

FSA NOTES

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**DCP & ACRE Option  
Signup Underway**

Signup has started for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program and for the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. You can signup online or at local USDA service centers. Participants are required to sign the CCC-509 annually. All owners will need to sign the contract unless the operator has a written cash lease. Signup will continue until June 1. The June 1 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments later this month. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statistically set below its target price.

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years. An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield.

The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent. The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE

through the 2012 crop year. The June 1, 2010, deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications. Please contact the county office to schedule an appointment.

**Farm Service Agency implements new  
crop disaster program**

Sign-up for the Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Program has begun. Producers can apply for the SURE program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year. The SURE program will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to eligible natural disasters.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of Multi Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, a producer must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation and suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance; or, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE program, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

Information regarding the SURE program or any other FSA program is available at your local FSA office or on the web at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sd>.

**USD/ from page 1**

"I do think it's difficult, but it's definitely not an out," USD head volleyball coach Matt Houk said. "There is a lot of study time on the road and they are required to study a certain amount of hours, whether it's on a bus or in the hotel."

Even though the volleyball team did achieve a high GPA as a team, Houk said the team can do even better academically.

"We were very pleased with our GPA, but we can strive to have an even higher one," he said.

USD soccer player Erin Bello said the same thing about the soccer team, even though they earned a 3.179 team GPA.

"Our goal as a team was to

get a 3.25 and we got that last year, so we were a little bummed, but we will get it back," she said.

Bello is an art major and earned a 3.8 GPA in the fall semester.

Bello said one of the things that she feels helps the students when they are not on the road is the study tables for the athletes.

"When you are a freshman, you have to go to the study table 10 hours a week and it definitely helps and forces you to stay on track," she said.

Lorenz said the high GPA in Coyote athletics shows how much the student-athletes use the study tables and tutors.

"There is very little difficulty to get them to use the study tables because they

know how valuable it is to keep them on track," he said. "It's more for the younger athletes, and it helps teach them the discipline of time management and setting aside time for studying."

After men's cross country, the women's golf team followed with a GPA of 3.504. The tennis team posted a 3.437 and the women's basketball team and softball each posted a 3.374 GPA.

The women's swimming and diving team earned a 3.353 GPA and women's track had a 3.276.

The women's cross country team finished with a 3.241 GPA in the fall semester.

All USD teams had a GPA of 2.884 or higher for the fall semester.

**Gustafson is Sanford Vermillion  
PRIDE Employee of the Month**

Gayle Gustafson, assistant director of nursing, Sanford Care Center Vermillion, was selected as the February 2010 PRIDE Employee of the Month. Gayle has been employed at Sanford Vermillion since August 2006.

The following comments were shared in nominations for Gustafson. "Gayle sets an example to fellow nurses and CNAs because she is a team player. She is an amazing nurse, very caring and compassionate. Sanford is lucky to have her as a part of the Care Center staff. I believe she is deserving of Employee of the Month nomination!"

"Gayle has a great attitude and always asks what else she can do or if we need anything. She is great with the residents and a pleasure to work with."

"Gayle is a very good nurse. She helps out a lot with things that may not even be her job but she knows they need to be done. She is a team worker and never puts others down. She is always cheerful



Pictured are Amy Thiesse, director of nursing, Sanford Care Center Vermillion and Gayle Gustafson, February Employee of the Month, Sanford Vermillion.

and happy, and is always making others laugh. She is the perfect example for a good nurse. Other nurses could learn a lot from her."

"Gayle does a wonderful job helping staff when needed. She is ready to jump in on any task. Gayle's sense of humor keeps both residents and staff upbeat and positive. In the

past two-and-one-half years, Gayle has learned to cover most any role. Thank you for your dedication," said Amy Thiesse, director of nursing, Care Center at Sanford Vermillion Medical Center.

Gayle is a native of Sioux Falls. Gayle and her significant other Doug reside in Yankton.

# Vermillion Tanagers Gymnastics

Name	Grade
Grace Olson	9
Teddie Settles	7
Christine Epping	10
Amber Walker	11
Rory Tucker	9
Elly Melby	11
Jade Fostvedt	9
Cassie Donahoe	10
Alexis Reich	9
Jamie Moos	7
Morgan Hower	9

Head Coach: Mark Upward  
Assistant Coaches: Kelly Enebo  
Trainer: Amy Richardson  
Superintendent: Mark Froke  
Principal: Curt Cameron  
Athletic Director: Jason Huska

**GOOD LUCK AT STATE GYMNASTICS FEB. 19-20**

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|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
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|  | Vermillion Chiropractic             | Iverson-Siecke-Kober Funeral Home |
|  | Johnson Electric Inc. of Vermillion | Latté Da                          |
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