



NEWS RELEASE

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**Not to be released before 10:30 a.m.
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The National FFA Organization National Event Winners-- Environmental/Natural Resources 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana-- Winners of the National FFA Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event (CDE) were announced Saturday at the annual awards banquet. The event was held in conjunction with the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Billy Sumrall of Mississippi served as the superintendent of the event.

The top three individuals and the national winning team members received scholarships to further their education at a post-secondary institution of their choice. The scholarships and the environmental and natural resources event are sponsored by Smithfield Foods of Smithfield, Virginia and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service of Washington, D.C. as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The team from Oley Valley HS FFA in Oley, Pennsylvania placed first in the National FFA Environmental/Natural Resources Career Development Event at the 82nd National FFA Convention. The team members were Taylor Helbig, Amelia Howe, Kellsey Turner and Damian Oswald and were coached by James Howe. The Pennsylvania team placed first in competition against 36 other teams.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Teams

1st Place--Pennsylvania

Taylor Helbig, Amelia Howe, Kellsey Turner, and Damian Oswald, all of Oley Valley HS FFA

2nd Place--Washington

Thor Pearson, Jack Medlicott, Andrew Salmon, and Alexa Flem, all of Stanwood HS FFA

3rd Place--South Dakota

Scott Athey, Patrick Bray, Megan Ludwig, and Kylie Poel, all of Milbank FFA

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4th Place--Wyoming	Tanner Thomas, Kris Ward, Blaise Allen, and Rachel Ward, all of Meeteetse FFA
5th Place--Iowa	Eric Locker, Kevin Mishler, Spencer Tapper, and Jake Stall, all of North Polk JR/SR HS FFA
6th Place--Minnesota	Jason Troendle, Dylan Barth, Brandi Malchow, and Theresa LaValla, all of St. Charles HS FFA
7th Place--Virginia	Blake Rogers, Wes Kline, Kelsey Logan, and Christy Craun, all of Turner Ashby HS-FFA
8th Place--Ohio	Joshua Menter, Colton Plumb, Kathryn Finger, and Jacob Pirolli, all of Oregon Clay HS FFA
9th Place--Idaho	Matt Allison, Kristina Anderson, Tobby White, and Kelsey Cruickshank, all of Payette HS-FFA
10th Place--California	Meyer Jay, Catherine Chase, Alison Shimer, and Rose Housler, all of Mariposa County HS FFA

Top Placing Individuals

- 1st Place-- Eric Miller of Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE
- 2nd Place-- Taylor Helbig of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
- 3rd Place-- Amelia Howe of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
- 4th Place-- Andrea Sweeney of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA
- 5th Place-- Jason Troendle of St. Charles HS FFA, MN
- 6th Place-- Thor Pearson of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
- 7th Place-- Patrick Bray of Milbank FFA, SD
- 8th Place-- Andrew Salmon of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
- 9th Place-- Megan Ludwig of Milbank FFA, SD
- 10th Place-- Rachel King of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA

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Team Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Teams

Elfrida HS FFA, AZ	Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
Mariposa County HS FFA, CA	Milbank FFA, SD
Payette HS-FFA, ID	Turner Ashby HS-FFA, VA
North Polk JR/SR HS FFA, IA	Stanwood HS FFA, WA
St. Charles HS FFA, MN	Meeteetse FFA, WY
Oregon Clay HS FFA, OH	

Silver Emblem Teams

Nonnewaug HS- Woodbury FFA, CT	Fillmore Ctrl Sch-FFA, NY
Putnam Co HS FFA, GA	Bartlett Yancey HS FFA, NC
Prairie Central HS-FFA, IL	Sweetwater High School-FFA, TN
White River Valley HS FFA, IN	Ingram-Tom Moore HS-FFA, TX
Oldham Co HS FFA, KY	Hurricane HS FFA, UT
Bristol Co Agri HS FFA, MA	Ravenswood HS FFA, WV
Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE	Mount Horeb HS FFA, WI
Cape May Tech FFA, NJ	

Bronze Emblem Teams

De Land Sr FFA, FL	Big Sky High Sch Missoula FFA, MT
Beau Chene HS FFA, LA	Paradice FFA, NH
Ashland Comm HS-FFA, ME	Watts HS FFA, OK
Fort Hill High School, MD	Newberg HS FFA, OR
Centreville HS FFA, MI	Loris HS FFA, SC
Purvis HS FFA, MS	

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Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

Paul Brya of Elfrida HS FFA, AZ	Tyffanie Berdine of Bartlett Yancey HS FFA, NC
Brandon Latimer of Elfrida HS FFA, AZ	Kathryn Finger of Oregon Clay HS FFA, OH
Catherine Chase of Mariposa County HS FFA, CA	Colton Plumb of Oregon Clay HS FFA, OH
Erin Gribben of Nonnewaug HS- Woodbury FFA, CT	Taylor Helbig of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
Rachel King of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA	Amelia Howe of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
Andrea Sweeney of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA	Damian Oswald of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
Matt Allison of Payette HS-FFA, ID	Kellsey Turner of Oley Valley HS FFA, PA
Jacob Huber of Prairie Central HS-FFA, IL	Scott Athey of Milbank FFA, SD
Riley Parmenter of Prairie Central HS-FFA, IL	Patrick Bray of Milbank FFA, SD
Matthew Crowe of White River Valley HS FFA, IN	Megan Ludwig of Milbank FFA, SD
Eric Locker of North Polk JR/SR HS FFA, IA	Kylie Poel of Milbank FFA, SD
Jake Stall of North Polk JR/SR HS FFA, IA	Daniel Haverlah of Ingram-Tom Moore HS-FFA, TX
Brandon Pearson of Oldham Co HS FFA, KY	Wes Kline of Turner Ashby HS-FFA, VA
Zack Snider of Fort Hill High School, MD	Kelsey Logan of Turner Ashby HS-FFA, VA
Ben Desmond of Bristol Co Agri HS FFA, MA	Blake Rogers of Turner Ashby HS-FFA, VA
Michael Brueck of Centreville HS FFA, MI	Alexa Flem of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
Dylan Barth of St. Charles HS FFA, MN	Jack Medlicott of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
Theresa LaValla of St. Charles HS FFA, MN	Thor Pearson of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
Jason Troendle of St. Charles HS FFA, MN	Andrew Salmon of Stanwood HS FFA, WA
Eric Miller of Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE	Joe Klopotic of Mount Horeb HS FFA, WI
Nick Lanza of Cape May Tech FFA, NJ	Blaise Allen of Meeteetse FFA, WY
Amanda Rathbun of Fillmore Ctrl Sch-FFA, NY	Kris Ward of Meeteetse FFA, WY

Silver Emblem Individuals

Hope Redhawk of Elfrida HS FFA, AZ	Kelly Richardson of Big Sky High Sch Missoula FFA, MT
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Travis Watkins of Elfrida HS FFA, AZ	Vanessa Vetick of Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE
Rose Housler of Mariposa County HS FFA, CA	Tanner Nibley of Paradise FFA, NH
Meyer Jay of Mariposa County HS FFA, CA	Ami Adams of Cape May Tech FFA, NJ
Alison Shimer of Mariposa County HS FFA, CA	Lauren Rodia of Cape May Tech FFA, NJ
David Bradt of Nonnewaug HS- Woodbury FFA, CT	Noah McNeill of Fillmore Ctrl Sch-FFA, NY
Andrew Hambidge of Nonnewaug HS- Woodbury FFA, CT	Cooper Mehlenbacher of Fillmore Ctrl Sch-FFA, NY
James Reilly of Nonnewaug HS- Woodbury FFA, CT	Cody Foster of Bartlett Yancey HS FFA, NC
Cheyenne Davis of De Land Sr FFA, FL	Jeb Haley of Bartlett Yancey HS FFA, NC
Sarah McDaniel of De Land Sr FFA, FL	Joshua Kirby of Bartlett Yancey HS FFA, NC
Matthew Reid of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA	Joshua Menter of Oregon Clay HS FFA, OH
Kristina Anderson of Payette HS-FFA, ID	Jacob Pirolli of Oregon Clay HS FFA, OH
Kelsey Cruickshank of Payette HS-FFA, ID	Travis Wilfong of Newberg HS FFA, OR
Tobby White of Payette HS-FFA, ID	William Hardee of Loris HS FFA, SC
Adam Roberts of Prairie Central HS-FFA, IL	Ross Houston of Sweetwater High School-FFA, TN
Will Travis of Prairie Central HS-FFA, IL	Jonathan Summit of Sweetwater High School-FFA, TN
JP Anthony of White River Valley HS FFA, IN	Caleb Young of Sweetwater High School-FFA, TN
Cade Herndon of White River Valley HS FFA, IN	Nathan Bird of Ingram-Tom Moore HS-FFA, TX
L.D. Sparks of White River Valley HS FFA, IN	Justin Gonzales of Ingram-Tom Moore HS-FFA, TX
Kevin Mishler of North Polk JR/SR HS FFA, IA	Sarah McClung of Ingram-Tom Moore HS-FFA, TX
Spencer Tapper of North Polk JR/SR HS FFA, IA	Drew Mills of Hurricane HS FFA, UT
Brock Billingsley of Oldham Co HS FFA, KY	Jacob Stout of Hurricane HS FFA, UT
Matt Fairfield of Oldham Co HS FFA, KY	Christy Craun of Turner Ashby HS-FFA, VA
Nick Fleitz of Oldham Co HS FFA, KY	Kelsey Flinn of Ravenswood HS FFA, WV
Chelsea Brotemarkle of Fort Hill High School, MD	Jonathan Rhodes of Ravenswood HS FFA, WV

Katie Kok of Bristol Co Agri HS FFA, MA

Makala Settlage of Ravenswood HS FFA, WV

Chelsie LaFountain of Bristol Co Agri HS FFA, MA

Kate Zander of Mount Horeb HS FFA, WI

Zach Miller of Centreville HS FFA, MI

Tanner Thomas of Meeteetse FFA, WY

Brandi Malchow of St. Charles HS FFA, MN

Rachel Ward of Meeteetse FFA, WY

Jarred Atkins of Purvis HS FFA, MS

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Cristina Goodfellow of De Land Sr FFA, FL

Steven Bissonnette of Paradise FFA, NH

Amber Wren of De Land Sr FFA, FL

Tyler Nason of Paradise FFA, NH

Thomas Stone of Putnam Co HS FFA, GA

Trevor Wood of Paradise FFA, NH

Andre Babineaux of Beau Chene HS FFA, LA

Seth Kelly of Cape May Tech FFA, NJ

Mark Olivier of Beau Chene HS FFA, LA

Clarence Labelle of Fillmore Ctrl Sch-FFA, NY

Quinton Stanford of Beau Chene HS FFA, LA

Josh Adams of Watts HS FFA, OK

Jordan Beaulier of Ashland Comm HS-FFA, ME

Jeanette Berry of Watts HS FFA, OK

Dylan Cyr Cormier of Ashland Comm HS-FFA, ME

Chris Chandler of Watts HS FFA, OK

Royce MacDonald of Ashland Comm HS-FFA, ME

Levi Mitchell of Watts HS FFA, OK

Amos Ward of Ashland Comm HS-FFA, ME

Chelsea Carlile of Newberg HS FFA, OR

Rebecca Stonestreet of Fort Hill High School, MD

Andrew Corum of Newberg HS FFA, OR

Connor Worden of Bristol Co Agri HS FFA, MA

Brittanie Gartner of Newberg HS FFA, OR

Jasmine Buelna of Centreville HS FFA, MI

Gordon Best of Loris HS FFA, SC

Alex Milliman of Centreville HS FFA, MI

Marcel Rossignol of Loris HS FFA, SC

Pace Cooper of Purvis HS FFA, MS

Anson Todd of Loris HS FFA, SC

Cole Hession of Purvis HS FFA, MS

Jamie Branham of Sweetwater High School-FFA, TN

Brian Mitchell of Purvis HS FFA, MS

Brooke Gubler of Hurricane HS FFA, UT

Kayla Cheff of Big Sky High Sch Missoula FFA, MT

Kourtnie Tisdale of Hurricane HS FFA, UT

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Sloan Fogerty of Big Sky High Sch Missoula FFA, MT	Logan Hughes of Ravenswood HS FFA, WV
Hannah Wight of Big Sky High Sch Missoula FFA, MT	Garrison Bollig of Mount Horeb HS FFA, WI
Eric Anderson of Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE	Phil Sutter of Mount Horeb HS FFA, WI
Emily Ueding of Lyons-Decatur NE FFA, NE	

The National FFA Environmental and Natural Resources CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. This event focuses on testing students' problem solving and decision making skills in environmental and natural resources. These areas concentrate on soil profiles, water and air quality, waste management, environmental analysis, and use of global positioning units. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their home state at the national FFA convention.

The event, held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., is one of many educational activities at the national convention in which FFA members practice the lessons learned in agricultural education classes.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 506,199 student members - all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture - as part of 7,429 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The National FFA Organization changed to its present name in 1988, in recognition of the growth and diversity of agriculture and agricultural education. The FFA mission is 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. The National FFA Organization operates under a Federal Charter granted by the 81st Congress of the United States, and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The U. S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs. Visit www.ffa.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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