

July 2007

## Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Summer 2007

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# Animal Science

## ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Lincoln

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University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Summer 2007

## Inaugural NBIS Class

The Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars (NBIS) program is up and running! Conceived by UNL beef faculty, NBIS is a certification program that can be completed by students wishing to develop as beef industry leaders while completing any complementary major in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The certification program is composed of 18-20 credits of classes (seminars, industry travel, internships, issues identification, etc.) plus some other beef industry learning experiences. Students apply for the program during the fall of their freshman year.



The inaugural class of the Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars pictures on April 17, 2007 with instructors Merlyn Nielsen; guest lecturer, Sallie Atkins; and teaching assistant, Kelsey Rolfe.

In fall 2006, freshman and a few sophomores applied for acceptance into NBIS. Sixteen students are in our inaugural NBIS class that will finish in 2010. These students, and their home towns, are: **Stephanie Bryant**, Kilgore; **Dana Christensen**, Hardy; **Whitney Davis**, Lincoln; **Spencer Eisenmenger**, Humphrey; **Allison Griffin**, Murdock; **Erin Hammond**, Clarks; **Christina Heine**, York; **Reesa Hoffschneider**, York; **Laura Maricle**, Albion; **Clinton Mickey**, Phillips; **Kyle Perry**, Kimball; **Asia Sabatka**, Weston; **Shayna Truax**, Davey; **Melanie Veprovsky**, Dorchester; **Kasey Wagner**, Winnetoon; and **Alexander Wolf**, Albion.

The spring 2007 seminar class, meeting one day a week, was led by **Merlyn Nielsen**, and **Kelsey Rolfe** (MS student) served as the teaching assistant. A major part (8 weeks) of the class was interacting with 8 industry leaders: **Sallie Atkins**, Halsey; **Jerry Connealy**, Whitman; **Tom Jenkins**, US Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center; **Michael Kelsey**, Nebraska Cattlemen; **John Maddux**, Imperial; **Harry Knobbe**, West Point; **Kathleen Krantz**, Greater Omaha Pack; and **Chuck Schroeder**, formerly

National Cattlemen's Beef Association. Each scholar also shadowed three other industry leaders and presented oral and written reports of their experiences.

Fall 2007 will find this inaugural class in the second-year seminar class with Galen Erickson as the leader. More exposure to the industry, and especially to Nebraska industry organizations, is expected. All members of the inaugural class have joined Nebraska Cattlemen in a student category.

*(Contributed by Merlyn Nielsen and Dennis Brink  
e-mail address: [mnielsen1@unl.edu](mailto:mnielsen1@unl.edu) and [dbrink1@unl.edu](mailto:dbrink1@unl.edu))*

## Schroeder Presents Special Seminar

Animal Science students and faculty received a special treat on Tuesday, March 27. **Charles P. "Chuck" Schroeder** (BS, 1972), Executive Director of The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, presented a seminar on the history and special display pieces at the museum. The museum holds world-wide distinction for its collections depicting western life and cultures, including that of Native Americans. As an example of the size of some collections, the museum holds over 150 pieces by Charles M. Russell, the most comprehensive collection in the world.



**Charles P. Schroeder**

Dating back to a concept formed by a group of men meeting in January, 1955 in Denver, the groundbreaking for construction of the Cowboy Hall of Fame and Museum in Oklahoma City began in 1958. The present name of The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum was set in 2000. Chuck Schroeder assumed the duties of Executive Director in March 2002 and directs a wide array of annual and special programs at the museum.

Being an inspiring and exciting speaker, Schroeder kept the Animal Science audience spellbound throughout the presentation. The "story of the museum" was greatly enhanced through images on the screen, and Chuck's interesting asides and bits of history and colorful, descriptive adjectives made for a wonderful educational experience. He also described the major annual events at the museum: Western Heritage Awards (April), Chuck Wagon Gathering (May) and the prestigious Prix de West (June). One can see some of the art pieces and learn about special events by visiting the museum's website (<http://www.nationalcowboymuseum.org/>), but to get the full effect, nothing can beat a personal visit and spending a day in the museum!

*(continued on page 3)*



# From the Department Head's Desk



Donald H. Beermann

The start of a new school year, State Fair, and end of the summer vacations are all looming ahead as I write this last note to all of you, leading me to wonder “where did the summer go?” I immediately bridge from thinking about the fleeting summer to the eight years and one month that passed since I started my tenure as Department Head. Where did those eight years go? I am reminiscing because I stepped down as Department Head July 31, 2007 to start a new position

working in the UNL Office of Research with some responsibilities in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) Agricultural Research Division. On August 1, I assumed responsibilities as Director of the Institutional Animal Care Program for UNL, and coordinator of the interdisciplinary “One Health” research initiative. I will be responsible for providing professional direction for the care and use of animals in research, teaching, and extension within all University of Nebraska–Lincoln campus and out-state facilities, and I will administer the UNL program for laboratory animal care and housing. I will also be coordinating the development of future research and educational opportunities for IANR and its collaborators in those areas which bridge human and animal health, food animal production, and ecosystems.

These new responsibilities will bring exciting challenges, but I will dearly miss the daily interactions with Animal Science and UNL faculty, staff, and students. I will miss the regular interactions with stakeholders, alumni and friends of the Department. I will miss the special events and special projects that have been gratifying and uplifting. I plan to maintain contact and interactions with as many as possible, and my new position will help accommodate that. I personally thank all our alumni, stakeholders, industry partners, and friends for their generous support of the Department these past 8 years. We have benefited in countless ways from your unselfish giving of time, talent and finances. I personally thank Ann Bruntz, IANR Development Officer for the University Foundation, and her colleagues for their leadership in helping solicit and develop many valuable agreements and donations that benefit the Department. New endowed professorships, student excellence funds, multitudes of scholarships, and gifts of many kinds enhance our programs, help defray education expenses, and enhance our facilities. Partnerships with the IANR Administration also contributed significantly to these same efforts.

When asked what I consider my most significant contribution to the Department, I quickly, confidently, and consistently reply “hiring new faculty and staff.” The future of the Department is significantly dependent upon these individuals, although tenured and senior faculty members make great contributions as well. We have been fortunate to fill 15 faculty positions and add two new staff positions to our Department in the last 8 years. A search is in progress to fill a beef feedlot nutritionist position at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center at Scottsbluff. I reallocated resources from two clerical positions to create the Admissions Coordinator position, and we have retirements expected during the next few years that will also impact the Department.

There are several exciting pieces of news I want to share in this note. First, I am pleased to announce that Matt Ellicott joined the Department on August 1. Matt is our new Animal Science Extension Educator, housed here in the building, who will coach our Livestock Judging Team, teach associated courses, and develop a youth livestock extension program. Learn more about Matt and his wife Sara in the article about him elsewhere in the newsletter. We thank the Deans for creating this position and for the Nebraska Cattlemen’s role in supporting it as well.

Second, we received verbal acceptance of our offer of employment to Dr. Matt Spangler. Dr. Spangler will join the Department January 1, 2008 as our new Beef Specialist/Animal Geneticist with 70% extension and 30% teaching responsibilities. Matt hails from Kansas, completed his M.S. at Iowa State, and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia. He will teach our Beef Cattle Merchandising course, coordinate the undergraduate Beef Industry Scholars Program, advise students and develop a beef cattle genetics extension program.

Third, our undergraduate student recruitment efforts and new scholarship support are yielding good results. Our new student enrollment has increased approximately 10 students each fall for the last three years, and Animal Science majors should exceed 215 this fall. This should be the largest total enrollment since 1998. Last fall Animal Science majors outnumbered all other majors; maybe it will happen again. Special thanks go to Anita Ferrell, our Admissions Coordinator, Rosie Nold, our Recruitment Committee Chair, the Animal Science Ambassadors, and all our faculty and friends who helped with student recruitment. I hope we can sustain the growth for several more years.

Fourth, the renovation of three areas to create specialized classrooms for the new Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine is very near completion. The Ag Builders IANR advisory group was provided a tour on August 1, with Dr. John Thomson, Dean of the Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine, in attendance. The first class of 25 students will complete their first two years in Lincoln starting this fall semester.

I want to pay tribute to two faculty members who retired this year. Dr. Larry Larson, Physiologist, retired June 30, and Dr. Dale VanVleck, Animal Breeding and Genetics, will retire August 31. Both were granted emeritus status, and both contributed greatly to the Department during their careers. Larry’s tenure in the Department spanned 35 years, and Dale’s 19. Dale came to Nebraska after a productive 26 years at Cornell University and retirement there in 1988. Dale’s primary appointment was with the USDA Meat Animal Research Center near Clay Center, Nebraska. Both will be missed a great deal.

Last, I want to say that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Department Head for this distinguished department. The professionalism and accomplishments of the staff in the main office made my job easier and maintained the excellent reputation of the Department. Special thanks go to Vicky Kobes, Deb Dewald, Allen Specht, Ruth Ulmer, Clyde Naber, and Ana Jelavic. During the past 8 years many long-lasting friendships and collegial relationships were developed that I hope will be maintained. I will anxiously anticipate the continued dedication, progress, and success of the faculty, staff and students as they strive to “serve animal agriculture through dynamic networks of discovery and education.”

## Schroeder Presents Special Seminar

(continued from page 1)

Although only a very limited sample from the museum, Schroeder showed and described 38 special pieces and examples of art and depictions of western life and cultures. Among these were sculptures: "End of the Trail" by James Earl Fraser, "Buffalo Signal" by Frederic Remington, and "Canyon Princess" formed from eight tons of Colorado Yule marble by Gerald Balciar; and paintings: "Emigrants Crossing the Plains" by Albert Bierstadt, "Red Man's Wireless" by C.M. Russell, "The Leaders Downfall" by William R. Leigh, "The Wolfmen" by Tom Lovell, and "The Lair of the Cat" by Bob Kuhn. Other special sections of the museum are the Weitzenhoffer Gallery of Fine American Firearms, the American Rodeo Gallery, and Western Performers Gallery (including the portrait of John Wayne by Everett Raymond Kinstler).

Chuck's resume includes previously managing the family ranch near Palisade, Director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Vice President of the University of Nebraska Foundation, and the first CEO of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association before accepting the Executive Director position at The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. In addition to the seminar presentation, Chuck also presented the department with a copy of the 2005 book on the museum, "A Western Legacy." Chuck Schroeder's gift to the department, along with his sharing of time and talent, are greatly appreciated.

(Contributed by Merlyn Nielsen  
e-mail address: mnielsen1@unl.edu)

## Scheideler Named Interim Department Head

Dr. Sheila Scheideler has agreed to serve as Interim Department Head while a national search to permanently fill that position is underway. Dr. Scheideler is a Professor and Extension Poultry Specialist who has distinguished herself with numerous scientific accomplishments, including the recent Poultry Science Association's 2007 Helene Cecil Award for her professional achievements. Dr. Scheideler provides leadership regionally as a key member of the Midwest Poultry Consortium. She has held numerous campus wide leadership positions, most notable among them was her service as President of the UNL Academic Senate. Our intention is to have a permanent head in place by July 1, 2008; therefore, one of Dr. Scheideler's first duties will be to work with the departmental faculty and staff to develop a list of individuals to recommend for a search advisory committee.

Dr. Scheideler is a Nebraska native and UNL Animal Science alumnus ('81, '82). She lives near Bennet, NE on a small farm with her two teenage sons and their assorted 4-H project animals.

## Japanese Agricultural Training Program (JATP) — 40 Years of Success

Forty-one years ago, May 1966, the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Animal Science) entered into an agreement with the Japanese Agricultural Training Council and the National 4-H Club Foundation to teach Japanese students a

three-month basic animal science course in beef and swine. The first group arrived in November, 1966, and completed the course in February, 1968. The next 39 groups arrived in January and completed the course in March. Because of economic growth and international trends, Japan was forced to modernize its agriculture programs, and therefore, this program helped the Japanese farmer deepen his understanding of the international world.

When the first few groups arrived, they lived in a dorm-like setting in the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, and their classes were held in the same building. In later years, the students were housed with host families and their classes held in the Animal Science Building.

The Japanese students in the program arrived in the United States in June. The major program consisted of three phases. Phase One consisted of the study of English at Big Bend Community College at Moses Lake, Washington. While studying English, the students worked in the apple industry harvesting the crop. During Phase Two, lasting about a year, the students were employed throughout the United States at commercial farms, ranches, and other enterprises which usually included their field of interest (beef, swine, dairy, poultry, row crops, ornamental/horticulture, citrus, deciduous fruits and vegetables). Phase Three included basic training courses in the trainee's chosen field of interest. In the first year (Group A), the University of Nebraska led courses in beef and swine. When Group B came to Nebraska in 1969, dairy was added and in 1970, poultry was added to the training course. From 1970 to the present, the University of Nebraska has taught beef, swine, dairy and poultry production to over 1,400 Japanese students.

The first academic coordinator for the program was Dr. Ted H. Doane and, after four years, Dr. Jim D. Heldt took over the responsibility. In 1997, Ted was asked to coordinate the program again. In 1968, Mr. Dwight F. Stephens took a leave of absence from his USDA Director's position at Fort Reno to teach the beef production course. In 1974, Dr. Frank H. Baker, Department Head, asked Mr. Stephens to coordinate the Japanese program and teach a class of beef production to a group of undergraduate students at the University of Nebraska. Mr. Stephens retired from the USDA position at Fort Reno and came to Nebraska as an instructor and coordinated the JATP for 13 years. In 1975, Dr. Paul Q. Guyer took over coordinating the program for eight years and was followed by Dr. John K. Ward who coordinated and taught beef production for two years. Throughout the program, numerous faculty members and graduate students assisted in teaching the different species sections. During Mr. Stephens' tenure, he asked three or four international students to talk with the Japanese students about their country. The students also went on field trips visiting several ranches, commercial industries and enterprises to learn about their species and the end product.

In 1995, the Training Council asked that an Agribusiness instructor be added. Since that time, the Agricultural Economics Department has had an instructor teach an Agribusiness section. The four animal species are taught half of the day and Agribusiness the other half day. The Agribusiness component enhances the students' knowledge of economic needs of livestock. The students learn about cash flow and financial concerns of their specific species. Some of this information was included in the previous curriculum, but this addition gives the trainees more in-depth knowledge in agribusiness, marketing and world agriculture. The students put their knowledge from the basic pro-

duction courses and the agribusiness concepts into their Future Plan. Many of the students are quite creative when they compile their Future Plan showing what they want to do when they return to Japan and possibly the family farm.

Some of the trainees returned to the University of Nebraska to pursue degrees. There have been at least 11 students who pursued a Ph.D. degree and many more who completed the M.S. degree through the U.S. educational system. The students who have received advanced degrees hold responsible positions throughout the world. Most of those positions are either in their native country, Japan, or in the United States. Some of the trainees who have returned to complete an advanced degree have worked as interpreters for the JATP. Several former trainees have large dairies, poultry farms, beef cattle feedlots, and swine operations throughout Japan.

Since the inception of the program in 1968 up to the present class (NN), we have taught a total of 1,416 trainees. The number of trainees by species is: Beef—547, Dairy—506, Swine—214, and Poultry—149. The 2007 group was completed in March.

*(Contributed by Ted Doane  
Email: td43258@alltel.net)*

## New Stained Glass Window a Tribute to Roy L. Carlson

May 14, 2007, we celebrated the installation of the beautiful new stained glass window in the Animal Science Complex. The circular window, composed of hundreds of pieces of beveled, jeweled, colored and etched pieces of glass, is located on the east wall inside the south entrance to the Animal Science Complex. The idea and window design were developed and brought forward several years ago by Roy Carlson, a retired employee of the Department. The window was created by Roy's friend, artist Harry Tompkin, owner of Palace Glass in Lincoln. Roy's vision was to create a piece of art that portrayed the nature of educational animal science activities conducted in the building and added a quality of "distinguished character" for the building. Both objectives are admirably achieved in the final product. Thanks go to the Carlson family and friends who provided the financial wherewithal to complete the project. Roy's untimely passing on September 3, 2006, precluded his viewing the installed window, but we will all be reminded of the artistic talent, dedication and allegiance to the Department that Roy exhibited throughout his employment here and beyond every time we view this beautiful piece of art.



*(Contributed by Don Beermann  
e-mail address: dbeermann2@unl.edu)*

## Van Vleck Receives Pioneer Award from National Dairy Shrine

**L. Dale Van Vleck**, professor of animal science at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln and research geneticist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service, was selected to receive the Pioneer Award from the National Dairy Shrine. The award will be presented during the World Dairy Expo, October 2-6, in Madison, Wisconsin.

The National Dairy Shrine recognizes several pioneers of the dairy industry each year. National Dairy Shrine brings together dairy producers, scientists, students, educators, marketers and others who want to preserve the dairy heritage and keep the dairy industry strong.

Founded in 1949 by a small group of dairy leaders, National Dairy Shrine now has over 17,000 members encompassing virtually every facet of the industry.

## Larson Retires After 35 Years

The Animal Science Department gathered Friday morning, June 22, on Second Floor Main Street to celebrate the distinguished career of 35 years of long time Dairy Physiology faculty member **Larry Larson**. Larry's wife Gloria, son Lance and wife Linda, and children Sarah and Jennifer were present.

Larry has been a long-standing instructor of Animal Science 240, the beginning anatomy and physiology class required for all Animal Science majors. He has observed many students enter the Department and assisted patiently for 21 years with undergraduates as well as prospective students and parents as the Undergraduate Teaching and Advising Coordinator for Animal Science. That's a lot of students over the years!

Dr. Don Beermann, Department Head, presented Larry with a retirement certificate, tie tack and an employee-autographed copy of Tom Tidball's photographic "University of Nebraska: A Timeless Experience" book. Many colleagues offered comments and humorous reminders. Delicious refreshments were enjoyed by everyone.

Larry will continue to serve as a Faculty Emeritus.

*(Contributed by Nancy Savery)*



**Larry Larson**

## New Faculty

### Levis Swine Specialist at Haskell Ag Lab

On December 15, 2006, **Dr. Don Levis** became Swine Specialist/Professor of Animal Science at the Northeast Research and Extension Center's Haskell Agricultural Laboratory near Concord, NE. This position was previously held by Dr. Mike Brumm until he retired in August 2006. Don will conduct research related to growth, development, health, and disease resistance of replacement gilts. His educational programs will focus on swine reproduction and alternative pork production systems.



**Don Levis**

Don is no stranger to the Department or to Extension. He has worked in the Extension field for 31 years. Don worked in Extension at North Carolina State University (July 1976 to November 1978), the University of Nebraska (1978 to 2001), The Ohio State University (July 2001 to December 31, 2004) and UNL Saunders County Extension (January 2005 to December 2006). His educational programs in the United States and worldwide have focused on: (1) design and management of swine breeding-gestation facilities, (2) managing boars, sows and gilts for reproductive efficiency, and (3) implementation and use of artificial insemination of pigs. He developed a successful swine breeding facility that is known nationally and internationally as the LEVIS Swine Breeding System. He has consulted with more than 1,200 individual swine operations in the United States and foreign countries. He has been a consultant and invited speaker to pork producers in Australia, Canada, China, Hungary, Italy, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Thailand, The Philippines, and Vietnam. Within the United States, he has been an invited speaker at more than 750 pork producer meetings. He is the author of 190 publications on swine breeding facilities and reproductive management of pigs. Don has received numerous awards and honors for his extension work. In 2005 the National Hog Farmer magazine selected Dr. Levis as one of the top 50 people who has truly made a difference in the United States pork industry during the last 50 years.

Don Levis received his B.S. from Northeast Missouri State University with a major in Agriculture (1971), M.S. in Animal Science from Northwest Missouri State University (1972), and Ph.D. in Animal Science with emphasis in Reproductive Physiology from South Dakota State University (1976).

*(e-mail address: dlevis1@unl.edu)*

### Stalker Hired at West Central Research and Extension Center

**Aaron Stalker** was hired to fill the Beef Nutrition position at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte. The position was previously held by Dr. Don Adams who was appointed Director of the Center. Aaron received his B.S. (2000) from Colorado State University in Animal Science, M.S. (2002) from New Mexico State University in Animal Science and Ph.D. (2005) from the University of Nebraska in Animal Science.



**Aaron Stalker**

After graduation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Aaron accepted a position as Extension Beef Specialist/Assistant Professor at Oregon State University. Aaron received several awards and honors during his graduate school years. His position in North Platte is 50% research and 50% extension. Aaron has responsibility for managing the cattle herd inventory and conducting research at the Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory near Whitman, NE. Aaron's research interests focus on forage-based beef production systems and his extension activities will include the Nebraska Ranch Practicum and Beef/Forage Short-course.

*(e-mail address: astalker3@unl.edu)*

### Ellicott New Animal Science Extension Educator

**Matt Ellicott** joined the Department of Animal Science the Extension Educator faculty position on August 1, 2007. Primary responsibilities for the position include teaching the Principles of Livestock Evaluation and Judging and Advanced Livestock Evaluation and Judging courses, and coaching the Animal Science Livestock Judging Team. Extension and outreach responsibilities include state-wide leadership for focused comprehensive educational programs of excellence in youth livestock project selection, preparation and showmanship, and assisting with existing youth livestock programs and events. Matt will also serve as a judge and support person for county fairs and similar livestock events, and work with 4-H Leaders, Extension Specialists, Extension Educators and Assistants, and other educational organizations.



**Matt Ellicott**

Matt was born in Pender, Nebraska, but resided in Colorado during much of his youth, where he was active in 4-H and family livestock operations. He obtained his B.S. degree in

Animal Science in 1998 at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. He also completed his M.S. degree in Branded Beef Programs there in 2003. Matt coached the 2001 Colorado State Champion 4-H Livestock Judging Team and was a member of the Colorado State University Reserve National Livestock Judging Team.

Matt's work experiences include an internship with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association in Denver, Marketing and Sales Assistant with Future Beef Operations in Parker, Colorado, and Manager of daily fabrication scheduling and sales of Premium Hereford Beef at Ridgefield Farms in Denver. Matt assumed a faculty position at Colby Community College in Colby, Kansas in 2003. He served as an Animal Science Instructor and as Livestock Judging Coach, and achieved levels of success not attained in the preceding 15 years.

Matt's wife Sara is a Colorado native. She completed a B.S. degree in Animal Science and an M.S. degree in Beef Industry Leadership at Colorado State University.

*(Contributed by Don Beermann  
e-mail address: dbeermann2@unl.edu)*

## Sitzman Appointed To Lead Pork Producers

**Larry Sitzman** began his duties as the new Executive Director of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association. Sitzman served eight years as the state director of agriculture and operated a diversified farm in southwest Nebraska. He has also provided leadership on numerous boards, including the 4-H Foundation, U.S. Meat Export Federation, the U.S. Grains Council and the Ag Council of America.

## Bud Britton Golf Classic

The 2007 Bud Britton Golf Classic was held on May 11. The winning team consisted of **Rodger Johnson, Matt Greenquist, and Flint Harrelson**. The Longest Drive was won by **Phil Miller**, the Closest to the Pin was won by **Karl Moline**, and **Rick Rasby** had the Longest Putt.

## Block & Bridle Activities

### Al Svajgr Block & Bridle Honoree for 2007

**Dr. Al Svajgr**, owner and operator of Agrow, Inc., was honored on April 20, 2007 as the Block and Bridle Honoree.

Agrow, Inc. is a cattle feeding, back-grounding, yearling grass operation and irrigated farming. Along with Agrow, Svajgr also is one of the owners and current President of Darr Feedlot. He is involved with Midwest Bankco Corporation, a bank holding company in Nebraska with five locations in Nebraska and Colorado.

Svajgr is an active producer in the beef industry. He has been president of the Dawson County Cattlemen's Association, Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association, past board member for the Nebraska Cattlemen and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and past chairman for the Human Nutrition Research committee for the NCBA. He spent six years working with the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board.

In addition, he holds leadership positions on the Nebraska Greenbelt Committee, Nebraska Cattlemen's Foundation Board, Cattlemen's Ball of Nebraska and the Nebraska Rural Rehabilitation Advisory Board. He is a past board member of the Cozad Hospital, Agriculture Builders of Nebraska, Nebraska LEAD, Cozad Public Library and the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.



**Al Svajgr**

Svajgr earned his bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of Nebraska and his doctorate from the University of Kentucky. He worked for five years for Continental Grain Corporation before moving back to Cozad to work with the family operation of cattle feeding, ranching, farming and banking.

Al and his wife, JoAnn, have three children and five grandchildren. Son, Jeffrey, married to Traci Svajgr, lives in Cozad and has three young children. Daughter, Joan, is married to Randy Tigges and they reside in Lidderdale, IA. Daughter, Jane, is married to Phil Kopf, and they have two children and reside in Lexington. Al's parents live in Fairbury.

### Block and Bridle Awards

**Jackelyn Snyder**, North Platte – Senior Workhorse Award and Outstanding Senior Scholarship

**Laura Witte**, Scribner – Outstanding Initiate Award

**Annie Doen**, Creighton – Outstanding Sophomore Activities

**Janae Althouse**, Eagle – Outstanding Junior Activities and Outstanding Junior Scholarship

**Garrett Leithoff**, Litchfield – Don Geweke Award for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the MAEC Junior Division

**Mallory Becker**, McCelandtown, PA – Don Geweke Award for 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the MAEC Senior Division

**Russell Pedrett**, Minden, NV – Don Geweke Award for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the MAEC Senior Division

**Bryttni Westlake**, Kinnear, WY – Mike Cull Block & Bridle Judging & Activities Award

Block and Bridle Club received the Outstanding Student Organization Award from CASNR. This is the third time they have won this award in seven years.

## Officers and Advisors for 2007-2008

**Annie Doerr**, Creighton – President  
**Garrett Koester**, Wellfleet – Vice President  
**Jacob Geis**, Newcastle – Treasurer  
**MaKayla Hirschman**, St. Paul – Secretary  
**Sarah Goodbrod**, Lincoln – Historian  
**Shantille Kruse**, Tecumesh – Marshall  
**Andrea Seidel**, Burwell – Assistant Marshall

**Laura Witte**, Scribner – News Reporter  
**Reesa Hoffschneider**, York – Program Chair  
**Jessalyn Schrock**, Bennet – Assistant Historian  
**Janae Althouse**, Eagle – Female Ambassador  
**Will Davis**, Lincoln – Male Ambassador  
**Whitney Davis**, Lincoln – Social Chair  
**Steve Jones** – Senior Advisor  
**Phil Miller** – Junior Advisor  
**Paul Kononoff** – Freshman Advisor  
**Nancy Savery** – Permanent Secretary

## Animal Science Awards and Recognitions

### Recent Department Awards and Recognitions

#### Faculty

**Kathy Anderson** – Vice Chair for the HorseQuest Team 2007-08  
**Dennis Bauer** – Interim District Director of Northeast Research & Extension Center  
**Mary Beck** – Poultry Science Association Fellow Award  
**Don Beermann** – President-Elect Sigma Xi  
**Chris Calkins** – Industry Advisory Board for the Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Alberta, Canada  
**Galen Erickson** – Wendell Burgher Beef Industry Award  
**Cal Ferrell** – American Society of Animal Science Research Fellow Award  
**Rick Funston** – Promoted to Associate Professor  
**Jim Gosey** – Beef Improvement Federaton's Pioneer Award  
**Terry Klofenstein** – Nebraska Corn Board's Livestock Industry Award  
**Rick Koelsch** – Excellence in Extension Award from U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges  
**Don Levis** – Master of the Pork Industry by *The National Hog Farmer*  
**Merlyn Nielsen** – President of the Midwest Section of the American Society of Animal Sciences  
**Bryan Reiling** – UNL Parents Association Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students, and ASUN Outstanding Educator Award (Small Class Division)  
**Sheila Scheideler** – Poultry Science Association's Helene Cecil Leadership Award  
**Rick Stowell** – Promoted to Associate Professor  
**Dale Van Vleck** – Pioneer Award from the National Dairy Shrine

#### Graduate Students

**Ching-Yi Chen** – V. H. Arthaud Travel Award, and Sigma Xi Travel Award  
**Mark Corrigan** – Award for his abstract/poster at the Plains Nutrition Council  
**Makram Geha** – Ned S. and Esther B. Raun International Fellowship  
**Will Griffin** – John Hallman Memorial Award, and V. H. Arthaud Travel Award

**Jennifer McDonald** – Warren F. and Edith R. Day Student Aid Travel Award  
**Jacqueline Smith** – William G. Whitmore Memorial Travel Grant

#### Undergraduate Students

**Jessie Bauman**, Martell – CASNR Ambassador  
**Kathryn Cockerill**, Granger, Indiana – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science, and Milton E. Mohr Scholarship  
**Melanie Cofer**, Gering – Top Freshman for her paper at the UNL Annual Undergraduate Research Conference  
**Jessica Crnkovich**, Ashland – Academic Achievement Tau Sigma, National Honor Society  
**Jacob Geis**, Newcastle – Milton E. Mohr Scholarship  
**Jennafer Glaesemann**, Fairbury – Top Senior for her paper at the UNL Annual Undergraduate Research Conference  
**Vanessa Heagle**, Soulsbyville, CA – Milton E. Mohr Fellowship  
**Kristina Hubbard**, Overton – Milton E. Mohr Scholarship  
**Kathryn Jess**, Des Moines, IA – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science  
**Kyle Perry**, Kimball – CASNR Ambassador  
**Ashlee Poulas**, Fremont – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science  
**Mikki Schmidt**, Gurley – CASNR Ambassador  
**Andrea Schwartz**, Central City – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science  
**Jackelyn Snyder**, North Platte – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science  
**Stephanie Swearngin**, Craig – Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in Science  
**Whitney Sprout**, Elgin – Academic Achievement Tau Sigma, National Honor Society  
**Jessika Uden**, Juniata – Third Place in Senior Scholarship Award

#### Alumni

**Greg Ibach**, Sumner – Hall of Ag Achievement

#### Scholarships

*Awarded to Incoming Freshman Scholarships (High School Seniors):*  
**Zachary Adams**, Wilcox – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship  
**Emily Arkfeld**, Dunbar – Dr. Elton D. and Carrie R. Aberle Scholarship



**Kim Behrends**, Jansen – Frank and Mary Bruning Scholarship and D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Scholarship

**Spencer Bolte**, McCool Junction – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship

**Jessica Clower**, Milford – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship and Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Kyle Clymer**, David City – Dr. Charles H. & Beryle I. Adams Scholarship

**Jessica Cornelius**, Madrid – Nebraska Pork Producers Association Scholarship

**Azureen Erdman**, Newtown, CT – Will Forbes Scholarship

**Tacy Langemeier**, Stromsburg – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Laudon Peterson**, Osceola – Nebraska Pork Producers Association Scholarship

**Tyler Pieper**, Farnam – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship

**Derrick Rocker**, Franklin – Oxbow Pet Products Scholarship and Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Nicholas Schilling**, McCook – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship

**Mckenzie Steger**, Chappell – Art and Ruth Raun Scholarship

**Scott Thomas**, Ashland – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Andrew Uden**, Elwood – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Levi Urwiler**, Wisner – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Lisa Watermeier**, Burr – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Justin Wiegand**, Beatrice – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship

**Elizabeth Wilhelm**, Falls City – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Jared Williams**, Broken Bow – Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars Progressive Scholarship

**Taylor Yaw**, Imperial – Oxbow Pet Products Scholarship and D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Scholarship

*Freshman Scholarships (current Freshman students):*

**Cassandra Krueger**, Roca – Dr. Elton D. and Carrie R. Aberle Animal Science Scholarship

**Savannah Didier**, Beaver Crossing – Dr. Charles H. and Beryle I. Adams Scholarship

**Eric Miller**, Davenport – Frank and Mary Bruning Scholarship

**Jared Mracek**, Alliance – Darr Feedlot Scholarship

**Asia Sabatka**, Weston – Will Forbes Scholarship, and Dwight F. Stephens Scholarship

**Emily Houdersheldt**, Shelby – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Morgan Marshall**, Malcolm – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Kayla Rubenthaler**, Gothenburg – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Rollan Schott**, Nelson – Dr. Tim and Florence Leon Scholarship

**Christina Heine**, York – Nebraska Pork Producers Association Scholarship

**Amy Larson**, Omaha – Art and Ruth Raun Scholarship

**Reesa Hoffschneider**, York – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship, and Robert H. Hatch Scholarship

**Kelli Kwapnioski**, Wayne – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Adam Pinkerton**, Beatrice – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Cassandra Stephenson**, Fairmont – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Heath Weichel**, Plymouth – Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship

**Chance Bergen**, Orleans – Wolf Scholarship

**Shayna Truax**, Davey – Wolf Scholarship

*Upperclass Scholarships:*

**Trenton Bohling**, Johnson – ABS Global Scholarship

**Jacob Geis**, Newcastle – Baltzell-Agri-Products, Inc. Scholarship

**Allison Leiner**, Mead – Maurice E. Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship

**Jennifer Horst**, Wisner – Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial Scholarship

**Brian Peterson**, Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Company Scholarship

**Magdalen Peitzmeier**, Fort Calhoun – Doane Scholarship

**Dirk Burken**, Blue Hill – Feedlot Management Scholarship, Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Ryan Danehey**, Red Cloud – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Adam Eickhoff**, Falls City – Feedlot Management Scholarship

**Brigham Scott**, Westerville – Robert H. Hatch Scholarship

**Mikki Schmidt**, Gurley – William J. and Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship, and I. L. Hathaway Top Senior Award

**Kerri Koch**, Crofton – William J. and Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship

**Jessica Crnkovich**, Ashland – William J. and Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship

**Jeremy Haack**, York – William J. and Hazel J. Loeffel Scholarship

**Jason Warner**, Arapahoe – Nutrition Service Associates Scholarship

**Brett Kreifels**, Springfield – Parr Family Scholarship

**Kathryn Cockerill**, Granger, IN – Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship

**Paul Schmid**, David City – Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial Scholarship

**Kyle Perry**, Kimball – Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Anita Estes**, Stuart – Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Jenna Giangarra**, Huntington, WV – Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Emily Tschida**, Omaha – Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell Scholarship

**Shantille Kruse**, Tecumseh – Max and Ora Mae Stark Scholarship

**Jessalyn Schrock**, Bennet – Max and Ora Mae Stark Scholarship

**Melissa Dijak**, Omaha – D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Scholarship

**Jessica Bauman**, Martell – D. V. and Ernestine Stephens Scholarship

**Nicholas Easterly**, Sidney – Arthur W. and Viola Thompson Scholarship

**Amanda Stastny**, Omaha – Arthur W. and Viola Thompson Scholarship

**Quentin Dailey** – Kearney – Arthur W. and Viola Thompson Scholarship

**Kristina Hubbard**, Overton – Thomas H. Wake III Scholarship

**Whitney Sprout**, Elgin – I. L. Hathaway Top Senior Award

**Brian Petersen**, Burwell; **Jacob Geis**, Newcastle; **Kyle Perry**, Kimball; and **Jason Warner**, Arapahoe – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Sophomores)

**Kristina Hubbard**, Overton; **Dirk Burken**, Blue Hill; **Anita Estes**, Stuart; **Magdalen Peitzmeier**, Fort Calhoun; **Anthony Roubal**, North Bend – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Juniors)

**Mikki Schmidt**, Gurley; **Whitney Sprout**, Elgin; **Jeffrey Faimon**, Blue Hill; **Jennafer Glaesemann**, Fairbury; **Sarah Joy**, Dunbar; **Andrea Schwarz**, Archer; **Christopher Skrdla**, Stuart; and **Joshua VanDeWalle**, Cedar Rapids – American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Award (Seniors)

#### *Judging Team Awards:*

**Lindsey Salestrom**, Tekamah – Frank E. Card Award

**Bryce Gerlach**, Wilber – Del Kopf Memorial Scholarship

**Jeremi Wurtz**, Valley – Derrick Family Scholarship

**Bryttni Westlake**, Kinnear, WY – G. H. Francke Livestock Judging Scholarship

**Chelsea Leatherwood**, Lincoln – Horse Judging Team Award

**Dirk Burken**, Blue Hill – R. B. Warren Scholarship

**Mallory Becker**, McClellandtown, PA – Eric Peterson Memorial Award, and Winkler Memorial Livestock Judging Scholarship

## Undergraduate Research Conference Program

### *Animal Science Students with Animal Science Faculty Mentors*

**Shantille Kruse**, Tecumseh (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **Andrea S. Cupp**, Animal Science  
*Melengestrol Acetate (MGA) When Fed Prior to Puberty Alters Testis Characteristics in Bulls*

**Jennafer Glaesemann**, Fairbury (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **Brett R. White**, Animal Science  
*Plasma Membrane Integrity of Swine Embryos Following Cryopreservation*

**Amy Bell**, Irving, TX

Faculty sponsor: **Chris Calkins**, Animal Science  
*Validation of Serial Equine Digital Skin Biopsy for Studies of Laminitis*

**Kathryn Cockerill**, Granger, Indiana

Faculty sponsor: **Jennifer Wood**, Animal Science  
*Endocrine Profiles and Ovarian Morphology of Mouse Lines Divergently Selected for Heat Loss*

**Anna Fuller**, Lincoln

Faculty sponsor: **John Weber**, Animal Science  
*The Role of Bcl2L in Controlling Sertoli Cell Numbers in the Developing Testes*

**Kathryn Jess**, Des Moines, Iowa (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **Merlyn Nielsen**, Animal Science  
*Fatty Acid Analysis from Mice Fat*

**Melanie Cofer**, Gering

Faculty sponsor: **Merlyn Nielsen**, Animal Science  
*Restricted vs Ad Libitum Intake in Adult Mice Differing Greatly in Level of Feed Intake*

**Chad Mullins**, Falls City (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **Paul Kononoff**, Animal Science  
*Effects of Feeding Monensin and Brown Midrib Corn Silage on Milk Production and Rumens Fermentation*

**Tim Sanderson**, Chambers (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **Jess Miner**, Animal Science/Biochemistry  
*Ruminant Methanogenesis*

### *Animal Science Students with Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Faculty Mentors*

**Jeffrey Faimon**, Lawrence

Faculty sponsor: **Clayton Kelling**, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences  
*Diagnostic Strategies for Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus*

**Erica Harms**, Fremont

Faculty sponsor: **Michael P. Carlson**, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences  
*Effect of Drying on Forage Nitrate Analysis*

**Laura Conroy**, Lincoln (UCARE recipient)

Faculty sponsor: **You Zhou**, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences  
*Characterization of Mouse Lines with Polymorphic Forms of Glucocorticoid Receptor: Part I - Comparison of Body Weight and Food Intake between Genotypes*

## 2007 Quadrathlon

The 2007 Quadrathlon team, named **Smart and Good Looking People**, traveled to the Midwest Section of American Society of Animal Science meeting in Iowa and took 4th place in the oral presentation among a field of 16 teams from major universities in the region. The academic quadrathlon consists of a wide range of animal science knowledge skills and creativity. Each team was made up of four members and competed in a series of four events: 1) written exam; 2) oral presentation; 3) laboratory practicum; and 4) quiz bowl. The University of Nebraska team included: **Laura Maricle**, Albion; **Jacob Geis**, Newcastle; **Brian Petersen**, Burwell; and **Asia Sabatka**, Weston. This contest fosters some friendly interaction between undergraduates, faculty and graduate students who create and monitor the contest.

(Contributed by Paul Kononoff  
e-mail address: pkononoff2@unl.edu)

# JUDGING ACTIVITIES

## Equestrian Team Wins Third Consecutive Title

For the third year in a row, the UNL Equestrian Team earned the High Point Regional Team Title. Nebraska Equestrians are the only team in the history of the region that can boast this accomplishment. The team which has been in existence for several years, has seen much success in recent years. Not only has the team received high point honors, UNL has also fielded the High Point Rider in the region for the past two years.

This year, team members traveled around the region, which includes Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and South Dakota, to earn points toward qualifying for post season competition. Each rider is placed in a division based on his or her previous riding experience. Riders randomly draw for the horse they will show, and are only able to make tack adjustments prior to competing. From a 30 member roster, UNL qualified 17 riders for post-season competition. Those riders earned the right to compete at the Regional Championship Show, hosted by South Dakota State University. Riders placing first or second at that show, advanced to the National Semi-finals, a new concept for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). Between team and individual riders, UNL was able to advance 10 riders to the next level.

For the first year, the IHSA randomly divided the nation into three National Semi-final shows. Nebraska drew up to compete in Pomona, CA. In some very tough competition, Husker Equestrians were named the Reserve High Point Team, qualifying them for National Competition. In addition, UNL had riders qualify individually in four classes.

At the IHSA Nationals, held in West Springfield, MA, UNL brought home their highest national placing yet. The team finished 5th place overall. In addition, **Lindsey Salestrom**, senior in Animal Science from Tekamah, finished 8th in the American Quarter Horse Association High Point Rider competition. Other individual awards included: **Sarah Joy**, Dunbar, Reserve National Champion,



**Equestrian Team (left to right): Alicia Witter, Dawson; Janie Teten, Omaha; Erika Lechtenberg, Oakland; Maggie Peitzmeier, Fort Calhoun; Lindsey Salestrom, Tekamah; Sarah Joy, Dunbar; Chelsea Leatherwood, Lincoln; Libby Lugar, Coach; Robert Cacchione, Extension Director of Intercollegiate Horse Show Association.**

Beginner Western Horsemanship; **Chelsea Leatherwood**, Lincoln, 4th in Intermediate Western Horsemanship; **Lindsey Salestrom**, 3rd Open Western Horsemanship, and 7th in Open Reining; **Alicia Witter**, Dawson, 6th in Open Reining; and **Janie Teten**, Omaha, 4th in Novice Western Horsemanship.

*(Contributed by Libby Lugar  
e-mail address: llugar2@unl.edu)*

## Horse Judging Team Gets Off to a Good Start

The 2007 Horse Judging Team started off on the right foot while competing at two contests during the spring semester. The team was able to gain some great experience while on the annual spring trip. This year, as the contest dates and locations fell, Horse Judging Team members were able to compete at both the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) contest, as well as the American Paint Horse Association Spring Sweepstakes.

The week started by making some stops through Kansas on the way to compete at the NACTA contest, held in Hutchinson, KS, and hosted by Kansas State University. UNL made an impressive showing on the day, with several individual and team awards. As a team, UNL finished 3rd in Reasons, 4th in Halter, 1st in Performance, and 2nd Overall. Individually, **Katy Cockerill**, Granger, IL, finished 2nd in Performance and 2nd Overall.

Following the NACTA contest, the team took off and headed south. The next several days were spent in Oklahoma and Texas at some of the top training facilities in the nation. Team members were fortunate to see several World Champion caliber horses along the way! It was a great learning experience for the students.

The week was wrapped up by competing at the APHA Spring Sweepstakes held in Fort Worth, TX. This was a much larger contest, with some of the most renowned judging schools in the mix. UNL Judging Team members still put on a quite impressive showing, indicating they will be tough contenders for the fall! As a team, UNL finished the day 6th in Halter, 7th in Performance, 8th in Reasons, and 7th Overall. Individually, **Katy Cockerill** was 16th in Performance, and 14th in Reasons. **Morgan Marshall**, Malcolm, finished 20th in Reasons, and 20th Overall.

Other team members competing during the week included: **Mindy Leach**, Malcolm; **Joanna Duhachek**, Lincoln; **Erica Lechtenberg**, Oakland; and **Sarah Goodbrod**, Lincoln.

*(Contributed by Libby Lugar  
e-mail address: llugar2@unl.edu)*

## 2007 Livestock Judging Team

The 2007 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team experienced tremendous success during the first half of their judging season which was highlighted by winning the Iowa Beef Expo cattle judging contest in February! However, the team was rewarded with numerous other accolades during the spring judging campaign as a result of their dedication and commitment to both judging and academic excellence!

Team members include **Mallory Becker**, McClellandtown, PA; **Dirk Burken**, Blue Hill; **Maria Dorn**, Auburn; **Jeff Epp**, Aurora; **Bryce Gerlach**, Wilber; **MaKayla Hirschman**, St. Paul;



**2007 Livestock Judging Team: Front Row (left to right): Mallory Becker, McClellandtown, PA; Jackie Snyder, Hershey; Bryttni Westlake, Kinneer, WY; Maria Dorn, Auburn; Back Row (left to right): Bryce Gerlach, Wilber; Dirk Burken, Blue Hill; Russell Pedrett, Palmyra; Jeff Epp, Aurora; and Aaron Cooper (coach).**

**Russell Pedrett, Palmyra; Jackie Snyder, Hershey; and Bryttni Westlake, Kinneer, WY.**

The team initiated competition just as the fall semester of 2006 concluded. As soon as finals were complete, the team traveled to Oklahoma and competed, for the first time, in a cattle judging contest sponsored by and conducted at the headquarters of Express Ranches, Yukon, OK. Although UNL was in the “middle of the pack” (12th out of 25 teams), it was considered an excellent start considering that most of our UNL judging team members had no prior collegiate judging experience.

In January, more than 100 students from across the country, representing 22 different University teams took to the floor of the Coliseum on the grounds of the National Western in Denver, CO. Mallory Becker was recognized as the 10th high individual in beef judging, 10th in sheep judging, 12th in beef reasons, and 29th overall. Bryce Gerlach ranked 6th in the market steers category, and Bryttni Westlake was 20th in reasons. As a team, UNL ranked 6th in swine, 7th in cattle, 6th in reasons, and 8th overall! The next day, the team competed in the carload judging contest where students were asked to evaluate and rank “pens” of cattle rather than simply the individuals; Jeff Epp was the 4th high individual in this contest!

On Sunday, February 11, the team headed east to compete in the Iowa Beef Expo cattle judging contest in Des Moines, IA where 11 University teams were competing. Individually, Bryce Gerlach ranked 6th in placings, 6th in reasons, and 2nd overall, and Russell Pedrett was 4th in placings, 11th in reasons, and 3rd overall! In addition, MaKayla Hirschman ranked 10th in placings and 12th overall. Bryttni Westlake ranked 7th in reasons, and Dirk Burken, Mallory Becker, and Jackie Snyder all ranked in the Top 20 overall and in reasons! Outstanding individual performances across the board allowed the team to rank 1st in placings, 1st in reasons, and 1st overall!

With momentum now in their favor, the team headed to Houston where they competed against 19 other University teams in the Senior College Livestock Judging Contest at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo during spring break. Individually, Dirk Burken placed 2nd in cattle judging, 6th in placings, and

10th overall! Additionally, Jackie Snyder ranked 6th in the alternates contest. The team ranked 5th in swine judging, 7th in cattle judging, 6th in reasons, and 10th overall.

Without question, the 2007 UNL Livestock Judging Team is off to one of the best starts in recent memory, and they look forward to a promising fall judging season where they will compete in at least four competitions including the National Barrow Show, Austin, MN; the Mid-America Classic, Wichita, KS; the American Royal, Kansas City, KS; and the North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, KY. However, this team could not compete in these competitions without the support and generosity of livestock producers throughout the state of Nebraska. In addition, we wholeheartedly thank the major contributors and sponsors of the UNL Livestock Judging Team including the **Kimmel Foundation, Nebraska Farm Bureau Services, Inc., and the Nebraska Cattlemen’s Research and Education Foundation.**

Additionally, several members of this team hold leadership responsibilities with numerous other clubs and organizations while maintaining a strong academic standing; as a result, five team members were recently nominated for All-American status! Recipients will be named upon conclusion of the judging season at Louisville in November. It should be an exciting year! The team is coached by Aaron Cooper (Post, TX) and advised by Dr. Bryan Reiling.

*(Contributed by Bryan Reiling  
e-mail address: breiling2@unl.edu)*

## Setting the P.A.S.E. on Campus

The Premier Animal Science Event (PASE) was held June 25 and 26 in UNL’s Animal Science Department. This two-day event offered a fun and educational environment, mixed with competition and a chance to excel and be recognized. This year there were over 450 4-H’ers registered in the different contests and events.

4-H youth had a chance to participate in educational workshops, competitive events such as: livestock judging, meat, dairy and poultry judging, livestock quiz bowl and skill-a-thon. Youth were also familiarized with the NU Animal Science Department and the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR).



**2007 Intermediates: Front Row: Dillan Line, Sam Herink, Sydney Gehl, Allison Thompson, Lauren Obach. Back Row: Mary Spencer, Jared Bouek, Jenny Panowicz, Johnny Ference, Alannah Melcher.**



**2007 Seniors: Front Row: Kyle Clymer, Alec Ibach, Derrik Rocker, Hannah Baldrige, Tavis Line. Back Row: Justin Taubenheim, Matthew Snyder, Cody Burke, Travis Pieper, Jake Hoffschneider.**

Youth who excelled in the contests were awarded scholarships to UNL, and have the chance to represent Nebraska at several National events and contests. The Department would like to thank all the county extension staff, parents and volunteers for helping with contests and for coaching these teams. The experiences they gained from these events will not only benefit the youth, but all of us. These youth are the future of agriculture and animal science.

If you would like more information on PASE or to see how your local youth did in the competitions, check out the on-line results at: <http://pase.unl.edu/lifechallenges/Results.html>.

*(Contributed by Deanna K. Karmazin  
e-mail address: dkarmazin2@unl.edu)*

## DEATHS

### Tim Stahly

**Dr. Timothy "Tim" Scott Stahly**, 57, of Ames, died February 27, 2007 at University Hospitals and Clinic in Iowa City. Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 4, 2007 at Collegiate Presbyterian. Tim Stahly was born May 10, 1949, at Huron, S.D., the son of Vernon and Frances (Miner) Stahly. Tim married Sharon Kay Chenoweth Aug. 13, 1966, in Mitchell, S.D. She preceded Tim in death July 9, 2004. Tim attended rural school in South Dakota and was the first person to finish his senior year of high school while a freshman at South Dakota State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1970 and a master's degree in 1972. He earned his Ph.D. in swine nutrition at the University of Nebraska in 1975. He taught at the University of Kentucky for 16 years before joining the faculty at Iowa State University in 1991. He was a researcher and consultant in swine nutrition.

Tim's innovative research has greatly benefited the swine industry. His research focused on the effects of genetics, health status and environmental conditions on the pig's requirements for energy, amino acids and B-complex vitamins. The practice of adjusting diets to environmental conditions, health status and genetic background of pigs is accepted worldwide and much of

this traces back to his discoveries. Many of the growth models available in the swine industry today use information developed by his research. He was in high demand as a speaker at technical conferences and symposia in the United States and abroad and had given papers at 85 conferences in 10 years. In 1983, he received a patent for improving the metabolic stability and survival of neonatal pigs.

Tim was active in the ASAS, serving as Midwestern Section president, was a member of the ASAS board of directors, served on the editorial board of the "Journal of Animal Science" and was a member of Collegiate Presbyterian Church of Ames.

Tim enjoyed his grandchildren and finding humor in everyday life. He had an enjoyment for horses and hosting Kentucky Derby parties at his home in Ames. An avid pheasant hunter, he loved going home to the ranch in South Dakota.

Tim is survived by one daughter, Lisa Stahly, of Fairfax, Calif.; two sons, Charles Stahly, of Lexington, Ky., and Ben Stahly, of Ames; two grandchildren, Dylan, who lived with Tim, and Althea; one sister, Louise Bauman, of Huron, S.D.; and three brothers, Michael Stahly, of Cavour, S.D., Steven Stahly, of Naples, Fla., and Daniel Stahly, of Sioux Falls, S.D.

### Doris Warren

**Doris Diane Kite Warren**, 83, widow of Richard B. "Dick" Warren, passed away in Lincoln on April 17, 2007 in her home. Doris was born to Edward E. and Ruby Kite in St. Francis, Kansas. She attended Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri; graduated from the University of Colorado, in Boulder, Colorado with a degree in pharmacy. Doris worked as a pharmacist for 20 years in Lincoln. She kept busy in other ways, which included being a Charter member of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, member of UNL Faculty Women's Club, East Campus Stars Extension Club, Lancaster County Chorus, and PTA President.

Doris had an indomitable spirit with a love for music, books, travel, and above all family and friends. Her life was constantly marked by grace, dignity and courage.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and granddaughter. Memorials may be made to the R. B. Warren Scholarship fund, University of Nebraska Foundation.

### Your Newsletter Leadership

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

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

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# ALUMNI NEWS

## 1970's

**Larry** (B.S. '72) and **Nona Lechtenberg**, Oakland – Enjoys the Animal Science Newsletter and would love to see more on the Equestrian team.

**Mike Rowe** (B.S. '73), Columbus – Mike has managed Husker Steel since 1985. Husker Steel is a steel fabrication firm that supplies bridge and building steel throughout the Midwest. Mike is President-General Manager of the Husker Steel Corp. which is located in Columbus, Nebraska. Mike and his family live north of Columbus and he has a herd of registered Simmental cows.

**Max Hoffman** (B.S. '73) recently helped Schilling/Bridge Winery and Microbrewery win a "best of show" honor at an international wine competition in Florida. It is said that whether snooty wine aficionados know it or not, Max, a Nebraska farmer, makes some of the best wine in America. Max is a farmer near Burchard, NE where he raises pigs and cattle. Max started raising grapes nearly 30 years ago as a hobby and had never made wine commercially. Two years ago he started making wine. The 2006 Edelweiss won double gold in the varietal category and best-of-show in the white category. This honor marks the biggest win for a Nebraska winery. The competition came from the United States, Germany, Australia and South Africa.

## Call for Information for the 2007 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.

## 30 Years Ago in Animal Science...

### (Subject to Error)

#### Picture #1 ➤

**John Snyder**  
presenting  
**Governor J. James Exon**  
with a holiday ham.



#### Picture #2 ➤

**Keith Gilster**, winner of  
**Little Ak-Sar-Ben**  
**Faculty Contest.**







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