CELEBRATION
Throughout recorded human history it is evident that celebration has been part of all world cultures. Why is this? What is it in the human spirit that accounts for the need to celebrate? This Fall at Penn State countless football fans are celebrating the accomplishments of the football team, and looking forward to the upcoming bowl game. In the Department of Dairy and Animal Science, there is great excitement about all that has been accomplished by our faculty, staff and students. As you will see in this issue of Hoofprints, much has been accomplished that merits recognition and celebration. In my opinion, the spirit of our department continues to grow; many new projects and initiatives are being implemented. There is great excitement about the future. Our undergraduate major is the largest in the College of Agricultural Sciences. The list of accomplishments to celebrate in the department goes on and on, and on…….

The Holiday season was built on the need to celebrate. So, at this special time of the year celebrate and savor the passing moment(s). I encourage you to enter the New Year eager to pursue all that is possible in a way that moves society forward in a positive way.

As always, if there is anything we in the Department can help you with, please let me know (tetherton@psu.edu; 814-863-3665).

Happy Holidays!

Terry D. Etherton
Department Head and
Distinguished Professor of Animal Nutrition

Awards and Recognition
Annapoorani Chockalingam, graduate student advisee of Cindy McKinney, received a National Dairy Leadership Scholarship from the National Milk Producers Federation to support her dissertation research in dairy cattle genetics.

Laurie Hubbard has been appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns to the Lamb Promotion, Research and Information Board and will serve a three year term beginning January 2006. The 13-member board is composed of six producers, three feeders, one seedstock producer and three first handlers. The Secretary of Agriculture appoints one third of all board members each year. Laurie will represent seedstock producers. Laurie currently serves as the treasurer of the Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers Association and is on the board of directors of the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI).

Eight Penn State students were selected as College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society 2005 Internship Award winners. The award, which includes a $500 stipend, was established to encourage students to enroll in internship courses offered within the College of Agricultural Sciences. Internship Award winners are chosen on the basis of an internship plan, a final report on the internship, an employer evaluation and a letter of recommendation from the internship course supervisor. The winners include two Animal Sciences majors: Joel Knoebel, son of Dan and Denise Knoebel of Elysburg and Alejandro
Martinez, son of Alvaro and Marina Martinez of Reading. Knoebel was an intern with the National Pork Producers Council, a lobbying organization in Washington, D.C., where he reported on hearings with the U.S. pork industry from Capitol Hill. He is a graduate of Southern Columbia Area High School. Martinez was an intern with Ecolife Expeditions in South Africa, which offers the Vets-in-the-Wild Expedition, a 22-day program open to veterinary and pre-veterinary students.

The College of Agricultural Sciences has named seven graduates as Outstanding Alumni and Outstanding Recent Alumni for 2005. The award program was established to commend noted graduates and to provide alumni with opportunities to meet and share with students, faculty, staff and administrators. The 2005 Outstanding Alumni include a former member of the department’s faculty, Rupert P. Amann. A renowned reproductive physiologist, Amann served on the faculties of Penn State and Colorado State University for 32 years. Amann was Vice President for Research for a research and development company located in State College for 14 years. He has published more than 200 papers in the field of reproductive physiology and holds eight patents in the field or reproduction. He received his master's degree in 1957 and his doctoral degree in 1961 from Penn State, both in dairy science.

Dr. Jurg Blum of Bern, Switzerland has been appointed as Adjunct Professor in the Department.

At the department’s holiday luncheon on December 14, the 2005 Vern Hazlett award for the Outstanding Student Barn Worker was presented to Rosie Zaginaylo, who works at the Dairy farm. Sylvia Way received the Outstanding Staff Member award for 2005.

Gabriella Varga is the recipient of the 2005 Outstanding Research Partner, Cooperative Extension Director's Award presented on October 18 at the Extension Annual Conference held in University Park.

Terry Etherton was elected President of the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS), an organization that consists of three founding member societies, the American Society of Animal Science, the American Dairy Science Association, and the Poultry Science Association, comprising nearly 10,000 professionals from animal agriculture. He assumed office on September 30.

Dr. Erskine H. Cash has been named to the Pennsylvania Livestock Association (PLA) Hall of Fame. The full story was published in the Oct. 8 edition of Lancaster Farming.

Larry Muller, professor emeritus, received the 2005 Award of Honor from the American Dairy Science Association at the organization's national annual meeting in Cincinnati, OH in July. The highest honor bestowed by the ADSA, the Award of Honor annually recognizes a person who has been a member of the society for at least 25 years and who has made distinguished contributions to the association.

### Upcoming event

The 13th Annual Tee Times for Tuition Golf Outing, that supports scholarships for undergraduates, is scheduled for June 13, 2006 at the Penn State Blue Course, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. Contact Cindy McKinney (cem12@psu.edu) for details.

### New courses

The Beef Executive Seminar Series (BEST) course will be available as a cross listed course, Advanced Marketing and Risk Management AN SC/AG BM 497E. The course with be taught during the spring semester with materials from and in conjunction with CattleFax of Englewood Co. This is a dynamic program of study that will allow students to apply their academic curriculum with proven industry practices. Students will have the opportunity to increase their knowledge of marketing and risk management concepts and the basic principles to incorporate this knowledge into the current market environment.

Nancy Dreschel will offer a new course, AN SC 215, Pets in Society, in spring semester. This 3-credit course fulfills part of the general education requirement in social
science and is an introduction to the varied roles that companion animals play in human society and their impacts on human activity and well-being.

**Faculty news** Erskine Cash will retire on December 31 after 33 years of service. A celebration of his retirement was held on October 22 at the Penn Stater Conference Center; 250 alumni, faculty, and staff attended the event.

Larry Muller, professor emeritus, recently presented an invited talk at a conference at the University College of Dublin, Ireland.

Dan Hagen was elected Convenor of the Senate Caucus of the College. As Convenor, he is a member of the University Faculty Senate Council.

Ron Kensinger was promoted to Professor in July.

Zhiguo Wu was seriously injured in a car-bicycle accident in November. He is recovering from injuries sustained in that accident. Over the summer, Zhiguo married. His wife will be arriving from China soon.

**Student Clubs**

**Dairy Science Club.** In July, eight Penn State students attended the annual meetings of the American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, and Canadian Society of Animal Science in Cincinnati, OH. They attended as members of the American Dairy Science Association Student Affiliate Division (ADSA-SAD). The ADSA-SAD, a division of the parent organization, works to develop leadership and promote scholarship among students interested in the dairy industry, and to encourage students to pursue careers in dairy science. More than 130 students and advisors in addition to the nearly 3000 professionals from the US, Mexico, Canada, and elsewhere. During the meetings, the students participated in a dairy quiz bowl among dairy clubs, business meetings, various competitions including the Undergraduate Paper Competitions, a “Leaders in Training” career symposium, and an awards luncheon. Students also attended symposia, oral sessions and poster sessions presented by professional members of the organizations. Penn State won the dairy quiz bowl for the fifth consecutive year. This year's team included Carrie Ellis, Joel Krall, Daryl Maulfair, and Emily Yeiser. In the undergraduate presentation contest, Daryl Maulfair placed first in the production division with his talk, "Management Considerations for Shortened Dry Periods." Jennifer Bechtel earned second place in the dairy foods division with her discussion,"Tres Al Dia--Marketing Dairy Products to Hispanic Audiences." Penn State was named Outstanding ADSA-SAD Chapter for the eleventh time in its history. The club also placed second in the with its yearbook and scrapbook, and third in the web site competition. Emily Yeiser was elected ADSA-SAD president for 2005-06 after completing her term as secretary-treasurer. Other Penn State undergraduate students who attended the meetings included Rosie Zaginaylo, Jennifer Sutton, and Renee Norman.

**Block and Bridle Club.** At the national convention held in Columbus, Ohio, the Club placed third in chapter activities and second in the yearbook competition. In October, the Club held a fun auction that raised just over $2000. The Prospect Steer Sale included 28 calves that sold for an average price of just over $1070. The club will net over $3000 from the sale and the food booth during the event.

**Herds and flocks**

**Beef cattle.**

The Penn State Angus Production Sale was held on October 21 at the Beef-Sheep Center with more than 300 people in attendance. A total of 34 lots were catalogued and sold for an average price of $3531. The high selling animal was a bred heifer purchased by John Burns for $4000. Mr. Burns bought six animals for a total of $18,200 and Lea Leak purchased 8 animals for a total of $16,150. Don Nichols and Wendall Landis, manager and herdsman of
the Angus herd, respectively, prepared the cattle and the facilities in excellent fashion and are to be congratulated for a job well done. Also assisting with the preparations were the members of the beef cattle merchandising class being held this fall: Seth Blake, Kelly Deitrich, Matt Franchetti, Joel Geiger, Allison Giraldi, Kyle Grim, Rebecca Hedges, Deric Horting, Chris Jeffcoat, Noelle LaBorde, Elizabeth Rodgers, Greg Rose, Kevin Stahl.

Comings and goings
New graduate students include Gustavo Salazar, advisee of Jud Heinrichs, Jitesh Toshniwal, advisee of Chad Dechow, Deepali Kerlekar, advisee of C. Shashikant, and Krupali Patel, advised by Ron Kensinger.

Keith Bryan, Senior Instructor, resigned from the university in November.

Extension and outreach
Alan Bair, Director of Dairy Industry Relations, presented three seminars to dairy industry professionals in the Azores in early November. The Don and Sandy McCreight Endowment provides funding to support collaborative programs between the department and the Animal Agricultural Programs on the island of Terceira, at the University of the Azores, Portugal. Two undergraduate students from the University of the Azores will be studying at University Park during spring semester 2006.

Participation in the on-line DHIA Record Analysis Course continues to increase. The course currently has three graduates and 24 students. The course is self-paced and offered as rolling enrollment, allowing students to register at any time. Students have 6 months to complete the course. On-line chats are conducted monthly by one of the three course instructors. The course has attracted a geographically dispersed audience with students from 8 states in the U.S. as well as Italy, Mexico, Germany and Northern Ireland. For more information about the course go to http://onlinelearning.psu.edu/DHIA or contact Karen Vines (kvines@psu.edu).

Former Pittsburgh Steelers all-star defensive back Mel Blount gave a "cutting" demonstration on Aug. 17 at Penn State's Ag Progress Days. Blount owns a ranch in Washington County, PA, and uses a well-received equine program there to reach at-risk youth. Other equine demonstrations and seminars were held throughout the three-day event.

Alumni news
Dairymen’s Club Charles Itle of Newville received the 2005 Dairy Science Distinguished Alumnus Award in November. Itle retired in 2004 after many years with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service and 30 years as manager of livestock events at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Itle grew up near Loretto, Cambria County, on a dairy and livestock farm. He attended St. Francis College for a year and then transferred to Penn State majoring in dairy management. After graduating in 1960, he worked principally with the dairy and youth extension programs in Crawford and Centre counties before beginning graduate study at Penn State in 1968. In 1974 he joined the Farm Show team, responsible for the animal exhibits at the All-American Dairy Show each September, the Keystone International Livestock Exposition in October, and the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January.

Charlie was honored by his Farm Show co-workers after more than two decades of service to the Commonwealth. He received the Penn State Dairymen’s Club Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Recently he was named to the Pennsylvania Livestock Association’s Hall of Fame.
Charlie continues to assist with Farm Show activities. He chairs the Dairy Antiques and Collectibles show held during the All-American Dairy competitions. For many years Charlie was a 4-H club leader and continues to be an active supporter of his church. He has five children and seven grandchildren.

**Stockmen’s Club** The annual winter dinner/business meeting will be held January 7, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey at Grantville. Social hour will begin at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 7:00 pm. More details are included in the newsletter sent to members by surface mail. Club membership is open to any graduate of a major offered by The Department of Dairy & Animal Science or former member of The Penn State Block & Bridle Club. Associate memberships are available to anyone interested in promoting and supporting Penn State and the PA livestock industry. For further information, contact Jana Peters at 814-863-4198 or atjpeters@das.psu.edu.

**Judging teams**

**Horse** The Penn State Horse Judging Team competed in the All American Quarter Horse Congress judging contest on October 14. The contest was very tightly contested and consisted of 21 teams. The Penn State team placed 9th in Halter, 11th in Performance, 11th in Reasons, and 11th Overall. Individually, Kitty Peters placed 5th in Halter, 9th in Performance, 9th in Reasons, and 4th Overall.

The Team traveled to Oklahoma City for the AQHA World Championship Horse Judging Contest on Nov. 16. Overall Penn State had a good day and the team represented the university very well. Although individual results were not spectacular our students were extremely consistent as a team and fared very well in the team competition. Sara McKee placed 9th overall

Team results were: Halter Division – 4th place, Performance Division – 5th place, Overall – 3rd Place. This is an outstanding accomplishment for this year’s team. Team members were Kitty Peters, Megan Brown, Sara McKee, Sarah Gaydos, and Allison Giraldi.

**Dairy** At the World-Dairy-Expo held in Madison, WI, Penn State was 4th (out of 24) overall, and won the Ayrshire and Red and White breeds. Kevin Caldwell (3rd overall) and Joel Krall (9th overall) were both named All American and Jenn Bectel and Rachel Bachman also did very well. Another team consisting of Rachel Kilgore, Jared Daubert, Emily Yeiser, and Justin Hall placed second overall and was high in oral reasons at the North American International Livestock Expo.

**Livestock** The Livestock Judging Team traveled to Maryland to compete at the Eastern National Penn State won First Place Collegiate team at the event and were High Team in all three species: sheep, cattle and hogs. Other teams represented were Ohio State, Delaware Valley College, and West Virginia University. Team members were Justin Cunfer, Daniel Smeal, Bob Rogeaux, Deric Horting, Randy Koontz, Ben Wise, Chris Jeffcoat, and Katherine Logan.

**Graduate degrees** Jaehwan Lim, advisee of Zhiguo Wu, Alison St. John, advisee of Paul Patterson (Poultry Science), and Emily Zimmerman, advisee of Lisa Holden, received their M. Agr. degrees in Animal Science at commencement on December 17. Crystal Smith, advisee of Nancy Diehl, received her M. Agr. degree in August.

**December graduates** Fourteen Animal Sciences students received their B.S. degrees at commencement on December 17.