

Camelot

By Nate Splett

You may be familiar with the "My Turn" articles in *Newsweek* magazine. I enjoy reading (most) of them. They put a face and personal perspective to topics based on an event that personally affected someone. Recently, I received the Regents Teaching Excellence award in recognition of my teaching career. I don't need to say how much it means to me; it would sound sappy and is not the purpose for this article. Instead, it gives me purpose (or my turn) to reflect on teaching in our college. I would normally squirm my way out of such an assignment; however, I feel strongly about the passion for teaching

that our college lives and it is a privilege to give voice to our college in telling this story.

Our college and mission began in 1912 – as the School of Agriculture – to 'teach' teachers of agriculture. In 1951 we complemented the agricultural education curriculum with an agricultural (non-teaching) curriculum. Our greater purpose has always been to teach.

On the "teaching wall" in Wyman Education Building are the likenesses of the distinguished teachers of UWRF, the highest teaching recognition by the university, decided by the students. The university established the award in 1965 because, "excellence in teaching is valued above all endeavors at UWRF..." The first distinguished teacher for the university was Dr. Leland Wittwer from our college, and of the 43 distinguished teachers to follow 16 are from our college. Their names include: Dr. Richard Gray ('70), Dr. Gary Rohde ('75), Dr. Dean Henderson ('78), Dr. Gerald Matteson ('79), Dr. Gerald Nolte ('80), Dr. Tom Goerke ('81), Dr. William Mahanna ('85), Dr. N. Larry Meyers ('86), Dr. Philip George ('88), Dr. Lewi May ('89), Dr. Duane Wachholz ('90), Dr. Kelly Cain ('94), Dr. Terry Ferriss ('96), Dr. Perry Clark ('99), Dr. Steve Kelm ('02), Dr. Nate Splett ('06). Recognition by awards is not what any of these teachers sought; awards are the result of the passion for teaching in our college. Teaching is our foundation, it is our aspiration.

Teaching excellence is lived in our college as heard in the voices of our teachers and students. It was stated, "Dr. Wittwer, who although teaching what his students call a 'wicked' course, is one of the department's most popular instructors. Dr. Wittwer is the ever smiling, friendly personality that his students know." What was plain spoken of him early in his tenure (the late 50s) defined him to later earn the distinguished teacher award. Fancier



derivatives have described other distinguished teachers, but they all resonate with teaching rigor and a beloved teacher. An icon of our college, Dr. Richard Delorit found words that speak for all of us in saying, "I get a warm feeling from teaching that is a feeling of contribution and accomplishment. The people that change the world are teachers. Teachers live in the hearts of students."

In 1995 the Plant and Earth Science Department received the Regents Teaching Excellence award for academic departments and programs. This advanced our college's recognition beyond the university to across the entire UW System for excellence in teaching by our faculty. Chancellor Thibodeau reflected, "UW-River Falls has always placed a special focus on teaching excellence. The Regents award...represents the type of teaching that is pervasive at the university."

It makes perfect sense and is necessary for the college and university to present itself as relevant in its mission in the moment, and so the popular buzz about the university mission centers around sustainability, globalization, inclusiveness, and cultural diversity. At risk is *not* hearing about our timeless relevance and greater purpose – teaching excellence. Therefore, I unequivocally re-affirm to you that our mission is to 'teach' and herein you are presented evidence that our college excels at its mission. Teaching excellence has been the fabric of our existence for a century.

And, while I don't need to, I want to say that the Regents Teaching Excellence award means a great deal to me. I trust you can hear my heart telling you this rather than merely reading words. Teaching excellence of our college is made known by our alumni, our faculty and staff, and our students. Our college is the vibrant, enviable, teaching and learning experience that rivals Camelot – as no more perfect (teaching and learning) spot than CAFES.

News

Dean's Corner



Hello from the CAFES Dean's Office! As I'm sure it has been for many of you the past year here at UWRF in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences has been a busy one. New university leadership, growing enrollments, budget challenges, and even a study abroad trip to India – just some of the opportunities and excitement keeping us busy.

Dr. Dean Van Galen will become the new Chancellor at UWRF effective June 1st. Since leaving the classroom as a professor of chemistry, his professional activities have centered on development and fundraising – experience UWRF can surely benefit from. The university is also currently seeking a new Provost and next year

will be filling the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance position. Throw in Dean searches in other colleges, Director of Outreach, Associate Provost, and others – lots of changes.

How are student numbers doing? Enrollment in CAFES was up again this year as it has been the last several. Overall we are at nearly 1300 total students. As for individual programs, Animal Science (Equine, Meat Animal, and Vet Tech) again had the largest growth but several other programs saw significant increases as well – Ag Business, Crops/Soils, and Ag Engineering Technology are just a few. In fact, over the last 5 years all but one or two of the programs in CAFES are trending up in enrollment. This seems to contradict some of the regional and national data on programs in agriculture – but I think speaks well to the relevancy, quality, and reputation of the programs we offer.

Now, 1300 students means some very successful programs but with their share of challenges as well. Budgets are tight – internally and externally. The state is facing difficult financial times and UWRF will likely have its share of cuts. Initial indications are that CAFES will likely see a similar number of enrolled students next year if not more. This will further impact our ability to teach needed courses and sections as well as provide adequate S&E funds to faculty. Additionally, CAFES is dependent on its Lab Farms, Greenhouse, Pilot Plants, and other unique facilities. We continue to face challenges in the operation and maintenance of these.

But as the university and college move ahead with program evaluation and we continue to implement a budgeting model based on these data and the priorities of our strategic plan, I'm confident that we will begin to achieve the flexibility we need. Along with this will be an increased emphasis on the work of the UWRF Foundation and its development efforts. Clearly this is one area we look to our new Chancellor to provide some leadership.

Speaking of development let me take this opportunity to thank each and every individual who has contributed to CAFES over the past year. For many of you this has been a financial gift to scholarships or general program support. Some of you have facilitated equipment donations or provided other in-kind services. Others have contributed their time and talents and engaged with students through guest lectures and other time on campus or through internships and other work site experiences. All of you have helped us maintain and expand the educational experiences for our students. So again, thank you!

In closing let me say the things that many of you remember as being special about CAFES are still and will continue to be priorities for us – faculty members who are dedicated to their students, an emphasis on hands-on activities and real world applications of our curriculum, and use of facilities and experiences that give students the broadest education possible.

Dale Gallenberg Dean of CAFES

Welcome Dr. David Keuhl

There are three new courses in the land use planning program this year thanks to the newest CAFES faculty member, David Keuhl. David joined the staff just over a year ago. He holds an M.A. in urban and regional planning from the



University of Iowa and a PhD in environmental design and planning from Virginia Tech. David is excited about teaching the three new courses he developed: Community Decision-Making (ESM 251), Community Analysis (ESM 293), and Planning for Sustainable Communities (ESM 351). In the Community Analysis course students are working with a local community in conducting a survey of their residents on land use issues, which is the first step for a community engaged in the comprehensive planning process. David noted that the Planning for Sustainable Communities course is especially challenging because work in this area has ballooned in recent years and there is a wealth of material and case studies that can be included in the course.

David has been surprised and pleased by the breadth of the background of students in his classes. In his prior teaching experience his students had narrow backgrounds centering only on land use planning. He credits the fact that CAFES students must take a set of foundation courses for giving them a broader, more diverse background. Because of this diversity the students bring a lot more to the class discussions.

Outside of the classroom David has been working with a group of students to organize a Land Use Planning student organization. The students are interested in arranging professional development activities such as inviting professionals in the land use field to campus to speak to students and visiting professional planners at their workplaces to get a better understanding of the career options.

News

Farm Management - Beyond the course

The CAFES Laboratory Farms are used by many classes, giving students the chance to see and experience aspects of production agriculture. In addition the farms hire approximately 60 students per year to help the six member farm crew with various tasks including animal care and feeding, field work, machinery maintenance, etc. Of these student workers, a select few gain even more by experience by being chosen to manage one of the farm enterprises. Four of the farm's enterprises - the beef, sheep, swine and composting operations - have student managers. The student managers work closely with the farm staff and CAFES faculty who oversee the operations.

Alecia Treml has been the sheep student manager at the Mann Valley farm since Fall 2007-08 when she was appointed to the position by Dr. Onan, associate professor of animal science. Alecia has experience with sheep through her family farm near Mauston, Wisconsin which has a 60 ewe lamb operation. In her position as the sheep student manager, she was given on the job training for her responsibilities of supervising other students, maintaining registration, birth weights, weaning and vaccination dates, tail docking and castration. Alecia has enjoyed working with the farm crew and the way everyone helps one another, which allowed her to gain exposure to multiple species and experience operating and maintaining machinery. The practice of having students manage a farm enterprise was instituted just a few years ago, and Alecia hopes that as time goes on the student managers will be allowed to make even more decisions and take the lead on implementing operational improvements. Alecia graduated in December and now is looking forward to using some of her newly gained skills--working with people and multiple animal species in her first professional position working as a USDA meat inspector based in Plymouth, Wisconsin.

For the past year Lyssa Seefeldt has been the swine student manager. Lyssa was mentored by Jim Magolski, the previous

manager. Lyssa's background is with a dairy and swine operation near Owen, Wisconsin. Lyssa uses PigCHAMP, a computerized information management system for record keeping, which helps her interpret what is happening within the operation so she can maintain



Alecia (left), Lyssa (right)

a healthy and productive herd. Some of Lyssa's responsibilities include: supervising other farm workers, heat checks, breeding, farrowing on a monthly basis, recording birth weights and weaning dates, vaccinations, treatments and helping coordinate the annual show pig sale. Lyssa has gained a better understanding of swine and the characteristics of purebred versus crossbred animals and the type of animal most suitable for various purposes. Along with valuable experience, Lyssa has enjoyed many aspects of her position especially working with great people and being exposed to a diversity of animals. She is hoping to expand her repertoire of animal species while studying in Scotland this spring by working with a veterinarian, or in a zoo. If there is one thing Lyssa would change about her position it would be to have a more consistent split of her managerial duties, between market and reproductive focus. When Lyssa moves on from UW River Falls, she is seeking to further her education with graduate study and ultimately work in an extension position with a wide variety of animal species.

CAFES Undertakes Program Review, Anticipates Change

CAFES is in the midst of a review of all programs and majors as part of an ongoing strategic planning process.

"We are looking for ways to better serve students and employers, and strategically manage our limited resources," says Dale Gallenberg, dean of CAFES. "We want to position the College for continued and future success."

One of the outcomes of this process to date is the decision to make changes to the existing, stand-alone major in Food Science and Technology. The details of the changes will be worked out over the next several months by a group of faculty and staff in the College. The group will forward a recommendation to the College and University for administrative approval by the end of the 2008-09 academic year.

"The College is committed to maintaining capacity in the food science and technology area," says Gallenberg, "and several intriguing possibilities for a new model have emerged from preliminary discussions within the College. One possibility is to maintain a major, but with a broader interdisciplinary structure."

Another model being considered is an option that is incorporated into one or more majors in the College, including dairy science, meat animal science, plant science and agricultural engineering technology, said Nate Splett, associate dean of CAFES, who noted that this model would be similar to the UWRF pre-veterinary program.

"For example, pre-veterinary medicine is not a major, but rather students choose one of the majors in the college such as animal science with a science option, where much of the coursework overlaps with the pre-requisites for veterinary school," said Splett.

Gallenberg said he wants to assure current and prospective students, alumni, industry supporters and employers that a focus on food will be a part of the CAFES curriculum, and that the faculty and staff involved in this process are keeping the students' best interest in mind. Moreover, the College is committed to maintaining the unique, hands-on nature of the curriculum and the pilot plants will remain in place, he said.

"Program evaluation is working as I had hoped," Gallenberg said. "Even as enrollment in the college is growing, we need to ensure that we position ourselves and our students for the future. I am pleased with the process we have created that led us to this point, and I am especially grateful for the determination and creativity demonstrated by CAFES faculty and staff in serving our students."

Scholarships by the Numbers

How it all started...

The first College scholarship was established in honor of Professor John M. May by the graduates of the class of **1957**. Professor May served as director of what was then the department of agriculture at UWRF from 1913 - 1957. To ensure the award would be ongoing, the FFA Chapter helped create a formal scholarship fund and in 1961 the first J. M. May scholarship was awarded - **\$75** to sophomore Roger Poff from Waukesha, WI. By 1964 the Scholarship Fund had grown to \$4600 thanks to alumni, faculty, friends and students - each student member of the FFA Chapter and the Agrifallian Society contributed \$1 each year to the fund. By 1965-66 the College was able to award a total of \$500 in scholarships.



In 2008-09 CAFES:

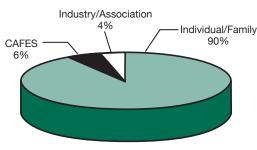
- Received scholarship applications from 245 students with GPAs of 3.0 or above
- Awarded 130 scholarships, totaling
 \$103,800 to continuing students
- Awarded 15 incoming students a total of \$12,235

For nearly **50 years** the College has been awarding scholarships to students at the Annual Awards Banquet held each spring. The first banquet was held in March 1960 when the FFA and the Agrifallian Society combined efforts and their individual banquets to establish the first Agriculture Division Banquet. And it's still going strong - last April **259** students, faculty and staff, family, friends and donors attended the CAFES Annual Awards Banquet.

Megan Glenn (Ag Business major and Spanish minor) and Luke Johnson (Ag Business major and Ag Engineering Tech minor) with CHS Foundation representative Teri Otte.

63% of CAFES scholarships are endowed

Endowed scholarships can be awarded each year in perpetuity, because the principal remains intact, only the interest is given away.



Endowed Scholarships by Source

37% of CAFES scholarships are annual scholarships,

of these **87%** are sponsored by industry or associations.

For an annual scholarship the donor chooses to send the money each year and can discontinue the scholarship at any time.

Scattered throughout this FencePost issue are 5 questions from select Fall 2008 final exams. Take the test, then grade yourself!

From Agricultural Economics 250 - World Food and Population:

- 1. The biggest reason that people around the world are hungry is:
 - a. An inability to produce enough food
- c. A lack of income/ Distributional problems
- b. Food spoiling after harvest
- d. Environmental problems (bad weather, global warming, etc.)

"Scholarships are the gold medals of education - a way for an organization or individual to reward worthy students and exceptional academic performance. Of all the committees I have had the privilege to serve on during my 31 years at UWRF, the scholarship committee has been, by far, the most rewarding."

> Steve Carlson Professor of Agronomy Co-Chair CAFES Scholarship Committee

Student News

Seven UWRF Soils students attended the National Agronomy Crops and Soil Science conference with Dr. Holly Dolliver, an assistant professor of plant and earth science. Along with the competition, they were able to network and also observe practices that are employed in other regions of the United States. Ross Bender was elected as the National SASES vice president and also took fourth place in the National Speech competition. Quiz bowl members Mike Weber, Derek Husmoen, Tryston Beyrer, and Ashley Sollman took 3rd place out of 15 teams. Sollman and Amy Robak received scholarships from the highly selective National Golden Opportunity Scholars Program, two of 15 national scholarship awards. Seven UWRF students created the poster that received third place honors when presented by Beyrer and Emily Wegner.

The UW-River Falls Floral Evaluation team took second place at the 2008 National Intercolleigiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Competition. Members of the team include Amanda Reckner, Erin Steinmetz, Kaitlin Campbell and Nicole Anderson.

From Soils 311 - Soil Fertility

2. Salt index is a measure of the salt concentration that.....

- a. a specific fertilizer introduces into the soil solution
- b. one can estimate by measuring a soil's electrical conductivity
- c. "burns" a plant's leaf, but does not necessarily kill the plant
- d. is necessary to keep a plant leaf turgid (due to salt's water attraction ability in the cell vacuoles).
- e. All choices are correct

Faculty/Staff news

Doreen Cegielski, academic department associate in the animal and food science department, was recognized for her outstanding service to our university community by receiving the Chancellor's Recognition Award for Classified Staff.

Professor **Mike Kaltenberg** was presented with the 2008 Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award, the highest honor that CAFES bestows on its faculty members.

Ranee May, a food science instructor and manager of the UWRF Falcon Food plant, was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. This award was in connection with May's international service work with Winrock International. As a Winrock volunteer, May has assisted with dairy production in countries such as Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, El Salvador and others.

Dr. Nate Splett, agricultural economics professor and associate dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences received a 16th Annual Teaching Excellence Award by the UW System Board of Regents. Splett's reputation of student assessment and retooling his teaching methods to ensure student success are highly regarded with his colleagues who strive to emulate his practices.

The newly constructed Dairy Learning Center, Mann Valley farm and the University Center were highlighted on the "Blueprint for Green" October 4, 2008 episode for sustainable building practices. Nick Kessler, UWRF 2004 Journalism Alumni, and crew filmed on location and interviewed **Dr. Kelly Cain, Dr. Dean Olson, Bill Connolly, Dr. Dale Gallenberg** and Mike Stifter about sustainable practices on campus and in the classroom.

Drs. Bill Cordua, Kerry Keen, Mike Middleton and **Bob Baker** along with student Amy Nachbor and land owner Steve **Thompson** discovered two rare Cretaceous-age fossils in an unusual rock formation on Thompson's land, southeast of River Falls.

Other News

The 27th annual St. Croix County Farm-City Day was held on the University Mann Valley Laboratory Farm on Saturday, August 9, 2008. Tours of the Dairy Learning Center, compost barn, parlor, research facilities and classrooms were offered along with a petting zoo, historical exhibits, free dairy lunch and hayrides to the approximately 2500 attendees.

The first annual Wisconsin Alumni Tent was introduced at the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days 2008. UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls and the Wisconsin Technical College System jointly sponsored the tent. The event was warmly received and will be held again in July 2009 at Dodge County.

UWRF received an \$8,300 Injury Reduction Grant from the Wisconsin Bureau of State Risk Management. The grant will be used to create new farm safety training sessions, which will annually provide safety awareness education for the seven full-time and 65 part-time workers at the two campus laboratory farms.

From Ag Engineering 150 - Intro to Ag Engineering

- 3. An electric motor is rated, on a continuous duty cycle, at 1 hp, 1775 rpm, 115 volts, 8.0 amps. What will be the result of overloading the motor by 150% for a period of approximately 30 minutes? *NOTE: the circuit is protected with a 20 amp circuit breaker.*
 - a. The motor will produce 1.5 hp at a speed slightly less than 1175 rpm with no damage to the unit.
 - b. The fuse will blow immediately.
 - c. Electrical current will fall by 150% as speed decreases.
 - d. It is highly likely that the motor will 'burn-out' as a result of overheating.
 - e. The motor speed will increase because 150% more electrons will be running through the circuit.

Alumni News

Lester E. Baribo 1943 remembered his alma mater in his will with a gift of \$200,000 to the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences. Baribo's professional career had a variety of milestones, but he spent most of his career as the head of bacteriology for Weyerhauser in Seattle. For details on this gift please check out the story at: <u>http://www.uwrf.edu/pa/2008/0812/1208083.htm</u>

In 2008, **Dr. John Foss** *1957* has had soil-archaeology projects in Greece, Albania, and the British Virgin Islands. He has provided soil interpretations for over 300 archaeological sites in the past three decades in 12 countries. Dr. Foss recently received the "Outstanding Achievement Award" from the Board of Regents at the University of Minnesota.

Doyne Anderson *1958* proudly returned to campus to attend his grandson's, Jay Anderson 2008 graduation in December 2008. Jay, an Iraqi war veteran will be returning for a second tour Spring 2009.

Dr. Victor Bekkum 1964 serves as co-director of Wisconsin Retired Educators Association for District I.

Jon Mentink 1971 was named President and CEO of First Bank in Baldwin. Jon has enjoyed a career at First Bank as an Ag Representative inventorying cattle and machinery, Assistant Cashier, Vice President and President.

Jim Irwin 1971 and wife Kathie were recognized for their contributions to the community of Bloomer by being named the 2008 Parade Grand Marshals. Jim recently retired after 20 years of being CEO of the Peoples State Bank of Bloomer.

David Evans 1971 oversees one of the three most productive hawk banding sites in the United States each fall. From mid-August to the end of November, Evans and his assistants band about 2,700 hawks on their southbound migration.

On July 1, 2008 **Roger Kordus** *1982* assumed responsibilities as the district administrator of the Wauzeka-Steuben School District in southwest Wisconsin. Most recently, Kordus served as the principal of West Elementary in New Richmond.

David Scheevel *1982* a dairy producer from Preston, Minnesota has been elected chairman of Foremost Farms USA. Scheevel is looking forward to working with the members of the board and management team to keep Foremost Farms a financially strong, competitive and respected player in the dairy industry.

Shirley Dommer Walczak 1984 married Jim Walczak of Mequon on December 30, 2007. Shirley is also the Milwaukee County Botanical Gardens Director.

Roger Olson 1986 has been working on limit feeding heifers with his customers' farmers/clients for years. He is a dairy specialist for Akey, a wholesale nutrition provider based in Lewisburg, Ohio.

Paul Bauer 1987 has been named as the CEO/General Manager of the Ellsworth Creamery. His vision for the creamery is to "keep up the tradition they've established" with the "great group of people here that have done a quality job."

Steve Marcis 1988 and his wife Sarah along with their five children are working together and learning together on their Frankfort dairy farm. They home school their five children to save time, shorten the school day and year allowing the children to participate in summer field work. Steve and Sarah think their local schools are great but on-line instruction allows them the opportunity to live together as a family.

Ann Huffe and **Andrew Reise** *1990* were wed on August 2, 2008 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. Andrew is employed by Berlin Area Schools as an English teacher. The couple resides in Omro, Wisconsin.

Jim Schulenburg *1990* has joined W&A Distribution Services Inc. as operations manager. He will oversee all transportation operations and assist in driver management.

Mike Kilmer 1992 is the owner of Apple Irrigation, a Toro Certified Contractor and one of the top 10 contractors for Toro in the state of Minnesota.

Julie Arndtson 1994, a horticulturalist with 3M in Cottage Grove is serving her second term on the Prescott City Council and is the chair of the Parks Committee.

From Agricultural Education 369 - Foundations of Career and Technical Education

4. John Dewey's belief's that education should be tied to real world application is the basis for the philosophy known as...

a. reconstructionism	c. essentialism
b. progressivism	d. perennialism

Upgraded sidewalks, a new beach house at Prescott Beach and updated bath house are a part of her agenda.

Richard Halopka 1994 has recently been welcomed as the Crops and Soils agent to the Clark County UW Extension office. Halopka solves Clark County agricultural problems, such as plant diseases in county lawns, gardens and fields.

Troy Brantner 1997, floral manager for McCaren Designs of St. Paul, installed some 40 plants in the "green" University Center on the campus of the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Eight different plant types were included and will be maintained by the UWRF Horticulture Club and other University staff.

Chad and Dawn Powell *1997* are the recipients of the 2008 Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer Achievement Award. Milking 50 Holsteins, tending a herd of 50 beef and operating a custom farming business all while nurturing five children ages 3 months to seven years keeps the Powell family on their toes.

Scott Imrie 1997 has accepted a position as a Pre-Physics and STRIVE science Instructor at Hudson High School. STRIVE stands for Success through Teamwork, Respect, Initiative, Vision and Effort and is an alternative education program currently in its 12th year of existence at Hudson High.

Dean Wojtczak 1997, golf course supervisor at Whispering Pines Golf Course in Cadott, Wisconsin won the 2008 Minnesota Golf Course Superintendent's Association (MGCSA) annual tournament. The MGCSA has approximately 800 members with around 115 participants in the 2008 tournament. Wojtczak shot an 80 from the back tees at the historic Minikahda Golf Course in Minneapolis.

Natalie Parmentier 1998 and Brett Killian were united in marriage July 12, 2008 at Green Bay Community Church. The couple resides in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Aaron Welti 1998 has been named Assistant Agriculture Manager at Lakeside Foods' Plainview, Minnesota facility. He will assist in all aspects of the plant's agriculture program, including grower relations and contracting, planting and harvesting, quality, budgeting and personnel.

Kim Unser *1999* started the school year as the High School Special Education teacher in Glenwood City. Unser is looking forward to getting to know the students, staff, parents and members of the Glenwood City community.

Joe Ailts 2000 is the owner of Joze Giant Pumpkin Farm near Deer Park and has been competing in giant pumpkin weigh-offs across the Upper Midwest since 2000. Ailts has captured top honors twice at the Nekoosa Giant Pumpkin Fest, which is considered to be the premier pumpkin weigh-off in the state. Along with his pumpkin growing talents, Ailts is the director of physician education at NeuroScience Inc. in rural Osceola.

Ericka Adams Cole 2001 and husband, Scott welcomed daughter, Sedona Alaina Cole on November 10, 2008. The Cole family lives in Texas and Ericka is working for the Brazos Valley Equine Hospital in an office administration/veterinary technician capacity.

Jarred Searls 2001 and wife Laura Daniels own a dairy operation near Cobb where they rotationally graze 280 Jersey cows. Searls also works full-time as a beef-specialist for Vita Plus covering southern Wisconsin.

Melissa Goers 2001 and Phillip Braun were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, January 5, 2008 at St. John Lutheran Church, Hermansford. Melissa is currently employed as an agri-science teacher and FFA advisor with the Gillett School District.

As the keynote speaker at the 2008 UW-System Undergraduate Research Conference, **Patty Skinkis** 2002 presented "A Journey of Passion: The Science and Art of Wine". A McNair Scholar, Skinkis went on to Ph.D. work at Purdue and is currently an assistant professor of horticulture and viticulture extension specialist at Oregon State University in Corvalis.

Stephanie Lindner 2002 and **Alan Hughes** 1999 were united in marriage on March 9, 2008 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Greenwood. Stephanie is currently employed by United FCS in Thorp and Alan is self employed as a dairy farmer. The couple is making their home in Thorp.

Devon Brecke 2003 helped find a 1.4 billion year old piece of the Earth's geological puzzle in Antarctica and the clue may help us better understand plate tectonics and the super continents of the past.

The Chetek Veterinary Clinic has welcomed **Dr. Rebecca Blotz** 2003 as a new associate veterinarian. Dr. Blotz, a 2008 graduate of UW-Madison's College of Veterinary Medicine, was the recipient of the Gayle S. Leith Equine Award in recognition of excellent clinical competency in equine medicine and surgery.

Nicole Nohl 2003 and Kevin Ress were united in marriage in May 2008. The

From Animal Science 111 – Introduction to Animal Science

5. Which hormone works to regress the corpus luteum (CL)?

- a. FSH d. Progesterone
- b. Estrogen e. Prolactin
- c. Prostaglandin

couple resides in Green Bay with his three children, Nicole manages the family, volunteers for Junior Achievement and runs her own business.

Michael Soley 2003 and **Maria McGinnis** 2004 were married March 29, 2008. Michael works for Land O' Lakes in Adams, WI and Maria works for World Dairy Expo in Madison.

Steve Boe 2004 was one of six seeking the Democratic nomination for the Wisconsin 91st district in the 2008 election. Boe, a farmer, says he wants to continue the advocacy for agriculture that the district has enjoyed for the past 26 years.

ABS Global has announced that **Christina LeMere** 2004 will join the Genetic Management System department as a data specialist. LeMere will work closely with the data sent in my GMS consultants from around the world and will be responsible for data loads, trouble shooting and training.

Husband and wife agricultural education graduates **Willie and Dawn Lubahn** 2006 started the 2008 school year back in the Midwest after spending two years in Big Timber, Montana. Both are teaching and advising FFA chapters, Willie is in the St. Charles, Minnesota school district while Dawn is working in the Rushford-Peterson district.

Lisa Kossel 2006 is the new agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor with the Glenwood City school district. Kossel has appreciated the support of her FFA Alumni members and students that have already gone the extra mile to support the FFA and Ag program.

Travis Klinkne 2007 recipient of the Dr. Earl Hildebrandt Memorial Award, at the 42nd Annual CAFES Awards banquet in April 2008, is currently the agricultural education teacher at Sparta High School.

Jordan Liethen 2007 is the new agricultural education instructor at Ellsworth High School.

Indira Jerome 2007 and Michale Van Handel 2003 were married June 7, 2008 at First United Methodist Church in Barron. The couple currently lives in Cumberland and works at Jerland Farm breeding, training and marketing Arabian horses.

Sarah Ressel and **Matthew Meyer** 2007 were married on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church. They are currently making their home in Roberts, Wisconsin.

Clark County recently welcomed 4-H Youth Development Agent Sara Medick 2007 and 2008. Medick works with the 22 4-H clubs, which total 711 members and 359 volunteers and very much enjoys seeing 4-H members succeed at the fair.

Pierce County benefited from the expertise of **Sarah Novotny** 2007 who spent the summer of 2008 as the 4-H summer intern. 4-H camp, developing online podcasts, getting the 125th Annual Pierce County Fair on track and working on an online newsletter were some of Sarah's responsibilities.

New Graduate **Jeanna James** 2008 has started her teaching career as an agricultural education instructor with the Southern Door district.

Mentoring 4-H poultry project members in her home county of Racine, **Lindsey Drought** 2008 helps them raise chicks, select birds for the fair and prepare their animals.

Allison Janz 2008 started the four-year professional Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin Madison in fall 2008.

Brady Voight 2008 was hired while still in college by CHS in Inver Grove Heights. He works as a corn and soybean accountant for Temco-Tacoma Export Marketing Co.., a joint venture between CHS and Cargill. Voight holds great hope for the future of employment in agriculture as he saw many job opportunities in his field, ranging from agricultural finance to agronomy to large food companies.

Carl Sackreiter 2008 moved into feed sales for ProFeeds LLC (Greenway Coop and Farm Country Coop) selling feed to customers in Kasson and Pine Island.

Did you pass? 1. c; 2. a; 3. d; 4. b; 5. c

CAFES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORT

Name(s)	(please include maiden name if married since graduation)
Address/City/State/Zip	check if new
Email Address	
Telephone Year(s) of C	raduation
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In recent years generous donations from our alumni have supported:

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