

# News Release

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## Wisconsin Association of FFA

Wisconsin FFA Center

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For Immediate Release

## Butts Elected to Serve Wisconsin Association of FFA

Tommy Butts of the Black Hawk FFA Chapter was elected to serve as the 2008-2009 Section 4 State FFA Officer at the 79<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin FFA Convention held in Madison, Wisconsin. Richard Meske and Dustin Williams are Butts' advisors. His parents are Randall Butts and Jayne Butts.

Butts has been an active member of the Black Hawk FFA Chapter for many years. He served as the chapter president and the Leadership Committee Chairman. He was also named a Wisconsin FFA Three-Star Leader. In addition, Tommy developed his strong public speaking skills through FFA contests. He placed fourth at state in the Extemporaneous Speaking Contest and was the state winner in the Creed Speaking contest.

Butts has a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program in dairy production placement. He started showing cattle through 4-H at the age of 9. He has worked on his neighbor's dairy farm for the past five years where he learned proper milking and sanitizing techniques and field work systems.

Tommy plans to attend UW-Platteville to major in agricultural engineering. He hopes to attain a bachelor's and master's degree and pursue a related career in the Midwest. Butts said, "My high school career has come to an end, and I often believe in the statement that as one door closes, another opens. My Black Hawk FFA career is ending; however I look forward to serving the Wisconsin Association of FFA."

During Butts' year as a State FFA Officer, he will meet thousands of FFA members and will travel over 10,000 miles. In addition to meeting with members on the local, state, and national levels, the entire state officer team will meet with leaders in government, education, business, and agriculture.

The State Convention is a grand event that celebrates the accomplishments of the students, advisors, and supporters who make our organization great. Over 3,000 Wisconsin FFA members and advisors representing 250 schools along with parents, alumni, sponsors, and guests gathered June 9-12, 2008 to participate in the 79th State FFA Convention at the Exhibition Hall-Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wisconsin. The FFA's activities and award programs complement instruction in agricultural education by giving students practical experience in the application of agricultural skills and knowledge gained in classes. The FFA organization's major objectives are to develop agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship within its members.

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