

Recognition



**Brett Eakin, Bethany McGee,
and Trent Patterson before
competing in the Battle of the
States at NFLC**

“The Road to Your Success”

STATE AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION

State and Local News Articles. The Rossville FBLA chapter took 41 members to the 2004 State Leadership Conference last April. 13 members attending placed in individual events. The chapter qualified to send eight members to the National Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado to compete in Community Service Project, Partnership with Business Project, Emerging Business Issues, and to represent Kansas as State President and State Editor. Articles were printed in *The Kansas Exchange*—the Kansas FBLA Newsletter, *The St. Marys Star and The Ledger*—local area newspapers, *The News Brief*—local chapter newsletter, and in local church newsletters.

Not only were the above news stories published, but every activity that the Rossville High School FBLA Chapter participated in since last year's State Leadership Conference was also published. Various members of the chapter served as reporters.

Gold Seal Chapter. Rossville has been recognized at the state and national level with the distinguished honor of being named 2004 Gold Seal Chapter. In order to qualify for this award the secretary of the local chapter must complete and submit a Local Chapter Annual Business Report. Only ten chapters out of the state each year are named to receive this honor. The Rossville FBLA Chapter has received this award 25 of the 27 years since its original charter date in 1979.

WIBW (Channel 13) Television Station Features Chapter Member. On February 2, 2005 Ron Harbaugh interviewed Brett Eakin, Rossville Local and the State President, on the Midday in Kansas. The interview promoted Kansas FBLA and its activities.

FBLA Business Person of the Year. Mrs. Shelly Buhler was nominated at the 2004 State Leadership Conference as Business Person of the Year. Mrs. Buhler, Mayor of Rossville, deserved this recognition because of dedication to this organization. Mrs. Buhler served as a judge for the 2004 District Conference and has assisted many projects joint with the City of Rossville.

**Shelly Buhler receiving
the Business Person of
the Year Certificate**



Recognition on the Web. Rossville's State Officers, Brett Eakin and Matt Ebert, are featured on the Kansas Future Business Leaders of America Web page. Brett also serves as a committee member on the Mountain Plains Regional Executive Board and is listed on the regional web page.

FBLA Battle of the States. State President, Brett Eakin and two other state officers were chosen to compete in the FBLA Battle of the States at the National Fall Leadership Conference. This fun competition was to choose the best State Team in the region by answering selected questions that pertained to FBLA.

Who's Who Among Kansas FBLA Members. Nathan Miller, Gina Newsham, Hailey Hoobler, Brett Eakin, and Matt Ebert were selected to represent the Rossville FBLA Chapter as distinguished members. These members proudly wore their orange ribbon at the 2004 State Leadership Conference.

SCHOOL RECOGNITION

FBLA is the largest student organization at Rossville High School. Thus, the faculty at RHS is aware of the potential and leadership qualities that the Rossville High FBLA members possess. Whether running for office, working on a project, or studying for an objective test, the staff is always willing to promote FBLA activities.

Show Cases. At Rossville High School showcases are used to display events and activities that are taking place concerning FBLA.

Electronic Mail. The Kaw Valley School District administrators and organizations are very supportive of the Rossville FBLA Chapter. For example, the chapter received an email from the Rossville Grade School Principal, Ann McCullough, thanking all of the officers and members who helped at the Back to School Celebration.

Announcements Concerning Upcoming Events. The announcements concerning upcoming events sponsored by the chapter as well as honors and awards received at district or state competition are announced on the intercom.

Student Council Representatives. The chapter elects two Student Council Representatives to its officer team each year. These members play a crucial role in representing the best interest of FBLA whenever important decisions have to be made concerning the student body.

CHAPTER RECOGNITION

The FBLA chapter believes it is important to recognize chapter members for their accomplishments. Every spring the chapter holds an awards banquet for members and their families. All members are recognized for participation and achievement in the organization. In addition, special awards are presented to the most outstanding, active members in each class, as well as two top fundraisers. Awards are also presented to chapter or community members who devote a unique service to the chapter. The adviser also presents a special award to a member of choice each year. The FBLA newsletter, *The Business Brief*, publishes results of contests and articles concerning all chapter activities. The chapter's awards have been added to the school's website at www.kawvalley.k12.ks.us. The walls in the business rooms display plaques and banners earned through the years from State and National Conferences.

COMMUNITY, BUSINESS, AND INDUSTRY ACTIVITY RECOGNITION

The community of Rossville recognizes the Rossville FBLA Chapter throughout the year in the following ways:

- The Rossville City Mayor recognizes the work of the chapter by offering to assist the chapter in implementing community service goals. For example, the mayor did a proclamation promoting FBLA Week for February 9-15, 2004.
- The Rossville Grade School Principal asked chapter members to chair and help with the Back to School Celebration.
- Rossville's local television network, RCTV, proudly supports the activities of the chapter by offering free advertising for all upcoming FBLA activities.
- Businesses at Santa's Workshop invite members to assist children in finding and wrapping their presents for the holidays.
- The Rossville Valley Manor asked chapter members to assist in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the preschool children.



Gina Newsham works at the tattoo booth at the Back to School Celebration

Advisory Committee Recognition. Every year local businesspersons show support of FBLA by serving on the Advisory Committee. This year's committee includes Alexis Ebert, Director of Rossville Rascals Preschool, who assists in proofreading and revising project reports, Sarah Roth, Emporia State University student, and Barb Newsham, store manager of Doug's Pharmacy, Rossville's local pharmacy. Laurel Jackson, volunteer sponsor for state officer campaigns, also assists in advising and overseeing FBLA projects. Rossville FBLA is lucky to have the backing of a strong network of community businesses and organizations. While only a few examples have been cited, community response to project activities is overwhelming. The community of Rossville is quick to become involved in chapter projects, provides opportunities for chapter members to fundraise for chapter expenses such as national conference trips and projects, and assists the chapter in decision making by providing input for community involvement activities.

Grants and Donations. The following businesses and individuals donated \$795 in funds to the eight participants attending the National Leadership Conference: Leeper's Properties, Kaw Valley Cares, Kansas Dialysis Services, Wilt's Short Stop, Farm Brueau Insurance, Westar Energy, Kaw Valley Board of Education, and Rita Muckenthaler. In February of 2005 the Rossville Methodist Men held a chili feed and donated \$600 in funds to the Rossville FBLA chapter.



**Brett Eakin and Matt Ebert in front of campaign booths,
in which some of the donated funds were used for**