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SkillsUSA winners representing Ferris State University announced

BIG RAPIDS- More than 5,600 career and technical students from nearly 100 trade, technical, and leadership fields participated in the 2010 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference June 21-25 in Kansas City, Mo.

SkillsUSA announced the following winners representing Ferris State University as follows:

First- Gold; post secondary Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning and Refrigeration contest, Ryan Gallagher (St. Johns, Mi.)

Fourth- post secondary Graphic Communications contest, Mackenzie Thayer (Brooklyn, Mi.)

Seventh- post secondary Technical Drafting contest, Kyle Thede (Big Rapids, Mi.)

Honorable mention- post secondary Diesel Equipment Technology, Josh O'Neil (Harbor Beach, Mi.)

Honorable mention- post secondary Architectural Drafting, Evan Weaver (Rockford, Mi.)

Students were accompanied to the competition by assistant advisor, Gary Maike. and lead advisor, Dan Wanink.

“The SkillsUSA Championship is the showcase event for the most talented career and technical students in the nation. Contests begin locally and progress to the state and national level, comments Skills lead advisor Wanink. “I am extremely proud of our students and of the Ferris faculty and staff that assist students in gaining a real world education that leads to a lifetime career”, adding “The contest results continue to prove

that Ferris State University is one of the best schools in the nation for training our future workforce”.

Gold medalists have the opportunity to compete at the WorldSkills Championship, which is held every other year. Gallagher will have the opportunity to represent Ferris State University at the October 2011 WorldSkills Championship in London, England.