

## He's at the helm of

Written by Elizabeth Barrett  
Thursday, 05 May 2011 13:48 -

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### **NEBRASKA FFA.**

Don't let Brennan Costello fool you.

Costello may describe himself as a small-town boy with small-town values but he holds the reins to the state's 6,600 Future Farmers of America.

On April 8, during the Nebraska FFA convention banquet in Lincoln, the Gothenburg High School senior was named president of a seven-member FFA officer team.

"I was excited even though I don't remember a whole lot," Costello said. "I wanted to be one of the seven but I didn't specify which office."

As president, he and his team will facilitate the success of FFA members through leadership and skill-building workshops throughout the year.

Costello said he's still learning what his role will be.

"I'll give what the team needs from me and focus on where the team needs to go," he said.

He'll also visit FFA chapters (there are 169 throughout the state) and business and industry events, promote agriculture, FFA and premier leadership as well as career success.

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Costello applied to be on the officer team and did preliminary interviews last March.

During state convention, he and 11 other finalists underwent three days of interviews by a nine-member nominating committee.

Finalists were asked to do such things as leadership-building activities during the interview process, mock radio interviews and were asked about current events in agriculture.

Costello noted that living in the country and raising sheep—an FFA project—and summers spent farming and ranching have helped his knowledge of agriculture.

“I also learned about the importance of a good work ethic,” he said.

In addition,

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