

February 11, 2009

Matthew Kent Stamper
Ag Scholarship Awarded

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Matt Stamper and Nicholas Mizner are two young people who shared similar backgrounds and plans for the future. Both grew up in rural Kansas and planned to work in agriculture as adults. But, Matt Stamper's plans for the future were tragically cut short on May 23, 1999 when he died in an automobile accident, just shy of his 22nd birthday.

In his honor, the Stamper family funded the Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship beginning in May 2000 through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center at Kansas State University.

Nick Mizner, of Esbon, received the award for the second year in a row. He is a senior at Kansas State University, majoring in agribusiness with a specialty in finance and a minor in business. Nick is involved in the Wheat State Agronomy Club and is a member of the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture and National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He is the 5th generation to grow up on the family farm. He returns home on the week-ends to work at the farm and during the week, he works in the Pedology Lab. Upon graduation, Nick hopes to return to the family farm or work as an agricultural loan officer. The Mizner family is affiliated with Farm Credit of Central Kansas, Midway Co-op, Inc., Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative and Nextech (Rural Telephone).

“The scholarship was established to honor and perpetuate the memory of Matt Stamper and to encourage an interest in the operation, management, and economics of agricultural cooperatives, beef production and grain production enterprises,” said Professor David Barton, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. “It's also to provide financial assistance to eligible students enrolled in educational programs emphasizing these areas of study.”

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must be either a junior or senior in K-State's College of Agriculture at the time the scholarship is received, and be affiliated with a Kansas agricultural marketing, supply or service cooperative as a member or as a child or dependent of a member.

The Arthur Capper Cooperative Center provides research-based information, education and assistance to people with and interested in cooperative businesses, including cooperative members, directors, managers and employees. The Center also works with students and faculty at educational institutions, the general public and public officials as well as owners, directors, managers and employees of agribusinesses.

The Stamper scholarship has been awarded annually since 2000 and is funded by contributions made to the Center's endowment fund with the KSU Foundation. An initial contribution of \$10,000 was made by the family and friends of Matthew Stamper and additional contributions have been made each year. Previous scholarship recipients include: Tyler Turner, Stafford, KS; Sarah Janssen, Erie, KS;

Kevin Thielen, Dorrance, KS; Kendra Robben, Sharon Springs, KS; Stephen Bigge, Stockton, KS and Nathan Hoffman, Hays, KS.

“Additional contributions by those who want to honor Matthew and support the purposes of the scholarship are welcome,” Barton said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/ACCC/Stamper” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Department of Agricultural Economics, 305 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. 66506.

Further information can be obtained about this scholarship or about establishing additional scholarships by contacting David Barton at the same address or e-mailing, dbarton@ksu.edu.

-30-

K-State Research and Extension is a short name for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, a program designed to generate and distribute useful knowledge for the well-being of Kansans. Supported by county, state, federal and private funds, the program has county Extension offices, experiment fields, area Extension offices and regional research centers statewide. Its headquarters is on the K-State campus in Manhattan.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity employer and provider. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating.

Arthur Capper Cooperative Center
Agricultural Economics
K-State Research and Extension

ACCCScholar\MKSPress2008

- if using the photo, the photo caption is as follows:

left to right: Bette Stamper, Nick Mizner, Kent Stamper at the K-State Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, November 21, 2008