

## 3 Section Members Receiving American Degree

3 Section 7 FFA members will be receiving their American degree at the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. The three members are Aaron Rogers, Emily Warhurst, and Heather Wiesbrook from the Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA chapter. The American FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA and made significant accomplishments in their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs).

Approximately 3,500 American FFA Degrees are handed out each year at the National FFA Convention. That number represents less than half of one percent of all FFA members, making it one of the organization's highest honors.

In order to qualify for the American FFA Degree, a member must:

- Have received a Greenhand FFA Degree, Chapter FFA Degree and State FFA Degree.
- Have been FFA members for at least three years.
- Have completed at least three years (540 hours) of high school agriculture classes, or 2 years of high school agriculture classes and one year of college agriculture classes (360 hours).
- Have graduated from high school one year prior to the National FFA Convention at which their degree will be awarded.
- Have maintained detailed SAE records, which demonstrate outstanding planning, managerial and financial skills.
- Have earned and productively invested at least \$7,500, or have earned and productively invested at least \$1,500 and worked 2,250 hours beyond scheduled school hours through their SAEs.
- Have a record of outstanding leadership skills.
- Have a record of participating in community service activities.
- Have maintained a "C" grade average or better.

In addition to their degree, each recipient receives a gold American FFA Degree key.



Aaron Rogers



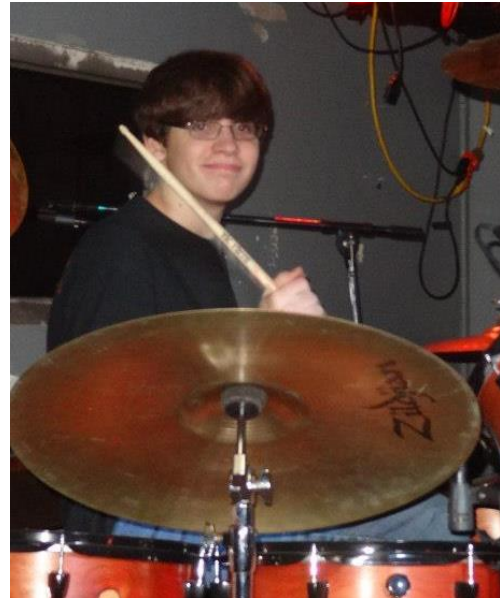
Emily Warhurst



Heather Weisbrook

## Grossi Selected to Play with National Band

Brandon Grossi, from the Seneca FFA Chapter, was selected to be a part of the National FFA Band at National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky this year. The National band consists of 75 FFA members that have a passion for music and FFA and the band plays at different venues throughout the convention such as the sessions and the opening of the career show.



## District 2 S.T.A.R. Conference



The Section 7 Officers attended the district 2 S.T.A.R. Conference at Joliet Junior College in Joliet, IL on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

At the Section Teams Activities and Responsibilities (S.T.A.R.) conference, the section officers set the goals for the year, prepared for some of the activities at the Leadership Training School, and the officers were informed about their duties throughout the year. The STAR conference is presented by the Illinois Association FFA Major State Officer Team.



Section 7 President, Molly Novotney, was given the honor to recite the Vice-President part in Opening Ceremonies.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 30-November 1<sup>st</sup> National FFA Convention

November 06-District 2 Ag Sales & Food Science CDE

November 09-State Food Science CDE

November 16-State Ag Sales CDE

November 19-Elite Conference

December 14-State Agronomy & Dairy Foods CDE

## National FFA Convention



## October 30-November 2

## Meet Your Section Officer...

I am Kolton Kimpling, your Section 7 Sentinel. I live on a corn and soybean farm near Long Point, Illinois. I became interested in the FFA after learning about all of the lifelong skills it can help you with. In addition, my grandfathers and dad have always encouraged me to take advantage of all of the great experiences FFA has to offer. Boy, it sure didn't take long for me to realize how helpful the FFA can be at developing your speaking and leadership skills. After joining as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, I have had the honor of serving the Woodland FFA Chapter as Reporter and currently as President. I have also developed a multitude of skills by competing in creed speaking, dairy foods, and soils CDE's. I continue to work on my interviewing and record keeping skills as I grow my Grain Production and Crop Placement SAE's. The contests, record books, and being an officer takes a great deal of time and work, however, this organization also know how to have fun! Most importantly, though, I have always had a FUN and enjoyable experience. I might not be in the top ten or my chapter might not place first, but that has never stopped me from having a great time. I really enjoy the National and State FFA conventions, but I would have to say my favorite activity so far has been FFA leadership Camp. You know it's fun when you don't want it to end. It was such a great learning experience, and I met some great fellow FFA members. Everyone should definitely consider camp.



Most importantly, though, I have learned there is something for everyone in this awesome organization. I challenge all of you to take advantage of the many opportunities the FFA has to offer. Hopefully, I will see familiar faces as well as someone new ones at our upcoming Section 7 contests and activities. I am looking forward to a great year with all of you!!!

Kolton Kimpling, Section 7 Sentinel

## Attention all Chapter Reporters!

Chapter Reporters: I encourage you to send me your articles on what is happening in your chapter. I will make a page in this newsletter for the Chapter Chatter. This is basically a place for your chapters to submit their news and you can also see what other chapters are doing to get some ideas for your chapter. This will be a benefit for you to have a place to submit news. I will also place your articles on our webpage under the "Section Chitchat" tab.



## Contact Us!

Bryan Temple ~ President

- 815/830-9009
- mowingsnshowing@yahoo.com

Molly Novotney ~ Vice-President

- 815/546-1156
- molly.novotney@gmail.com

Perry Harlow ~ Reporter

- 815/343-0488
- perryharlow@hotmail.com

Derek Doeing ~ Secretary

- 815/585-2530
- doeing20@gmail.com

Jalyne Herren ~ Treasurer

- 630/391-0189
- softballbaba24.7@gmail.com

Kolton Kimpling ~ Sentinel

- 815/674-3093
- koltonkimpling@gmail.com

## We are on the Web!

Illinois Section 7 FFA is on the web! We have a website created for your use to read articles, see upcoming events, and get to know your officers. As your chapter reporter, I try to keep this site updated often and post articles of interest and pictures. My main goal in doing this is to keep everyone updated with what is going on in Section 7. Find us at [ilsection7ffa.weebly.com](http://ilsection7ffa.weebly.com).

We also have a Facebook & Twitter page. I encourage all of your current chapter members along with alumni and past members to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. I post all of the photos from events there along with the articles on the events.



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[ilsection7ffa.weebly.com](http://ilsection7ffa.weebly.com)



[ilsection7FFA@gmail.com](mailto:ilsection7FFA@gmail.com)