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Middle Republican Natural Resources District

(For Immediate Release)

Area Teams to represent Southwest Region in State Land Judging Competition

(Curtis) – Over 150 FFA students, agriculture professionals, and other adults competed in the 2004 Southwest Region Land Judging Contest held in Curtis on October 15. Eight schools were present at the event: Arapahoe, Cambridge, Eustis-Farnam, Franklin, Holdrege, Southwest, Medicine Valley, and Wilcox-Hildreth.

The competition was open to 9th through 12th graders. The top individual scorers, all from Franklin High School, were Adam Sindt, Savannah Dorn, Sadie Robinson and Thomas Soucie. In team competition, Franklin took first, second, and fourth place. Holdrege High School placed third in the competition.

Each region's top three schools qualify for the state competition, to be held November 2, 2004 in Alma, Nebraska. Representing the Southwest Region are Franklin, Holdrege and Medicine Valley High Schools.

The top finisher in the Professional Division was Dave Rocker from Franklin High School.

Land judging contests provide high school students with the opportunity to gain a better understanding of soil structure and land evaluation in a competitive setting. The contests strengthens each participant's ability to recognize the physical features of the soil, determine land capability for crop production, and evaluate management practices needed for proper

stewardship. The land evaluation process provides a setting for students to investigate the soils in their region, the environment that surrounds them, and their effect on their daily lives.

The contest was sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Middle Republican NRD.

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For more information contact:

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