

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/DATES

- **February 23, 2006** – Lambing Open House at SDSU Sheep Unit – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- **March 3, 2006** – M.S. Seminar and Defense – Earl Ward, 9:00 a.m.
- **March 19-22, 2006** – Midwest ASAS Meetings, Des Moines, IA.
- **Mar. 31 - Apr. 1, 2006** - Little International.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Four faculty members from Animal and Range Sciences were nominated by various student organizations for Ag/Bio Teacher of the Year.

**Bob Thaler** - Block and Bridle

**Jay Daniel** – Ceres

**Duane Wulf** - Little International

**Rob Maddock** – Collegiate 4-H

**Bob Thaler**, along with Bob Baer of Dairy Science and Bob Kohl of Plant Science are the finalists for this year's honor. The winner will be announced at the Ag/Bio Scholarship Banquet on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## 2006 Pork Classic

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Pork Classic was held in Frost Arena on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Those in attendance enjoyed a delicious pork loin sandwich and SDSU ice cream. This is one of our department's annual scholarship fund raising events and once again proved to be a worthwhile undertaking. Despite a sparse crowd, the pork bundle auction brought in ~ \$3300 which will be used for scholarships within the Department of Animal & Range Sciences. A special thank you goes to all who helped with the serving, because without your help it would not be the successful event it continues to be.



ARS "Alumni", Margie Thom and Janice Embry help out at Pork Classic

- Jeff Clapper & Bob Thaler

## Spring 06 Judging Season Continues

**Meats Judging** – The SDSU Meats Judging Team traveled to Fort Worth, TX on February 4<sup>th</sup> to judge at the Southwestern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest. **The team finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall** out of 11 teams. As a team they finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in specifications and 4<sup>th</sup> in lamb judging. Individually, **Louis Muench**, Cumberland, WI was 10<sup>th</sup> high overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> in specifications. **Josh Kriek**, McMinnville, OR and **Jennifer Hansen**, Canova were 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> overall, respectively, in the alternates contest. Other team members traveling to Ft. Worth were **Emily Alesch**, Marcus, IA; **Britton Blair**, Sturgis; **Eric Gjerde**, Hazel; **James Holz**, Grand Junction, IA; **Becky Lambert**, Frankfort; **Keith Larsen**, Wolsey; **Scott Larsen**, Viborg; **Sarah Nath**, Luverne, MN; **Gina Neu**, Rockham; and **Melissa Smith**, Williamsburg, IA.

**Carissa Hand** and **Amanda Everts** coach the team.



Spring 06 Meats Judging Team

**Livestock Judging** – The SDSU Livestock Judging Team competed at the Sioux Empire Farm Show Contest on January 28<sup>th</sup> in Sioux Falls. **The team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall** out of 13 teams from nine different Upper Midwest schools. Team members include **Megan Bishop**, Rio, WI; **Lindsey Brach**, Sioux Center, IA; **Ryan Johnson**, Luverne, MN; **Dustin Mohrhauser**, Hartford; **Adam Raml**, Watertown; **Megan Sneesby**, Lake Preston; and **Rachel Wulf**, Morris, MN.

The team won high honors in sheep judging with **Megan Bishop** and **Ryan Johnson** placing 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, respectively. The team was 2<sup>nd</sup> in beef cattle with **Ryan Johnson** 3<sup>rd</sup>, **Rachel Wulf** 5<sup>th</sup>, and **Megan Bishop** 6<sup>th</sup>. High placing individuals overall were **Ryan Johnson** in 3<sup>rd</sup> and **Megan Bishop** 5<sup>th</sup>.

The team is currently preparing for the National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest which will be held in March in Oklahoma City, OK. **Kelly Bruns** coaches the team.

**South Dakota Agriculture and Rural Leadership Class III** returned February 8<sup>th</sup> from their International Travel Study Trip to Brazil. The group toured cattle and soybean operations in the states of Mato Grosso and Goias. The northern part of

Mato Grosso is considered the New Frontier for farming. The land is being converted from Rain Forest to pasture and cropland. The primary breed of cattle is Nelore. SDARL visited the newest property of the largest soybean producer in the world. The group spent two days on Fazenda Esperanca, a "Frontier Ranch" located in the rural zone of northeast Mato Grosso and participated in ranch activities which included riding horses and mules to gather and treat cattle for screwworm infestations. Bob Thaler, interim ARS Dept. Head is a member of the class. Dan Gee, Executive Director of SDARL and former ARS faculty member, coordinated the trip.



SDARL Class III members, Scott VanderWal of Volga and Bob Thaler on tour in Brazil.



Nelore cattle waiting to be sold at Brazilian salebarn.

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**Thoughts for the Week:** You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him. — unknown

A man never likes you so well as when he leaves your company liking himself.  
- unknown (Dale Carnegie?)