

February is Career & Technical Education Month

Growing up in the cattle industry instilled a passion in me early on. As a student at Vilonia High School, I was determined to achieve success in this industry. As a member of the Vilonia FFA chapter I was able to overcome the challenges of speaking in front of a group, and as a member of the livestock judging team I was able to begin making connections outside of Arkansas that would allow me to travel out of state for college.

Through livestock judging I was able to be recruited to Connors State College in Warner, Oklahoma. Everything I have accomplished was made possible through agriculture education and the FFA. The responsibility, discipline, leadership and communication skills learned through being chapter president, parliamentary procedure president and the numerous activities made me who I am today.

Upon graduation I travelled to Connors State, from there I was able to be selected as the 2015 spring and summer intern for the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association. I achieved my bachelors degree in animal science from Oklahoma State University. OSU allowed me to complete my goal of running the gamete of the cattle industry from genetic selection to preparing the end product. I was selected as a summer intern with JBS Five Rivers LLC in Ulysses, Kansas in 2016 and had the opportunity to work in the abattoir and fabrication unit on the OSU campus my senior year, while being a member of the 2017 OSU Meat Judging Team.

Today, I am the Manager of Strategic Solutions with the Missouri Cattlemen's Association in Columbia, Missouri. I am also working on my masters degree in marketing from Liberty University and will complete the program in December. The accomplishments and opportunities I have been presented with have been directly possible because of the agriculture education I received and my involvement in the FFA.

- Coby Wilson

[Click here to read more CTE Success Stories](#)

