

# Area IX Times

## STATE LDE RESULTS

On December 3, 2010, 24 Leadership Development Event teams represented Area IX in the State LDE Competition. 8 Area IX teams were chosen to participate in the finals based on their performance in the semi-finals. Both a senior and Greenhand quiz team placed in the top ten of their competitions, as well. Congratulations to the following teams for maintaining Area IX's reputation of excellence in the state finals!

Greenhand Chapter Conducting:

10th place—Madisonville

Senior Chapter Conducting:

10th place—Dayton

Senior FFA Skills Demonstration:

10th place—Dayton

Job Interview:

1st place—East Chambers

5th place—Woodville

Agricultural Issues Forum:

3rd place—Madisonville

FFA Radio:

1st place—Madisonville

Greenhand Creed Speaking:

4th place—Anahuac

Greenhand FFA Quiz:

9th place—Dayton with a score of 159

Senior FFA Quiz:

6th place—Rusk with a score of 309

1st Place High Point Individual—Tommy

Marchetti from Rusk with a score of 136

Area IX was proud to take home two state titles. The state winning job interview individual will be competing in the National Career Development Events in Indianapolis, Indiana at the National FFA Convention October 19-22, 2011.

Even though there is not a National FFA Radio competition, the Madisonville state winning team still deserves congratulations for their accomplishments. The team was composed of Senior Wes Stutzman, Junior Bryan Upchurch, and Sophomore Kacey Creel. "I was excited when we won!" Wes says. "As a second year member, I wanted to win last year and worked hard to make it happen my senior year." When asked what their favorite part about the contest was, the trio came to a consensus very easily. "My favorite part was the camaraderie with the team," Bryan says. Wes agrees with his teammate. "We probably wouldn't be close friends without this contest." Though the members are now close friends, each was drawn to the contest for a very different reason. "My older brother competed in Radio when he was in FFA," Kacey says. Bryan wants to be a radio DJ and says he "thought it would be a fun experience and look good on a college resume." Wes says that his ag teacher made him compete. "But I found out that God gave me a natural ability, and its fun!" Bryan, Kacey, and Wes encourage other members to try this contest. Bryan says, "For students interested in Radio, be confident in yourself and have fun!" Kacey adds, "If you can't speak, don't give up; just keep trying!" Despite Bryan's busy schedule, Kacey's difficulty pronouncing words, and Wes's late start in FFA, the team's work ethic won them a state title. Congratulations, Madisonville Radio team!

## CHATTING WITH COLT

Howdy again, Area IX! I hope each and every one of you has had an extraordinarily eventful first semester because I can honestly say that it has been one for me! The travel team and I spent our last week in Area IX after the Thanksgiving holiday, and man was it something else! However, the highlight of the week came at the end when the Texas FFA State Officers hosted the State LDE Competition in Area IX's own Huntsville, Texas. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of those who advanced to state. Your hard work, dedication, determination, and passion were undoubtedly the many reasons of why you guys made it as far as you did. You came, saw, and conquered in the eyes of Area IX, and I appreciate you for that! One week later, the State Officer team and I traveled to San Antonio for Texas FFA Spurs Night. What an amazing experience we had as we got to sit in a ledge box with a BUFFET, and get on the big screen as well as chatting one on one with George Hill, the Spurs forward. Those are just a couple of things going on around the state level right now as we will not be meeting again until January 4 to start convention planning! Thanks again for reading and always remember that every calling is great when every calling is pursued.

## News from the Ricebelt District

*An article from each of the four Area IX districts will be featured to inform us about the actions of our neighboring districts.*

The Ricebelt FFA District has had a fantastic year so far. On September 13th, the district officers hosted a Leadership Training Camp at Tarkington High for all of the chapter officers in the district. During the first week of October, the Ricebelt District had a public relations booth at the Texas Rice Festival to inform the public about FFA and agriculture in general. The booth displayed picture collages made by the district's chapters. The district LDE competition, held at Dayton High School on November 3rd, was a huge success. All of the chapters in the district worked hard to make their chapters proud. On February 28th, 2011 the Ricebelt District Convention will be held at Silsbee High School. Ricebelt is looking forward to the Area IX Convention!

## SCHEDULE: January

- 1—Ford Leadership Scholars Online Application Deadline
- 14—Southwestern Exposition Show in Fort Worth Begins

## AREA OFFICER SPOTLIGHT:

**Kenton Vincent,**  
*Reporter*

### Chapter:

Onalaska FFA

### Chapter Officer

### Position:

I am taking the year off as a chapter officer to serve the area!

### Hobbies & Interests:

Running, Basketball, Baseball, Computers, and living life to the fullest

### Favorite Food:

Crawfish

### Favorite TV Show:

Defying Gravity

### Favorite Movie:

Dumb and Dumber

### Favorite Sport:

Cross Country

### Favorite Music:

Almost All

### Favorite Color:

Green

### If you could meet any famous person, who would it be?

Josh Cox

### Favorite Quote:

"The miles can build you up or tear you down, it's all up to you." -Josh Cox

### Favorite CDE:

Livestock Judging

### Favorite LDE:

Public Relations

### Favorite SAE:

Swine

### Favorite FFA Memory:

I covered my ag teacher in flour at our Chapter Fun Day!