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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Sarah Spradlin and Jordan DeWitt

**STATE WINNERS IN THE CREED SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 89th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Creed Speaking Career Development Event (CDE) were recognized at the 89th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 27-29, 2017.

Emma Ollis of Madison County Middle placed first in the individual CDE competition. Allie Maloney of Cambridge placed second, followed by Vaidehi Patel of C. A. Gray Junior High in third place and Cassie Carter of South Habersham Middle in fourth.

CDE awards are granted to FFA members and teams who have exhibited premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in a variety of competitions. Students learn speaking skills and respect for the history of the FFA by presenting their presentation of the FFA Creed before a panel of judges. Additionally, participants respond to questions directly related to the FFA Creed.

The Creed Speaking Career Development Event was sponsored at the state level by Hall Booth, Smith, P.C. and at the national level by CHS.

All individual and team winners received a plaque and a cash award. The individual winner received $100 and $500 travel award for National Convention. The second place individual received $50 and third place individual received $25. Additionally, the advisor of the state winning individual received a $100 cash award.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are more than 600,000 FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 40,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

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