

Marlee Taylor Joins 1,000 Point Club

Marlee Taylor, a 6'2" senior at Thedford High School, joined a very prestigious club on Tuesday, January 22, during the Mid-Nebraska Activities Conference game against Cody-Kilgore. Taylor put in her 1,000th career points.

"I want to give Marlee a huge congratulations," said Head Coach, Bec Ray. "It's not an easy accomplishment to get 1,000 points in high school. But seeing her accomplish that and get better every game this year has just been a joy to watch as a coach. She just keeps working harder on the boards and has really improved her game this year!"

Taylor has averaged 17.9 points per game, 13.6 rebounds, two steals, and 4.6 blocks per game her senior year.

In her high school career Marlee has played in 91 games with a total of 1,022 points. She has 759 rebounds, 204 blocked shots and 166 steals.

Marlee is the daughter of William and Jamie Taylor of Thedford and joins her older sister, Avery, in the 1,000 point club. Avery achieved the goal in 2016 also against Cody-Kilgore. They are the only



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

Marlee Taylor with two points in action against the Anselmo-Merna Lady Coyotes. Taylor put in 30 points during this game to lead all scorers.

two girls to reach this pinnacle since the start of the Sandhills-Thedford Co-op. Older brother, Cole, also was entered into the 1,000 point club in 2014 against Brady.

Other Trojan players who are members of the 1,000 point club are Stephanie (Taylor) Coffman, Staci (Warren) Dagen and Nicole (McLeod) Huber.

Local Working Group Meeting Planned

Local meetings open to individuals interested in setting natural resources goals for Nebraska.

A Local Working Group that provides advice on the priorities for many U.S. Department of Agriculture conservation programs will meet February 12th, 2019 at 10:00am at the NRCS Field Office-Thedford 39311 Hwy 2 Thedford, NE.

The public is encouraged to attend and express their natural resource concerns. Ideas generated from the public will help the U.S. Department of Agriculture tailor their natural resource programs to meet the needs identified locally.

There is a Local Working Group in each Natural Resources District (NRD). Membership on the Local Working Group includes Federal, State, county, Tribal or local government representatives according to (insert name), district conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) whose agency guides the Local Working Group.

"The Local Working Group recommends to the NRCS State Conservationist how conservation programs like the Envi-

ronmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), or Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) would be used most effectively in their area. This recommendation can include special target areas, cost share rates on conservation programs, which conservation practices should have cost assistance, or how many dollars could be needed," said (insert DC's last name). This work group allows local input into how Federal dollars are spent, (he/she) said. Typically Nebraska NRCS obligates anywhere

between \$45 million to over \$75 million dollars to farmers and ranchers statewide through NRCS conservation programs. These programs helped landowners and operators make natural resource improvements to their land, water, or wildlife. This funding was allocated according to the priorities set by the Local Working Group.

For more information about the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the programs and services they provide, visit your local USDA Service Center or www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov.

Nebraska's Presence Guided National Issues at the American Farm Bureau Convention

Delegates at the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) 100th annual meeting approved a number of resolutions that will provide the organization with authority from its grassroots members to push Congress toward the goal line on issues like trade policy, cell-based food products, and livestock antibiotic use, Nebraska Farm Bureau (NEFB) President Steve Nelson said Jan. 22.

"Securing victories on those issues is critical to our competitiveness as individual farmers and ranchers and considering resolutions on these topics originated from NEFB. Nebraska once again is looking to push for agricultural success both locally and abroad," Nelson said.

AFBF delegates laid out a set of principles highlighting NEFB's very clear support for the U.S. reentry into the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) with the current 11 countries: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam. They also added language supporting a multinational approach, including World Trade Organization (WTO), to pressure China to address unfair trade and business practices.

"CPTPP was projected to be a boon for Nebraska agriculture, increasing agriculture cash receipts by more than \$378 million per year when fully implemented, with much of that gain attributed to increased trade with

Japan," Jordan Dux, NEFB director of national affairs said Jan. 22.

As far as putting pressure on China to speak to unfair practices, the delegates laid out three specific items that must be addressed. "We need to hold China accountable when and if they fail to meet WTO import quotas and obligations; if intellectual property theft takes place; and if there are forced technology transfers before doing business with Chinese companies," Dux said.

On other issues, AFBF delegates adopted Nebraska's resolution addressing livestock and poultry health, adding language to support, not require that veterinarians physically examine each animal before writing a prescription. Nebraska also proposed language related to Federal Drug Administration's (FDA) announced plans to require veterinary prescriptions for all medically important injectable antibiotics.

"Our Nebraska delegates reiterated existing language to oppose any attempt to reclassify over-the-counter, non-prescription injectable antibiotics to prescription only status. Nebraska's resolution was passed stating if injectable antibiotics are reclassified FDA should not: require prescriptions on a per animal basis, require additional record keeping for producers outside of regular production records, or hinder use of telemedicine or digital prescrip-

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Western Nebraska Bank Donates \$500 To Sandhills Public Schools For School Debit Card Participation



COURTESY PHOTO

Western Nebraska Bank recently presented Sandhills Public School Board Members with a check for \$500.00. Pictured above are l-r: Sandhills School Board Members: Steve Bass, Vice President; Tyson Cox, member; Jeff Martindale, Secretary; Tedd Teahon, President; Michelle Milleeson, Treasurer and Vice President of Western Nebraska Bank; and Reed Larsen, Assistant Vice President Western Nebraska Bank.

Sandhills Public Schools and Western Nebraska Bank have teamed up to show their school spirit through the School Debit Card promotion. Anyone can request a Sandhills School Debit Card from Western Nebraska Bank at no charge.

"They're a fun way to show off school spirit and give back at the same time. The more you swipe and sign for your debit card transactions, the more Western Nebraska Bank will donate annually to your school," said Michelle Milleeson, Vice President of Western Nebraska Bank.

Western Nebraska Bank is a locally owned community bank, built on Western Nebraska values. Focused on creating long-standing relationships since 1910, Western Nebraska Bank offers financial solutions with locations in Curtis, North Platte, Paxton and Purdum.

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News Briefs Baby Section

Our newspaper's special Valentine's Day baby section will be published Feb. 14.

We are calling all babies! No matter where you live, if you were born in 2018, you can be featured in *The Stapleton Enterprise/McPherson County News and Thomas County Herald*.

Have your mom or dad, grandparents, or any relative send us your picture and information. See more information on page 2 inside this issue.

Hoffmans Co-Owners of Champion Bull



COURTESY PHOTO

WB Pendleton 708 PVF SWSN won grand champion bull at the 2019 National Western Stock Show's Super Point Roll of Victory Angus Show, January 16-18 in Denver, Colorado. Express Angus Ranches, Yukon, OK; Carter Ward, Plattsburg, MO; and Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, own the February 2017 son of Dameron Best In Class.