

## Group's projects help the needy

by Michael Buresh

David City High School's FutureCommunityCareer Leaders of America organization has been working on multiple projects throughout this year. All projects are created in order to raise money and to help those in need.

Projects range from working in the school concession stands to making and selling "Smelly Jellies," which are wickless air fresheners that sell for \$7. FCCLA members have recently begun participating in the Child Life program, which is a school-wide project.

The Child Life Department from the University of Nebraska Medical Center created the Child Life program, where the purpose is to create a more homey environment

for patients from newborn to 20 years of age. Studies have shown that creating an environment they're used to and more familiar with will help calm them down while in a hospital. FCCLA members have asked DCHS students and faculty to help by bringing new items in original packaging, such as DVD's, CD's, puzzles, toys, board games, craft supplies, books, cake toppers, and monetary donations. Stuffed animals and home made items are not wanted due to the spread of infection. Feeling as if the project is a success, but could be going better, FCCLA sponsor Tonya Zegers would like to see more effort. "I think it's going great for the most part. I wish staff and students would help support our efforts to collect items more, it's a good cause," she said.

In the DCHS organization, there are 50 members, with about 30 consistently active. Zegers felt this is a good number, but more participation would be appreciated. "It is a developmental process and I am proud of those whom take pride in themselves, their school, and FCCLA. We develop relationships and memories with each activity and event we do. I love working with this group of kids and the organization will only become better and stronger," she said. Many of the members agreed. "We do lots of good things for the community and

we do fun things as a group, too," sophomore Ayla Martin said.

Planning to have a high number of members next year, the FCCLA organization has already chosen their officers for the 2010-11 school year. The newly elected officers are as follows: junior Jennifer Lewis, President; freshman Shelby Heineman, Vice President; junior Lacy Strenger, Secretary / Treasurer; junior Sonya McCombs, Historian; freshman Chelsea Neimann, District Representative; and freshman Landon Daniel, Student Representative for School Board.

## Dodgeball tournament a success

by Danielle Divis

Teamwork, agility, a chance to show off skills, and a whole lot of fun were all part of the recent Dodgeball Tournament sponsored by the National Honor Society at the David City High School Activities Center.

As a way to provide students with a fun activity on a Friday night, the NHS decided to sponsor the event. "The student body seemed very excited about having a tournament. I didn't realize dodgeball has become so popular and I wasn't expecting so much enthusiasm," NHS sponsor Kristi Griffiths said. Students had positive comments about the tournament as well. "Dodgeball was a blast!" senior Justine Riha said.

The 12 tournament teams were so varied that even some teachers participated in the fun. Spanish

teacher Teri Messerer shared her favorite part of participating. "I didn't do as badly as I thought I would," she said. According to Griffiths, the best part was getting students involved in an activity. "Watching everyone have so much fun and seeing students participate that haven't been involved in other things was the most enjoyable part of the night," she said. Freshman Julia Buskirk's favorite part of the tournament was, "just having fun and competing even if you weren't that great at dodgeball," she said.

Concerning any plans to sponsor another dodgeball tournament next year, Griffiths said, "Probably, if the NHS members want to sponsor it again and if we can find a date to host it." The majority of students surveyed think that another tournament would be just as much of a success. "It was so fun that we should even have another tournament this year," junior Michael McDonald said.

## State FFA convention: more than cows, sows, plows

by Carly Buskirk

Thanks to an increase in FFA participation, students competing at State FFA brought home a wide array of awards, including the Superior Chapter Rating Award.

Sophomore Dillon Hicks received first in Ag Communications Broadcasting. In Ag Sales sophomores Lukas Fricke and Hicks both received blues, and sophomore Emma Mattingly received a purple. In Ag Science the team of freshmen Amanda Clymer, Ashley Lacy, Chelsea Sidel and sophomore Kaleb Scheffler received a red. Individually, Clymer received a purple and Lacy a white. In State Landscape Management Proficiency, senior Austin Zelinger was runner-up.

FFA chapter advisor Jenny Kocian was very pleased with the results of this year's state competition. "It shows the broad range of areas students can excel in," she said. State FFA conventions is all about "honoring students and chapters," according to Kocian. According to Zelinger, state "teaches members good leadership skills and rewards FFA members."

Besides competitions, students participate in workshops, tours, legislative forums, and listening to speakers. "I was blown off my feet by the wonderful, yet surprisingly tough motivational speaker M.K. Mueller," Fricke said. But for others, the touring was the best part of the convention. "I really enjoyed touring the tractor testing lab and the tractor museum," sophomore Logan Bardsley said.

According to Clymer the best part was "seeing all the booths and blue jackets with Nebraska on the back." And with the ever growing FFA, there's bound to be even more blue corduroy invading Lincoln next year.



Teams T.B.'s and Ba Witta Ba race to grab hold of the dodgeballs. The T.B.'s were dodgeball tournament champions.

Photo by Danielle Divis