



ALUMNI CONNECTION

Spring 2006 Volume 1, Issue 3

University of Georgia Animal & Dairy Science Department 425 River Road Athens, GA 30602



Greetings to our Alumni and Friends...

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I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the spring weather and winding down for a summer vacation. It is difficult to believe that the spring semester will soon be over and our ADS seniors will graduate next month. In our winter issue, I introduced you to two new faculty hires, Dr. Kari Turner and Dr. Clay Lents. More recently, we have added Mr. Tommy Bass to our ranks. Tommy is a Public Service Assistant working in the area of waste management. He received his B.S. degree in Animal and Dairy Science here at UGA and his M.S. in Agricultural Education from Montana State University. Mr. Bass returned to UGA in 2001 to serve as an Extension Specialist in the area of animal waste management, agricultural pollution prevention, and water quality. Tommy will continue coordinating and conducting statewide programs in nutrient management, best management practices, and regulatory compliance for county agents, livestock producers, and other agricultural stakeholders.

As new folks come on board, others leave our ranks, and we have had several recent retirements. Dr. Charles McPeake retired from his position of Extension Beef Specialist after 18 years service to the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES). Over his career at UGA, Dr. McPeake held the positions of Extension Department Head, Extension Coordinator, Program Leader, and A&R Program Coordinator. He returned to our Department in 2003, and was instrumental in maximizing the use of the Livestock Instructional Arena and managing the many activities surrounding Georgia livestock commodity groups as well as the UGA Equestrian Team. He and his wife, Sandra, currently reside in Arnoldsville, GA. Charles can be reached at cmcpeake@uga.edu.

After 23 years with the CAES, Dr. Robert Stewart decided to retire and spend more time with his sheep herd in Farmerville. Robert began his career at our Tifton Campus as an Extension Beef Specialist, and was a pioneer in the establishment of the Bull Test and HERD Programs. In 2000, the need for Robert's expertise in Athens moved him and his family north, where he continued his role as Extension Specialist and later was appointed Extension Coordinator. Although he retired in late 2005, we were able to convince Dr. Stewart to come back half-time and head up the working committee that will be in charge of developing plans and overseeing the construction of our new livestock facility at the Double Bridges farm. He and Martha Carol still reside in Oconee County and welcomed their first grandchild, Thomas, into the world last summer. Robert can be reached at rstewart@uga.edu.

Linda Maddox is our most recent retiree and hung up her bookkeeping ledger this past February. She began employment at UGA as a secretary for the Cooperative Extension Service and was housed in the Coliseum. Over the years she learned the art of accounting and moved up the ranks to the position of Senior Accountant. Linda has been instrumental in keeping the ADS Department financially sound for the past 5 years and has worked tirelessly to ensure that our accounts are up-to-date for the next scrutinizing auditor. She and her husband, Julian, have purchased a retirement home in Kentucky with hopes of moving north as soon as their Athens property sells. But until then, Linda has graciously agreed to be hired back half-time to help with the transition of the new bookkeeping team. We plan to keep her with us as long as we can. She may be reached at lmaddox@uga.edu.

ADS Faculty Roll Call		
<p>FOCUS ON ...</p> <p>ADS</p> <p>SWINE FACULTY</p>	 <p>Michael J. Azain. Research interests include general nutrition, fat metabolism, and dietary strategies to reduce nutrient wastes. Courses taught include Animal Nutrition and Metabolism, Monogastric Nutrition, and Carbohydrates and Lipids in Animal Nutrition. 706/542-0963, mazain@uga.edu.</p>	 <p>C. Robert Dove. Interests in research include the interaction between dietary nutrients, vitamins, and trace minerals, and the evaluation of alternative feed ingredients. Teaches Pork Production and Animal Practicum. 706/543-0796. crdove@uga.edu.</p>
	 <p>Acie C. Murry, Jr. Teaching responsibilities include Companion Animal Care and Animal Nutrition and Metabolism. Research interests include dietary manipulation to alter intestinal bacteria and reduce fecal odor-causing compounds and evaluating the effects of probiotics as a strategy to decrease the therapeutic use of microbials. 706/542-0952. amurry@uga.edu.</p>	

Congratulations Go To ...



Dr. Gary M. Hill. At our Tifton campus, Dr. Gary Hill received the Distinguished service Award, sponsored by the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science, for his research in beef cattle forages and nutrition. Dr. Hill earned a B.S. degree from Clemson and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky in Animal Science. He has served the beef cattle industry for over thirty years as a ruminant nutritionist and forage researcher, initially at LSU and later here at UGA, where he has been since 1983. Dr. Hill is the author of over 400 scientific publications and was instrumental in the development and release of Tifton 85 bermudagrass and other southern forages. He is an active member of the GA Cattlemen's Association, serving as president of the Tift County Cattlemen's Club, and regularly consigns bulls to the Calhoun and Tifton Bull Tests. Congratulations to Dr. Hill!

Dr. Romdhane Rekaya was honored as recipient of the Gamma Sigma Delta Junior Achievement in Research Award. Dr. Rekaya holds an Agricultural Engineering Degree from the Agriculture University in Tunisia, a M.S. from the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Agricultural Studies in Spain, and a Ph.D. from the Polytechnic University of Madrid. His research in animal breeding includes the international genetic evaluation of dairy bulls, evaluation of male and female fertility in livestock, and combining phenotypic and genetic marker information for paternity assessment. During his short career, Dr. Rekaya has published over 70 refereed journal papers and 100 abstracts, proceedings and internal reports. His research program is well funded by federal agencies such as the USDA-NRI and NIH as well as the livestock industry. We are pleased to have such a productive scientist in ADS.

Dr. Steven L. Stice recently received the Inventor's Award, which honors the recipient for a unique, creative, and innovative discovery making an impact on the community. Dr. Stice is a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar and professor of animal reproductive physiology in our Department, who pioneered research in developmental biology and genetics to advance animal agriculture as well as human medicine. As an international cloning expert, Steve began developing cloning technologies to improve livestock breeding in the mid 1980s, and successfully cloned the first cattle in December 1997. Since joining ADS, Dr. Stice has successfully cloned cattle and pigs, including KC, the first cow cloned from kidney cells harvested from a beef carcass. KC has since given birth to two normal, healthy daughters, Sunshine and Moonshine. Dr. Stice's work with stem cells is targeted at developing new treatments for diseases, especially those that involve the nervous system, such as Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injuries, and Alzheimer's disease. We congratulate him on these wonderful achievements.

UGA Commercial Heifer Show: A Huge Success!



Brooke Helton from White County shows her Holstein heifer.

Our Dairy Science Club hosted the 9th Annual UGA Commercial Dairy Heifer Show in February at the Livestock Instructional Arena. This year, we ran two show rings with two separate judges simultaneously, which really helped to streamline the process. In addition, all of the heifers were weighed in on Friday and the show started Saturday morning at 9:00 AM so that we were wrapped up by 3:00 PM. Rissa and Jeff Mitchell (Rocky Top Holsteins, American Breeders Service, Tennessee Holstein Association and the University of Tennessee) served as Judges. A new item that was added to the show was the "Little-Dawgs" competition that included 18 children less than the third grade. These kids were allowed to show heifers with assistance from their parents and siblings, and each was awarded a "cow" trophy.

Morgan Sumners (Lee Co.) was selected as winner of the best T-shirt design, which was reproduced on T-shirts given out to all participants at the show, and Amanda Davis (Houston Co.) was selected as the Senior Scholarship recipient.

Junior showmanship winners for classes 1-6 were Ruben Schaapmann (Wilcox Co. 4-H), Lauren Chafin (Washington-

Wilkes Co. 4-H), Clay Porter (Morgan Co. 4-H), Megan Wilson (Morgan Co. 4-H), Brittany Amerson (Perry HS FFA), and Patrick Savelle (Oconee Co. 4-H). The Junior Reserve Champion was Patrick Savelle (Oconee Co. 4-H), and the Junior Grand Champion was Clay Porter (Morgan Co. 4-H).

Senior showmanship winners for classes 7-9 were Alana Carter (Houston Co. FFA), Nick Hering (Houston Co. FFA), and Amanda Davis (Houston Co. FFA). The Senior Honorable Mention Award went to Jacob Daniel (Oconee Co. FFA), Senior Reserve Champion went to Amanda Davis (Houston Co. FFA), and Senior Grand Champion went to Nick Hering (Houston Co. FFA).

Junior weight class winners for classes 1-10 were Brandon Towe (Morgan Co. 4-H), Brooke Helton (White Co. 4-H), Kelsey Byrd (Houston Co. FFA), Donna Phipps (Chattooga Co. FFA), Clay Porter (Morgan Co. 4-H), Whitney Franks (Morgan Co. 4-H), Katie London (White Co. FFA), Brandon Colewell (Houston Co. FFA), and Brittany McCandless (Houston Co. FFA). The Junior Reserve Champion was Brooke Helton (White Co. 4-H) and Junior Grand Champion was Clay Porter (Morgan Co. 4-H).

Senior weight class winners for classes 11-20 were Meagan Wilson (Morgan Co. 4-H), Holly Henderson (Chattooga Co. FFA), C.J. Childs (Jones Co. FFA), Elizabeth Robinson (Houston Co. FFA), Nick Hering (Houston Co. FFA), Elizabeth Robinson (Houston Co. FFA), Clay Porter (Morgan Co. 4-H), Kenneth Ray (Houston Co. FFA), Lauren Clafin (Washington-Wilkes Co. 4-H), and Amanda Davis (Houston Co. FFA). The Senior Reserve Champion was Elizabeth Robinson (Houston Co. FFA) and Grand Champion was Nick Hering (Houston Co. FFA).

See our next issue for the winners of the GA Junior National Livestock Show.

Judging Team Fundraising Efforts

As always, we appreciate you as alumni and friends through your words of support as well as for your attendance and participation at our Departmental functions and other activities. We also kindly acknowledge the donations of those who contribute to our many scholarships and academic programs. More recently, we are looking for ways to support our student judging team activities. With a decreasing Departmental budget and with the costs of fuel escalating, it has become increasingly difficult to cover the costs of transporting our Dairy, Horse, and Meat Evaluation Teams to contest locations for competitions. Also, we plan to add yet another team to our roster this year: the Livestock Judging Team! In addition to their own fundraising efforts, we would greatly appreciate any donations you would be willing to make to help our undergraduates expand their travel budgets. If you would like to help sponsor one of these teams and become a Silver (\$100), Gold (\$200), or Platinum (\$300) Sponsor, please contact Steve Nickerson at 706/542-6259 or scn@uga.edu. Your donation will be kindly acknowledged in this newsletter, and our students will greatly appreciate your help for their cause.

Congratulations! 2005 ADS Honors Students

**Kudos to our students making
the Dean's List for Fall 2005.
We are very proud of them!**

Maria Altemus, Arizona; Alyssa Bender, Dekalb County; Shepherd Cronemeyer, Virginia; Mallory Cronic, Gwinnett County; Drew Crouch, Cherokee County; Kimberly DeLisi, Virginia; Rachel Doyle, Gwinnett County; Chris Ferrell, Rockdale County; Theresa Fike, Fulton County; Christina Faust, Clarke County; Alexis Galambos, DeKalb County; Amelia Grant, Monroe County; Josh Howle, South Carolina; Jason Jackson, Randolph County; Kim Jenkins, Fayette County; John Killey, S. Carolina;

Matthew Marchant, Jeff Davis County; Kristin Mercer, Fulton County; Jessica Mobley, Gwinnett County; Andrea Puckett, Rockdale County; Andrew Raessler, Cherokee County; Alex Raisor, Pickens County; Jennifer Robbins, Canada; Victoria Roberson, Camden County; Heather Savelle, Oconee County; Bonnie Shackelford, Dougherty County; Dana Smith, Henry County; Amanda Stephens, Morgan County; Caitlin Tenewitz, Grady County; Amber Watson, Henry County; Abbey Williams, Henry County.

**The officers of the ADS B&B
Club invite you to join in the
fun at the 31st Great
Southland Stampede Rodeo at
the Heritage Park in Oconee
County on April 27, 28, and
29 at 7:00 PM.**

We hope to see you there!



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We're on the Web!
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