

Freeman FBLA attends state leadership conference

By Scott Moore
FBLA Advisor

From April 11-14, twenty-five members of Freeman High School's FBLA Chapter attended the 2012 State Leadership Conference held in Seattle. Freeman's chapter joined over 1,806 students, advisers and chaperones and over 125 volunteers in this great learning experience.

In addition to competing, the students also made time to attend workshops, network, and take various tours to local businesses. To make it to state, members had to finish in the top five at the regional conference held in February.

Competing from Freeman were seniors Leaira Anderson, Danny Cossey, Cody Dickinson, Shelby Nelson, Katie Pintar, Gregory Ruby and Hanna Weathers; juniors Ben Carasco, Zeke Flack, Elizabeth Kosanke, Brette Schmidlkofer, Brett Sinden, and Tanner Waite; sophomores Colin Ayers, Hunter Beaulaurier, Austin Carpenter, Kirsten Fuchs, Grace Rudy, Samantha Strothman, and Brooke Williams; and freshmen Moriah Longhurst, Jami Pratt, Austin Rice, Shenoa Rush, Rachel Underwood and Bethany Williams.

The following members earned top honors for Freeman at the conference.

- Cyber Security – Cody Dickinson – State Champion!
- Public Speaking 1 – Bethany Williams – State Champion!
- Network Design – The team of Cody Dickinson and Gregory Ruby – State Champions!

- Hospitality Management – Grace Rudy – 2nd Place in State
 - Word Procection 1 – Bethany Williams – 2nd Place in State.
 - Desktop Publishing - The team of Hanna Weathers and Katie Pintar – 2nd Place in State
 - Introduction to Business Communications – Moriah Longhurst – 3rd Place in State
 - Marketing – The team of Danny Cossey, Brette Schmidlkofer and Hanna Weathers – 3rd Place in State.
 - Technology Concepts – Cody Dickinson – 3rd Place in State
 - Emerging Business Issues – The team of Brooke and Bethany Williams – 4th Place in State
- Making the finals but coming up just short of going on stage (only the top five in each category receive awards):

- Banking and Financial Systems – The team of Colin Ayers and Brett Sinden
- Business Ethics – The team of Samantha Strothman and Brooke Williams
- Help Desk – Hunter Beaulaurier
- Job Interview – Elizabeth Kosanke, Hanna Weathers

Due to their achievements at the conference, Cody Dickinson, Bethany Williams, Gregory Ruby, Grace Rudy, Hanna Weathers, Katie Pintar, and Moriah Longhurst have now qualified and will be attending the National FBLA Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas at the end of June, along with their advisor Scott Moore. They are very excited for this opportunity to represent Freeman and to learn more about leadership and the business world! The other state placers will be alternates for the conference.

The Freeman Chapter also received two regional awards. After a streak of five straight years as the largest chapter in the region, Freeman earned the honor of being the "Second Largest Chapter in the Northeast Region" with 79 members. In addition, Freeman was honored for having the "Largest Professional Membership in the Northeast Region." Freeman is very proud of the effort and class these students exhibited during this conference. They represented the Freeman community very well!

Freeman High School's Future Business Leaders of America is the premier organization for students preparing for careers in business. It is the largest and oldest student business organization in the world with more than a quarter of a million members! FBLA prepares students for 'real world' professional experiences, with members gaining the competitive edge for college and career successes. For more information, or to help raise the necessary funds to assist in sending these students to San Antonio, please contact Freeman's FBLA advisor, Scott Moore at the high school (291-3721, ext 201 or smoore@freemansd.org).



Members of Freeman's FBLA competed in a variety of categories at the state FBLA conference, as well as learned more about the world of business. Congratulations to those who qualified for Nationals.

Changing the world one conversation at a time

By Pia Longinotti
Journalism Advisor

"Make it your day!"

Leo McCarthy didn't wake his 14 year-old daughter Mariah up with those familiar words on October 27, 2007. He didn't have breakfast with her either, as was their tradition. He wanted to let her sleep in when he went early to Montana Tech's football game to help set up with the other boosters. He didn't sit with his daughter at the game. He didn't know that later that night, Mariah would be killed by an underage drunk driver as she walked her friends home.



Mrs. Ophus' class takes the challenge. Will you?

This day was the beginning of McCarthy's journey to prevent underage drinking and driving. McCarthy spent March 28 at Freeman High School inviting its students to

become part of Mariah's Challenge, an idea born from McCarthy's eulogy at his daughter's funeral.

"Let's prevent drinking and destructive decisions from taking any more of Butte's most valuable asset - its youth," McCarthy said to a room full of Mariah's classmates.

These words became a movement to help stop underage drinking and driving. McCarthy, with the support of his family and friends, travels around the nation bringing Mariah's Challenge to schools and communities. His hope? To bring a stop to the fatalities due to underage drinking. To change lives one person at a time to prevent this tragedy from striking other families.

McCarthy frankly shared the story of the night he got a call from his oldest daughter Jenna that is every parent's worst nightmare.

"Dad, Mariah's been in a car accident. We have to head to the hospital," Jenna's message spilled into his ear.

After a long battle, and a move to a hospital in Missoula, Mariah lost her life due to a sub-hematoma fracture in her skull. Mariah's two best friends, Kaitlyn Okrusch and Valerie Kilmer, were also seriously injured when an underage drunk driver hit the three girls with his truck when he veered onto a walking path.

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Is Freeman willing to meet the challenge?

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"If you're drinking right now, you need to think. If you're getting in a car, you need to think. Cause it isn't about just you," McCarthy told the Freeman student body.

He challenged them to think about the effects of that young man's one continuous choice to drink and the repercussions it had on all of those involved: the families and friends of the girls, the driver's family and friends, the young man who threw the party where he obtained the alcohol, and on Mariah whose life was much too short.

"This is about a conversation," challenged McCarthy. "A conversation is how we change the world. The conversation starts at the dinner table."

McCarthy asked students to go home tonight to the dinner table and have a real talk with their families about Mariah's Challenge. About what it would mean for their families if they were to lose a family member in an accident



Photo by Pia Longinotti
Leo McCarthy shares the story of daughter Mariah's death with Freeman students.

like this. About what each student means to his or her parents. McCarthy reminded the audience that his last day with Mariah wasn't all tragedy; it was a day like any other. Mariah asked him for money. She gave him a hug as they sat on the sideline of Montana Tech's football game. She and her friends helped him clean up after the game. And as he dropped her off with her friends for the last time, they told each other how much they loved each other. He couldn't have been more proud of his little girl.

For more information on Mariah's Challenge and how to sign up or support their scholarship, please visit their website, www.mariahschallenge.com.



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Junior Kellen Miller adds his name.

Photo by Pia Longinotti
Leo McCarthy shares the story of daughter Mariah's death with Freeman students.

AP US History trip in

Advanced Placement United States History students are off June 7th and 8th to Tacoma and Seattle to take in the brand new Harold Lemay Museum on the 7th and the Boeing Museum of Flight on the 8th.

The LeMay Museum is the world's largest collection of automobiles and along with that they have memorabilia from the era of the automobile.

The Boeing Museum of Flight now features a supersonic Concorde cruising speed was Mach 2.



Photo courtesy of Kenny Davis

3rd, 4th Graders get Martial Arts lessons

By Mary Ellen Wall
3rd Grade Teacher

During March, Jung Kim's Martial Arts provided introductory martial arts classes twice a week for three weeks to our 3rd and 4th grade classes.

The program emphasized the importance of respect, humility, honesty, self control and persever-

ance. The students learned how to better focus and concentrate on their daily activities while helping them build character, confidence and self esteem

Master Kim's program enhanced our PE curriculum with a focus on the following skills: balance, weight transfer, jumping, strength training and flexibility.



Photo courtesy of Mary Ellen

Mrs. Wall's class show off their new martial arts skills.

As an incentive for participation from home as well as exemplary behavior by the child, Master Jung Kim and PE instructor Kathy Zinkgraf awarded a first place trophy to Mrs. Wall's third grade class.

FCCLA shows well at State Leadership Conference

By Jennifer Fees
FCCLA Advisor

Congratulations to Brette Schmidlkofer, Tori Keizer, Lexi Saeger, Hanna Watkins and Anna Jackson for attending the 2012 Washington FCCLA State Leadership Conference!

Congratulations to Brette Schmidlkofer for receiving a silver rating at the FCCLA State STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events Competition. You did an amazing job in Fashion Design.

Congratulations to Lexi Saeger for receiving a gold star rating and first place at

the FCCLA State STAR Events Competition. Lexi will be representing the state of Washington at the National FCCLA Conference in Orlando, Florida in the event Recycle, Redesign.

Lexi is selling messenger bags made from recycled pet food bags to help fund her way to Nationals. She will be selling 50 of her bags at Albertsons on 32 Street in the Spokane Valley this coming Saturday, April 14th for Earth Day. The Spokesman Review will be there to interview and see Lexie's accomplishments.



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Fees

Saeger and Schmidlkofer show their projects off to School Board Members Chad Goldsmith, Randy Primmer, Neil Fuchs and John Zingg