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Animal Science Newsletter

Department of Animal Science

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News of the Department of Animal and Range Sciences

Department of Animal and Range Sciences

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 18—Small Acreage Workshop, U. Ctr., Rapid City

March 30-31—89th Little International

April 25—AS Scholarship Banquet

May 5 - Feeder Pig Derby, SDSU Horse Sale and SDSU Commencement

March 5-9—Spring Break

April 6-9 - Easter Break

May 3 - SDSU Hampshire Sheep Sale

January birthdays:

25—Clint Rusk

February birthdays:

3—George Perry

4—Jeff Clapper

10—Heidi Franzky

20—Stacy Scramlin

22—Cheryl Beste

March birthdays:

4—Bob Thaler

13—Kevin VanderWal

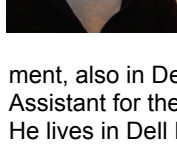
23—Brenda Bjorklund

Welcome to the following new staff members:

Dr. Elaine Grings (pictured at right), began employment February 1 as Cow/Calf Management and Production Specialist. She most recently lived in Tucson, AZ where she was a consultant for the International Livestock Research Institute, Nigeria.



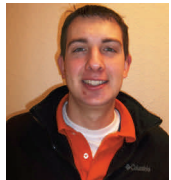
Ann Kolthoff (pictured at left) was hired as Sheep Unit Manager in December. She graduated with a degree in AS in May, 2011 and is originally from New Hampton, IA.



Jason Griffin (pictured at right) began employment, also in December, as Research Assistant for the Ruminant Nutrition Lab. He lives in Dell Rapids, SD.



Three graduate students have joined the Department this semester. They are **Rebecca Whitlock** (pictured at left), specializing in Equine Science under Dr. Rebecca Bott; **Simon Kern** (pictured at right), specializing in Meat Science under Dr. Keith Underwood and **Jarrod Bumsted** (pictured at left), specializing in Meat Science under Dr. Stacy Scramlin. **Becky** is a native of Webster, SD; **Simon** is from Watkins, MN and **Jarrod** is from Vermillion, SD.



Matt Johnson (pictured at right) has joined the staff as Interim Livestock Judging Coach. He graduated in Animal Science in December 2011 and is a native of Maurice, IA.



Longyao Yue (pictured at left) joined the staff in February as a Post-doc, working with Dr. Bob Thaler in swine nutrition.

SDSU's Wool Judging Team earned champion honors at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, CO on January 13, 2012. The team defeated the competition by one point to win the wool judging competition in Denver for the first time since 1994. This is only the third time SDSU has won the Wool Judging Contest at the National Western Stock Show. Team members include: **Tyler Grussing** of Kimball, SD; **Brandi Raatz** of Pipestone, MN; **Vince Ries** of Aurora Center, SD; **Kate Anderson** of Jackson, MN; **Laura Shoneman** of Bingham Lake, MN; **Jacob Englin** of Bruce, SD; and **Amanda Kammerer** of Rapid City, SD. The students have been preparing for the competition since August. Contestants graded one rail of 15 fleeces, placed six classes and presented two sets of oral reasons. The team is coached by **Lacie Hoffman**, Masters candidate in Meat Science from Redfield, SD. **Grussing** was high individual overall, **Vince Ries** placed 11th, **Kammerer** was 17th and **Schoneman** finished 19th. **Ries** won high individual in placings, **Schoneman** was 2nd, **Anderson** was 13th, and **Grussing** was 14th. **Grussing** was 4th high in reasons, **Schoneman** was 9th, and **Anderson** was 17th. **Grussing** was 2nd high in grading, **Kammerer** was 10th and **Raatz** was 14th. **Raatz** was 2nd high individual in hand spinning, **Kammerer** was 3rd, and **Grussing** was 6th.



The first-ever Ag Olympics was held on November 17, 2011 in the Animal Science Arena. This charity event was sponsored by the AS graduate students. Teams of competitors were organized for the event. Prior to November 17, collection jars were placed in the AS lobby so that staff, students, etc. could vote for their favorite team by placing money in the jars. An admission fee (or food for the Brookings Food Pantry) was charged at the door. More than 85 persons attended to watch the competition. Donated prizes were given out during the event. **Team Ram Rod**, consisting of graduate students **Levi Garbel**, **Anna Taylor**, **Jason Johnson** and **Ace VanDeWalle** emerged as champions. Their charity of choice, Project Joy, received a gift of \$450.



Congratulations!

- Graduate student **Carrie Delvaux** and Preston Cox were married December 10 in Woonsocket, SD.

- Born to AS alum **Londa VanderWal Nwadke**, Nisa Chinwe on January 12, weighing 6 lbs. 13 in., 22 inches long.

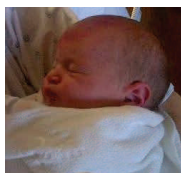


- Grandfather **Dennis DeBoer** welcomed grandson Michael on December 20.

- **Carol and Tom Kleinjan** became grandparents twice recently: On November 19, with the birth of Evelyn Viola (pictured on the left), 7 lbs. 4 oz., 20.5" long, daughter of son, Pete and again on February 3, with the birth of Cora Maxine (on the right), 7 lbs. 8 oz., 21" long, daughter of son, Ben.



- Born to **Eric and Alaina Mousel**, Katie Mae (pictured at right), on February 9, weighing 6 lbs. 11 oz., 19 1/4" long.



- Born to Field Specialist **Adele Harty** on October 24, Owen Charles, weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz.

On Saturday, February 4th, approximately 800 people enjoyed a delicious pork loin barbecue served at the **SDSU Pork Classic** basketball game, with the proceeds going to scholarships in the Department of Animal Science. Also, 20 pork loin bundles were auctioned off and generated an additional \$5400 for scholarships. A special thanks to all the AS faculty, staff, graduate students, retirees, and former Brookings County Pork Producers who gave of their time to make things go very smoothly on Saturday night.

Lamb Bonanza was held at SDSU's Frost Arena on January 14. Gross revenue generated from the auction of the lamb pelts was \$4350, which will be added to our scholarship fund.

The **2011 Sheep Shearing School** was held December 7-9 at the SDSU Sheep Unit. Fourteen sheep shearers participated in the training by instructors **Jeff Held** (SDSU), Wade Kopren (Bison, SD), Bryan Lauth (Harvey, ND), Curtis Olson (Broadus, MT) and Murl Patrick (White, SD).

Another successful artificial insemination school was conducted by **Dr. George Perry** in December with 20 participants enrolled. The workshop was held at SDSU's Beef Breeding Unit.

The **Beastrom Family** from Pierre, SD will be honored as SDSU's Family of the Year on February 18. They will be SDSU's guests at a 10:30 am brunch; then will be introduced at the double-header basketball game at Frost Arena that afternoon. For tickets to the brunch, contact the SDSU Alumni Center, 605-697-5198.

The SD Agricultural Rural Leadership Class VI has been traveling in China the first two weeks in February. Some of the participants will continue their travels in Vietnam. Animal Science faculty member **Dr. Kelly Bruns** is one of the class members participating in the trip. Their travels can be followed by visiting their blog at <http://www.sdarl.blogspot.com/>

Condolences are expressed to **Dr. Cody Wright** on the passing of his father, Larry, on February 9. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, February 14, Beaver Valley Lutheran Church, rural Brandon, SD.

Range Management Outreach Coordinator **Kyle Schell** was honored in January at a farewell party. He has accepted a new position as Range Specialist with the SDSU Extension Service and has relocated to Rapid City. In December, he completed his master's degree in Animal Science.



Congratulations to **Dr. Amanda Weaver Blair** who has been named the recipient of the F.O. Butler Award for Excellence in Teaching. She will be honored during the Celebrating Faculty Excellence event on February 21, 2012 in the Volstorff Ballroom.

Recently SDSU Extension launched "iGrow Horses". This up-to-date, informative website features guest articles from the region's top veterinarians as well as **Dr. Rebecca Bott**, SDSU's Equine Specialist, **Mindy Hubert**, Small Acreage Field Specialist and **Becky Whitlock**, Graduate iGrow Assistant. New articles are planned for every week. To access the site, visit <http://igrow.org/livestock/horse/>

Extension Meat Scientist **Keith Underwood** coordinated Beef 2020, held at SDSU January 4 and 5 with 35 participants from the beginning farmer and rancher program "Beginning Entrepreneur Expanding the Future of SD" (BEEFSD) from all across SD. Presenters included **Dean Barry Dunn**, **Drs. Robbi Pritchard**, **Ben Holland**, **Cody Wright** and **Amanda Weaver** as well as **Dustin Mohrhauser** and **Ace VanDeWalle**.

For information on both the Animal Science Department and South Dakota Small Acreages, "like" us on **Facebook**.