

## Kristen Hoffman

**Scholarship amount:** \$2,500

**Harvest crew:** Hoffman Farms

**Parents:** Jerrad and Dani Hoffman

**School:** Bowdle High School in Bowdle, S.D.

**College intentions:** Attend Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown, S.D., major in agriculture: large animal

**Excerpt from Kristen's scholarship essay:**

... Throughout my six years of helping with harvest, the job has impacted me in many ways. First off, I have learned that patience and understanding is the key in many situations. ... Secondly, I've been taught the virtue of a hard work ethic. My body has adjusted to be an early riser year-round due to getting up early during the harvest season to get all of the equipment ready. I've been shown through the actions of those around me that if you



ABOVE: Kristen Hoffman, second from right, accepts a \$2,500 USCHI scholarship from USCHI Scholarship Chairperson Carlene Schemper. At left are Kristen's parents, Dani and Jerrad Hoffman.

are going to start working on something, you have to finish it, and do the job well. The work ethic I have been taught to use during harvest has carried on into everything else I do as well.

Being able to participate in the yearly harvest is a blessing to me. While some families get to spend their summers on vacation, I spend mine with my family, in the field, some-

times until twelve o'clock in the morning- but, I am not complaining. Harvesting during the summer and fall has shown me the true beauty of the Earth. My iPhone camera roll is filled with pictures of the combines within the beautiful sunsets. I will forever cherish being able to help with harvest every year and will always remember the many lessons it has taught me about life.

