



Virginia FFA 2009 State Convention "Same Traditions, New Ambitions"

News Release

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Virginia FFA Association State Event Winners-- Dairy Foods 2009

Blacksburg, Virginia-- Winners of the State FFA Dairy Foods Career Development Event were announced Thursday, June 25th, at the final session of the 83rd Virginia State FFA Convention held in Blacksburg, Virginia.

High individuals received pins and the state winning team received a plaque provided by the sponsors. The state winning team will compete at the National CDE in Indianapolis, IN in October. The state runner up receives the opportunity to represent Virginia at the Big E competition in Massachusetts. Teams were recognized on stage during the fifth session of the convention.

The team from the Sherando High School FFA Chapter placed first in the Virginia FFA Dairy Foods Career Development Event at the 83rd Virginia FFA State Convention. The team members were Savannah Dillender, Alyson Howard, Chris Perry and Spencer Shanholtz and were coached by Chrissy Whitacre. The Sherando High School team placed first in competition against 6 other teams.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Teams

1st Place--Virginia	Savannah Dillender, Alyson Howard, Chris Perry, and Spencer Shanholtz, all of Sherando High School
2nd Place--Virginia	Gwendolyn Berry, Laura Thompson, Lyle Kyger, and Randall Campbell, all of Rockbridge High School

Top Placing Individuals

1st Place-- Savannah Dillender of Sherando High School, VA
2nd Place-- Laura Thompson of Rockbridge High School, VA

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- 3rd Place-- Chris Perry of Sherando High School, VA
4th Place-- Spencer Shanholtz of Sherando High School, VA
5th Place-- Randall Campbell of Rockbridge High School, VA
6th Place-- Kalynn Painter of Wilson Middle School, VA
7th Place-- Staci Quick of Fort Defiance High School, VA
8th Place-- Angela Merritt of Fort Defiance High School, VA
9th Place-- Grace Phillips of Wilson Middle School, VA

Team Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Teams

Sherando High School, VA

Rockbridge High School, VA

Silver Emblem Teams

Wilson Middle School, VA

Christiansburg High School, VA

Fort Defiance High School, VA

Bronze Emblem Teams

Craig County High School, VA

Spotswood High School, VA

Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

Randall Campbell of Rockbridge High School,
VA

Grace Phillips of Wilson Middle School, VA

Savannah Dillender of Sherando High School,
VA

Staci Quick of Fort Defiance High School, VA

Angela Merritt of Fort Defiance High School,
VA

Spencer Shanholtz of Sherando High School,
VA

Kalynn Painter of Wilson Middle School, VA

Laura Thompson of Rockbridge High School,
VA

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Chris Perry of Sherando High School, VA

Silver Emblem Individuals

Gwendolyn Berry of Rockbridge High School,
VA

Ambler Brooke of Wilson Middle School, VA

Amanda Hale of Christiansburg High School,
VA

Alyson Howard of Sherando High School, VA

Lyle Kyger of Rockbridge High School, VA

Tiffany Linkous of Christiansburg High
School, VA

Desiree Messick of Fort Defiance High
School, VA

William Metzler of Christiansburg High
School, VA

Jonathan Morris of Spotswood High School,
VA

Whitney Norcross of Fort Defiance High
School, VA

Sessilie Tackett of Wilson Middle School, VA

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Danny Alley of Craig County High School,
VA

JD Deavers of Spotswood High School, VA

Josh Ouellette of Craig County High School,
VA

Jacob Rickett of Craig County High School,
VA

Corey Shifflett of Spotswood High School,
VA

Shawn Smith of Craig County High School,
VA

The Virginia FFA Dairy Foods Career Development Event is a competitive activity that allows students to prove their knowledge about the recognition, selection and management necessary for quality dairy foods. Participants must complete a written exam on milk production and marketing, evaluate milk samples for flavor and quality, identify cheeses, evaluate milk sediment pads and milker parts for defects and distinguish dairy and non-dairy products.

The event is one of many educational activities at the Virginia FFA State Convention

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in which FFA members practice the lessons learned in agricultural education classes. The event was held on the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, VA.

The state winning team will represent Virginia at the 81st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN October 21-24, 2009.

The Dairy Foods event is sponsored by the Virginia FFA Foundation.

FFA is a national youth organization of 476,732 student members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture with 7,223 local chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Virginia FFA Association has over 10,800 members in 208 chapters. FFA strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Visit www.ffa.org and www.vaffa.org for more information.

The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education

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