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2010 NATIONAL DAIRY SHRINE STUDENT RECOGNITION WINNERS HONORED

Nine college students from across the country have been recognized by the National Dairy Shrine (NDS) for their excellence in leadership skills, involvement in activities, academic accomplishments, and interest in the dairy industry. The student recognition award honors graduating college seniors as they begin their careers or further their education in the dairy industry.

This year's first place winner is Elizabeth Smith Ziegler of Lebanon, Pennsylvania who will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, while the second place winner Janelle Hartzell Hoffman will receive a \$1,500 scholarship at the NDS awards banquet during the 2010 World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis. Seven additional students will receive \$1,000 awards.

First place winner, **Elizabeth Smith Ziegler**, graduated from Pennsylvania State University in May with a degree in animal science. Elizabeth has been actively involved in a variety of university activities, serving as vice president of the Penn State Dairy Science Club, working in a variety of positions for the Nittany Lion Fall Classic Sale, and serving as chairperson for Pennsylvania Guernsey Quiz Bowl. She has also been a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association for many years participating in both dairy bowl and dairy jeopardy.

Elizabeth has much success with dairy judging, taking high individual honors at the 2008 Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. In 2008 at the All-American Dairy Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pa., Elisabeth was third high individual. She also took fifth place high individual at the 2008 Eastern State Dairy Judging Contest. In addition to Elizabeth's dairy judging success, she was also a member of the 2009 platinum team winner at the North East Dairy Challenge and a member of the reserve platinum team at the 2010 National Dairy Challenge.

After graduation, Elizabeth plans to continue a career in the artificial insemination industry as a reproductive or mating consultant. Long-term Elizabeth would like to return to her home farm and expand the herd while breeding a more profitable cow.

Janelle Hartzell Hoffman graduated in May 2010 from Pennsylvania State University with a major in animal science. Janelle was high individual in oral reasons at the 2009 Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. Her team placed fourth overall. She was also a member of the third place dairy judging team at the 2009 All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, Pa. Janelle was on the reserve platinum team at the 2010 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. Janelle has also been active in a variety of other university activities, including Dairyman Yearbook co-editor, Nittany Lion Fall Classic sale, Alpha Zeta Fraternity, Ag Advocates, Collegiate Farm Bureau and Ag Student Council. Other honors include first place 2008 National Junior Holstein Dairy Jeopardy Contest - senior division

award winner and National Holstein Women's Scholarship Winner. Janelle plans to connect her passion for working with dairy cattle and science with a career in veterinary medicine. She starts veterinary school this fall. One day she hopes to have her own private veterinary practice.

Seven additional students honored listed alphabetically include:

Jessica Achen is a May 2010 graduate from the University of Minnesota with a degree in animal science with an emphasis in dairy production. Jessica's dairy judging experience includes twelfth place individual and third place team at the 2009 Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. She was also a member of the gold team at the 2010 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. Jessica was also involved in the Gopher Dairy Club and the Minnesota Junior Holstein Association. Other honors include recipient of the Douglas Seim Memorial Scholarship which is awarded to top incoming freshman and 2009 National Distinguished Junior Holstein Member finalist. This summer Jessica will travel to Australia on an exchange program to learn more about dairy production in Australia. In the fall Jessica plans to become general manager of Calfland, a 650-head calf raising facility developed by her father. Jessica played an integral role in getting the calf raising facility off the ground.

Lydia Hardie is a 2010 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in dairy science. Lydia was a member of the first place platinum team at the 2010 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. She was also a member of the dairy judging team that took first place in Holsteins at the 2008 All-American contest in Harrisburg, Pa. Lydia has been actively involved in a variety of university activities, an active member of the UW-Badger Dairy Club, serving as a chairperson for the 14th Badger Invitational Sale, 4-H dairy quiz bowl committee member, a peer mentor, an active member of the Association of Women in Agriculture and a member of the Collegiate FFA. Other honors include College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Outstanding Senior. Upon graduation, Lydia will begin a master's degree at UW-Madison. Lydia plans to also obtain her Ph.D. and pursue a career in genomics.

Londa Johnson is a May 2010 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a degree in dairy science. Londa was eighth high individual overall and ninth high individual in oral reasons at the 2009 Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. Her team placed second overall. Londa was also a member of the first place team at the 2009 All-American Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pa. She has also been active in a variety of other university activities, including member of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge team, president of the UW-River Falls dairy club, sale manager for the Falcon Premier UW-River Falls Dairy Club sale and Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin mentorship program. Londa was also one of 12 college students from the United States to participate in the I-Cal Program, where she traveled to China and Vietnam to learn more about the global market place. In the future Londa would like to own and operate her own dairy operation.

Sandra Kirchner graduated in May 2010 from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a degree in dairy science. Sandra has had great success in dairy judging including high individual at the 2009 Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. Sandra's team took second place honors. In addition Sandra was also a member of the first team overall and

fifth high individual at the 2009 All-American Dairy Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pa. Sandra has also been involved in a variety of university activities, including the UW-River Falls dairy club, where she held the position of business yearbook manager, a member of the 2010 Falcon Premier Sale Committee, co-chair of the dairy club's annual Farm Day where she coordinated educational exhibits for more than 400 kids. This fall Sandra plans to pursue a master's degree at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. She hopes to one day work in Agriculture Extension specializing in dairy.

Charles Schiller graduated in May 2010 from the University of Minnesota with a degree in animal science. Charles was a member of the gold team at the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. He was also a member of the third place team at the 2009 Collegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Louisville, Ky. Charles was involved in a variety of university activities including president of the Gopher Dairy Club, group leader for the Gopher Dairy Camp, and a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. In addition Charles was a member of the Minnesota Junior Holstein Association. Other honors include Minnesota Distinguished Junior Holstein member in 2008. In the future, Charles plans to pursue a full-time position in the dairy industry with either an A.I. organization or a breed association.

Ashley Sprengeler will graduate this summer from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in dairy science with an emphasis in Spanish. Ashley had success in dairy cattle judging, she was a member of the eighth place team at the Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo in 2009. She was a member of the first place platinum team at the 2010 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. Ashley was also involved in a variety of university activities, including the Badger Dairy Club where she served as vice president, sale cattle chairman for the 14th Badger Invitational, chairman for the Wisconsin State FFA Dairy Judging Contest and World Dairy Expo Business chairman. In addition Ashley was a member of the Association of Women in Agriculture and the Sigma Alpha-A Alpha Tau Professional Agricultural Sorority. After graduation Ashley plans to pursue a summer internship working with an embryo transfer veterinarian in Mexico. In the future she hopes to work in the field of embryo transfer or A.I. industry.

Kaleena Westaby graduated in May 2010 from Iowa State University with a degree in dairy science. Kaleena was involved in a variety of university activities, including a member of the dairy cattle judging team – where she was 12th place individual overall at the 2008 Invitational Youth Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pa. In addition Kaleena was a gold award recipient at the 2010 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Visalia, Calif. She served as vice president of the Iowa State dairy club, was part of the Iowa Junior Dairy Coalition and an Animal Science peer mentor. Other honors include Iowa State University's dean list for six semesters, graduating magna cum laude and the Iowa State University Dairy Science Club outstanding senior award. This summer Kaleena will be traveling to England and Scotland to learn more about the European perspective on farm animal welfare. She plans to work in the dairy industry.

These award winners will be honored at the National Dairy Shrine Annual Banquet at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin on Sept. 30.