Altus Schools News

May 12, 2010

Childers wins Oklahoma FFA Star in Ag Placement Award

Cole Childers is a big guy- with a big grin and wonderful personality that has most certainly made him a natural in helping customers at JF Feeds in Altus, where his supervised work program developed to the point where Cole was named the Star in Ag Placement for Oklahoma FFA at the 84th annual convention recently in Oklahoma City.

Childers' supervised agricultural experience was rated the best in agricultural placement among the 683 FFA members who received the State FFA Degree during the 84th annual State FFA Convention on April 28. In addition to this honor, Childers received the Governor's Trophy and a $2,000 cash award sponsored by the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives.

Combining passion for swine with his desire to help his customers at JF Feeds in Altus has led Cole Childers of Altus FFA to a 2010 State Star in Agricultural Placement award. Visit the Altus Public Schools website at www.altusschools.k12.ok.us to see the Stars Over Oklahoma salute to Cole Childers as the 2010 Star in Ag Placement for the Oklahoma FFA.

During his Freshman year, Childers interviewed for and got a job at JF Feeds in Altus. He has worked there since that time. Childers keeps busy with 200 tons of feed that arrive monthly at JF Feeds – he unloads and gets everything lined up in the right location – ready for the customers to come in and place their orders.

And he has learned a lot about the products that they sell – which helps him help the customers that walk through the door – in some cases not knowing exactly what they need or want.

Childers has found a great appreciation for FFA throughout his involvement. "The FFA has given me leadership skills that I will always have," he said. "I believe leaders are hard to come by and it takes a special organization along with a special person to be become a great leader."

Cole Childers (center) of the Altus FFA chapter receives Oklahoma FFA's highest award for placement in agriculture during the 84th Oklahoma FFA Convention on April 28. Joining Childers are Tara Burchfield, State FFA Reporter, Jennifer Dempsey, member services director for Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives.

The 18 year-old Altus FFA member is the son of Ronnie and Kelly Childers. His agricultural education instructors and FFA advisors are Bruce Farquhar and J.C. Stafford. Childers' plan is to attend OSU – and he hopes to return to southwest Oklahoma one day as an Agricultural Educator.

FFA is an integral part of the Agricultural Education Division within the Oklahoma CareerTech System. The Oklahoma FFA Association is the fifth largest state association with 355 chapters and more than 23,000 members. FFA prepares students for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. For more information about FFA and the state convention, visit http://okffa.org.

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.

Altus High School students receive State FFA Degree

Reid Estes, Haley Holder, Ashley Sears, Caitlin Von Tungeln, Ericka Sollis, Weston Kay, and Cole Childers of the Altus FFA Chapter, recently received the prestigious State FFA Degree, the highest degree of active membership awarded by the Oklahoma FFA Association.

The honor is bestowed upon high school senior FFA members who have demonstrated outstanding supervised agricultural experience programs and leadership activities. Only 683 of the more than 23,000 Oklahoma FFA members have advanced through the Discovery, Greenhand and Chapter Degrees to earn the state honor.

Recipients received their degrees during the 84th State FFA Convention held at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, April 27-28, 2010. The local agricultural education instructors and FFA advisors are Bruce Farquhar and JC Stafford.

Attending the State FFA Convention from Altus were, from left, J.C. Stafford, FFA Advisor, State FFA Degree recipients Caitlin Von Tungeln, Ericka Sollis, Haley Holder, Cole Childers, Weston Kay, Ashley Sears, and Reid Estes; and Bruce Farquhar, FFA Advisor.

All recipients attended a banquet in their honor and received the gold state FFA degree charm and a plaque. The degree recognition is co-sponsored by Oklahoma LP Gas Research Marketing and Safety Commission, The Craig Foundation, Shawnee Milling Company, Livingston's Machinery & Equipment, Grissoms LLC, and American Farmers and Ranchers.

More than 10,000 FFA members and guests were present to attend the 84th State FFA Convention. Participants experienced leadership and personal development workshops as well as presentations by educational and motivational speakers, including Mark Sharenbroich and Krish Dhanam.

Other highlights included the selection of top FFA members in 50 proficiency award areas, recognition of top teams in the state career development events, naming the State Stars in Production, Agribusiness and Placement, and election of the 2010-11 state FFA officer team. An Agricultural Career Show and Agriscience Fair were also held in conjunction with the FFA convention.

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Will Rogers names Students of the Month

Selected as Students of the Month at Will Rogers were (seated) Jakob Sklar, Camden Carlisle, Bonnie Bridges, Paige Hill, Terry Bridges, Osmar Martinez, Rene Galvan, (standing) Melissa McVicker, Annalise Harrell, Kelli Howeth, Jeremy Smith, Mariah Massie, Rachel Koszczewski, Lane Hawthorne, Haley Bearden, and Haleigh Frith. With them are teacher Leslie Conrand (left) and principal Debbie Nobles (right).

Sunset honors May Students of the Month

Honored as Students of the Month at Sunset Elementary School were (first row) Katelyn Randolph, Macinzee Cook, Rylee Borrego, Ashley Delgadillo, Rawson Mitchell, Max Getlinger, Kennedy Kirby, Dawod Dawod, Lexie Preston, Alyssa Williamson, (second row) Peyton Lynch, Trent Kuhn, Dylan Jones, Reygan Blacklock, Brantley Taliaferro, Felix Diaz, Brayden Barton, Ty Hightower, Tony Basaldua, Elia Roblez, (third row) Alysa Guerra, Mariah DeJesus, Chloe Cox, Carly Stork, Efrain Axtolis, Kinsley Moore, Alyzah Ngiratulmau, Belen Granado, A.J. Strom, Ricky Yarmark, Miranda Espinosa, and Kory Beach. With them are (fourth row) Jenny Graves of Stockmans Bank, teacher's aide Lesa Deweese, and library aide Nancy Price.