

July 2004

Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Summer 2004

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Animal Science

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

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Summer 2004

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Setting the Cornerposts of Tomorrow's Beef Industry

The title above defines the theme for the first-ever Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium, held April 18 to 20, 2004 in the Animal Science Complex. Twenty-six high school students from across Nebraska were able to interact directly with experts working in the following areas: international beef marketing, consumer preferences and needs, contributions of meat to the human diet, and value-added research. They also heard from and asked questions of Greg Ibach, Deputy Director, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Ann Marie Bosshamer,



Director of Marketing for the Nebraska Beef Council, Sallie Atkins, Director of the Nebraska Beef Council, and Greg Ruehle, Executive Vice President of the Nebraska Cattlemen, all advocates for the beef industry in Nebraska. Participants were also provided the most current information on the benefits of UNL research to improve pre-harvest and post-harvest safety of beef and beef products, by Dr. Dave Smith, DVM, PhD.

In the symposium evaluation survey students told us they now better understand why these are important issues and what we are doing to address them. Thus, one major goal of the symposium was achieved. Participants were also shown the diversity of career opportunities associated with the many segments of the beef industry. Twelve UNL alumni shared their experiences while pursuing their education and reaffirmed to participants why continuing beyond a high school degree is much more important today than even 10 years ago. Those interactions during the steak dinner really brought the real world challenges to life for participants. We thank Nebraska Corn-Fed Beef for providing the steaks for that dinner.

Another student commented: "What I enjoyed most was the opportunity to meet and network with UNL faculty and students." Another major objective of the symposium was to introduce high school students to the University environment. Tours of Memorial Stadium and a portion of City Campus, the UNL Visitors Center, the Animal Science Complex, an East Campus student dormitory, and the Recreation Center provided a good sampling of what campus looks like and what is available.

We are blessed with excellent facilities and excellent faculty, and hopefully, students will share that awareness with others.

The third major objective of the symposium was to provide opportunities for students to enhance their communication and leadership skills. Dr. Lloyd Bell and graduate students were successful in stimulating the students to "dig in" and play out roles of community members of "Beefville," a fictitious town presented with a major issue associated with the beef industry. The "simulation" event was a highlight for participants, and it taught them the value of gathering factual information and being able to present it in an effective manner to work toward a satisfactory solution or resolution of a major problem or issue. Six freshmen, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) scholarships were given to students in recognition of their overall participation and interactions during the symposium. Those scholarships are only good for admission to CASNR at UNL. We hope this additional incentive for participation will attract even more students to our next symposium in April, 2005. Several participants said they would very much like to attend a second time.



We are heartily grateful to the financial support provided by the Nebraska Beef Council, the Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation, and support provided by alumni, through their participation and other contributions. This event would not have been possible without their support and involvement. Be alert for the announcement and help recruit students for the second Beef Leadership Symposium next April.

(Contributed by Don H. Beermann)

Animal Science Leadership Academy

Integrating Leadership, Communications, and Service Learning Education to Prepare Future Leaders in the Animal Sciences

A new enhancement to the Animal Science major joining Animal Science with Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication is providing University of Nebraska Animal Science students a unique opportunity.

(continued on page 3)

From the Department Head's Desk



Donald H. Beermann

Some may think that when summer arrives, activities at the University slow to a crawl and most employees go on vacation. There certainly is less classroom activity with respect to the number of undergraduate students on campus, but I know you won't find any of our faculty members or staff saying the pace

of their daily routine slows much. For some, summer activities mean more hectic schedules and more intense effort, particularly for research and extension programs. Just ask Rosie Nold, Bryan Reiling and other faculty and staff what hosting contest associated with the State 4-H Premier Animal Science Events June 28 and 29 meant for them. Nearly 350 youth submitted over 400 entries to participate in Meats, Poultry, Dairy, Quiz Bowl and Livestock Evaluation competitions. Qualifiers go on to national competition.

The Meat Science group conducted HACCP workshops and hosted a group of European chefs, distributors and caterers to demonstrate how to fabricate the beef "value cuts" and talk about how beef convenience products to "case-ready" cuts are merchandised in the U.S. The chefs' reactions to the eating quality of the underutilized cuts they grilled and tasted ranged from "very positive" to "astounded." The faculty also attended the annual professional meeting of the American Meat Science Association, the Reciprocal Meat Conference, held in Lexington, Kentucky. Their graduate students competed in poster sessions and three undergraduates competed in a Quiz Bowl.

Many departmental faculty and their graduate and undergraduate students start new research projects in the summer, when they also attend at least one and often two or three professional meetings or conferences. The Beef Committee (faculty and graduate students) schedules an annual research meeting and industry tour each June. The Swine Group faculty and students hold a four-state conference in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota or Minnesota in August. Extension faculty members maintain active interactions with clientele by phone, e-mail or web site communications, such as the UNL Animal Science, Beef, Dairy, 4-H, and Equine web sites. Research, extension and teaching faculty and their graduate students make presentations at summer professional

meetings. Those meetings include the Beef Improvement Federation, mid-year Nebraska Cattlemen, joint American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association/Poultry Science Association meeting, International Genetics, Society for Reproduction, multi-state project meetings, and UNL workshops. Some present and interact with colleagues at international conferences and symposia. Some faculty also plan for fall and winter meetings such as the Range Beef Cow Symposium, the Four-State Beef Symposium, and satellite conferences. Others revise courses in preparation for the new academic year.

We don't teach undergraduate courses in the summer, but Daniel Pomp taught his Applications of Biotechnology graduate course in June. Terry Klopfenstein and Galen Erickson teach the Feedlot Management Intern Program in the spring and summer months, and Mary Beck taught her portion of the Midwest Poultry Consortium program courses after regular classes were finished in May. Some faculty members work with undergraduate students who conduct independent study or research projects, and others supervise internships. Many faculty write and submit grant proposals to acquire additional financial support for research, extension and teaching programs and projects.

Summer is also an opportune time to make improvements in classrooms, offices and laboratories. We benefited from "year-end" money made available by the Deans to add multimedia capabilities to three more classrooms, including our large teaching laboratory. We purchased a "polycom" computer interactive video and audio unit to improve effectiveness of our regular extension conference calls. I am certain many faculty will make use of this unit. We also purchased several pieces of equipment and laboratory instrumentation with "year-end" dollars to add new capabilities and replace out-dated items used in research. In addition to extemporaneous maintenance and repair needs, we are working with Facilities Management and Planning personnel to clean a major ventilation system in the building. We are also repairing and repainting a few offices.

What do we do here in the Animal Science Department during late spring and summer months? Read the newsletter to get a glimpse of the wide-ranging activities that fill our calendars and consume our time in fulfillment of our research, teaching and extension missions.

Animal Science Leadership Academy

(continued from page 1)

"The Animal Science Leadership Academy helped me develop my leadership skills through hands-on activities and experiences. These skills have helped me throughout my college experience and I will continue to build on them throughout my lifetime." –Craig Burda, Wilber, NE.

In the Animal Science Leadership Academy (ALA), there are many different activities for students to obtain leadership experience in business and industry. In the first semester of ALA, students shadow professionals in three different career options, develop a professional presentation and a portfolio of their professional development.



As freshmen, ALA students attend the ASAS and ADSA Midwestern Sectional Scientific Sessions. During the second semester, ALA students learn about service learning and develop individual and group service-learning projects. During the third and fourth semesters of ALA, students implement their service learning proposals while also attending sessions focusing on internships and leadership development plans for the remainder of their undergraduate study. In four, 1-credit hour courses a variety of methods are used. Class projects and papers are designed to build experience for future careers and to create network contacts for future opportunities. Ideas and projects are developed in groups to build communication and interpersonal skills, helpful in a future work environment. Guest speakers provide business and industry perspectives on leadership and communications topics.

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"I believe the key outcomes of the partnership of faculty from different departments and business and industry professionals are:

- Formal class work combined with business and industry professional experiences.
- Numerous networking opportunities.
- Opportunities to develop communication and leadership skills in areas such as service learning.

The Animal Science Leadership Academy is one more example of our commitment to providing the best education for careers in the Animal Sciences" -- Dennis Brink, Animal Science Department.

To find out more about the Animal Science Leadership Academy start at the Animal Science Website: <http://www.animalscience.unl.edu>, click on students



Craig Burda

and then either current or prospective undergraduates. You may contact the departmental office for an informational brochure.

(Contributed by Dr. Dennis Brink)

Meat Scientists Share International Prize

Chris Calkins and Steve Jones, meat scientists, were part of a team awarded the 2004 International Meat Secretariat Prize for Meat Science and Technology for their beef muscle profiling research. This prize recognizes the international significance of the beef muscle profiling research that was done by the University of Nebraska and University of Florida (**Dr. D. Dwain Johnson**) in collaboration with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (**Bucky Gwartney**, M.S. '90, Ph.D. '93).

The International Meat Secretariat, or IMS (www.meat-ims.org), is a non-profit association of meat and livestock organizations worldwide. The \$10,000 IMS Prize for Meat Science and Technology is awarded in alternate years to individuals or groups whose recent discoveries or contributions significantly benefit the international meat industry. In winning, the judges consider the quality of the research, how it is communicated and its relevance. This is the first time that a U.S. team has earned this research prize, which was presented at the 15th IMS World Meat Congress in Winnipeg, Canada.

The meat scientists at Nebraska and Florida, for this research, analyzed more than 5,500 muscles of the beef chuck and round. They found that several muscles traditionally used for ground beef or roasts had potential to be used for higher value products. This was the most extensive study ever of beef muscles. These findings have changed the industry's thinking about how best to cut and use beef muscles.

These scientists have worked closely with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the industry, providing comprehensive information on muscles and training to help the industry turn findings into new products. One of the best known new products is the flat iron steak which is now used internationally. Many other



Chris Calkins



Steve Jones



new products are gaining popularity. These products provide economical new products for cost-conscious consumers and have boosted the wholesale price of the beef chuck primal cuts. Because of this research, the wholesale value of the beef chuck has significantly increased by more than 5 percent at a time when the value of the rib, loin and round primal cuts haven't changed.

The IANR scientists and technology specialists have developed a muscle profiling manual, a CD-ROM and an interactive Website (<http://bovine.unl.edu>) that provide encyclopedic information about beef muscles. These materials are available in five languages. Industry and scientists worldwide use this information to identify promising muscles for new product development and further study. The original muscle profiling project involved market steers and heifers. Most recently the team studied muscles from beef and dairy cows.

Animal Science Alum CEO of Societies

Ellen Bergfeld, (M.S. '93, Ph.D. '96) is sowing seeds of change at three of the nation's most prominent agricultural science societies, Agronomy, Crop Science, and Soils Science located at Madison, Wisconsin. Recently, Ellen moved there to reinvigorate the Tri-Societies, proposing to do everything from pruning governing boards to forging unorthodox political alliances.



Ellen Bergfeld

Bergfeld is the first woman CEO of the 97-year-old group and, at 36, is substantially younger than many of its 25,000 members. She's also an animal scientist. "People ask, 'What's a girl with a Ph.D. in reproductive physiology doing running this organization?'" she says. Her answer is an interest in science policy that led her to stint tracking policy for Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) and running a leading animal science group. One current goal: finding common ground with ag science critics, such as those who oppose crop biotechnologies. "A lot of scientists are leery" of such moves, she says. "But there are things on which we can agree."

BSE - Its Impact on the Cattle Industry

During the mid 1970s Ernie Peo introduced Terry Klopfenstein to the Fats & Proteins Research Foundation. This is the research organization of the Renderers. Terry has conducted considerable research funded by them and has served on their research committee for 25 years. Terry has gained an appreciation for the role the rendering industry plays in livestock production.

When the BSE problem surfaced in the United Kingdom, Terry saw first-hand the problems faced by the

rendering industry. The ban on feeding ruminant meat and bone meal back to ruminants markedly affected that industry. Ruminant meat and bone meal immediately was priced at a \$20 to \$50/ton discount to pork meat and bone meal. In June 2004 the discount was \$90/ton. Record keeping was required and renderers needed to adjust production to keep ruminant and pork meat and bone meal separate.

Scientifically speaking the ruminant-to-ruminant ban was not necessary because there was no BSE in the United States. Since there has been a case in the United States, even if it was a Canadian cow, the precaution of the ruminant-to-ruminant ban was tremendously valuable to the United States cattle industry. There has been a price paid by the United States cattle industry. Because renderers have incurred greater costs and have recovered less value for ruminant meat and bone meal, the difference has been passed back to the cattle industry.

The rendering industry includes both packer renderers and independent renderers. Independent renderers obtain raw materials from smaller slaughter facilities, locker plants, meat retailers, fast food and other restaurants, etc. They also process dead stock. Packer renderers process only offal. In both cases, the "costs" are returned to the cattle producing industry. Producers see this as reduced price for market cattle and also in the cost of dead stock removal.

Many producers are critical of the rendering industry. They play a very important role in the viability of the over all beef production system, however. Beef production as we know it today would probably not exist without the rendering industry. We need to collaborate to manage BSE without incurring more "costs" to the cattle industry than is necessary.

BSE has had an impact on beef production in the United States. Some of that impact has been direct such as the loss of export of beef to Japan. The indirect impacts that have been described may actually be greater in the long term. The ruminant-to-ruminant ban is absolutely essential to consumer confidence. A ban on feeding poultry litter to cattle is likely necessary to maintain consumer confidence. Litter could theoretically contain BSE prions because of spilled feed or because the prion might escape digestion in the poultry. Not feeding ruminant meat and bone meal to poultry is not a solution. The poultry industry feeds up most of the ruminant meat and bone meal. Without that market we would have a big problem. As with most problems, there are solutions, but they may have costs attached. Such is the case of BSE and the cattle industry.

(Contributed by Terry Klopfenstein)

Federal CAFO Laws Change After 30 Years

History: Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, or CAFO's have been regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System or NPDES permit system for the last 30 years. It has been administered by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality since

that time, in concert with the state permitting program. In the past, this EPA program only regulated feedlots with more than 1000 head.

Because of changes in livestock production, consolidation of industries, public scrutiny, and court cases, in 2001 EPA began the updating process and published new CAFO regulations in December 2002. These regulations require individual state programs to be at least as stringent as the new federal law.

As a result of this federal action, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality presented new legislation to the Nebraska unicameral, to comply with the new federal action. This new legislation, drafted as LB 916, was passed on the last day of the 2003 session. The passage of LB 916 requires NDEQ to update the state program, Title 130, the rules and regulations that govern livestock waste in Nebraska. Title 130 is currently under re-write by NDEQ and should be available for public comment towards the end of the summer of 2003. The proposed Title 130 must be approved by the Environmental Quality Council, the governing body of NDEQ, and signed by the governor in order to replace the existing regulation. Thus the new regulations should be in place sometime during the course of the next year.

What does this mean to my operation? Since the current draft of the new Title 130 has not been released yet, exact requirements are not known, however, EPA was clear on several changes that will be included in Title 130. EPA gave the states several options to choose from on some particular issues, so there could be differences between states. Some of the significant changes will include all livestock species in the NPDES program, instead of just feedlots.

They will be eliminating class size designations. Class 1, 2, 3, 4, will now be Small CAFO, Medium CAFO, or Large CAFO. Small is less than 30,000 chickens, 300 cattle, 200 dairy, or 750 large swine. Large is anything over, 100,000 chickens, 1000 cattle, 700 dairy, or 2500 large swine. Medium is what is between Small and Large.

Large CAFO's must apply for an NPDES permit. Small and Medium CAFO's may or may not need an

NPDES permit depending on contact with surface water. Small and medium size may have a simplified permit process.

Confinement is defined as an operation holding livestock for more than 45 days or more in a 12 month period in an area that is devoid of vegetation. Runoff from production and feed storage areas must be controlled. Controlling runoff from feed storage areas is a new requirement. For permitted CAFO's a report summarizing land application and manure management activities must be submitted to NDEQ annually.

Buffers, setbacks, and alternative conservation practices must be observed by large CAFO's. All land application fields must have a 35 foot buffer or a 100 foot setback from streams and surface waters where no manure or wastewater is applied. Alternatives to these are allowed, but are left up to the state regulatory authority to approve these.

A nutrient management plan must be in place for large CAFO's by December 2006. The plan must address conservation practices, mortality disposal, operation procedures, record keeping, soil and manure testing and sampling, and land application methods and rates.

The installation of an annual fee based on number of permitted animals will be started. The rate will be, per head, \$0.10 for beef, \$0.15 for dairy, \$400 per hundred head for large swine (>55 lbs), \$1 per 100 head for small swine, and \$1 per 1000 head for chickens. While not a federal requirement, the legislature has asked NDEQ to begin self funding this program.

The soil test reporting requirement of 150 ppm Bray 1 or 120 ppm Olsen may be withdrawn. Expect regulations to match NRCS recommendations for nutrient management and possibly have soil test limits or require the use of a site-specific phosphorus index to be used to manage land application ground.

These are some of the most notable changes. In general, the operations that will be the most impacted are operations that meet the large CAFO definition. Most of the new requirements focus on activities related to land application of manure, nutrient management, and record keeping.

(Contributed by Chris Henry)

Activities

Pork Industry Study Tour

A new class, Pork Industry Study Tour (Animal Science 311D) was offered in May. The 7-day tour through Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota was designed to provide students a holistic understanding of current pork industry operations and issues at a time when they are shaping their career paths. Students were responsible for assisting in the development of the itinerary to ensure some tour stops reflected their interests. The five students toured a vertically integrated and an outdoor-based, family-operated pork production system. They walked through a modern packing plant and feed mill. Discussions were held with grocery retailers, plant and swine genetic suppliers, Iowa State University researchers, management company personnel, veterinarians, and equipment and pharmaceutical manufacturers. Students said the greatest benefits of the tour were a better understanding of career possibilities for them within the pork industry and the opportunities to meet face-to-face with people who are excited about their career.

(Contributed by Duane Reese)



Bud Britton Golf Classic

The 10th Annual Bud Britton Golf Classic was held on Friday, May 14, 2004 at Mahoney Golf Course. The winning team consisted of **Tom McGargill, Dan Colling, John Sonderman** and **Mark Blackford**. The Longest Drive went to **Steve Jones**, with **Dan Cheleen** winning the Closest to the Pin, and **Glen Aines** had the Longest Putt.

Animal Science Graduate Student Association (ASGSA)

Jennie James, New Mexico – President
Jason Scheffler, Minnesota – Vice President
Dawn Sherwood, Montana – Treasurer
Becky Bott, Missouri – Secretary
Ryan Gordon, California – Sergeant at Arms
Ted Doane – Junior Advisor
Galen Erickson – Senior Advisor

ASGSA Activities

The Animal Science Graduate Student Association (ASGSA) wrapped up another semester with a successful Taco Feed to raise money for the ASGSA Endowment Fund. Due to all the support received recently through the various fundraisers, the club is close to reaching its goal to activate the endowment fund. The annual Bud Britton Memorial Golf Scramble and Picnic was a success.

The 2nd Annual ASGSA Golf Scramble will be held on August 14, 2004. Eighteen holes with a cart and dinner will be \$70 for non-students (\$35/student) with lots of prizes to be won at the Himark Golf Course. Contact Anita Ferrell for more information at (402) 472-8338 or anita_ferrell@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Establishes Alumni Association

The University of Nebraska Alumni Association no longer provides support for college alumni groups. Therefore the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources (CASNR) has established their own alumni association. The NU Foundation has agreed to handle the CASNRAA membership fees, not-for-profit alumni interest group; and, the NU Alumni Association has an agreement to cover the group for insurance purposes when

they have events.

As a member of CASNRAA, one receives fall and spring issues of **The Sower** and **Class Acts** to stay informed about CASNR and alumni activities. During the CASNR Week banquet, to which members are invited, a CASNRAA Achievement and Service Award will be given. Members will be invited to the football reunion in the fall and other activities designed especially for the CASNRAA group.

Since Fall 2003, the CASNRAA has obtained 47 chartered members (\$20 annual membership per individual; \$25 annual membership per couple); and 12 Sustaining Members (donations exceeding membership fee). Membership form and further information can be found on the website: <http://casnr.unl.edu/alumni>. Membership is open to graduates and non-graduates of CASNR; and a free one-year membership is given to our undergraduate students when they receive their bachelor's degree.

■ Deaths

Animal Science Emeritus Professor Passes Away: Charles Henry "Charlie" Adams

Dr. Charles H. "Charlie" Adams, 85, Lincoln, died December 20, 2003. Charlie was a friend and teacher to many students. Charlie was born November 7, 1918, Burdick Kansas, son of Henry Lory and Bertha Westbrook Adams. He graduated from Wilsey Kansas Rural High School in 1936, and received his B.S. degree in Animal Husbandry from Kansas State University in 1941. He had a lifelong interest in animal husbandry begin with activities in 4-H, livestock judging and membership in the Block & Bridle Club. He served as a graduate assistant in animal husbandry, specializing in meats from 1941-1942, received his M.S. degree in Animal Husbandry in 1942 at KSU, and received his Ph.D. from Michigan State University in 1971.



Charles "Charlie" Adams

Charlie served in the U.S. Army from 1942-1946 in Texas and the Pacific Theater. He married Eula Mae Peters of Oxford, KS on April 29, 1943. She passed away April 12, 1999 in Lincoln. He married his lifelong friend, Beryle Supple Somer Janousek, December 23, 2000 in Wilson, KS.

His academic career resumed at Kansas State as an assistant instructor in animal husbandry from 1946-47. He served the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Animal Science (Husbandry) as an assistant

professor from 1946-1964, an associate professor from 1964-1970 and a professor from 1970-1983. It is estimated that Charlie taught thousands of young people as they came to the University. Charlie coached the Meats Judging Team from 1947-1966 and advised the Block and Bridle Club from 1952-1957, influencing, in a fatherly way, the lives of many young people. He was appointed Assistant Director of Resident Instruction for the UNL College of Agriculture and was promoted to the position of Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture, serving until 1983. While at the University of Nebraska, Charlie served on numerous committees at the department, college and university level. He was also very active in the American Society of Animal Science, American Meat Science Association and the National Block and Bridle Club. He became a Professor Emeritus upon his retirement in 1984.

Dr. Adams received a host of academic awards, including Distinguished Teaching awards from the American Meat Science Association, University of Nebraska, and American Society of Animal Science; Award of Merit for Distinguished Service to Agriculture, Nebraska Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta; named to the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement; and Distinguished Service Award, UNL Alumni Association. He received the highest honor possible from the American Meat Science Association in 1992, the R.C. Pollock Award. He received the Doc Elliott Award from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2001 for continued service as an Emeritus Professor.

Other professional organizations he was involved in were: the Nebraska Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, life member of the Nebraska Academy of Science, Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Nebraska Ag Relations Council and the Nebraska Agribusiness Club. He was a permanent member of American Legion Post #3 and a Life Member of Harris-Fraley Post #131, Veterans of Foreign Wars. He served on a number of lay committees at First Christian Church in Lincoln, teaching Sunday School classes for 52 years, and serving as a past president of the Lincoln East Rotary Club.

He is survived by wife, Beryle, nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held January 10, 2004 at Eastridge Presbyterian Church. Memorials may be sent to the Charles H. Adams Scholarship Fund, The University of Nebraska Foundation, 1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300, Lincoln NE 68508. A reception was held after the service in the Animal Science Complex on the UNL East Campus. Charlie willed his body to Science, and interment was at a later date.



Animal Science Faculty Member Passes Away: Dave C. Williams, Jr.

Dave C. Williams, Jr., 80, Grand Island, formerly of Lincoln died on June 3, 2004 at Tiffany Square Nursing Home in Grand Island. Dave was born December 6, 1923 at Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. He was the first of ten children of Dave and Grace (Southard) Williams. Dave was preceded in death by his first wife, Carolyn Royce in 1992, and in 2000 he married Gerene "Gerri" Myers. Dave graduated from Pauls Valley High School and after graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps where he obtained the rank of 1st Lt. He was a B-17 pilot with the 8th Army Air Corps, 390th Bombardment Group and flew combat missions and relief food drops in the European theater of operations during World War II.



Dave C. Williams, Jr.

After returning home, Dave enrolled at Oklahoma State University where he earned his B.S degree. He served as a County Extension Agent in Oklahoma. He moved to Nebraska in 1957 and became a County Extension Agent in Dawson County. In 1959 he received his M.S. degree from the University of Illinois and in 1960 a position in Lincoln as an Assistant Professor of Animal Science opened up for him where he worked with youth as a 4-H Livestock Specialist. In time he earned his full professorship and served as superintendent of the Nebraska State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition.

Dave chaired and served on many national, multi-state, and state youth, livestock and advisory committees. During his leadership, the 4-H livestock program in Nebraska was recognized as one of the best in the nation, and he personally touched the lives of many young people. Dave was recipient of the Distinguished Service Award given by the National Association of 4-H Workers, a citation for Outstanding Service to 4-H and the Agricultural Achievement Award given by the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben and educator of 4-H and his services to the Livestock Exposition. He received many other awards and citations for his many accomplishments.

Animal Science Graduate Passes Away

Steven Betka (B.S. 76) passed away unexpectedly February 22 from a heart attack in Geneva. Steven grew up on a farm 1/2 mile east of Burress and attended Exeter Public School. He attended the University of Nebraska and graduated in 1976. He was a member of

the 1975 UNL Livestock Judging Team that won the National Barrow Show Judging Contest. After graduation he returned to the home farm to raise hogs with his parents. After his marriage to Audrey (Schropfer) they lived in Geneva for one year before moving to a farmstead southeast of Exeter where they lived for 10 years and then moved to the home place east of Burress. After 20 years of farming, Steve became a hog buyer for Farmland Foods in Crete, where he was employed at the time of his death. He served on the State Soybean Board, Fillmore County Extension Board, Board of Directors of the Dorchester Co-op, Fillmore County Corn Growers Board, and Farm Bureau Board. Steve was actively involved in 4-H, as a member and leader, and in 1971 he showed the Champion Market Swine at Ak-Sar-Ben.

Block and Bridle Honoree, Richard Sorensen, Passes Away

Richard Sorensen, 1983 Block & Bridle Honoree of Laurel, Nebraska passed away on February 12, 2004 after suffering with Alzheimers. Dick was a purebred SPF Hampshire and Duroc producer and farmer from Wayne, NE. His contributions to the livestock industry were in the area of leadership and community development. Wherever he



Richard Sorensen

traveled to meetings he always displayed the interest and ability to further the pork industry, as well as animal agriculture in general.

In 1966, a handful of pork producers gathered to determine if a national organization representing all producers of pork could be developed. Dick was present and donated "seed" money to get the organization started. At this same time the Nebraska Pork Producers Association (NPPA) was organized. Dick was one of the early President's of the NPPA which at the time included over 6,000 members. He served the national organization as a Director, and at the local level he was a resource consultant and "pusher" for development of the Northeast Pork Association of which he became a Charter Member, Past Director and President. Dick's civic activities and organizational list clearly demonstrate that he made a strong successful effort to tie his urban and rural community together.

Dick's support and leadership has had a great impact on the University of Nebraska and he was instrumental in the successful fund drive for the development of the Housing and Management Swine Center at the Northeast Experiment and Extension Center (now called Haskell Ag Lab). He was very active in working with 4-H, FFA and other groups. He received several awards during his life time which gives an indication of his achievements, ability and attitude toward the animal agriculture industry.

Block & Bridle Activities

Block & Bridle Activities

During the annual convention of Block & Bridle the University of Nebraska Chapter received 4th place for their Yearbook, and **Aaron Naber** received honorable mention in the Junior Scholarship Awards.

The 31st Big Red Beef Show was held on March 20 in Columbus, NE. Several members of Block & Bridle helped with this event which had over 112 entries.

Members of Block & Bridle helped with the FFA contests which are held each year in April. Some of their responsibilities include registration, leading groups, assisting with each contest, grading and tabulating the results.

Block & Bridle Honoree of the Year

Franks Sibert is a rancher, banker, cattle feeder, and extension agent who is the 2004 Block & Bridle Honoree of the year. Frank and his wife, Shirley have committed innumerable hours and significant funding in support of leadership and scholarship programs for young people of Nebraska.



Frank Sibert

Frank was born in Red Cloud, Nebraska and spent his childhood and youth growing up on a farm near Inavale, Nebraska. He joined the Army at the age of 16, and returned to Nebraska soon after completing his duties there. Frank graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1952 with a degree in Animal Science.

After graduation, Frank served as an Assistant County Extension Agent in Dawson County. He was in

charge, for two years, of the State Rural Youth Program which was a part of the State 4-H Club Office. Frank left a lasting impression with Nebraskans for his service to the Sandhills Cattle Association, where he served as manager for 10 years. He was employed by the Stockyards Bank located in Omaha as an agricultural loan officer and continued to develop his ties to the livestock industry. While living in Omaha he was an active member of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben. Served as Chair of the Agriculture Committee for the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and was active in helping with the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Expositions. Frank and Shirley purchased the Rolling Stone Ranch in Valentine in 1975 and moved to the ranch in 1977. The next 25 years saw Frank busy with his own ranching business, yet he continued his outstanding service to the livestock industry.

Frank has the fondest memories as his time as Chairman of the Nebraska Cattlemen's Research and Education Foundation Board where he led the effort to establish an endowed Professorship Chair in the Animal Science Department. This resulted in a \$200,000 endowed fund which provides an annual stipend of \$10,000 to an Animal Science professor who is chosen as the "Nebraska Cattle Industry Professor." Frank and Shirley have been able to provide scholarships for many Nebraska's youth. They established an endowment through the Nebraska Cattlemen's Foundation to provide \$1,000 college scholarships to youth, and established a \$100,000 endowment in the Sandhills Area Foundation to provide scholarships to area youth. The Nebraska LEAD program has benefited from a \$100,000 endowment established by the Siberts.

After 20 years of ranching in the Sandhills, Frank decided he needed to insure that other ranchers in the area had a market for their cattle. He achieved this by leading a group of 30 investors to purchasing the old Valentine Livestock Auction Market and making it into a modern and efficient facility which was completed in 2003. Frank has been involved with his local Rotary Club, Cherry County Promotion Board, and the Sandhills Investment Syndicate.

Frank's dedication to the livestock industry and the youth of the state has had and continues to have an

impact for generations to come. His generous giving of time, talent and treasure is a measure of his service to agriculture, education and the youth of Nebraska.

Block & Bridle Awards

- Nick Weinrich** , Pierce – Senior Workhorse
Matt Porter, Nelson – Outstanding Initiate
Jessika Uden, Juniata – Outstanding Sophomore Activities
Vicki Wray, Scotia – Outstanding Junior Activities, and Outstanding Junior Scholarship
Kristina Holt, Thedford – Outstanding Senior Scholarship
Aaron Naber, Roca – Outstanding Senior Scholarship, Don Geweke Award for 1st place in the MAEC Senior Division, and Mike Cull Judging Award
Drew Miller, Davenport – Don Geweke Award for 1st place in the MAEC Junior Division
Jamie Bauman, Martell – Don Geweke Award for 2nd place in the MAEC Senior Division

Officers and Advisors for 2004-2005

- Ashley Lewis**, Kearney – President
Vicki Wray, Scotia – Vice President
Ashley Batie , Kearney – Secretary
Matt Porter, Nelson – Treasurer
Ryan Walrath, Primrose – News Reporter
Natalie Hart, Cozad – Marshall
Brent Nelms, Benkelman – Assistant Marshall
Jessika Uden, Juniata – Historian
Krista Holstein, Blair – Assistant Historian
Cathy Hervert, Ravenna – Ambassador
Beth Maricle, Albion – Program Chair
Shane Potter, Weston, Social Chair
 Advisors: **Rick Rasby**, Senior Advisor; **Brett White**, 2nd Year Advisor; and **Galen Erickson**, 1st Year Advisor

The Year: 1973

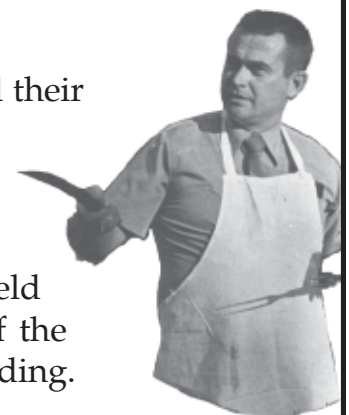
Picture #1 – (Left to Right) Gary Stautfer, Max Hoffman, Ted Acton, Gary Kubicek, Bill Hawthorne, Rss Lechtenberg, Doug Brand, and Bob Harms (1973 Block & Bridle Officers)

Picture #2 – Back Row (Left to Right) Bill Goldner, Gary White, Tom Socha, John Newton, Bill Schwartz, Beryl Lantz, Gary Zoubek, Chuck Graff, Phyl Bourn, Bob McCormick, Alan Emsey, Norm Barney, Larry Olson, Dave Notter, Phil Grabouski, Jerry Popenhagen, Jim Rabe, Bill Dike, Steve Biegert, Kern Hendrix, and Lorraine Mahoney. Front Row (Left to Right) Tim Stahly, Irv Posein, Roger Belohlavy, Mike Chesney, Mike Prokop, Chul Lee, and Larry Erlinger (1973 Animal Science Graduate Students)

Block & Bridle Event

Block and Bridle
 invites you to attend their
Annual Steak Fry
September 10, 2004
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

This event will be held
 on the south side of the
 Animal Science Building.



Animal Science Awards and Recognitions

Recent Department Awards and Recognitions

Faculty

Dennis Brink – UNL Teaching Council and UNL Parents Association Award for Making a Difference

Tom Dill – Promoted to Educator

Terry Klopfenstein – USDA Secretary's Honor Award

Libby Lugar – UNL Teaching Council and UNL Parents Association Award for Making a Difference

Rosie Nold – IANR Dinsdale Family faculty Award, Promoted to Associate Professor, Honorary State FFA Degree, and American Meat Science Association 2004 Achievement Award

Bryan Reiling – UNL Teaching Council and UNL Parents Association Award for Making a Difference

Ivan Rush – Nebraska beef industry's Prime Promoter Award

Troy Walz – Promoted to Associate Educator

Graduate Students

Jared Bates – Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship

Eric Behlke – Graduate Recruiting Fellowship

Rebecca Bott – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award, First place in Midwest ASAS Graduate Student Competition Paper for M.S., Milton E. Mohr Fellowship, and John W. McDonald Fellowship

Virgil Bremer – Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship

Oscar Esquivel – V. H. Arthaud Travel Award and William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Danilo Franco – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award

Bobbi Geisert – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award

Kristin Gustad – Graduate Recruiting Fellowship

Kimberly Hargrave – Maude Hammond Fling Fellowship, V. H. Arthaud Travel Award, and William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Heidi Harris – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award

Jennie James – Chancellor's Fellowship and an Institute of Food Technologists Fellowship

Blaine Jenschke – Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma L. Sharpless Fellowship

Pablo Loza – Fourth place in the Graduate Student Competition paper at the Plains Nutrition Conference and V. H. Arthaud Travel Award

Jeremy Martin – Teaching Assistant Holling Family Award for Teaching Excellence

Jim McDonald – Teaching Assistant Holling Family Award for Teaching Excellence

Jessica Meisinger – Midwest Representative for the Student Board of Directors of the American Meat Science Association

David Monsalve – Victor Henningsen, Sr. Graduate Student Fellowship, and William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Rob Peterson – Second place in Midwest ASAS Graduate Student Competition paper for Ph.D., third place in the Graduate Student Competition paper at the Plains Nutrition Conference

Stephanie Quinn – Graduate Recruiting Fellowship

Juliati Rahajeng – William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Ana Ruiz – William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Angel Rios-Utrera – Ned and Esther Raun International Graduate Fellowship, and William G. Whitmore Travel Award

Rami Sawalha – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award

Kristi Sayer – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Award

Jason Scheffler – Burkey Fellowship

Christopher Smith – Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship

Aaron Stalker – John Hallman Memorial Award

April Tepfer – Graduate Recruiting Fellowship

Robin Ten Broeck – Graduate Recruiting Fellowship

Undergraduate Students

Recognitions

Jonathan M. Anderson – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Adrienne Auch – Graduate Women in Science honor

Ashley Batie – Graduate Women in Science honor

Amy R. Cropp – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Lesha Eggers – Graduate Women in Science honor, Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition

Jeffry R. Faimon – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Danielle L. Gage – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Tracy Hadenfeldt – Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition

Sarah Heidzig – Graduate Women in Science honor and Spring Semester's Dean's List

Brynn A. Husk – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Jennifer Ingwerson – Graduate Women in Science honor, and Spring Semester's Dean's List

Justin V. Jensen – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Kathryn E. Jess – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Libby D. Johnson – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Sarah L. Joy – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Kassandra L. Ketteler – Spring Semester's Dean's List

Brooke A. Korell – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Lisa Kot – Graduate Women in Science honor
Lisa Kotas – Graduate Women in Science honor
Adam Krause – Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition
Brian Krause – Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition
Ashley Lewis – Graduate Women in Science honor
Amy Martin – Young Pork Producer Award and Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Darci McGee – Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition
Christie M. McRae – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Drew T. Miller – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Renee Minary – Graduate Women in Science honor, Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition and Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Don Mass – American Meat Science Association Undergraduate Travel Award
Aaron C. Naber – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Michelle M. Pavelka – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Megan Peterson – Graduate Women in Science honor
Ashley Robison – Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition, and Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Gretja L. Schnell – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Melissa Senf – Graduate Women in Science honor
Rachel Spatz – Graduate Women in Science honor, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Beef Scholarship, Gamma Sigma Delta High Scholarship Recognition, and Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Sara M. Stepan – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Jessika Uden – Graduate Women in Science honor, NPPA’s Pork Industry Mentoring Program
Josie A. Waterbury – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List
Jennifer Witte – NPPA’s Pork Industry Mentoring Program
Vicki L. Wray – Spring Semester’s Dean’s List

Scholarships

Eric Deerson, Mead – Freshman Scholarship
Krista Holstein, Blair – Freshman Scholarship
Justin Stratmann, West Point – D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Memorial Freshman Scholarship
Aaron Whitwer, Blue Springs – Freshman Scholarship
Brynn Husk, Blair – Nebraska Pork Producers Freshman Scholarship, and Maurice E. Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship
Sarah Joy, Dunbar – Nebraska Pork Producers Freshman Scholarship, and Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Scholarship
Aaron Kavan, Colon – Nebraska Pork Producers Freshman Scholarship
Amy Martin, Lexington – Waldo Family Farms Freshman Scholarship
Sarah Witte, Scribner – Waldo Family Farms Freshman Scholarship
Jennafer Glaesemann, Fairbury – ABS Global Scholarship

Tracy Hadenfeldt, Cairo – Baltzell-Agri-Products, Inc. Scholarship
Jennie Pieken, Omaha – Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship
Melissa Senf, Palatine, IL. – Burnell Scholarship
Sabrina Jansma, Norfolk – Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Scholarship
Elizabeth Maricle, Albion – Doane Scholarship
Brian Arnold, Kilgore – Feedlot Management Scholarship
Rodney Lamb, Anselmo – Feedlot Management Scholarship
Brent Nelms, Benkelman – Feedlot Management Scholarship
Gabriel Schnuelle, DeWitt – Feedlot Management Scholarship
Rachel Spatz, Pierce – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
Renee Minary, McCook – William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship
Jessika Uden, Juniata – Nutrition Service Associates Scholarship
Michelle Pavelka, Bladen – Parr Family Scholarship
Kody Sok, Grand Island – Parr Family Scholarship
Jodi Holmes, Burwell – Chris & Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship
Ashley Lewis, Kearney – Chris & Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship
Ashley Batie, Kearney – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
Lisa Kot, Orland Park, IL. – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
Lisa Kotas, Wilber – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
Amy Martin, Lexington – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
Josie Waterbury, Walnut, IA. – Walter A. & Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship
Jackelyn Snyder, North Platte – Max & Ora Mae Stark Scholarship
Wade Kloeping, Cozad – Max & Ora Mae Stark Scholarship
Jeffry Faimon, Blue Hill – Dwight F. Stephens Scholarship
Libby Johnson, Minden – Arthur W. & Viola Thompson Scholarship
Darci McGee, Fairbury – Thomas H. Wake, III Scholarship
Josie Waterbury, Walnut, IA.; **Sara Stepan**, Leigh; **Adam Krause**, Homer; **Tracy Hadenfeldt**, Cairo; and **Brian Krause**, Homer – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Sophomores)
Rachel Spatz, Pierce; **Ashley Robison**, Lincoln; **Renee Minary**, McCook; **Darci McGee**, Fairbury; **Lessa Eggers**, Ruskin; **Lisa Kot**, Orland Park, IL.; and **Sabrina Jansma**, Norfolk – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Juniors)

Gretja Schnell, Lincoln; **Jordan Spatz**, David City, **Michelle Pavelka**, Bladen; **Libby Johnson**, Minden; **Genna Frenzen**, Fullerton; **Craig Burda**, Wilber; and **Jonathan Anderson**, St. Paul – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Seniors)

Student Ambassadors

2003-04 – **Sarah Heidzig**, Auburn; **Lindsay Kampbell**, Scottsbluff; **Renee Minary**, McCook; **Jordan Spatz**, Brainard; **Rachel Spatz**, Pierce; and **Jessika Uden**, Juniata.

2004-05 – **Renee Minary**, McCook; **Jessika Uden**, Juniata; **Mollie Grim**, Bonesteel, SD; **Krista Holstein**, Blair; and **Jackelyn Snyder**, North Platte.

Staff

Deb Clopton – March/April IANR Outstanding Employee Award for Managerial/Professional Staff
Ginger Mills – April IANR Outstanding Employee Award for Office/Service Staff

Minnie Stephens – April Board of Regents Kudos Award

Alumni Awards

Al Svajgr – (B.S. 64; M.S. 68) – named Vice Chair of the Cattlemen’s Beef Promotion & Research Board at the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association.

Roger Wehrbein – (B.S. '60) received the Service Award from the CASNR Alumni Association during CASNR Week and was presented by **Roger Bissell** (B.S. 78) who is President of the CASNR Alumni Association.

Judging Team Activities

2004 Livestock Judging Team



2004 Livestock Team: Front Row (left to right) – **Ashley Batie**, Kearney; **Vicki Wray**, Scotia; Middle Row (left to right) – **Ashley Holden**, Broad Brook, CT; **Jim Latoski**, Wray, CO.; Back Row (left to right) – **Dr. Bryan Reiling**, Advisor; and **Josh Stroh**, Coach.

The 2004 Livestock Judging team started practicing last fall and have competed in four competitions this spring including the National Western, Sioux Empire, Iowa Beef Expo, and Houston. These students and their coach have represented our department and University

with pride as they visit and interact with producers and alumni located throughout the state. For nearly a year, they gave up breaks, weekends, and evenings to have an opportunity to compete. At the same time, these students maintain strong academic records. Although the team had only moderate success this year, they have made tremendous strides and are continually improving their livestock evaluation and oral communication skills as they look forward to becoming a competitive force throughout the fall judging campaign. Livestock judging is a tool that allows us to continually teach decision-making skills, leadership, self-confidence, and communication. It provides an opportunity for students to network with producers and industry personnel.

(Contributed by Bryan Reiling, Advisor)



What Year is This Judging Team? See the bigger picture on page 18 and look for the answer somewhere in the Newsletter.

2004 Meat Animal Evaluation Contest



2004 MAEC Team: Front Row (left to right): **Joe Wendell**, Smitfield, and **Travis Wolf**, Gothenburg; **Aaron Fehringer**, Humphrey; **Kristina Holt**, Thedford; **Adam Hamling**, Creston; Back Row (left to right) – **Dr. Don Beermann**, Department Head; **Aaron Naber**, Roca; **Dr. Rosie Nold**, Coach; and **Dr. Bryan Reiling**, Coach.

This contest is a comprehensive event which includes market, breeding, meats, and communication divisions. Contestants evaluate animals for fat thickness, muscling, yield and quality grades and percent lean, as well as price groups of animals and rank them on performance such as lean gain per day. This year the contest was held at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD. The

team placed 5th in market animal, 7th in breeding, 6th in meats, 6th in communication challenge, and 6th overall. When the species placings were calculated, the team placed 3rd in Beef, 6th in pork and 9th in sheep. Individual placings were **Joe Wendell** 12th in breeding, **Adam Hamling** 12th meats, and **Aaron Naber** 6th in market division, 14th in breeding, 9th in meats and 2nd overall.

Quadrathlon Team

This year's team finished respectably in the middle of the pack at the Midwest regional contest. The team members went on to participate fully in the American Society of Animal Science meeting. Team members served on a panel discussion of animal science curricula, fielding audience questions from an undergraduate perspective. The Quadrathlon contest challenges skills and knowledge in practical animal production, science, and oral communication. Team members were **Kerry Burns**, Humphrey; **Kristina Holt**, Thedford; **Mikaleh Shultz**, Fairbury; and **Sarah Vanness**, Wausa. **Jess Miner** served as the team's faculty advisor.

UNL Equestrian Team

The UNL Equestrian Team traveled to Crookston, MN to compete in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association competition. There were 14 that competed taking nine first place finishes, and five second place awards. The team was given the High Point Team honor. **Jennifer Ingwerson** (Plattsmouth) took the High Point Rider honors and finishing as the Reserve High Point Rider. Five of the riders qualified to ride in the Regionals.

Libby Lugar, coach/advisor to the UNL Equestrian Team traveled with **Lindsey Salestrom**, Tekamah, to the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Horse Show in Murfreesboro, TN. To be eligible to compete at this show, riders have to earn 35 points during the regular show season. Once the riders have "pointed-up," they are invited to the Regional Championship Show. Riders who have placed 1st or 2nd among regional qualifiers, are then sent as the regional representative to the Zone Championship Show. Riders placing 1st or 2nd at the Zone level qualify to compete at the National Horse Show. Lindsey was the Regional Champion and the Zone Champion, but she was named the Reserve National Champion.

International Activities

Chris Calkins hosted two people from Portugal last December, Paulo Jorge Costa, a Ph.D. student from the National Institute of Industrial Engineering and Technology (Instituto Nacional de Engenharia e Tecnologia Industrial) and Diana Oliveira, a recent undergraduate. One of the topics addressed while they were visiting was the measurement of texture and sensory properties of beef.

Roger Mandigo spoke to members of the Mexican Meat Council on "Control Methods for Listeria in Meat and Meat Products" at the annual Meat Council in Guanajuato, Leon, Mexico.

Duane Reese led a tour of seven students from UNL and Iowa State University to Denmark in May on a three-

week study tour. The tour was designed to provide students skills and experiences valuable for a successful career in a global, consumer-driven food industry. Each student lived with a Danish farm family for seven days. Enterprises on those farms included dairy, pork, small grain, vegetable and sugar beets. Students obtained direct experience with Danish farm production practices and family life. Students milked cows, cared for pigs, planted vegetables, ate open-faced sandwiches and discussed world affairs with foreigners for in many cases, the first time in their life. They toured together visiting farms and agribusinesses involved in conventional and organic food production, fur production and marketing, export and direct consumer marketing. Attending Crown-Prince Frederick's wedding in Copenhagen was a huge hit. The greatest benefits of the tour according to the students', were a better understanding of Danish food management and production practices, culture and traditions. One student wrote, "it really broadened my horizons and it was one of the most amazing experiences I have ever had."

Duane Reese hosted two students, **Mette Pedersen** and **Pia Boe Bak**, who attend Dalum Agricultural College in Denmark. These students spent about a month meeting NU faculty and students, staying on farms and working with the farm family. The resources and experience that they gathered will be used to complete their international project, a requirement for all students that attend Dalum College.



Duane Reese (seated far left) with students from UNL and Iowa State University in Denmark.

Emeriti News

Irv Omtvedt says he keeps a busy schedule consulting for the National Association of Land Grant Colleges on their Food and Society Project and serves on the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Community Foundation, the Agriculture Builders of Nebraska, the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement, the UNL Emeriti Association, the UNL Garden Friends, Capital City Kiwanis Club and St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Irv and Wanda continue to live in Lincoln and travel as often as their schedules permit. Since retiring, as the Vice President & IANR Vice Chancellor they have cruised the Danube, visited the Eastern U.S. Seaboard to Quebec City and through the St. Lawrence Sea Way. They traveled to Hawaii last fall to cruise the Hawaiian Island when Irv ended spending a week in a Honolulu hospital and having a section of his colon removed. They spend a couple of weeks each winter in Arizona and travel to Kearney and Kansas City to visit their four grandchildren and their families as often as possible. They make several trips each year to Wisconsin to visit relatives. Irv says the bottom line is that they are maintaining full schedules, but are truly enjoying retirement.

Bob Koch writes "Though the wheels of the gods grind slowly, they grind exceedingly fine (anonymous)." Twelve years after retiring in 1992, my colleagues, **Larry Cundiff**, **Keith Gregory**, and **Dale Van Vleck**, have finished analyses and publication of the third paper summarizing the results of the beef cattle selection experiment started at Fort Robinson in 1960 and completed at the U.S.

Meat Animal Research Center. The first paper in 1994, summarized the cumulative selection and the genetic change for weaning or yearling weight and muscle score in the lines selected. The second paper in 1995, dealt with direct and maternal responses to selection, and the third paper summarized correlated responses in efficiency of gain, growth, and carcass characteristics. They expect this unique data bank will continue to provide useful studies for animal breeding papers on into the future. Bob and Mary Jane, his wife, enjoy going to Lake Missaukee near Lake City, MI in the summer to live and return in September to their home in Lincoln. This year he has been able to attend a high school graduation in Denver, visit his sister and stepmother in Montana. Bob celebrated his 80th birthday in May and is the oldest male in the family records. He feels free to enjoy each day, serve where possible, and investigate his family history.

Your Newsletter

Earl Ellington (Chair), Dennis Brink, 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 want to encourage your sending us news items and any comments on how we might improve the newsletter.

Call for Information for the 2004 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.

Trivia Pictures (continued)

Picture #3 - Drs. P. J. Cunningham, Earl Ellington, and Robert Appleman (1973 Block & Bridle Advisors)

Picture #4 - (Left to Right) Robert Volk, Jamie Kruse and Kathy Geiger (Top Showmen at AK-SAR-BEN)

Picture #5 - Barbara Young and Kathy Geiger (1973 Block and Bridle Queen)

Picture #6 - Back Row (Left to Right) - Ted Doane, Wool Coach, Dr. Frank Baker, Randy Naber, Max Hoffman, Mike Robinson, Chuck Schroeder, Kent Helm, Coach R. B. Warren. Front Row (Left to Right) John Maahs, Doug Brand, Rick Larson, Dave Rasmussen, Romie Morgan, Gary Stauffer, Phil Roubal. (1973 Senior Livestock Team)

Alumni News

1940

Robert L. Rothwell (B.S. '40) is retired from the 3R Ranch in Hyannis, NE but still has a few cows with his son, John. Robert lives in Lincoln now but goes to the ranch when he can. He has many good memories of the College of Agriculture. He lived with Dick Spangler, Thone Davis, and Gordon Honey at the Kappa Sigma House. He was a member of the Block and Bridle Club when he attended the University. He remembers Professors Loeffel, Alexander, Mussehl, R.B. Warren and many others. He and his wife, Ann, celebrated 60 years of marriage last February.

1942

Verlin K. Johnson (B.S. '42) is a Professor Emeritus from the Animal and Range Sciences at North Dakota State University. His health has improved considerably since June 1999. The form of lymphoma is far in remission so he can enjoy being more active. He was a good friend and classmate of Warren Sahs. Warren and he attended quite a few classes together, lived and worked together for part of their college careers. He will be 86 come June, but things are going fairly well. His wife and him like to go to basketball games whenever the Bison play at home. He keeps busy with church work and other volunteer work.

1949

Marvin C. Low (B.S. '49) says he is retired as the Madison County Extension Agent and enjoys the Alumni Newsletter.

1963

Donald C. Meiergerd (B.S. '63) lives in Wichita, KS and retired from Excel Corporation in August 2003 after 30 years of service. His last title was Vice President and General Manager of Excel Food Distribution. You can contact him at djmeiergerd@msn.com

1966

Frank Ramaekeas, Jr. (B.S. '66) lives in Columbus, NE and can be reached by e-mail at FYRAMAE@CITLINK.net.

1968

Mike Neruda (B.S. '68 – General Ag) who was President of the Block & Bridle Club, was recipient of the 2004 Alumni Achievement Award. Mike, of Bethesda, Maryland, has worked with the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Navy. He is the

senior adviser for Homeland Security and Strategic Initiatives for the USDA in Washington, D.C.

1973

Craig Buescher (B.S. '73) and his wife, Marge, have been farming in the Deweese, NE area since 1977 after working at Senek Swine Testing Station and Meat Animal Research Center. They have four children – Jenni, Brian, Angie and Emily. Craig has a diversified farming operation which includes beef cows, commercial alfalfa and row crop production. He is involved in the Nebraska Alfalfa Marketing Association and has been show manager of the Mid-America Alfalfa Expo since its inception in 1995. His memories include dedicated instructors in the Animal Science Department and he remembers the early morning judging practices. He realized his age when his youngest daughter graduated with an Animal Science degree from UNL 30 years after he did!

1974

Dave Hamilton (B.S. '74) received the 2003 Rangeland's Award from the Nebraska section of the Society for Range Management at their annual meeting last October held in Kearney, NE.

1978

Karol Swan (B.S. '78) has been working for the USDA for 25 years. She works for the USDA Meat Grading and Certification Branch that is stationed at the Swift Packing Company in Grand Island, NE. She lives on a farm near York, NE with her husband Donn and daughter Jordan.

1982

Linda Kay Barton (B.S. '82) is working as a Consumer Accounting Representative for the Dawson Public Power in Lexington, NE. You can reach her by e-mail at hrustmoonretrievers@nebi.com

1985

Terry Radke (B.S. '85; M.S. '89) lives in Overland Park, KS and works for ADM Alliance Nutrition in the Kansas City area. Terry and his wife, Kate, have four children two boys ages 11 and 3 and two girls ages 10 and 7. Terry enjoys reading the Alumni Newsletter and was saddened of the passing of R.B. Warren, Charlie Adams, and Warren Sahs. He always admired R.B.'s determination, and enjoyed his annual note from Charlie about Gamma Sigma Delta happenings. He said they were treasures of the department. He remembers R. B.'s

daughter taking care of him at Lincoln General after his accident and that he and his wife helped him find an apartment in the basement of the home of an elderly couple during graduate school.

1987

Jeff Ehrenfried (B.S. '87) works for a Veterinary Clinic in Pierre, SD. Jeff got his DVM from Kansas State University in 1992. He is currently serving on the South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association Executive Board, and will assume the office of President in August 2004 for a one year term.

1997

Claudia Obrock Martin (M.S. '97) reports that it has been a year since she was in Nebraska and quite a few things have happened in her life with many blessings coming her way. The past year has been full of excitement and news in her household. First, her husband, Wallace, and they moved to their first home the end of June 2003. They have been working on the house (built in 1966) since they moved. It is looking great and it definitely feels like home. In early November they were blessed with 5 puppies. After a difficult delivery, we had a house full of joy with Annie, Little Dingo, Sunshine, Freckle and Small Chance, who left for new homes in January. They were blessed with the birth of their son, Benjamin Wallace, on February 13, 2004. She can already see him stealing all the girls' hearts. Claudia works for Virginia Tech and the City of Chesapeake as the Extension Agent for the 4-H Youth Development Programs in Chesapeake, VA. You can contact Claudia at cobrock@hotmail.com.

Justin L. Paulson works for Trans Ova Genetics as a herdsman/artificial insemination technician. This operation has been in existence for about 9 years and is a branch from the main office in Sioux Center, IA. They provide embryo collection and transfer services primarily for beef cattle. Justin says their clients and flush cows come from all over the country, including Nebraska and overseas, but the majority of his work is done for the great seedstock producers of Montana and the western states.

1998

Aaron Berger (B.S. '98) returned to Nebraska recently to begin his duties as an Extension Educator in Kimball-Banner counties.

1999

Edward J. Cargill (B.S. '99) recently completed his doctoral research and will be receiving his Ph.D. in genetics from Texas A&M University in May 2004. He is currently working as a postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics at Texas A&M University System Health Science Center. His wife, Holly, and he are expecting their second child in April. He enjoys receiving the Animal Science Alumni Newsletter and keeping up to date on what his happen in the Department and about his old colleagues.

2000

Jesus A. Arango-Gomez (Ph.D. '00) is working as in a postdoc position at the University of Georgia in Athens under the supervision of Dr. Ignacy Misztal. He was sorry to learn about the passing of Dr. Charlie Adams.

2001

Hilary (Esch) Maricle (B.S. '01) reported the highlight was the birth of their twin sons, Carson Robert and Cody Keith, born on September 23, 2003. They are growing by leaps and bounds and are developing strong personalities--rumor is that Carson is noisy like Mom and Cody is calm like Dad. Austin is 6 years old and in 1st grade. He is enjoying his 4-H club. He showed his first bucket calf, "Blackie," at the Boone County Fair and made two home environment projects. His growth spurts are a daily occurrence and he is a ton of help on the farm and in the house. Brian is farming with his Dad and selling trailers. He was lucky enough to rent a dryland farm of his own last summer with corn, soybeans, alfalfa and pasture. The dryland was a challenge that he enjoyed and would like to try again as long as everyone keeps praying for rain! He has also managed their small herd of beef heifers, helping them calve, making sure they had enough grass and chasing the occasional escapee. Hilary continued to attend UNL and helped lead the Animal Science Leadership Program. She enjoyed the students and was very proud of them when they earned a trip to present at the NACTA (North American College of Teachers of Agriculture) Conference in California, where she also presented her thesis. During the summer, she worked at the Boone and Nance County Extension Offices which allowed her to help with the County Fairs. She graduated with her MS degree in Leadership Education. They hope to become more involved with the Farm Bureau as it is instrumental in the development of agricultural policy and is helping to build strength in young farmers and ranchers across the U.S. You can contact Hilary at bemaricle@gpcom.net

Animal Science Trivia

What Year Is This?

The answers to the Trivia pictures are located within this Newsletter.

Picture #1 ➤



Picture #2 ➤



Picture #3 ➤



Picture #4 ➤



Picture #5 ➤

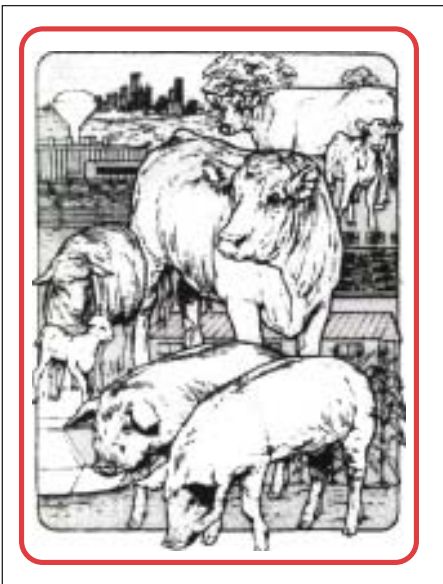


Picture #6 ➤
(Also seen on page 12)



Contributions to Animal Science Programs

The **ANIMAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT** is dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities and leadership to students and clientele with diversity in training and experience. Please help us in continuing to provide these opportunities by contributing to one of these funds.



Animal Science Discretionary Fund #2047

This fund was developed to provide a flexible source of funding to enrich and enhance our Animal Science programs. These enhancements help to ensure that our teaching, research, and extension programs remain at the cutting edge of science and are responsive to the needs of our students and stakeholders.

Animal Science Scholarship Fund #8110

The Animal Science Department has been fortunate to have a number of named funds contributed by alumni and friends that benefit our undergraduate and graduate students. These funds have been very instrumental in enabling our students to complete their education. As part of the Department's recruitment efforts, the Department's scholarship program has been expanded to include Freshman Scholarships. This fund was established to assist in funding the Freshman Scholarships.

Animal Science Judging Team Fund #2194

The Animal Science Department is proud of the accomplishments and tradition our judging teams have established. Judging teams are an essential component of our undergraduate teaching program. Judging teaches many critical career skills beyond the techniques of animal or product evaluation. Judging team participation allows students to meet the leaders in our industry, visit outstanding livestock and horse operations and packing plants, and obtain excellent knowledge of U.S. animal agriculture. Professor R.B. Warren established this fund approximately 25 years ago, and it has been an invaluable source of financial support for the program. All funds contributed directly benefit the students who are members of our teams through reimbursement of a part of their direct travel costs, meals, and lodging for workouts and contests.

University of Nebraska Contribution Card

Please direct my gift to:

ANISCIWN03

\$ _____ Animal Science Discretionary Fund #2047

\$ _____ Animal Science Scholarships Fund #8110

\$ _____ Livestock & Judging Team Travel & Scholarship Fund #2194

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My matching gift form is enclosed. If you or your spouse are employed for a company with a matching gift program, your gift could be increased! Contact your personnel office for more information.

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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, C203 Animal Sciences, 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.

Name _____ Date of Graduation _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Position, Company, Address:

News Items, Comments, etc.

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