



## **Iowa FFA Association**

### ***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.*

State of Iowa  
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**NEWS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

### **WASHINGTON FFA CHAPTER CLAIMS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP IN AGRONOMY EVENT**

The Washington FFA Chapter was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Agronomy Career Development Event held at Iowa State University in Ames on Thursday, June 7, 2007. Members of the first place Washington FFA team included: Jeremy Vittetoe, Nick Kleese, Ryan Yeggy, and Alex Meyer. Their Ag Education Instructor is Mr. Duane Van Winkle. The East Sac FFA Chapter from Lake View was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Cody R. Auen, Cody J. Auen, Chad Fertig, and Kayla Smith. Their Ag Education Instructor is Mr. Scott Johnson. Chad Fertig, from the East Sac FFA Chapter at Lake View, was named the High Individual Overall in the competition. FFA teams including eighty-two individuals from twenty-three chapters participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide the student an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Agronomy. Activities included demonstration of skills and problem solving in hay, silage, corn, soybean and market grain evaluation; as well as seed, plant and insect identification. A written examination was included along with a team problem solving competition.

Koopman Hay and Forage, through the Iowa FFA Foundation sponsored the Top Ten Individual Rosettes, the Champion and Reserve Champion Individual Plaques, and the Champion Individual Specialty Area Plaques in the areas of Judging Crops, Identification, and Written Examination. Sand Seed Services, through the Iowa FFA Foundation, sponsored the Reserve Champion Team Plaque, Top Ten Team and Member Rosettes, and Champion Specialty Team Plaques in the areas of Judging Crops, Identification, and Written Examination. The Champion Team also received a cash award towards travel to the National Agronomy Career Development Event at Indianapolis, Indiana, by the generosity of the Iowa Corn Promotion Board, through the Iowa FFA Foundation. The top individual receives a \$500 scholarship from the Iowa State University Agronomy Department provided the student majors in Agronomy.

The Agronomy Career Development Event was coordinated and conducted by the faculty and staff of the Iowa State University Agronomy Department.

**Top 10 Teams Overall:**

1. Washington
2. Lake View
3. Waukon
4. Ackley
5. Charles City
6. St. Ansgar
7. Boone
8. New Hampton
9. Cascade
10. Rockford

**Top 10 Individuals Overall:**

1. Chad Fertig, Lake View
2. Owen Heetland, Ackley
3. Jeremy Vittetoe, Washington
4. Kayla Smith, Lake View
5. Jake McCormick, Waukon
6. Joey Dee, Waukon
7. Josh Dee, Waukon
8. Levi Donahue, Waukon
9. Ryan Yeggy, Washington
10. Kris Michalson, Charles City

**Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:**

Judging Crops...

Team: Waukon

Individual: Jake McCormick, Waukon

Identification of Seeds, Insects and Plants

Team: Lake View

Individual: Chad Fertig, Lake View

Written Examination...

Team: Lake View

Individual: Chad Fertig, Lake View

**GOLD EMBLEM TEAMS:**

Washington

Lake View

Waukon

Ackley

Charles City

St. Ansgar

Boone

New Hampton

Cascade

**SILVER EMBLEM TEAMS:**

Rockford

Sumner

Guthrie Center

Alleman

Keota

Paullina

Anamosa

**BRONZE EMBLEM TEAMS:**

Nashua

Belle Plaine

Manson

Rockwell

Creston

Maquoketa

**PARTICIPATION:**

Marengo

The Iowa FFA Association has 230 local chapters with over 12,000 FFA members. FFA is a national organization of more than 490,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in science, business and technology of agriculture. Local, state and national programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. FFA's 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.

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