



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

FFA members attend workshops

Four Oberlin FFA members attended the "Be Ag Wise" Workshop in Colby on Feb. 25. The theme for this year's workshop was "Ag Counts." The focus was the use of math in agriculture.

Career and Technical Education classes are starting to focus on math.

Oberlin Agricultural Career and Technical Education Instructor Jason Ketterl took four FFA members, Sammy Meitl, Greg Shaw, Keatra Fisher and Kaitlynn Fisher, to the Colby workshop in the Community Building.

Several other K-State extension agents, 4-H coordinators, and staff members attended along with Farm Bureau Association County Coordinators.

"The presenters did an excellent job of showing and presenting lesson plans on how to use math in agriculture while incorporating it into hands-on activities," said Mr. Ketterl.

Activities included making pumpkin pie in a cup and using a food tracker. Everyone in attendance was asked to keep track of the food they ate before the workshop. Using that information, they used colored note cards to show how much they ate in each food group and then compared

that with what a person of their age should have consumed.

For lunch they had to calculate how many fat grams they could consume and then choose from several foods and come up with a complete meal with all the food groups and staying under their designated number.

"It was a good eye opener for many on how hard that can be with some of today's food products. Plus it was good to see how else math can be used with students in the classroom to help them come up with their own meal plans," said Mr. Ketterl.

They were also given compact discs on agriculture and math and how it can be made fun.

Decatur County Farm Bureau Association sponsored the students and paid for their registration.

School Menus

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WELDING A WELDING TORCH, Baron Green competed in an agricultural mechanics contest held in Goodland.

Agriculture group looks at mechanics

Members of Oberlin FFA attended the Ag Mechanics Career Development Event in Goodland at the Northwest Kansas Technical College on Feb. 29. Students who attended were Cody Wurm, Greg Shaw, Sammy Meitl, Jon Rorick, Baron Green, Chris Anderson, Rex Diederich and Shane McEvoy.

The contest consisted of four-person teams competing in written and hands-on tests. They were timed events so students had to work against the clock to finish their tasks.

Some of the activities included "T" joint welding and cutting, setting a valve lash on an engine, tool and parts identification, wiring and the written exams.

In the diesel mechanics division, sophomore Baron Green scored the second highest score ever received on the written exam. He was also one point away from a perfect score on his lab score. Baron went on to place second overall individually.

Cody Wurm placed eighth. Others competing were Shane McEvoy, Rex Diederich, Jon Rorick and Chris Anderson.

Sammy Meitl placed ninth in welding, achieving the second highest written exam score for the day. Shane McEvoy and Sammy Meitl both earned perfect scores on the wiring activity.

Oberlin was the only team there to take two teams to the competition. In doing so Oberlin had to spread out their total scores between the two teams. FFA adviser Jason Ketterl felt it more important to gain student

experience than to take four students on one team for just one overall score. The Oberlin teams came away with the third and fourth place team scores in Farm Power.

"That is very impressive, and the

students should be very proud of themselves," said Mr. Ketterl.

The Oberlin FFA will now take one team to the state contest in Manhattan.

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Student wins trip to state

Eighth grader Myles Sheaffer has qualified to represent Decatur Community High School at the state level of the National Geographic Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek.

To qualify for the state bee, Myles first had to win the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee. He did this back in January by answering oral questions on geography.

Myles then took a written test. Up to 100 of the top scorers on that test, in each state, are now eligible to compete in their state bee.

The Kansas state bee will be held on Friday, March 30 at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the Bee national championship rounds May 22-24.

The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership to the Society, and a trip to the Galapagos Islands, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic.

Game show host Alex Trebek of Jeopardy will moderate the national finals on May 24.

Myles' geography teacher is Rachel Johnson.

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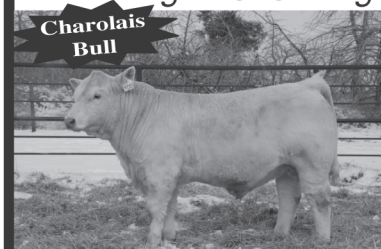
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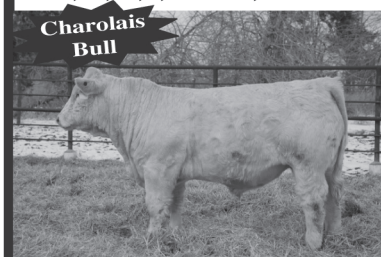
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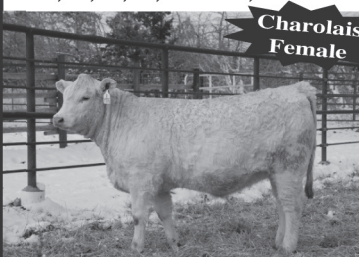
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