Craig grad involved in research project

Jeff Nichols, a 2007 graduate of Janesville Craig High School and senior at Lawrence University in Appleton, spent much of his summer working in biological research.

Nichols was one of 11 students selected to participate in a new research program that Lawrence launched this summer.

The program pairs Lawrence students with Lawrence alumni who are conducting research at major universities.

Nichols is a biology major at Lawrence. He worked at the University of Missouri, where he assisted in an investigation of plant immunity defenses against pathogenic microbes under the direction of biochemist Scott Peck.

The work could lead to increasing the effectiveness of defense responses in commercial crops.

Nichols is the son of Forest and Jody Nichols of Janesville.