

Hard work is paying off for Haralson County High School's Career Technical Agricultural Education (CTAE) students and teachers. CTAE teachers begin the year preparing their students with skills and knowledge needed to compete in SkillsUSA competitive events, the first being the SkillsUSA Region competition held on February 7, 2014, at Atlanta Technical College. Although the SkillsUSA chapter at HCHS has enjoyed great success at the region, state, and national competitions over the past few years, this is their most successful region competition in recent history bringing home three gold medals and one bronze medal. The winners were as follows: Shelby Albury, gold, Cosmetology; Xavier Scarborough, gold, Cabinet Making; Cameron Stansberry, gold, Auto Service Technology; and Cody Wagner, bronze, Carpentry. First place winners will advance to state competitive events in March. Not only will the winners at region continue on to state competition, but several other CTAE students will be participating in state only competitive events, and one student, Hope Edwards, will be running for State Officer. Haralson County High School's CTAE students have no intentions of stopping at the state level. They have their eyes set on Nationals this year, and their teachers are excited about the opportunities ahead of these young, skilled adults.

Working against the clock and each other, the participants prove their expertise in job skills for occupations such as cosmetology, auto technician, cabinet making, carpentry, technical drafting, precision machining, medical assisting and culinary arts. There are also



competitions in leadership skills, such as extemporaneous speaking and conducting meetings by parliamentary procedures.

SkillsUSA helps students discover and grow their career passions. As a nationwide partnership of students, instructors and industry working together, SkillsUSA works to ensure America has a skilled workforce. It helps every student excel. The nationwide career and

technical education (CTAE) student organization serves more than 300,000 high school, college and postsecondary students—and their instructors—in technical, skilled, and service occupation instructional programs. CTAE is learning that works for America. SkillsUSA has the active support of more than 1,100 corporations, trade associations, business and labor unions at the national level. Over 11.2 million people have been annual members of SkillsUSA since its founding as The Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) in 1965. SkillsUSA programs teach leadership, citizenship and character development to complement technical skill training. The organization emphasizes respect for the dignity of work, ethics, workmanship, scholarship and safety. SkillsUSA's mission is to empower its members to become world class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.

Without a doubt Haralson County High School's Career Technical Education students are leaders with a bright future ahead!