

Scholarship Winner has Deep Farm Roots

Alex Wittenberg comes from a long line of farmers. Wittenberg, a native of Valley City and a 2015 graduate of Valley City High School, hopes to be the sixth generation to operate the family farm.

“The farm has been in the family since 1881,” Wittenberg says.

Wittenberg is in his third year of college at North Dakota State University where he is studying agronomy. He is on track to graduate in the spring of 2018. Once he graduates, Wittenberg says that his options are wide open.

“I’m hoping to either go on to graduate school, get a job, or go back home and get involved in the family farm,” Wittenberg says. “For sure, I want to get back to the farm at some point.”

Wittenberg is the 2017 recipient of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA) Scholarship. The scholarship

provides \$5,000 to a student in the College of Agriculture, Food Systems and Natural Resources. To be eligible, applicants must be enrolled at NDSU, have completed at least 90 credits, and be the child or grandchild of an NDSGA member.

Wittenberg is spending the summer gaining practical experience by interning for Monsanto. He is working on pre-commercial plot research for products such as

farm chemicals, seed varieties and seed treatments. The experience and his education will help prepare him for a future in agriculture no matter what path he takes.

“Even with the recent economic downturn, I think agriculture is still a good industry to be involved in,” Wittenberg says.

Wittenberg is the son of Shawn and Kim Wittenberg.

—Story by Daniel Lemke, photo courtesy of Alex Wittenberg

