



For Immediate Release

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Pictured from left to right are Robert Denson, president of Des Moines Area Community College; Harry Stine, president of Stine Seed Co.; and Ed Wiederstein, chairman of the Capital Campaign Committee for The FFA Enrichment Center.

STINE PLEDGES \$2 MILLION FOR FFA ENRICHMENT CENTER

AMES, Iowa – April 19, 2005 – A prominent Iowa farmer/businessman announced today, during the 77th annual Iowa FFA Leadership Development Conference in Ames, that he will donate \$2 million to The FFA Enrichment Center.

“Agriculture has been my business for my entire life, so we’re just pleased to be able to give back in this area,” said Harry Stine, who joined his father’s farming operation and soybean cleaning venture in the 1960s after graduating from McPherson College in Kansas and currently serves as president of Stine Seed Co. in Adel. “Young people are always the future of agriculture, and the FFA represents agriculture and youth.”

Stine’s experience as an FFA member in Washington Township in Dallas County helped shape his future. He credits his high school agricultural education instructor, William Schnelle, for making him a more prudent businessman.

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“When I was a teenager, people had just started to castrate male pigs when they were 10 days old instead of when they were about eight weeks old,” says Stine. “My ag teacher gave us a test with a true/false question that read, ‘All male pigs should be castrated at 10 days of age.’ I marked ‘true,’ but my teacher said that answer was incorrect because if *all* males were castrated there wouldn’t be any more pigs. I learned an important lesson. From that day forward, I read things inside and out. It taught me to do my contracts very carefully.”

Contracting and licensing agreements have been important to Stine Seed Co. In addition to selling soybeans, corn and soft red winter wheat under its own Stine label, the company supplies genetics for approximately half of all soybean acres planted in the Midwest.

“Harry Stine and the Stine Seed Company are undoubtedly industry leaders,” says Ed Wiederstein, chairman of the Capital Campaign Committee for The FFA Enrichment Center. “We are so proud that he has chosen to support The FFA Enrichment Center, and we are pleased to announce this \$2 million pledge. There’s nothing like a challenge to motivate others to help build a foundation for the future of Iowa agriculture.”

The FFA Enrichment Center

The Iowa FFA Enrichment Center has been designed as a leadership development facility that will meet the needs of an advanced leadership and educational development program for Iowa’s nearly 12,000 FFA members and 245 agricultural education instructors.

To be built in Ankeny on land provided by Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), the approximately 75,000 square-foot facility will feature conferencing and meeting facilities, agricultural and biotech science labs, the Pioneer Agriscience Computer Laboratory, vet technology labs, greenhouses utilizing current technology, resource and exhibition facilities and the Cargill Communications Center with fiber optic connectivity.

For more information about The FFA Enrichment Center or its capital campaign, contact:

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EDITOR’S NOTE: For additional background information about The FFA Enrichment Center, please visit <http://myffa.us>