

# News Release

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## Wisconsin Association of FFA

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For Immediate Release

## Carpenter Named Star in Agricultural Placement

Cody Carpenter of the Darlington FFA Chapter was named the Star in Agricultural Placement for 2008 at the 78<sup>th</sup> State FFA Convention in Madison, Wisconsin. His advisor is Troy Lobdell. Cody works on his parents, Steve and Lisa Carpenter's, operation - Redrock Views Farms.

Cody is very involved in the care and management of their 750 acres and 700 head of dairy cattle. His skills have increased from basic cow care, to being in charge of birthing and reproduction of the entire milking herd. Carpenter helps in selecting bulls from AI studs that emphasize strong feet and leg characteristics and milking ability. Good genetics help the herd and provide Cody with quality show animals that he trains and grooms for exhibition at county and state fairs. Cody has been helping his dad with a custom-hire enterprise for field work; last year they worked over 2500 acres for four area farmers. Carpenter has helped to bridge the gap with Hispanic employees applying the Spanish he has learned in school. Cody is planning to attend UW - Madison this fall. He would like get involved with the dairy cattle evaluation team. He envisions himself becoming the herd manager for the operation someday.

The Star in Agricultural Placement Awards are sponsored by the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives and Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. through the Wisconsin FFA Foundation, Inc.

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 more than 250 schools along with parents, alumni, sponsors, and guests gathered June 9-12, 2008 to participate in the 79<sup>th</sup> State FFA Convention at the Exhibition Hall - Alliant Energy in Madison, Wisconsin.

The FFA Organization provides its members with an opportunity to gain life skills through hands-on learning. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

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