

# Quarter-scale tractor teams score high at competition

The winning streak continues. For the 16th time in the last 17 years, a Kansas State University quarter-scale tractor team has won or placed in the top three at the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers' annual International Quarter-Scale Tractor Student Design Competition.

This year's A Team — juniors and seniors — and its Powercat tractor placed second out of 29 entries, and the X Team — freshmen and sophomores — and its tractor placed third out of 13 entries at the May 29-June 1 event at the Expo Gardens in Peoria, Ill.

"K-State was the only school to have both A and X teams place in the top three," said Joe Harner, head of the university's biological and agricultural engineering department. "This was significant because the X team entries were based on modifying the 2013 tractor and the A

team entries were based on designing a new tractor for 2014."

Teams spend the 2013 academic year designing and building the utility or recreational pulling tractors that they present and demonstrate at the competition. Each team is supplied with one 31-horsepower Briggs and Stratton Vanguard Big Block Engine — with the option to run two 16-horsepower Briggs and Stratton engines — and a set of Titan tires. They are then responsible for acquiring all other components of their machines. All the tractors run on a 10 percent ethanol fuel blend sponsored by the Kentucky Corn Growers Association.

"The support we receive from the university, coupled with our students' work ethic and advisers' guidance, enabled us to enter A and X teams," Harner said. "This encourages all of the team members to be involved in the creative process and truly seek

to improve the design each year. The students take pride in representing K-State and continuing the tradition of excellence of previous teams."

The quarter-scale competition is unique among student engineering-design contests in that it provides a realistic workplace experience. Industry experts judge each design for innovation, manufacturability, serviceability, maneuverability, safety, sound level and ergonomics. Teams also submit a written design report in advance of the competition, and on site they must sell their design in a formal presentation to judges, who are playing the role of a corporate management team. Finally, machines are put to the test in a performance demonstration requiring four tractor pulls.

Advisers for this year's team were Pat Murphy, professor of biological and agricultural engineering; Ed Brokesh, instructor

of biological and agricultural engineering; Dan Flippo, assistant professor of biological and agricultural engineering; Jon Zeller, research technician in biological and agricultural engineering; John Kramer, adviser for biological and agricultural engineering; Lou Ann Claasen, administrative specialist for the biological and agricultural engineering department; and Jim Schmidt, a Kansas State University biological and agricultural engineering alumnus and the senior mechanical engineering manager for the Dell Corp.

Members of Kansas State University's A or X Quarter-Scale Tractor teams and leadership position, if applies, include:

Tyler Montgomery, biological systems engineering, Alma, A Team; Dalton Owen, biological systems engineering, Andover, X Team; Darren Falk, biological systems engineering, Atchi-

son, A Team treasurer; Andrew Koch, biological systems engineering, Auburn; Austin Schmitz, biological systems engineering, Axtell, A Team; Zach Stejskal, biological systems engineering, Bison, A Team; Ryan Strasser, biological systems engineering, Garden City, A Team shop foreman; Jordan Reisinger, biological systems engineering, Havensville; Ben Bellar, agricultural technology management, Howard, A Team equipment manager; Lars Peterson, biological systems engineering, Lindsborg, A Team; Blake Brown, biological systems engineering, McPherson, A Team; Kyler Macy, biological systems engineering, Minneapolis, A Team; Kristen Fischer, mechanical and nuclear engineering, Nashville, X Team secretary; Eli Sheppard, agricultural technology management, Olsburg, A Team.

From Overbrook: Becky

Zeller, elementary education, A Team fundraising chair; and Josh Zeller, biological systems engineering, X Team shop foreman.

From Overland Park: Jonathan Pasowicz, biological systems engineering, X Team vice president; and Luke Weller, biological systems engineering, X Team president.

Zack Rust, agricultural technology management, Smith Center, A Team; Luke LaTourell, agricultural technology management, Sterling, X Team; Aaron Spare, biological systems engineering, St. John, A Team fundraising chair; Peter Masters, biological systems engineering, Troy, A Team; and Justin Sales, agricultural technology management, Valley Falls, A Team president.

# Lesser-prairie chicken listing won't impact reserve program

Adrian J. Polansky, State Executive Director of the United States Department of Agriculture's Kansas Farm Service Agency, announced that farmers, ranchers and landowners implementing Farm Service Agency Conservation Reserve Program practices intended to protect and increase lesser prairie-chicken populations will continue to be able to enroll new land and exit the program on expired acres just the same as before the species was listed

as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service reported that last year, the range-wide population of the lesser prairie-chicken declined to a record low of 17,616 birds, an almost 50 percent reduction from the 2012 population estimate. Producers participating in Conservation Reserve Program in the 39 lesser prairie-chicken counties in Kansas are planting native grasses and vegetation

that will enhance nesting and brooding habitats, and taking other steps to help restore the declining lesser prairie-chicken population. These landowners have already taken steps to protect the species and therefore receive exemptions in an agreement reached between the Farm Service Agency and United States Fish and Wildlife Service for participating in Conservation Reserve Program.

The Farm Service Agency and the United States Fish and

Wildlife Service worked together to develop a Biological Opinion to ensure Conservation Reserve Program compliance with the Endangered Species Act provisions. "This Biological Opinion gives predictability to Conservation Reserve Program participants who voluntarily apply protective conservation practices for the lesser prairie-chicken so additional regulations may be unnecessary in the future," said Polansky. "This gives agricultural producers

using proactive conservation practices confidence that they can maintain traditional farming and ranching activities."

The final rule for listing the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species and the special rule limiting regulatory impacts on landowners and businesses because of this listing were effective May 12, 2014. Visit [www.fws.gov/southwest/es/LPC.html](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/LPC.html) to learn more about the threatened lesser prairie-chicken.

Conservation Reserve Program participants and prospective participants should contact their local Farm Service Agency office and seek advice from the Natural Resources Conservation Service in developing conservation compliance plans. Visit your local Farm Service Agency office or go to [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) for more information.

## JENNINGS NEWS

By Louise Cressler

Lila Jennings and Rachel Carter visited Thursday with Imogene Keenan at her apartment in Oakley, wishing her early birthday wishes.

It was nice to have Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bennett attend our church Sunday morning.

Sunday, June 8 United Methodist Church members of Jennings, Clayton and Norcatat will join to have church in the park at Norcatat at 10 a.m. Followed by a potluck dinner. Bring lawn chairs if you have them.

There will be a Father's Day dinner on Sunday, June 15 from noon to 2 p.m. at the former Masonic Hall/Opera House, sponsored by the Historic Building Preservation Committee. Free will donations appreciated.

Playing cards at the Sunflower Senior Center Wednesday included Arlene Sharp, Eleanor Morel, Agnes Wahlmeier, Deb Campbell and Doreen Zimmer-

man. Our senior potluck dinner will be Tuesday, June 10 at noon at the Center.

The last of our family started home on Thursday after visiting a week with Wayne and I. All arrived safely back to their homes. It was a busy time but so nice to have everyone visit.

Attending the high school

graduation of Jordan Brown, daughter of Kent and Robin Brown on May 24 in Estes Park, Colo., were David and Diana Tacha, Avery, Cole and Lauren, Denver, Colo.; John and Janelle Tacha, Lawrence; Ben Kershner and Katherine Kuntz, Topeka; Gordon and Kara Kuntz and Zachary of Hays; Kurt Brown,

Millie and Dasheill, Quinter; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Robin and Kent Brown and McKenzie, Estes Park, Colo. Janelle Tacha, Lawrence, was the key note speaker and Jordan had the honor of introducing her. Jordan will attend Fort Hays State University in the fall, majoring in biology.

## • PUBLIC NOTICE • MAY NORTON COUNTY VOUCHERS

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, June 10, 2014  
1(T)  
Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at the Norton County Courthouse May 30, 2014 to allow the following bills: K.S.A. 19-337. An itemized copy of this report is available for inspection in the County Clerk's Office.

County General	\$150,491.44	E 911 Fund	\$4,512.64
Road and Bridge	\$77,353.10	DISTRICT CORONER	\$200.00
Ambulance	\$48,320.60	Alcohol & Drug Test Fund	\$727.60
Appraiser's Cost	\$12,649.27	Co Attorney Diversion	\$431.99
County Health	\$44,811.42	Court Trustee - Local	\$5,168.86
Economic Development	\$10,893.09	Case Management	\$23,978.49
Election	\$5,703.30	JISP	\$31,244.92
Employee Benefits	\$89,076.62	Diversion	\$13,878.94
4-H Maintenance	\$610.16	Juvenile Intake	\$7,053.93
Noxious Weed	\$8,963.87	Parenting Wisely	\$6,000.00
Solid Waste	\$35,211.78		

(\* Juvenile Service Accounts)  
CLAIMS-GROSS PAYROLL FUND TOTALS ONLY

## LYLE NEWS

By Veda Wood

Our sympathy goes out to Joyce Price and family on the loss of her brother.

We hear that some people east of us had a big rain, five or six inches last week. We would all like that if it was slow enough to soak in.

Things have slowed down a little since Memorial Day. June Jolly came to the Norcatat dinner and memorial, then came back to town for cookies and visiting. She has another quilt about done, with plans for more.

A small group of neighbors and friends enjoyed a cookout and music in Thomas Bakers back yard on Saturday evening. It was very peaceful, cool and just right for a pleasant evening.

A group of 19 gathered at the Norcatat Educational Building for potluck and cards on Friday afternoon.

Sunday was the day for another feast after church in Lyle. This is a bad neighborhood for folks who want to lose weight, just too many good cooks and good food. We like it that way.



It can be hard to appreciate the small moments in life when you're focused on fighting breast cancer. But at Good Samaritan Hospital, those moments are the very reason we do what we do. From the very first line to the closing scene, your story is our story—and we're here to help you find your happy ending.

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[gshs.org/breastcenter](http://gshs.org/breastcenter)

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For More Information:



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## SUDOKU

	4	2	8	7	5	9	6	
	6					4		
5	3	9	6	2		8		
3	8		2		6		1	4
4		6	1	5				
	2		7	8				6
2								7
	9	3		6	2		4	8
	1	4	3					

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	6	1	8	7	5	9	6	
7	9	3	5	6	2	1	4	8
2	5	8	4	1	9	6	3	7
6	2	1	7	4	8	3	5	9
4	7	6	1	5	3	2	8	9
3	5	9	2	6	7	4	8	1
5	3	8	6	9	6	9	6	9
8	6	7	4	8	7	1	4	2
1	4	2	8	7	5	9	6	3

ANSWER: