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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Stalder and colleagues grace Gentle Doctor cover
IPIC’s Ken Stalder, shares the fall 2009 cover of ISU College of Veterinary Medicine’s magazine, Gentle Doctor, with colleagues Anna Johnson from Animal Science and Locke Karriker from Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine. The team is collaborating on research at the one-of-a-kind, state-of-the-art Swine Intensive Studies Laboratory at the CVM. One of the coolest things in this new facility is a 14-foot rubber mat “gait” evaluation course with more than 1,000 sensors to record sow movement. In addition, a static force plate housed in the facility has four separate cells to measure the pressure a sow places on each limb while standing. Many of the studies being conducted at the facility focus on lameness and how to identify it and most effectively treat it, but more importantly, the facility has the potential for a wide range of studies, research and training. You’ll want to read all about it in the story that starts on page 8 of the fall issue: http://sn.im/ipicgendrf09

NEWS
Manitoba producers urged to lose the needles
The Manitoba (Canada) Pork Council and Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives are helping encourage the province’s pork producers to move to needleless injections by providing a financial incentive. In the Nov. 16 episode of Farmscape, one MPC representative says not using needles offers food safety and animal well-being benefits, and the “Growing Forward” program offers up to $2,000 to be applied toward needleless injectors. You can listen to the audio version or read the transcript of this short program on the Farmscape.ca Web site here http://sn.im/needlelessmbca

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International seminar series continues on ISU campus
The third seminar in the “Feeding the World: Are We Making Progress?” series is set for tomorrow, Tuesday, Nov. 17 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Ensminger Room in Kildee Hall on the ISU campus. Guest speaker, Jeffrey Lansdale will present, “Doña Maria: A Glance at Rural Development Challenges from a Honduran Perspective.” Lansdale is chief of Party, USAID/MIDEH Project, National Education and Assessment Development in Honduras. This seminar series is in its third consecutive year and is sponsored by the M.E. Ensminger International Chair in Animal Science, Raymond and Mary Baker Chair in Global Agriculture, and the Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods. You can read more about this seminar and the final one in the fall series on the ISU Global Ag Web site here http://www.global.ag.iastate.edu/Fall2009Lansdale-Honduras.htm

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UNI senior teaches classmates about animal agriculture
It’s not every day that a college student winds up providing a counter-point presentation in class, yet that’s just what Kate Klocke did last month. The rural Templeton, Iowa resident was amazed when an instructor at the University of Northern Iowa showed some anti-animal agriculture video during a wellness course. With help from her parents and the Coalition to Support Iowa’s Farmers, Klocke put together and presented a 20-minute class session that addressed inaccuracies and fallacies from the video clips and illustrated the way true farmers care for their livestock and their farms. You can read the whole story on the CSIF Web site here http://supportfarmers.org/fullarticle.aspx?artid=2814

IT'S A DATE
Continuing. PQA Plus® and TQA producer certification sessions. See the IPIC web site here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPlus.html for date, location and contact information.

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Nov. 30. Think Tank for Animal Agriculture. The Broiler restaurant, 6008 Lincolnway, Ames. Speaker is Maynard Hogberg, animal science department chair, with the topic, “Trends and Direction of Animal Science Departments in the Future.” Social time 6 p.m., dinner, 6:30 p.m., program 7 p.m. Register by Nov. 25 with Julie Roberts at jrober@iastate.edu. Cost is $15.18 for predetermined meal choices, or pre-order from the menu www.thebroilerames.com

DID YOU KNOW?
Time to register for SowBridge
The third year of this popular distance educational series for those who work with swine breeding herds begins in January 2010, and registration is now open. To ensure receipt of materials for the first session on Jan. 6, registrations are due in the IPIC office by Dec. 1. Be sure to read the news release about this year’s topics and presenters here http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2009/nov/150501.htm Here’s a direct link to the brochure/registration form in pdf http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/SowBridge/2009brochure.pdf

FOR THE RECORD
Videos illustrate and explain today’s production systems
The use of video to illustrate, explain and describe today’s pork industry is fairly new, yet those who avail themselves of the technology are helping bring that vital information to the public. Posted on youtube.com, videos are created by a variety of individuals, families, organizations and educational groups. A search today on this Web site for “pork production” yielded approximately 650 results. Here are three of the better ones: Truth about Modern Pork Production, Chinn family from Ohio (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOpVYj2bKIE); Animal Care in the Pork Industry, agricultural communication students from the University of Guelph, (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8IL9P-R9Ng); and Pork Production at Hill Farms, Hill family from Indiana (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2OMqJF9dow).

NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
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