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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 89th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

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

In the senior division, Brycen Lee of Appling County was the high scoring individual, followed by Fisher Armour of Banks County and Parker Sheridan of Banks County placing second and third respectively. The senior team state winner was Appling County, followed by Bacon County in second place and Banks County in third.

The junior division high individual was C. D. Williams of Appling County, followed by Justin Ward of White County in second place and Matilda McGuiness of White County in third place. The junior team state winner was Wayne County, with second place going to Appling County and third place to Bleckley County.

CDE awards are granted to FFA members and teams who have exhibited premier leadership, personal growth and career success in a variety of competitions. The Environmental and Natural Resources CDE is a four-person team event, designed to help FFA members develop an understanding of our state’s natural resources, while allowing them to explore and prepare for possible careers in Natural Resources and Environmental Science.

The Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event was sponsored at the state level by Mr. Bill Lott and Georgia’s Ag Tag Sales. The event was sponsored on the national level by CHS and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

All individual and team winners received a plaque and a cash award. Individual winners received $100. Second place individuals received $50, and the third place individuals received $25. The winning senior team was awarded $2,000 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winning team 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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