

# Animal Science Weekly

October 18, 2010

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## Animal Science graduate students honored with Ronnie L. Edwards Graduate Teaching Award

COLLEGE STATION – Three graduate students in the Department of Animal Science are the recipients of the Ronnie L. Edwards Graduate Teaching Award in Animal Science, in recognition of their important contributions as graduate students to the undergraduate student experience.

Nicole Burdick, Ashley Haneklaus, and Laura May were each honored during a special ceremony held October 12 on the Texas A&M University campus.

The Ronnie L. Edwards Graduate Teaching Award was created in remembrance of Dr. Edwards, who served as associate head for the Department of Animal Science and spent more than two decades working with graduate students.

One of his major activities was coordinating the teaching assistantships for the department, helping to ensure the best graduate teachers possible for the courses taught.



*Left corner, Laura May. Left, Cathy Edwards and Sigrid Edwards, daughter and wife of Dr. Ronnie Edwards, were present for the announcement of the Ronnie L. Edwards Graduate Teaching Award, presented by Dr. Russell Cross, interim department head, far right, to Ashley Haneklaus and Nicole Burdick.*

see **GRADUATE TEACHING AWARD** page 2.

## Saddle & Sirloin Club Fall BBQ

COLLEGE STATION - Saddle & Sirloin Club members along with Department of Animal Science faculty, staff and retirees gathered for the annual Saddle & Sirloin Club Fall BBQ and Auction on October 5, 2010 at the Texas A&M Beef Center. Dr. Ben Welch, from the Mays Business School, addressed the crowd and encouraged the students to make positive impacts. The new 2010-2011 S&S committee co-chairs were introduced, and the livestock, meats, wool and horse judging teams were recognized. Mr. Milton Charanza auctioned off items provided by S&S members.



## Graduate Teaching Award

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Burdick, from Corpus Christi, graduated in August 2010 with a doctoral degree in reproductive physiology, mentors were Dr. Jeff Carroll and Dr. Tom Welsh. Burdick is currently working as a postdoctorate with the USDA—Agricultural Research Service in Lubbock under the direction of Dr. Jeff Carroll. Burdick completed her undergraduate and master's at TAMU-Kingsville. During Burdick's time at College Station she taught ANSC 433 for six semesters to 130 students.

"Nicole has demonstrated an outstanding ability to impart knowledge to students," according to her nomination packet.

Haneklaus, from Houston, is a meat science graduate student working under the co-direction of Dr. Kerri Harris and Dr. Jeff Savell. Haneklaus has taught ANSC 307 labs to over 1,000 students, as well as other courses in the meat

science section. She has coached the Meat Science Quiz Bowl team for the past two years.

"Ashley is one of the best teaching assistants I have worked with and is determined to prepare our students to be the best they can be," commented one nominator.

Laura May, from Hurricane Mills, Tenn., is a master's student in meat science. May is the coach of the 2009-2010 Texas A&M University Meat Judging team and has taught ANSC 307 and ANSC 317. May was a member of the 2006 national championship meat judging team.

"Laura is one of our top teachers in and out of the classroom," one nominator said.

The Ronnie L. Edwards Teaching Award in Animal Science will be presented yearly and winners are selected based on nominations and supporting letters from department faculty.

## Bob Moorhouse, former manager of Pitchfork Ranch, visits Aggieland

COLLEGE STATION - Bob Moorhouse, former manager of the Pitchfork Land and Cattle Co., located near Guthrie, Texas, spent the weekend in College Station interacting with several groups of Animal Science students. On Saturday, October 2, Moorhouse judged the TAMU Intercollegiate Stock Horse Competition, hosted by the TAMU Horseman's Association.

Nine colleges and universities were represented by 75 students. The Texas A&M University Stock Horse Team was second Overall High Point Team, behind Texas Tech University. Kelsey Larson won the Novice Division Champion Rider.

Team members also include Melanie Armstrong, Kat DeHaan, Olivia Kovak, Alyssa Plackemeier, and Ari Sear. Individuals who also competed for TAMU were Raul Valdez and Lydia Miller. The team is coached by Dr. Dennis Sigler, Extension Horse Specialist.

Monday, October 4, Moorhouse presented his trademark ranch photography to ANSC 207: Art and Heritage

of Livestock class is taught by Dr. Jodi Sterle.



*Tarleton State University student competing on a TAMU-raised horse.*

## RanchTV educational website reaches 250 online videos mark

COLLEGE STATION - RanchTV.org, an online video library that offers instruction on beef production management and practices, has passed a milestone after one year of existence, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"The Beef Cattle Extension faculty with AgriLife Extension, along with other faculty in the Department of Animal Science and College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University, have put online more than 250 videos on beef cattle management," said Dr. Dan Hale, AgriLife Extension meat specialist.

The RanchTV.org online video library was developed to extend education resource and information outreach

to beef cattle producers via the Internet, Hale said.

"They have had almost 30,000 viewers over the last year," he said. "The goal of the online digital library is to provide cattle producers easy access to information that will help teach best management practices. This was accomplished through the sponsorship of the Texas Beef Council."

Instructional topics on the website include effective stockmanship, Beef Quality Assurance practices, grid marketing and chute-side processing, Hale said.

"RanchTV.org includes information about almost every aspect of beef cattle production," he said.

## RanchTV

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“It even contains an online Beef 706 program where cattle producers can learn about the value of cattle from feeder calf to boxed beef.

“RanchTV.org will be an evolving online learning center for cattle producers, with many more videos scheduled to be added over the second year.”

According to Hale, one of the most popular videos is where Dr. John Davidson, a Texas A&M College of Veterinary Science veterinarian, shows an intramuscular

vaccination of a live calf using magnetic resonance imaging. It can currently be seen in the featured-video section on the home page.

“It is our goal to continually add new videos on the latest issues facing the beef cattle industry,” Hale said.

*(Story written and provided by Texas AgriLife Communications.)*

# TAMU Judging Teams Win, Win, Win!

## Livestock Judging Team takes first place twice in one weekend

TULSA, OKLAHOMA & DALLAS, TEXAS—The Texas A&M University Livestock Judging Team brought home several high team and high individual awards after weekend competitions in Oklahoma and Texas Oct. 9 and 11, 2010.

The team competed in the Tulsa State Fair in Tulsa, Okla., on Sept. 9. and won high overall and cattle. Oklahoma State University and Texas Tech rounded out the top five, respectively. Cassidy Hayes of Port Lavaca finished third high individual and Webb Fields of Mt. Pleasant, sixth high.

On Monday, Oct. 11, the team won first place overall, cattle and swine in the State Fair of Texas in Dallas. Texas Tech University and University of Illinois finished second and third, respectively.

Five of the top ten individuals were Aggies. Finish-

ing within the top ten individuals were Corey Taylor of Humble, high individual; Hayes, third high; Fields, seventh high; Dustin Valusek of Rosharon, ninth high; and Lance Bearb of Churchpoint, La., tenth high.

Team members also include Joe Rathmann of Bastrop; Kevin Gleason of Waxahachie; Kaitlyn Grimshaw of Pleasanton; Rebecca Hamilton of Woodbine, Md.; Casey Henly of St. Augustine; Kenton Kirkpatrick of Bryan; Kasey Lettunich of Stephenville; Chance Muehlstein of Kerrville, Dustin Valusek of Rosharon; Brian Weaver of Center Point; Caleb Wendt of Needville; Sydney Wilkin-son of Trinidad, Colo.; and Paul Wunderlich of Brenham.

The team is coached by Jake Franke. Assistant coaches are Carl Muntean, Cody Sloan and Jake Thorne.

## TAMU Horse Judging Team stands undefeated

COLLEGE STATION – The TAMU Horse Judging Team is undefeated with one contest to go. The team traveled to Columbus, Ohio to compete in the All American Quarter Horse Congress and won high team overall, halter and performance. The University of Nebraska, West Texas A&M University and Oklahoma State University took second through fourth, respectively.

Lauren Fulce placed high individual overall; Amanda Zuniga, fourth high; Leslie Wagner, fifth high; and Brooke Byrd, ninth high. At least one individual was in the top ten in every category; halter, performance and reasons. Team members also include Erin Grace, Adrienne Paquette and Shellie Dalluge. The team is coached by Dr. Clay Cavinder.

## Upcoming events

**Department of Animal Science Seminar Series** (Oct. 27, 2010 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge - noon) - Dr. Scott Dindot, assistant professor, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, will present, "Identifying Structural Variant in the Bovine Genome: Production Efficiency and Reduce Feed Costs." For more information, contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu>.

**Animal Science Graduate Student Association Meeting** (Nov. 10, 2010 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge - 5:15 p.m.) - For more information, contact Lauren Hulsman at <lhulsman@tamu.edu>.

**2011 Summer Horsemanship Employment Meeting** (Nov. 4, 2010 - Freeman Arena - 7:15 p.m.) - For more information contact Teri Antilley at <tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu>.

**2010 Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest** (Nov. 13, 2010 - Pearce Pavilion) - For more information contact Jake Franke at <jfranke@tamu.edu> or go to [http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/10\\_aggiefest\\_ad.pdf](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/10_aggiefest_ad.pdf).

**2010 Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop** (Nov 13, 2010 - Freeman Arena) - For more information contact Teri Antilley at <tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu> or go to [http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/aggiefest\\_horsejudging.htm](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/aggiefest_horsejudging.htm).



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*Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Callie Whitworth <cwhitworth@tamu.edu>*