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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Katibeth Wise and Madison Ball

**STATE WINNERS IN THE AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE PLACEMENT PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 97<sup>th</sup> GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance Placement Proficiency were recognized at the 97<sup>th</sup> Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 24-26, 2025.

Liam Parks of Mary Persons placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Ethan Stalvey of Gold Isles Career Academy, and Will Stringer of Jefferson City third place.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance Placement Proficiency involves programs in which students acquire career experience while working alongside industry professionals operating, repairing and maintaining agricultural structures, machinery or equipment, including lawn equipment.

The Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance Placement Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by the Support Georgia Agriculture.

All proficiency winners received a plaque and a cash award. State winners receive \$100, as well as \$500 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winner received \$100 cash. Second place winners received \$50, and third place winners received \$25.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are over 1 Million FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 80,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

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**Media Contact:** Katibeth Wise, (229) 254-4811, [kwise@gaaged.org](mailto:kwise@gaaged.org)