natalie Hart, Betsy Kruse, Matt Porter, and Brock Olson.
Kid's Day

Kid’s day was on Thursday March 3, 2005. There were about 327 students from pre-schools and lower elementary attended the event. They looked at pigs, a horse, a dairy cow and calf, beef cattle, sheep, chickens, and mice. Also very enjoyable for the children was the opportunity to sit in the saddle on the plastic horses. The Nebraska Pork Producers, the Paint Horse Association, the American Angus Association, the Dairy Council, the UNL Community Involvement, the Nebraska Poultry Association, and the Nebraska Beef Council helped to sponsor this event and make it a great success.
The Big Red Beef Show was held on March 12, 2005 in Columbus, Nebraska. It would not be possible without our gracious sponsors including: Sullivan’s Show Supply, Jorgensen Farms, Hollman Angus Farms, Gary Wurtz, Husker Coop, Myron Ruth (MRG), Stepladder Angus Ranch, Pohlman Angus, Forster Farms, Rischel Angus, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), Four Wind Farms, Farm Credit Services of America, and Barnell Simmentals.

There were 107 exhibitors from across the Midwest with a total of 166 entries. The Committee Heads were Brock Olson and Matt Porter. Also Jessika Uden, Brent Nelms and Ashley Batie were contributors to the success of this event along with all of the many Block and Bridle members that helped during registration and the show.
Big Red Beef Show
Winners

Jess Recknor
Hartland, Minnesota
Supreme Market Animal

Mercedie Weber
Albion, Nebraska
Supreme Champion Breeding Heifer

Cassie Hoblyn
York, Nebraska
Champion Market Heifer

Fran Klug
Columbus, Nebraska
Reserve Champion Supreme Steer

Skyler Weber
Albion, Nebraska
Reserve Champion Market Heifer

Garrett Davis
Glenville, Minnesota
Reserve Supreme Breeding Heifer
Big Red Beef Show

Winners

Cale Went
Monroe, Nebraska
Champion Junior Showmanship

Kade Nelson
Crete, Nebraska
Champion Intermediate Showmanship

Kourtney Nelson
Crete, Nebraska
Champion Senior Showmanship

Front Row (L-R): Brock Olson, Janae Althouse, Sarah Witte, Vicki Wray, Ashley Batie, and Crystal Olson. Second Row (L-R): Brent Nelms, Tim Loudon (Judge), Matt Porter, Natalie Hart, Jessika Uden, Beth Maricle, Betsy Kruse, Galen Erickson, Nate Heidbrink, and Ryan Walrath.
Agricultural Education Contests

"Do you go to the bathroom without toilet paper, NO, then don’t come to a FFA Livestock Judging Contest without a pencil."
—Brock Olson

Beth Maricle and Brock Olson help with Junior Registration

Janae Althouse & Melissa Williams pointed everyone in the right direction.

Adam Hamling and Danny Anderson also volunteered to help with registration.

The State Agricultural Education Contests were held in the Animal Science Building on March 31 and April 1, 2005. Hundreds of FFA students from across the state participated in the Livestock Judging Contest on Thursday and the Livestock Management Contest on Friday. Jessika Uden and Ryan Walrath were co-chairs for the event. They would like to thank all of those who volunteered to help run the contests, you were vital to the success of these events.
Lincoln students participated in the Block and Bridle Little MAEC Contest. The event took place in the Animal Science Building. Beth Maricle, Jessika Uden, and Vicki Wray helped with the contest preparation. The Block and Bridle Club would like to thank Josh Stroh and Dr. Reiling for their assistance as officials for the contest.

**Expert Division**

**Individuals**
1st Place: Jessika Uden 275 points  
2nd Place: Ace VanDeWalle 274 points  
3rd Place: Mallorie Wilken & Jim Latoski 273 points

**Teams:**
1st Place: Mallorie Wilken, Crystal Olson, Jessika Uden, & Tracy Hadenfeldt 1078 points  
2nd Place: Brock Olson, Beau Klug, Bruce Hassebrook, Jim Latoski 1073

**Novice Division**

**Individuals**
1st Place: Mike Bartels 266 points  
2nd Place: Dirk Berken 262 points  
3rd Place: Darrel Crook 250 points

**Teams:**
1st Place: Mike Bartels, Dirk Berken, Ian James, Ryan Danehey 1025 points  
2nd Place: Mallory Becker, Dan Goff, Chatelle Ogea, Adam Eickhoff 918 points
Bob Dickey

A third generation farmer, Robert “Bob” Dickey is a true leader in today’s agricultural industry as he has selflessly dedicated himself to the improving the future of agriculture both nationally and in Nebraska. Bob Dickey was born September 5th, 1939 in Ponca, Nebraska. He grew up helping his dad on the family farm. It was on his family’s farm where Bob developed his strong moral character and passion for agriculture. Upon graduating from Laurel High School in 1958, Bob went on to earn a certificate in General Agriculture from the University of Nebraska in 1960. He then proudly served his country from 1961-1962 in the United States Army.

Upon the end of his service with the Army, Bob returned home to farm with his father. During his early years of farming Bob also worked as a postal clerk in Laurel, Nebraska. In 1965 Bob married his wife Mary. They have raised three children, Julie, Jim, and June.

Bob’s impact on agriculture goes far beyond his Laurel Nebraska farm where he and his family raise corn, soybeans, hogs and cattle. He has dedicated himself to a life of service. He served as a Nebraska State Senator for District #18. He also serves on the National Corn Growers Board of Directors, was the Chairman of the U.S. Grains Council (1997-1998), Chairman of the Nebraska Corn Board (1995-1996), a director and past chairman of Farm Credit Bank Board (NE, IA, SD, WY). He is also a current member of the Nebraska Soybean Association, the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, the Nebraska Pork Producers, as well as the Agricultural Council of America, and the Agricultural Builders of Nebraska. As a Council officer, he conducted extensive personal negotiations with national industry leaders (corn, pork, sorghum, barley, soybeans) to improve cross-industry alliances and broaden agricultural promotion. Bob once stated that, “a prosperous livestock industry is essential not only to corn and soybean producers, but also all Nebraskans in that it generates employment, broadens the tax base, raises financial resources because of being value-added and improves the overall economy.”
To ensure further strength of United State’s agricultural commodities Bob has traveled internationally to promote American products to numerous foreign markets. Such opportunities include serving as a member of Governor Mike Johanns’s trade missions to Japan in 2003 in addition to Hong Kong/China and Mexico in 2004. These endeavors compliment his other experiences representing U.S. agricultural products to customers in Asia, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East.

Bob’s believes in the future of agriculture and in the future of the family farm. He has stated that, “if every established farmer would help a beginning farmer, it would make a difference.” Bob puts his words into action. He has helped numerous beginning producers through the years. He has done shares on cows/calves, compensated producers for finishing hogs in Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska, carried a land contract, loaned machinery, and done countless other things to assist young producers.

Bob has been recognized with numerous awards for his service and business skills. Such awards include “Man of the Year in Service to Nebraska Agriculture, Progressive Farmer Magazine (2000) and “Top 100 Best-Managed Farms in the USA”, Farm Futures Magazine, (1998) and named to the Nebraska Hall of Agriculture Achievement in 2000.

Bob Dickey’s contributions to the livestock industry and agriculture as a whole are unmatched. He is a motivated, passionate man that practices what he preaches. He is well respected within the industry and a friend to all he meets. Bob serves as an example to everyone on how one person can make a difference with a positive work ethic, sincerity, and passion. It has been said that, “...everything Bob has tackled, he’s done with a ready smile and a contagious enthusiasm. He’s a true leader and champion for the agriculture industry-and rural America.”

On the honoree trip we toured the ethanol plant in Plainview, Nebraska. Block and Bridle Members are (L-R): Cathy Hervert, Vicki Wray, Beth Maricle, Brock Olson, Ashley Lewis, Matt Porter, Jessika Uden, Jackie Snyder, Ashley Batie, Dr. White, Janae Althouse, Mary Dickey, Bob Dickey, and Plant Manager Seth Harde.
The Group pictured with Bob & Mary Dickey outside of their home.

Bob Dickey likes to find creative ways to make use of his facilities.

Bob telling us about the pond he installed for his wife Mary.
Dr. Duane Reese and Sarah Joy came to the Block and Bridle meeting on October 28, 2004. Dr. Reese spoke about how the Pork Study Tour operates and how the study tour locations are chosen. Sarah Joy gave a presentation about her experiences during the Spring of 2004 while on the study tour. Students were encouraged to talk to Sarah Joy or Dr. Reese with any questions.

Hormel Foods sent Tim Dorn and Alan Meiregard to the December 2, 2004 Block and Bridle Meeting. They talked about the career options within Hormel Foods for various majors. In addition they discussed what employers are searching for in qualified employees.

Michael Kelsey spoke to the Block and Bridle and Agribusiness clubs on February 17, 2005. He came to discuss current issues in the animal industry and to introduce himself to the students of the clubs.
2005 Honors Banquet

The Honors Banquet for the 2004-2005 school year was held on April 22, 2005 at the East Campus Union. The annual banquet is an opportunity to recognize all the hard work and successes of the club members, Animal Science students, Judging Teams, and other various individuals.

The banquet also continues the special tradition of recognizing the Block and Bridle Honoree. The honoree is an individual who has made a significant contribution to animal agriculture during their lifetime. The banquet is held in their honor and they are presented a portrait, which is hung in the Animal Science Hall of Fame. Bob Dickey was the Honoree recognized at the 2004-2005 Banquet.

Block and Bridle gives out many awards as well. Jessika Uden, Ace VanDeWalle, and Mike Bartels received the Don Geweke Awards for Little MAEC. Block and Bridle members vote for the Senior Workhorse Award, the Outstanding Junior Activities, and the Outstanding Sophomore Activities each year. Vicki Wray was chosen for the Senior Workhorse Award which is sponsored by Nebraska Farmer, Jessika Uden for the Outstanding Junior Activities sponsored by Wray Farms, and Jackie Snyder for the Outstanding Sophomore Activities sponsored by Waldo Farms. Janae Althouse was chosen by the officer team as the Outstanding Initiate which is sponsored by the Poultry and Egg Division of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Block and Bridle Scholarship winners were Senior Vicki Wray sponsored by the Parr Young Fund, Junior Jessika Uden sponsored by Hermitage MGT, and Ashley Batie for the Mike Cull Scholarship.

Block and Bridle would like to thank everyone who attended the annual banquet.
Meats Judging

Front Row (L-R): Kent Schwarting (Gordon, NE), Ace VanDeWalle (Orchard, NE), Eric Deersen (Mead, NE), Kiley Roundtree (Parks, NE), and Brittni Swedberg (North Platte, NE). Back Row (L-R): Dr. Dennis Burson (Faculty Advisor), Vicki Wray (Coach), Ashley Batie (Coach), Jackelyn Snyder (North Platte, NE), Rebecca Small (Genoa, NE), Brynn Husk (Blair, NE), Sarah Witte (Scribner, NE), Jennie James (Coach), Ryan Baumert (Coach), and Dr. Beerman (Department Head).

The Meats Judging Team competed at the National Western in Denver Colorado, the Southwestern in Fort Worth, Texas, and the Houston Livestock Show in Houston, Texas.

At the National Western the team was 5th Place in Lamb Judging, Jackie Snyder was 6th in total placings, and Ace VanDeWalle was 7th in total placings.

The team was also very successful while competing in Fort Worth. Team awards included: 3rd place in lamb judging, 5th place in specifications, 5th place total placings team. Jackie Snyder received awards for 2nd place in beef grading, high individual in beef, 3rd in total placings, and 5th in individual in total points. Ace VanDeWalle also received 4th place in lamb judging.
Throughout the year, this team competed in eight contests including national competitions held in conjunction with the National Western, the Houston Stock Show, the American Royal, and the North American International Livestock Exposition (the National Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest, Louisville, KY).

In 2004, thirty-one teams competed in the National Championship of Collegiate Livestock Judging at Louisville, Kentucky. As a team, the University of Nebraska placed 17th in sheep judging, 10th in Suffolk and performance sheep judging, and 14th in swine judging. Although the team placed 18th in beef cattle judging, they ranked 4th in judging Shorthorns. Overall, the team was 21st in reasons and 16th overall. Individually, Vicki Wray placed 20th in swine judging, and Ashley Batie placed 11th in beef cattle judging and 29th overall.

Additionally, Vicki Wray provided a major highlight when she became the 3rd consecutive (2002, 2003, 2004) University of Nebraska student named to the All-American Livestock Judging Team. This honor encompasses not only the student’s judging participation and ability in national competition, but it also recognizes and rewards academic performance, leadership, and community service. Only ten students, from across the country, receive this recognition.

Throughout the past year, these students and their coaches represented the Animal Science Department, the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, and the University of Nebraska with pride as they interacted with producers and alumni located throughout the state. For nearly one year, they gave up breaks, weekends, and evenings to have an opportunity to compete, and at the same time, they continued to maintain strong academic performances. Livestock judging is a tool that allows us to continually teach decision-making skills, leadership, self-confidence, and communication. It also provides an opportunity for students to network with producers and industry personnel.
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The 2005 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team started practicing last fall, and for the first time in many years, the van is full! We have eight team members including Tracy Hadenfeldt (Cairo, NE), Bruce Hassebrook (Bellwood, NE), Beau Klug (Columbus, NE), Steve Landon (Greenwood, NE), Crystal Olson (Mindon, NE), Jessika Uden (Juniata, NE), Mallorie Wilken (Bloomfield, NE), and Jeremi Wurtz (Valley, NE). The team is coached by Josh Stroh and advised by Dr. Bryan Reiling.

Among 25 teams who competed at the National Western, UNL placed 14th overall. Within each of the divisions, UNL placed 9th in swine, 11th in placings, and 17th in beef, sheep, and reasons. At the Sioux Empire Judging Contest in Sioux Falls, SD, Jessika Uden was 3rd in sheep judging, and Bruce Hassebrook tied for 9th in beef judging. At the Iowa Beef Expo where 13 teams competed, UNL was 4th in placings, 7th in reasons, and 6th overall. Individually, Beau Klug ranked 2nd in placings and 8th overall; and Bruce Hassebrook was 5th in placings, 18th in reasons, and 12th overall. Jessika Uden and Jeremi Wurtz also placed 11th and 17th in reasons, respectively. The spring judging campaign concluded with UNL competing in the Intercollegiate Senior Livestock Judging Contest at the Houston Stock Show where twenty-one teams and 151 individuals participated. UNL won the sheep judging division, placed 12th in beef cattle judging, was 15th in reasons, and 12th overall. Individually, Bruce Hassebrook (6th), Mallorie Wilken (10th), and Jessika Uden (19th) all placed in sheep judging. Mallorie was also 5th in placings, and Bruce was 17th. Additionally, in the alternate division, Crystal Olson had a fine day placing 4th.

With each outing, this teams gains experience and becomes more competitive. It’s easy to understand why these students and their coaches are excited about the fall judging season! Without question, we wish to extend our gratitude to major contributors and sponsors of our livestock judging program including the Kimmel Foundation, the Nebraska Farm Bureau, the Nebraska Cattlemen’s Research and Education Foundation, and all producers who give generously of their time providing the team an opportunity to practice on some of the finest livestock in the country. Thank you.
2005 Equestrian Team

The Equestrian Team hosted the last 2 regular season Intercollegiate Horse Shows, Saturday, April 9, 2005 in the Animal Science Arena. On Sunday, April 10, 2005 they hosted the Zone 9 Region 3 Championship Horse Show. The UNL Equestrian Team was the High Point Team for both shows on Saturday. We also had the High Point Rider for both shows, Katie Peers for show #1 and Erin Peery for show #2.

To show on April 10, 2005, riders had to have qualified by earning 36 point at one of the 10 regular season shows. UNL had 16 riders qualify, in 5 different divisions, to show at Regionals. Riders placing 1st or 2nd at the Regional Championship Show move on to represent our region at the Zone Championships, which will be April 16th & 17th at River Falls, WI. Riders placing 1st or 2nd at the Zone Championship will then represent the zone at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Nationals, held in Sunbury, Ohio. UNL riders that have earned the right to compete individually at Zones are Rachelle Bose (Hastings), Lindsey Salesstrom (Tekamah), Clara Grundman (Talmage), and Karen Bloomquist (Lincoln).

The Equestrian Team was very successful throughout the year. At the University of Wisconsin River Falls Show they were the High Point Team in the first show and the 3rd place team in the second show. They were the 3rd Place team in both shows at the Ellsworth Community College Show. In the UNL Fall Show they were the Reserve High Point Team in both shows. At the University of Minnesota Crookston Show they were the 1st Place team and the 3rd place team. At the UNL Spring Show the team was 1st place in both shows. Finally, the UNL Equestrian Team was the Regional Championship Team for the year! One rider from each of the 5 divisions will represent our school at the Zone Championships as well as the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Nationals.

"I like the Steak Fry because it is was a great way to interact with the Animal Science Department Professors."—Sarah Vanness

"Little Aksarben is a great chance to relive your 4-H and FFA careers."—Jackie Snyder

"As a food science major, Block and Bridle has been a great way to meet new people and be involved in new activities."—Rachel Reuss

"Block and Bridle is one of the most progressive and dynamic clubs I've ever been in."—Jennafer Glaesemann

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