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ALL ABOARD  
2010 WHEAT HARVEST

## Harvest correspondents return for another year

The time is almost near for another All Aboard Harvest tour. Join our newest correspondent, Sage Sammons of Sammons Harvesting, Jenna Zeorian of Zeorian Custom Harvesting and Jada Bulgin of Hoffman Harvesting as they embark on harvest 2010 and give up-to-the-minute reports from the trail.

This week, catch up with Bulgin and Zeorian, correspondents from the 2009 tour. Sammons will appear in an upcoming issue of the *High Plains Journal* / *Midwest Ag Journal*.

### Jada Bulgin

My name is Jada Bulgin and I have been on harvest for the majority of my life—approximately 27 years. My husband, Leon, and I play an integral role in my family's harvesting operation. Hoffman Harvesting Inc., is owned by my parents, Perry and Candice Hoffman.

Like myself, my father was born into the harvesting world where he learned the specifics of the industry as he grew up helping his father with his harvesting business. At the age of 17, he decided to branch off and start his own harvesting business. That is how Hoffman Harvesting began 39 years ago. This year our daughter, Kaidence, will begin her first harvest. She joined our family on July 10, 2009, and will hopefully enjoy our summer lifestyle as much as I did growing up.

The 2010 crew is ready to go—well, we are all here and beginning to think of harvest—it's a start. Joining us this year are Malin and Hans, a couple from Norway; Dan from the Brookings, S.D., area; Carsten (pronounced



Jada Bulgin



Jenna Zeorian

COST-EN) of Denmark; Johan, Pieter and George of South Africa; and—last but certainly not least—Gabriel of Argentina.

We will once again be taking four John Deere combines, eight Kenworth semis, our service trailer, a 9330 John Deere tractor that pulls a Kinze grain cart and the newest piece of equipment, and a car seat for baby Kaidence. While we plan to take the same route as last year, each year is unpredictable and filled with lots of new adventures.

As seen last year, the weather controls our agenda, as does the ripeness of the wheat. Everyone always asks us when we are leaving and we never know until it is time. This can be both frustrating and exciting to “not know.” For the past four years we have been leaving around Memorial Day weekend. The spot is reserved on my calendar as go time.

Go time can be described as

the time of year when harvesters get that urge to head south and hit the amber waves. This urge can only be described as an addiction that gets in your blood from experiencing harvest. In the summer, we are on the move approximately every two weeks but have our campers to call home. They are furnished with all the luxuries of a real home—including a washer and dryer. It serves as our home away from home.

We finished fall harvest on Dec. 12, 2009, and will soon be embarking on our 2010 harvest season. I am ready for another year to meet new people, greet old friends and live the unique life of a custom harvester. Live the life with us this summer by joining the All Aboard Harvest Blog—it's just a click of the mouse away.

For more information on Hoffman Harvesting visit [www.hoffmanharvesting.com](http://www.hoffmanharvesting.com) or to see more background info on our operation's



Photo by Jada Bulgin.



Photo by Jenna Zeorian.

history visit [www.allaboardharvest.com/all-aboard-wheat-harvest/2009/5/17/meet-jada.html](http://www.allaboardharvest.com/all-aboard-wheat-harvest/2009/5/17/meet-jada.html).

### Jenna Zeorian

When I first sat down at my computer to write this, I had some difficulty thinking of what I wanted to say and how I wanted to say it. So I did what a lot of people my age do in similar situations—I logged on to Facebook instead.

On my Facebook homepage, where I can read my friends' status updates to see what they're up to, one status caught my attention. A friend of mine who often travels for work had written, “Fueling up in Russell, KS. Only about 200 more miles to Garden City.” I smiled and left a comment: “Hey, I've lived in both of those towns... for a couple of weeks.”

As the daughter of custom wheat harvesters, I've spent a lot of my life on the road and, for the past 20 summers, living in small towns throughout the Midwest for one or two weeks at a time.

Last summer, I was able to share this custom harvesting lifestyle by serving as one of two correspondents for the inaugural year of the All Aboard Wheat

Harvest Tour, a print and online collaboration that tracks the progress of custom harvesting crews.

As a correspondent, I chronicled the journey of Zeorian Custom Harvesting—our small, completely family-run business consisting of my parents, Jim and Tracy, myself, 22, and my two younger sisters, Taylor, 15, and Callie, 12.

This summer, I'm excited to say, I'm doing it again.

During the next couple of weeks, we will be busy packing and preparing to head south for another summer of adventure. We'll leave our home in Manley, Neb., around the middle of May and spend the next three months working our way from Texas to Montana, following the ripening of the wheat.

This nomadic way of life is nothing new to my family, as my younger sisters, myself, and my older sister, Jamie, who no longer makes the harvest run, represent the fourth generation of custom harvesters in our family. In the early 1950s, my great-grandfather started custom harvesting.

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The Hoffman crew stopped on a rural road during harvest last summer.

Photo by Jada Bulgin.

## Section B

MIDWEST AG  
**JOURNAL**<sup>TM</sup>  
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# All Aboard Wheat Harvest . . .

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Years later, my parents met when my Mom's family hired Dad to join their crew. They started Zeorian Harvesting in 1982.

Since age 2, I've spent every summer on the road, and I couldn't have asked for a better way to grow up. I'll never take for granted the opportunities I've had, the places I've gone, the things I've done and the people I've met because of custom harvesting.

I am passionate about the business and the lifestyle, which is why I am so excited to be a part of All Aboard again this summer. I'm looking forward to sharing a glimpse of my life as a member of our custom harvesting crew, not only because it's completely family-run but also because (sorry Dad) it's pretty

much female-dominated, making our crew a bit different from most others.

Through All Aboard last summer, you got to know me and my family, gain a better understanding of the life we live and the way our crew runs, and experience the ups and downs of custom harvesting as we were experiencing it, too. This summer, you can expect the same thing—only it'll be even better, I promise.

So follow along, read the blog, look at the pictures, watch the videos, leave comments, send e-mails and everything else. It's going to be a great summer and I can't wait to share it with you.

And, by the way, my friend's reply to the comment I left on his Facebook status? He said, "I'm excited for Garden City...I think I'll really 'dig' it." Ah, so clever, so clever.



Photo by Jenna Zeorian.

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- High Plains Journal:** [www.hpj.com](http://www.hpj.com)



## AFBF calls for Congress to pass trade agreements

American Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Stallman recently called for Congress to "stop dragging its feet" and pass the Colombia, Panama and South Korea free trade agreements. In a press conference with other agriculture groups, Stallman said Congress' inaction on the FTAs is costing U.S. agriculture lost market share and competitiveness.

"We are seeing all around us FTAs being negotiated or already negotiated by our competitors, increasing their export potential and putting the U.S. at a disadvantage," said Stallman. "The three FTAs combined, which are stalled in Congress, represent almost \$2.5 billion in additional exports."

Because the FTAs have not been implemented, Colombia, Panama and South Korea are moving forward on trade deals with U.S. competitors. Panama has just completed an agreement with Canada and South Korea has completed negotiations with the European Union and is currently negotiating with Canada.

In Colombia, where the U.S. was once the top agriculture exporter, market share is being taken over by other countries. Between 2008 and 2009, there was almost a 50-percent drop in U.S. exports. This year, Department of Agriculture export data shows that U.S. exports between January and February are 11 percent less than the same time period last year.

"For agriculture, Congress' inaction on these agreements is no longer about the potential gains, but now about preventing losing what we already have," said Stallman. "These losses are not just about dollar amounts, but the negative impact they will have on our farmers and rural communities."

Stallman also said that jobs beyond rural America are at stake, from processors and packers to transportation workers and longshoremen. The USDA estimates that 9,000 U.S. jobs are supported with every billion dollars in exports.

*Have a story idea? Call 620-227-7171*

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## AUCTION CALENDAR

### Schedule of Forthcoming Auctions

Livestock Auction dates are available on the Livestock Sale Calendar and at [www.hpj.com/livestock](http://www.hpj.com/livestock)



<u>Date/Time/2010</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Auction Co.</u>	<u>Phone</u>
May 15, 9:30 AM	Newkirk, OK	Brazle Auction & Realty	620-221-0701
May 15, 10 AM (Land)	Okemah, OK	Roger Entz Auction	405-663-2200
May 15, 10 AM	Tonkawa, OK	Crumrine Inc, Auctioneers	580-628-3674
May 15, 10 AM	Mooreland, OK	Smith & Co Auction & Realty, Inc.	580-994-6004
May 15, 10 AM	Alva, OK	KT's Auction & Real Estate	580-327-5151
May 15, 10 AM	Springfield, MO	Wheeler Auctions & Real Estate	660-327-5890
May 15, 2 PM	Stillwater, OK	Pickens Auction	405-747-9304
May 17, 10 AM	Ness City, KS	Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.	888-671-2851
May 17, 11 AM	Coldwater, KS	Carr Auction & Real Estate, Inc.	620-285-3148
May 17, 1:30 PM (Land)	Kingman, KS	Farmers National Co.	316-788-4240
May 17, 7 PM (Land)	Kingman, KS	Farmers National Co.	620-825-4340
May 18 (Land)	Grant Co, KS	Faulkner Real Estate	866-365-2243
May 18, 10 AM (Land)	Dighton, KS	Farmers National Co.	620-397-5160
May 18, 10 AM CDT (internet only)	purplewave.com	Purple Wave Auction	866-608-9283
May 18, 10:30 CDT (Land)	Hays, KS	Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc.	800-247-7863
May 18, 1 PM CT	Sublette, KS	Higgs Auction Service	620-353-0066
May 19	Beaver Co, OK	Bill E. Newman R/E LLC	580-338-3823
May 19 (Land)	Fairview, OK	Wiggins Auctioneers	580-233-3066
May 19 (Internet only)	delpeterson.com	Del Peterson & Associates	800-492-9090
May 19, 9 AM MDT	Torrington, WY	Madden Brothers Auction	307-532-7079
May 19, 10 AM	WaKeeney, KS	Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.	888-671-2851
May 19, 12 PM	Lincoln, KS	United Country/Theurer Auction/Realty	800-207-6830
May 19, 1 PM	Cimarron, KS	Kirk Bros. Auctioneers	620-826-3759
May 20 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
May 20 (Land)	Garfield Co, OK	Wiggins Auctioneers	580-233-3066
May 20, 10 AM (Land)	Newkirk, OK	Hometown Realtors/Steffen RE & Auction	580-363-2345
May 20, 10:30 AM MDT (Land)	Goodland, KS	Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc.	800-247-7863
May 20, 10:30 AM (Land)	Miltonvale, KS	United Country Mid West eServices, Inc.	785-427-7470
May 20, 11 AM CT	Lakin, KS	Carrithers Auction & Real Estate	620-492-2329
May 21 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
May 21, 10 AM (Land)	LaCrosse, KS	Farmland Auction & Realty Co., Inc.	888-671-2851
May 21, 10 AM CST	York, NE	Stock Auction Co.	800-937-3558
May 21, 10 AM (Land)	Atwood, KS	Glad Real Estate	785-626-2039
May 22, 9 AM MST	Byers, CO	Linnebur Auctions, Inc.	303-822-9298
May 22, 10 AM	Cushing, OK	Pickens Auction	405-747-9304
May 22, 10 AM	Walters, OK	Bridges Auction & Sales Co.	580-492-5260
May 22, 10 AM	Buffalo, OK	Smith & Co Auction & Realty, Inc.	580-994-6004
May 24, 10 AM (Land)	Medicine Lodge, KS	United Country/Nixon Auction & Realty	620-886-1701
May 25 (Land)	Fairview, OK	Wiggins Auctioneers	580-233-3066
May 26 (Land)	Burlington, OK	Wiggins Auctioneers	580-233-3066
May 26, 8:30 AM CST	Marion, SD	Wieman Land & Auction Co.	800-251-3111
May 26, 10 AM CT	www.bigiron.com	Stock Auction Co.	800-937-3558
May 27 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
May 27 (Land)	Lahoma, OK	Wiggins Auctioneers	580-233-3066
May 27, 10 AM (Land)	Guymon, OK	United Country/Lippard Auctioneers	580-237-7174
May 27, 11 AM (Land)	Anthony, KS	Gene Francis & Associates	316-524-8345
May 29, 12 Noon (Land)	Pocasset, OK	Harryman Realty & Auction	405-381-4744
June 2, 8 AM	Tulsa, OK	Enlow Tractor Auction	800-779-3924
June 2, 10:30 AM CDT (Land)	Plainville, KS	Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc.	800-247-7863
June 3 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
June 3, 1 PM MT (Land)	Syracuse, KS	Carrithers Auction & Real Estate	620-492-2329
June 5, 10 AM (Land)	McPherson, KS	Triple K Auction & Real Estate	620-386-0650
June 8, 10:30 AM CDT (Land)	Sharon Springs, KS	Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc.	800-247-7863
June 9, 10 AM	Howe, TX	Southwest Auctions	903-532-5501
June 7, 9 AM	Sikeston, MO	DeWitt Auction	800-533-9488
June 10 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
June 11, 11 AM (Land)	Tecumseh, OK	Williams & Williams	918-361-9436
June 11, 1:30 PM (Land)	Henryetta, OK	Williams & Williams	918-361-9436
June 11, 4 PM (Land)	Sapulpa, OK	Williams & Williams	918-361-9436
June 12 (Land)	Union City, OK	R & R Auctions	405-352-5200
June 14, 9 AM	Clinton, MO	Cook Auction	800-769-5823
June 16	Shattuck, OK	Bill E. Newman R/E LLC	580-338-3823
June 17 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
June 24 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
June 25 (Internet only)	www.ironplanet.com	Iron Planet	888-433-5426
June 25-26, 9 AM (Land)	Pueblo, CO	Ashcraft Auction	719-740-2537

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