



NEWS RELEASE

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The National FFA Organization National Event Winners-- Forestry 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana-- Winners of the National FFA Forestry Career Development Event (CDE) were announced Friday at the annual awards banquet. The event was held in conjunction with the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Marion Fletcher of Arkansas served as superintendent of this year's 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 forestry event are sponsored by Husqvarna of Charlotte, North Carolina and National FFA Foundation.

The team from Blountstown HS FFA in Blountstown, Florida placed first in the National FFA Forestry Career Development Event at the 82nd National FFA Convention. The team members were Daniel Leonard, David Leonard, Stewart Herndon and Laura Stoltzfus and were coached by Ron Mears. The Florida team placed first in competition against 39 other teams.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Teams

1st Place--Florida	Daniel Leonard, David Leonard, Stewart Herndon, and Laura Stoltzfus, all of Blountstown HS FFA
2nd Place--Missouri	Kody Henneke, Andrew Pestle, Josh Remus, and Matt Terry, all of Columbia FFA
3rd Place--Alabama	Christopher Wilhite, Ashley Holmes, Jordan Saint, and Justin Jacobs, all of Falkville HS FFA
4th Place--Arkansas	Bradley Hankins, Michael Hoskins, Santos

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	Martinez, and T.J. Sullivan, all of Hermitage HS FFA
5th Place--Ohio	Bobby Riddle, Michael Clark, Nathan Tway, and Brett Gray, all of Southeastern Ross HS Hf
6th Place--Washington	Booker Schmidt, Matthew Cronk, Kurtis Zender, and Joe Scarpete, all of Mount Baker HS FFA
7th Place--Georgia	Jamey Davis, Justin McCorvey, Zeb Lloyd, and Austin Thrift, all of Ware Co HS FFA
8th Place--New Hampshire	Kelly Starkweather, Josh Rivard, Briana Sheptor, and Raymond DeSilva, all of Paradice FFA
9th Place--West Virginia	Kelly Flesher, George Hilvers, Casey Miner, and Zack Minger, all of Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler
10th Place--Idaho	Megan Parry, McCenzy Farnes, Joseph Hale, and Sawyer Fannesbeck, all of Rigby HS-FFA

Top Placing Individuals

- 1st Place-- Andrew Pestle of Columbia FFA, MO
- 2nd Place-- Daniel Leonard of Blountstown HS FFA, FL
- 3rd Place-- Christopher Wilhite of Falkville HS FFA, AL
- 4th Place-- Stewart Herndon of Blountstown HS FFA, FL
- 5th Place-- David Leonard of Blountstown HS FFA, FL
- 6th Place-- Booker Schmidt of Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
- 7th Place-- Ashley Holmes of Falkville HS FFA, AL
- 8th Place-- Nathan Tway of Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH
- 9th Place-- T.J. Sullivan of Hermitage HS FFA, AR
- 10th Place-- Matt Terry of Columbia FFA, MO

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Team Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Teams

Falkville HS FFA, AL	Paradise FFA, NH
Hermitage HS FFA, AR	South Johnston HS FFA, NC
Blountstown HS FFA, FL	Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH
Ware Co HS FFA, GA	Wellsboro HS-Grand Canyon FFA, PA
Rigby HS-FFA, ID	Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
Columbia FFA, MO	Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler, WV

Silver Emblem Teams

Housatonic Vly Reg HS FFA, CT	Grand Rapids HS FFA, MN
Christiana HS FFA, DE	Puckett High FFA, MS
East Richland HS-Olney FFA, IL	Flathead HS FFA, MT
Calvin HS FFA, LA	Elkton HS FFA, OR
Oxford Hills Tech School FFA, ME	Cumberland Gap HS FFA, TN
Clear Spring HS FFA, MD	Central Heights FFA, TX
Pathfinder Reg VOC Tech FFA, MA	Essex Technical Center FFA, VT
Chesaning Union HS FFA, MI	Carroll Co HS FFA, VA

Bronze Emblem Teams

Ft Thomas HS FFA, AZ	Norris, NE
Eureka HS FFA, CA	Newton HS FFA, NJ
Woodlan FFA, IN	Sch Chem Tioga Con 4a FFA, NY
Bellevue HS FFA, IA	Gilbert HS FFA, SC
Linn HS FFA, KS	Lehi HS FFA, UT
Metcalfe Co HS-FFA, KY	Cornell HS FFA, WI

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Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

Ashley Holmes of Falkville HS FFA, AL	Ethan Karppinen of Grand Rapids HS FFA, MN
Justin Jacobs of Falkville HS FFA, AL	Andrew Pestle of Columbia FFA, MO
Christopher Wilhite of Falkville HS FFA, AL	Josh Remus of Columbia FFA, MO
Chad Kelliher of Ft Thomas HS FFA, AZ	Matt Terry of Columbia FFA, MO
Bradley Hankins of Hermitage HS FFA, AR	Raymond DeSilva of Paradise FFA, NH
Michael Hoskins of Hermitage HS FFA, AR	Josh Rivard of Paradise FFA, NH
Santos Martinez of Hermitage HS FFA, AR	Briana Sheptor of Paradise FFA, NH
T.J. Sullivan of Hermitage HS FFA, AR	Kelly Starkweather of Paradise FFA, NH
Will Russ of Housatonic Vly Reg HS FFA, CT	Michael Clark of Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH
Jon Walley of Housatonic Vly Reg HS FFA, CT	Bobby Riddle of Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH
Stewart Herndon of Blountstown HS FFA, FL	Nathan Tway of Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH
Daniel Leonard of Blountstown HS FFA, FL	Cody Owlett of Wellsboro HS-Grand Canyon FFA, PA
David Leonard of Blountstown HS FFA, FL	Taylor Sticklin of Wellsboro HS-Grand Canyon FFA, PA
Laura Stoltzfus of Blountstown HS FFA, FL	Jarrod Dotson of Cumberland Gap HS FFA, TN
Jamey Davis of Ware Co HS FFA, GA	Zach Todd of Central Heights FFA, TX
Zeb Lloyd of Ware Co HS FFA, GA	Tyler Walton of Essex Technical Center FFA, VT
Justin McCorvey of Ware Co HS FFA, GA	Eddie Hickerson of Carroll Co HS FFA, VA
Austin Thrift of Ware Co HS FFA, GA	Matthew Cronk of Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
Sawyer Foncesbeck of Rigby HS-FFA, ID	Joe Scarpete of Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
Joseph Hale of Rigby HS-FFA, ID	Booker Schmidt of Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
Megan Parry of Rigby HS-FFA, ID	Kurtis Zender of Mount Baker HS FFA, WA
Logan Adams of Calvin HS FFA, LA	George Hilvers of Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler, WV

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Zachary Martin of Oxford Hills Tech School
FFA, ME

Robert Hockenbury of Clear Spring HS FFA,
MD

Casey Miner of Tyler Co Consolidated HS-
Tyler, WV

Silver Emblem Individuals

Jordan Saint of Falkville HS FFA, AL

Shay Sanders of Ft Thomas HS FFA, AZ

Tim Fuller of Housatonic Vly Reg HS FFA,
CT

Sasha Canady of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Kyle Layton of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Ben Robinson of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Justin Winnington of Christiana HS FFA, DE

McCenzy Farnes of Rigby HS-FFA, ID

Nick Boehl of East Richland HS-Olney FFA,
IL

Simon Burgener of East Richland HS-Olney
FFA, IL

Eric Ochs of East Richland HS-Olney FFA, IL

Ryan Ochs of East Richland HS-Olney FFA,
IL

Matthew Kurtz of Woodlan FFA, IN

Ryan Wells of Woodlan FFA, IN

Kaitlin Kilburg of Bellevue HS FFA, IA

Jake Sieverding of Bellevue HS FFA, IA

Bryce Joonas of Linn HS FFA, KS

Katilyn Harper of Metcalfe Co HS-FFA, KY

Levi Hill of Oxford Hills Tech School FFA,
ME

Ryan Lebroke of Oxford Hills Tech School
FFA, ME

Quinn Hoover of Clear Spring HS FFA, MD

Jonathan Bailey of Puckett High FFA, MS

Heath Overby of Puckett High FFA, MS

Kody Henneke of Columbia FFA, MO

Sean Bohannan of Flathead HS FFA, MT

Kevin Jepsen of Flathead HS FFA, MT

Tyler Long of Flathead HS FFA, MT

Miranda Nunn of Newton HS FFA, NJ

Tyler Adams of South Johnston HS FFA, NC

Brandon Parker of South Johnston HS FFA,
NC

Johnathan Parker of South Johnston HS FFA,
NC

Jamie Thompson of South Johnston HS FFA,
NC

Brett Gray of Southeastern Ross HS Hf, OH

Josie Baker of Elkton HS FFA, OR

Mitchell Bowen of Elkton HS FFA, OR

Elizabeth Dunas of Elkton HS FFA, OR

Joanna Evoniuk of Elkton HS FFA, OR

Talia Sepiol of Wellsboro HS-Grand Canyon
FFA, PA

Nathan Harmon of Gilbert HS FFA, SC

Robert Fortner of Cumberland Gap HS FFA,
TN

Caleb Partin of Cumberland Gap HS FFA, TN

Zach Foster of Central Heights FFA, TX

Kaitlyn Holmes of Pathfinder Reg VOC Tech FFA, MA

Chris Nau of Pathfinder Reg VOC Tech FFA, MA

Jessie Prucnal of Pathfinder Reg VOC Tech FFA, MA

Luke Dankert of Chesaning Union HS FFA, MI

Cody Ferry of Chesaning Union HS FFA, MI

Ryan Bowers of Grand Rapids HS FFA, MN

Lauren Yell of Grand Rapids HS FFA, MN

Gil Allen of Puckett High FFA, MS

Michael King of Central Heights FFA, TX

Shannon Todd of Central Heights FFA, TX

Dalton Beck of Lehi HS FFA, UT

Jordan Goetz of Essex Technical Center FFA, VT

Jake Daugherty of Carroll Co HS FFA, VA

Kristopher Horton of Carroll Co HS FFA, VA

Kelly Flesher of Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler, WV

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Samantha Cheney of Ft Thomas HS FFA, AZ

Stephanie Bonomini of Eureka HS FFA, CA

Sara Hylton of Eureka HS FFA, CA

Desirae Keyes of Eureka HS FFA, CA

Josh Allyn of Housatonic Vly Reg HS FFA, CT

Brandon Hathaway of Woodlan FFA, IN

Ethan Yerks of Woodlan FFA, IN

Faith Till of Bellevue HS FFA, IA

Josh Gruoner of Linn HS FFA, KS

Jake Ohlde of Linn HS FFA, KS

Jared Roetter of Linn HS FFA, KS

Dustin Clemmons of Metcalfe Co HS-FFA, KY

Mikael Holcomb of Metcalfe Co HS-FFA, KY

Logan Matney of Metcalfe Co HS-FFA, KY

Brandon Baxa of Norris, NE

Blake Preston of Norris, NE

Jake Robertson of Norris, NE

Sarah Wieskamp of Norris, NE

Amanda Kirchoff of Newton HS FFA, NJ

Ashley Lemoncelli of Newton HS FFA, NJ

Christina Straway of Newton HS FFA, NJ

Edward Hanson of Sch Chem Tioga Con 4a FFA, NY

Joshua Payne of Sch Chem Tioga Con 4a FFA, NY

Allen Reeser of Sch Chem Tioga Con 4a FFA, NY

Loren Van Amburg of Sch Chem Tioga Con 4a FFA, NY

Magness Greenthaler of Gilbert HS FFA, SC

Henry Hutto of Gilbert HS FFA, SC

Jonathan Starnes of Gilbert HS FFA, SC

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Alan Reed Carson of Calvin HS FFA, LA	Vincent Hopper of Cumberland Gap HS FFA, TN
Ethan Carson of Calvin HS FFA, LA	Bret Broadhead of Lehi HS FFA, UT
Nate Hill of Oxford Hills Tech School FFA, ME	Colton Mercer of Lehi HS FFA, UT
Brian Bussard of Clear Spring HS FFA, MD	Rhett Peterson of Lehi HS FFA, UT
Robert Stine of Clear Spring HS FFA, MD	Jonathan Alexander of Essex Technical Center FFA, VT
Hayley Morin of Pathfinder Reg VOC Tech FFA, MA	Katie Boyles of Carroll Co HS FFA, VA
Jackie Albosta of Chesaning Union HS FFA, MI	Zack Minger of Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler, WV
Jacob Oesterricher of Chesaning Union HS FFA, MI	Andrew Baldeshwiler of Cornell HS FFA, WI
Jessica Haig of Grand Rapids HS FFA, MN	Eric Gunderlach of Cornell HS FFA, WI
Kyler Woll of Flathead HS FFA, MT	Lee Swanson of Cornell HS FFA, WI

The National FFA Forestry CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills and knowledge in the area of forest management. Event components include a general forest knowledge exam, tree and equipment identification, tree/forest disorders identification, a chainsaw practicum, forestry issues interview, and a team activity. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

This event, held at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis, Ind., is one of many educational activities at the national convention in which FFA members apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations.

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

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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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