



Miami Valley Career Technology Center Press Release

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Miami Valley Career Technology Center celebrated 2009 National FFA Week

Clayton, Ohio - The Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) FFA Chapter celebrated National FFA Week Feb. 21-28, 2009. *Step Up, Stand Out* was the theme this year and more than half a million members around the nation participated in National FFA Week activities at the local and state levels. Stepping up and standing out is not only a way of life for FFA members, but it is also a call to action for others. FFA members set a positive example with their leadership, work ethic, and community service activities.

The focus of National FFA Week was to tell America about the great opportunities available for youth in agriculture. From its beginnings in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America, the National FFA Organization today reaches out to all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. From urban to rural schools, FFA is committed to developing character and leadership skills and preparing members for a lifetime of success in one of the 300 careers in agriculture.

As part of National FFA Week, the MVCTC FFA Chapter members participated in the following events and competed as classes:

- Ag Olympics kicked off the start of FFA Week on Monday, featuring agricultural related activities including FFA Trivia, Milk Pail Toss, Pedal Tractor Relay, Bale Toss, Marshmallow Dance, and Popcorn Kernel Count.
- Tuesday was FFA Day; students expressed their love for FFA by wearing their best FFA gear.
- Members disguised themselves in plaid or camouflage on Wednesday.
- FFA members found a friend and dressed alike on Thursday's Twin Day
- FFA Week was concluded on Friday as the chapter officers conducted a Teambuilding Activity Tour throughout the agricultural labs. The tour

consisted of various interactive team-building activities that demonstrated the importance of teamwork, communication, and leadership.

- Chapter officers shared FFA Supporter pins and Agricultural Education and FFA Fact sheets with MVCTC Staff. An FFA Lottery was also held and students won FFA prizes.

Through classroom instruction and hands-on learning, MVCTC agricultural education and FFA are making a positive difference for members every day. FFA members have opportunities to attend national leadership conferences, develop a supervised agricultural experience project, learn life skills, and serve their communities with civic engagement.

FFA members are our future engineers, scientists, teachers, and producers. One of every five Americans is employed in the food, fiber, and natural resources industries of agriculture, and MVCTC FFA members are the future of these important industries.

During the 2009-2010 school year, MVCTC will be introducing the Center Of Science in Agriculture (COSA). COSA will allow students to experience all potential career areas of agriculture in the junior year curriculum (Animal Science, Business Operations, Plant Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, and Food Science). Then the senior year gives students an opportunity to specialize in a senior year COSA program (Veterinary Science, Animal Science Management, Ag Resources Management, Plant Science, Power Technologies, Environmental Engineering, and Food Science). COSA opens many doors to college opportunities and prepares students for a professional career. For more information about COSA, please visit www.mvctc.com/COSA.

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Photo 1: MVCTC FFA students working on team building project during FFA Week. Left to right: Gary Porter (Bethel), Jeff Bennett (Eaton), and Travis Hileman (Tri-Village).

Photo 2: MVCTC FFA student, Jeremy Deschler (Miamisburg), competes in the FFA Week Pedal Tractor Relay Competition.